

From the Editors

As we finalize this issue, the horrible events befalling the United States on September 11, 2001 have changed the world—in ways that we, only two weeks after the attacks, are still watching unfold. In terms of the journal and its New York-based publisher, Berghahn Books, we have lost a wonderful business partner and friend: Doug Stone, the owner and founder of Odyssey Press, was aboard American Airlines Flight 11, the first plane to hit the World Trade Center towers. We would like to express our sincere condolences to Doug Stone's family, friends, and colleagues at Odyssey Press.

We also would like to acknowledge with thanks the many voices of concern and condolences that we received from all over the world, Germany in particular. This has reaffirmed our commitment as an active participant in the community of scholars.

Our current issue's lead article embodies cutting-edge research on the rapidly changing world of German industrial relations. Authored by Wade Jacoby and Martin Behrens, the article offers a theoretically sophisticated and empirically detailed analysis of what they call “experimentalism.”

In the second article, Irmeline Veit-Brause provides a fascinating account of the Varnbülers, a family that went from being a member of Württemberg's local elite to the national level of the Reich in the 1860s and 1870s.

Lastly, in our forum section, M. Anne Sa'adah offers an insightful view of Joschka Fischer's metamorphosis from Frankfurt street fighter to foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany. Three review essays and six book reviews complete this issue of German Politics and Society.