Editors’ Notes

With the publication of volume XXXIII of the Austrian History Yearbook, we note a number of important transitions in the life of the journal. We were saddened by the passing in August 2001 of George Barany, one of the most honored and distinguished North American specialists in modern Hungarian and Central European history. Professor Barany was a frequent contributor to the Yearbook, publishing no less than four articles between 1966 and 1998, as well as numerous book reviews. He will be greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues.

There are several changes in the leadership of the Yearbook to report as well. After Richard Rudolph stepped down in 1999 as executive editor, David F. Good graciously agreed to resume temporarily his former duties in directing the administrative affairs of the journal. In August 2001, Gary B. Cohen assumed the position of director of the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota and became the new executive editor of the Yearbook. Professor Cohen is no newcomer to work on the journal, having served as book review editor in the early 1990s for volumes XXII, XXIII, and XXIV and as a member of the advisory board since 1997. Having worked together on various projects over many years, the editors expect no difficulties in assuring continuity in the affairs of the Yearbook.

With the current volume we also welcome a new copyeditor, Shawn Kendrick, who has done extensive work for Berghahn Books and other American publishers. We also express our heartfelt gratitude as we bid farewell to our two assistant editors, Kenneth H. Marks and Nicole Slupetzky, who are completing their service to the Yearbook with this volume. In autumn 2001, Dr. Slupetzky returned to Austria, where she will continue her own scholarly research and teaching. While working with us, Dr. Slupetzky was responsible for maintaining liaison with our European correspondents and authors. She did much to reinvigorate the ties between the Yearbook and historians in Central Europe and helped to recruit both book reviews and article submissions from European authors.

Ken Marks is giving up his duties for the Yearbook in order to devote himself more fully to writing his doctoral dissertation. For the last four volumes of the Yearbook, Ken has been responsible for supervising the copyediting
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and final preparation of all contents for typesetting and printing, some of the most arduous behind-the-scenes work needed to produce a scholarly journal. His remarkable precision in matters of style and meticulous scrutiny of all copy have spared us many mishaps. His will truly be a hard act to follow!

The editors are indeed fortunate that Barbara Krauss-Christensen, the business manager of the Yearbook, continues to oversee the financial affairs of the journal, a task she has carried out with great care and good cheer since 1981. We are also grateful to Daniel Pinkerton, the editor of the Austrian Studies Newsletter, for giving the Yearbook the benefit of his great talents for preparing graphics for publication. In addition, we are deeply indebted to the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York for generously subsidizing volume XXXIII.

The articles and reviews in this volume bear witness to the quality and rich diversity of research on the history of the Habsburg monarchy, the Republic of Austria, and the other successor states of the monarchy being done currently by scholars in many settings. The articles by Peter Wallace on Freiburg-im-Breisgau, Robert Donia on Sarajevo, and Nathaniel Wood on Cracow all remind us of the great impact that the monarchy and its institutions had on society, politics, and culture in cities and regions where Habsburg rule was relatively brief. In his Kann Memorial Lecture, Anton Pelinka offers a provocative interpretation of contemporary Austrian politics, which he sees as rooted in the traumatic history of the republic during the interwar period and World War II, a past that has still not been fully confronted and mastered by many inside and outside Austria. The articles in this year’s forum, “The Other Modernisms: Culture and Politics in East Central Europe,” offer important new perspectives on the creation and development of modernist culture in various parts of Central and East Central Europe and the distinct political and social realities that stimulated and supported those efforts in each case. We thank all our contributing authors and the Yearbook staff for their fine efforts and hope that readers will find much to enlighten and interest them in these pages.

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Charles W. Ingrao
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