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EDUCATION

Ph.D. History, Free University of Berlin

M.A. European History, Free University Berlin

M.A. American History, University of Michigan

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021-present Professor of Modern European History, Emory University, Department of History

Affiliated faculty of the Rabbi Donald A. Tam Institute for Jewish Studies and the
German Studies Department2012-2021 Associate Professor of Modern European History, Emory University, Department of
History, Atlanta, GA

Winship Distinguished Research Professor, 2015-2018

2006-2012 Assistant Professor of Modern European History, Emory University, Department of
History, Atlanta, GA

Fall 2002 –

Fall 2005 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.

RESEARCH RELATED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS (SELECTION)2023/24 Senior Fellowship, Greifswald Institute for Advanced Study (*Wissenschaftskolleg*)2021 Halle-URC (University Research Committee) Grant for course release in Spring
2021

2020 Helen E. Graham Visiting Fellowship, University of Toronto

2017 Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers – Extension Grant,
May-July 2017

2015 Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers for AY 2015/16

Pre-tenure

2012 Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society

2011 American Academy Berlin, Daimler Berlin Prize Fellow (Spring Semester)

2010 University Research Committee (URC) Award for course release in Fall 2010,
Emory University

2010 DAAD Research Visit Grant, 3 months funding (mid-Sept. – mid-Dec. 2010)

2007 Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung (ZZF) Potsdam, Leibniz Summer Fellowship

ACADEMIC PRIZES AND AWARDS2020 DAAD/GSA Book Prize (national) for *West Germany and the Iron Curtain*2020 Hans Rosenberg Book Prize (national) for *West Germany and the Iron Curtain*2020 Smith Award (regional) for *West Germany and the Iron Curtain*

- 2013 [Waldo Gifford Leland Award](#) by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) for *Struggle for the Files*, recognizing “writing of superior excellence and usefulness in the field of archival history, theory, or practice.”
- 2005 Honorable Mention at H-Soz-u-Kult book award “History Books 2004” -- category ‘[Award of the H-Soz-u-Kult Audience](#)’
- 2004 [Hedwig Hintze Prize](#) of the German Historical Association, awarded every two years for the best dissertation in history (entries from all fields, one award)
- 2004 Friedrich Meinecke Prize for best dissertation in the History Department of the Free University of Berlin (all *summa cum laude* dissertations in any given year, one award)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2022 *Zonenrandgebiet. Westdeutschland und der Eiserner Vorhang*. Translated by B. Jendricke, T. Wollermann, B. Steckhan (Berlin: Chr. Links, 2022).
- Reviewed in: Süddeutsche Zeitung; Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung; Deutschlandfunk Andruck; *heute journal* (Aug. 12, 2022); Elbe-Jeetzel Zeitung; Frankenpost; Thüringer Landeszeitung (Weimar); Hessisch-Niedersächsische Allgemeine; Allgemeine Zeitung Uelzen; Lübecker Nachrichten; Landeszeitung Lüneburg; Gerbergasse.
 - Interviews in: Deutschlandfunk Kultur; MDR-Kultur; Welt am Sonntag; 111 Kilometer Akten. Der Podcast des Stasi-Unterlagenarchivs; *Erinnern. Rundbrief der Stiftung Gedenkstätten Sachsen-Anhalt*; *Baftgaans*; Staatsbürgerkunde Podcast (4/24); ZDF History (3/24).
 - Sachbuchbestenliste (Bestenliste von Die Welt/WDR 5/Neue Zürcher Zeitung/ORF-Radio Österreich 1) August 2022, #8.
 - Licensed to *Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung* (Federal Agency for Civic Education), 2023.
- 2019 *West Germany and the Iron Curtain. Environment, Economy and Culture in the Borderland* (Oxford University Press, Oct. 2019).
- Winner of the
 2019 [Hans Rosenberg Book Prize](#), awarded by the Central European History Society of the AHA to the best book in the field published by a North American resident in 2019.
 2020 DAAD/German Studies Association ([GSA](#)) [Book Prize](#) for the Best Book in History or Social Sciences.
 2020 Smith Award by the European History Section of the Southern Historical Association for the best book published in European history by a faculty member of a Southern College or University.
- 2012 *Fight for the Files. The Western Allies and the Return of Captured German Archives*. Translated by Dona Geyer. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012; pbk. Feb. 2014).
- Winner of the [Waldo Gifford Leland Award](#) of the Society of American Archivists, honoring “writing of superior excellence and usefulness in the field of archival history, theory, or practice.”
- 2004 *Kampf um die Akten. Die Westalliierten und die Rückgabe von deutschem Archivgut nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg* (Stuttgart: Steiner, 2004).

Winner of the
 2004 Hedwig Hintze Prize of the German Historical Association, awarded every two years for the best dissertation in History.
 Friedrich Meinecke Prize for best dissertation in the History Department, Free University Berlin.
 Honorable Mention at H-Soz-u-Kult book award “History Books 2004” -- category ‘[Award of the H-Soz-u-Kult Audience](#)’

1999 *Feindbilder im Wandel. Ein Vergleich des Deutschland- und des Japanbildes in den USA 1945 und 1946* (Münster: Lit, 1999).

Edited Collections

2019 *Central European History* 52:1 (March 2019), special issue “New Narratives for the History of the Federal Republic,” co-edited with Frank Biess (UC San Diego).
 Available at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/central-european-history/issue/D0FE1F6790FC7C1732D82116974CBB84>

2017 *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte/Economic History Yearbook* 58:1 (2017), special issue “Industrial Policy in Western Europe since the 1960s,” co-edited with Ralf Ahrens.

2007 *Institutions of Public Memory: The Legacies of German and American Politicians* (Washington, D. C.: German Historical Institute/Sheridan Press, 2007).

2006 *Das Deutsche Archivwesen und der Nationalsozialismus* [The German Archival Profession and National Socialism], ed. for the German Archival Association by Robert Kretzschmar in cooperation with Astrid M. Eckert, Heiner Schmitt, Dieter Speck, Klaus Wisotzky (Essen: Klartext Verlag, 2006).

2004 *Der Holocaust und die westdeutschen Historiker. Eine Debatte* [The Holocaust and West German historians: a debate], eds., Astrid M. Eckert & Vera Ziegeldorf (Berlin: Clio-online, 2004).

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters

“Diplomatic Historians and Climate Diplomacy: An Urgent Task,” – co-authored article with Victor R. McFarland, University of Missouri; in progress.

2022 Astrid M. Eckert and Pavla Šimková. “Transcending the Cold War: Borders, Nature, and the European Green Belt Conservation Project along the Former Iron Curtain,” in Patrick Kupper, Anna-Katharina Wöbse, eds. *Greening Europe: Environmental Protection in the Long Twentieth Century* (Berlin/New York: de Gruyter, 2022), 127-151.

2021 “Transboundary Natures. From the Iron Curtain to the Green Belt,” in Anatole Tchikine, John Dean Davis, eds., *Military Landscapes* (Cambridge, Mass.: Dumbarton Oaks, distr. Harvard University Press, 2021), 123-149.

2019 “Why Do We Need ‘New Narratives’ for the History of the Federal Republic?” co-authored with Frank Biess (UC San Diego), introduction for special issue “New Narratives

- for the History of the Federal Republic,” *Central European History* 52:1 (March 2019): 1-18.
- 2017 “West German Borderland Aid and European State Aid Control,” *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte / Economic History Yearbook* 58:1 (2017): 107-136.
- “Industrial Policy in Western Europe since the 1960s: Historical Varieties and Perspectives.” Introduction to the special issue on *Industrial Policy in Western Europe since the 1960s*, eds. Ralf Ahrens, Astrid M. Eckert. *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte / Economic History Yearbook* 58:1 (2017): 23-33.
- 2014 “Geteilt, aber nicht unverbunden. Grenzgewässer als deutsch-deutsches Umweltproblem,” [Transboundary River Pollution as Environmental Problem between East and West Germany] *Vierteljahrshefte für Zeitgeschichte* 62:1 (2014): 321-351.
- 2011 “‘Greetings from the Zonal Border’. Tourism to the Iron Curtain in West Germany,” [*Zeithistorische Forschung/Studies in Contemporary History*](#) 8:1 (2011): 9-36.
- 2007 “Managing Their Own Past. German Archivists between National Socialism and Democracy,” *Archival Science* [Springer Publ.] 7:3 (2007): 223-244.
- “The Transnational Beginnings of West German *Zeitgeschichte* in the 1950s,” *Central European History* 40:2 (March 2007): 63-87.
- 2005 “‘...[a]nd grant German and foreign scholars access at all times’: Archival Access in West Germany during the Cold War,” in Michael Cook, Margaret Procter, and Caroline Williams, eds., *Political Pressure and the Archival Record* (Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2005), 75-91.
- 2004 “Glasplatten im märkischen Sand: Ein Beitrag zur Überlieferungsgeschichte der Tageseinträge und Diktate von Joseph Goebbels,” *Vierteljahrshefte für Zeitgeschichte* 52 (2004): 479-526 (with Stefan Martens). [New sources on the postwar fate of the so-called Goebbels’ diaries]

Other Articles and Chapters

- 2024 “Hans Rothfels and the Duty of Contemporary History,” *German Yearbook of Contemporary History*, ed. by Alan Steinweis, Susanna Schrafstetter, Thomas Schlemmer 2024, in production.
- 2021 “Innerdeutsche Fördergrenzen: Das ‚Zonenrandgebiet‘ in der Wiedervereinigung,” *Jahrbuch Deutsche Einheit* 2021, 111-127.
- 2020 Interview. “Ein Verlust, den dieses Land kollektiv erlebt.” L.I.S.A. Wissenschaftsportal, June 2, 2020, ca. 3,000 words. Together with Dr. Simone Lässig (GHI Washington). An interview about the consequences of the Corona pandemic for American colleges and universities. https://lisa.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/coronakrise_usa

- 2016 “In Memoriam Saskia Richter.” *German Politics and Society* 33:4 (2016): 1-2.
- 2013 “Der andere Mauerfall. Die Öffnung der innerdeutschen Grenze 1989,” [Deutschland Archiv Online](#) – commissioned article [in German], 5,700 words.
Reprinted in *Deutschland Archiv 2013* (Schriftenreihe der bpb Nr. 1387), 168-184.
- 2011 “‘Zaun-Gäste.’ Die innerdeutsche Grenze als Touristenattraktion.” – invited contribution to *Grenzziehungen, Grenzerfahrungen, Grenzüberschreitungen. Die innerdeutsche Grenze 1945-1990* [exhibition catalogue], ed. by Detlef Schmiechen-Ackermann, Carl-Hans Hauptmeyer, Thomas Schwark (Darmstadt: WBG, 2011), 243-251.
- “No Man’s LandScapes,” [Berlin Journal](#) 20 (Spring 2011): 32-35.
- “Archive im Nationalsozialismus. Zum Forschungsstand,” in Michael Knoche, Wolfgang Schmitz, eds., *Wissenschaftliche Bibliothekare im Nationalsozialismus* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2011) (Wolfenbütteler Schriften zur Geschichte des Buchwesens), 51-89.
- 2010 Contributions to the work of the Historical Commission on the History of the German Foreign Office on the Ministry Trial at Nuremberg, diplomats in the resistance during the Nazi era, and the Fischer controversy on the origins of World War I, in Eckart Conze, Norbert Frei, Peter Hayes, and Moshe Zimmermann, *Das Amt und die Vergangenheit: Deutsche Diplomaten im Dritten Reich und in der Bundesrepublik* (Munich: Karl Blessing Verlag, 2010), 299f., 375-401, 558-569 and 615-620.
- “Archivar”, *Das Werkzeug des Historikers. Stichworte zu Praxis und Theorie der Geschichte*, eds. Anne Kwaschik, Mario Wimmer (Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag, 2010), 21-26.
- 2008 “Notwendige Kooperation: Westdeutsche Zeitgeschichte als transnationales Projekt in den 1950er Jahren” (“Unavoidable Cooperation: West German Contemporary History as a Transnational Project in the 1950s”) in *Die Rückkehr der deutschen Geschichtswissenschaft in die Ökumene der Historiker nach 1945. Ein wissenschaftsgeschichtlicher Ansatz*, ed. Ulrich Pfeil, (Munich: Oldenbourg, 2008), 133-152.
- 2006 “‘Im Fegefeuer der Entbräunung’. Deutsche Archivare auf dem Weg in den Nachkrieg,” in *Das deutsche Archivwesen und der Nationalsozialismus*, ed. by Robert Kretzschmar, Astrid M. Eckert, Heiner Schmitt, Dieter Speck, Klaus Wisotzky (Essen: Klartext Verlag, 2006), 422-444. [‘In the hell of denazification’: German archivists on the path into the postwar era]
- “Zur Einführung: Archive und Archivare im Nationalsozialismus,” in *Das deutsche Archivwesen und der Nationalsozialismus*, 9-17. [Introduction: Archives and Archivists during National Socialism, see above]
- 2005 “Bundesdeutsche Souveränität und die Rückgabe der diplomatischen Akten,” *APuZ – Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* 17/2005 (25 April 2005): 24-30. [Federal sovereignty and the return of the captured diplomatic files]

Book Reviews

American Historical Review, Central European History, English Historical Review, Environmental History, German Studies Review, Historisch Politisches Buch, Historische Zeitschrift, H-Environment Roundtable, Journal of American History, Militärgeschichtliche Zeitschrift

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**Professional Associations**

- Central European History Society (CEHS)
 - Past President (2023-24)
 - President (2022-23)
 - Vice-President (2020-2022)
 - Developed and chaired a 3-year pilot program “Junior Panel at the AHA”
 - Member of the Search Committee for new CEHS Executive Director (2019)
 - Member of the Search Committee for a new Editor-in-Chief for *Central European History* (2017);
 - Member of the Board (March 2017-February 2024)
- German Studies Association,
 - Conference Program Committee Member for 20th and 21st Century History (2017);
 - Member of the Archives Committee (2004-2014)
 - developed, proposed, and implemented the Emerging Scholars Workshop as new format; convener of ESW 2019-2022 (together with Priscilla Layne, UNC)
 - Member of the DAAD/GSA Book Prize Committee (2021)
 - Member of the GSA Nominating Committee (2023)
- Friends of the German Historical Institute, Member of the Board (2013-2018)
- American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)
 - Member of Rachel Carson Dissertation Prize Committee (2023-2026)
 - Chair: 2024

Editorial Board and Institutional Board Memberships

Central European History (Cambridge University Press) – since August 2014

Point Alpha Stiftung – since 2022

Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS), Erkner // Leibniz-Institut für Raumbezogene Sozialforschung (IRS), Erkner – since 2024

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association

German Studies Association

American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)

Central European History Society (CEHS)

Southern Historical Association – European History Section

European Society for Environmental History (ESEH)

European Conservation Humanities Network (EuCoHN)

Verband der Historikerinnen und Historiker Deutschlands [German Historical Association]