PSA German Politics Specialist Group Annual General Meeting

Venue: Fachhochschule Düsseldorf/University of Applied Sciences
Date: Friday 21st September 2012.

MINUTES

The AGM took place 15.40-16.00hrs

1. The AGM confirmed the minutes of the AGM 2011
2. Matters arising: Election of Treasurer/Web editor and Early Career Researchers’ Officer

Following the presentation of candidacy statements, the AGM unanimously elected two new office-holders to replace the outgoing Treasurer/Web Officer Claire Sutherland and Early Career Researchers’ Officer Hartwig Pautz. The new officers are:

Treasurer/Web Editor: Patrick Burke
Early Career Researchers’ Officer: Cristian Cercel

The post of convenor, currently held by Patricia Hogwood, is due for renewal or re-election at the 2013 AGM.

3. Convenor’s report on GPSG activities 2011-12 (delivered by local organiser Lothar Funk):
   (i) GPSG held three academic events in 2010-11

   - The GPSG presented a panel at the Annual Conference of the PSA held in London, April 2011. Convened by Renate Rechtien, the panel theme was ‘The politics of memory in united Germany twenty years after the fall of the Wall: cross-disciplinary perspectives’. Details of the proceedings can be found here [http://www.psa.ac.uk/2011/](http://www.psa.ac.uk/2011/)
   - With the University of Durham, the GPSG co-convened the annual workshop of the postgraduate journal *Austausch* on the theme of ‘Germany in the 21st century’ in July 2011. Papers from this workshop were published in *Austausch* issue 1(2) in October 2011 [www.austauschjournal.net](http://www.austauschjournal.net).
   - The GPSG Annual Workshop on the theme of ‘The Politics of Wellbeing in Germany’ was held at the University of Westminster on 7 October 2011. It was organised by Patricia Hogwood and featured work both from established academics and early career researchers.

   (ii) Budget awarded by PSA 2011-12: GPSG received core funding of £1250 and spent the full amount.
   (iii) It was noted that GPSG’s core funding award for the academic year 2011-12 (£674) represented a considerable reduction on previous years, but was apparently in line with the level of funding received by other specialist groups. The reduction was explained by the recent creation of new specialist groups. This reduction is a
cause for concern as, if it continues, it will severely limit activities in future years. The impact will be less serious during 2011-12 thanks to a supplementary award. GPSG fronted a joint bid of the GPSG, Comparative Politics Specialist Group, Italian and Greek Specialist Groups to the PSA specialist award fund and was awarded up to £1,500 to run a conference ‘Immigrants in Europe: between the Eurozone Crisis and the Arab Spring’, University of Westminster, 9 November 2012.

4. GPSG contribution to the PSA Annual Conference Cardiff 2013
A call for papers for PSA annual conference, Cardiff, 25-27 March 2013 was issued and will be circulated to the GPSG membership.

5. GPSG Annual Workshop 2013
Members discussed possible themes and UK venues for the GPSG Annual Workshop 2013.

6. Other GPSG activities 2012-13
The third issue of Austausch is currently under production http://austauschjournal.net/ and will feature papers on the theme of ‘Post-World War II German Identity Outside Germany’.

7. AOB