



# BONN CENTER FOR DEPENDENCY AND SLAVERY STUDIES

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## BCDSS Newsletter No. 8 / March 2021

### NEWS

#### LIBRARY LOAN

The Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies is delighted to announce that we have received a very exciting long-term loan from the [Academy of Science and Literature in Mainz](#): the BCDSS will host the library collected by the “[Forschungen zur Antiken Sklaverei](#)” project (Studies in Ancient Slavery), which came to an end in 2012.

One of its former directors, Heinz Heinen, gave his name to our Fellowship program. We feel even more closely connected now.

We are immensely pleased to make this invaluable collection – more than 3000 monographs and edited volumes, 12,000 papers and articles, as well as 250 especially produced translations from Russian and other Eastern European languages – available to the members of the BCDSS and to the wider scholarly world.

We will keep you updated on the terms of use and availability over the coming weeks and months. Stay tuned! And if in the meantime you want to sneak a peek at the collection in its new home at the BCDSS Heussallee office, just come by, or follow us on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) pages.

#### OPEN ACCESS

We are very pleased to announce that the BCDSS will provide Gold Open Access to all its e-publications: our main series, “Beyond Slavery and Freedom”, published by [De Gruyter](#); as well as the “[Joseph C. Miller Memorial Lecture](#)” [series published by EB-Verlag](#). As of now, our quality, peer-reviewed scholarship is free to read and download.

**CONFERENCES,  
WORKSHOPS  
&  
EVENTS**

**INTERNATIONAL E-SYMPOSIUM:  
CONTEMPORARY ASYMMETRICAL DEPENDENCIES  
BEYOND THE PANDEMIC:  
COVID-19, MIGRATION AND GLOBAL LABOR**

**March 25–26, 2021**

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to unfold, this e-symposium aims to shed light on the dynamics between the twin aspects of global migration and labor processes. This also includes much-needed reflection on how the pandemic has increased racialized inequalities in many societies.

Focusing on the nexus between pandemic, migrant labor and vulnerabilities, we hope that this symposium will highlight some of the major challenges that arose from the COVID-19 pandemic, and provide a direction for future research and policy engagement.

[Click here for more information](#)

**DEPENDENCY, VULNERABILITY AND EMBODIED FIELDWORK:  
SEXUALIZED HARASSMENT AND POWER DYNAMICS IN THE FIELD**

**April 21–22, 2021**

As researchers, we collect empirical data through interviews and participant observation during ethnographic fieldwork. We integrate into the everyday life of a group or community, whether near or at some distant location, and seek to develop close relationships with "informants" in order to acquire relevant data on our research topic. An increasing number of disciplines has been turning to ethnographic fieldwork as a research method. However, not nearly enough institutional training and preparation is provided for ethnographers.

This workshop will focus on specific challenges of ethnography as a gendered and embodied practice. We will discuss topics such as dynamic power relations, dependency, vulnerability and the agency of gatekeepers to better prepare early-career researchers for fieldwork, and to reflect on the role of embodied research in academic knowledge production.

[Click here for more information](#)

**EXHIBITION OPENING:  
SLAVERY IN CONTEXT: MATERIALITIES OF ASYMMETRICAL DEPENDENCIES**

**June 10, 2021**

In cooperation with the various collections and museums of the University of Bonn and of the region, a growing exhibition focusing on "Slavery in Context: Materialities of Asymmetrical Dependencies" will be developed by [Research Area B "Embodied Dependencies"](#).

Save the date and stay tuned for further information.

## BONN-OXFORD EXCHANGE ON "DEPENDENCIES IN THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH"

**June 14–16, 2021**

Convenors: [Julia Winnebeck](#) and [Markus Saur](#)

Since 1977, a fruitful research cooperation has existed between theologians at the Universities of Bonn and Oxford in the form of a biannual doctoral colloquium and – until recently – also in form of a senior fellow research group which informally worked together on specific topics towards a joint publication.

Members of the BCDSS and the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the University of Bonn are now continuing the historical Bonn-Oxford exchange in the form of a combined research exchange and peer-mentoring “working group” format for early career researchers in theology and the study of religion.

The group will conduct collaborative research on asymmetrical dependencies in theological research in three fields, which span and interrelate the theological sub-disciplines (Old Testament Studies, New Testament Studies, Church History, Systematic Theology, and Practical Theology).

More information will follow soon.

## CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SLAVERY: PERSPECTIVES FROM EUROPE

**July 01–02, 2021**

Convenors: [Stephan Conermann](#), [Karoline Noack](#), [Claudia Rauhut](#), [Ulrike Schmieder](#), [Michael Zeuske](#)

In the context of the global Cultural Heritage Boom, where local, national, and global identity constructions are involved and intertwined with interests in cultural tourism, sites of memory of colonialism and slavery related with notions of accountability or liability are a field of social conflicts.

The tensions between different groups of actors and interests around the central issue of how to deal with the slavery past and the legacies of the enslavers and colonizers became visible in the global Black Lives Matter Movement in 2020 and found their expression in the toppling statues and monuments. The workshop approaches these topics from an interdisciplinary perspective including scholars, museum experts, and scholarly activists working on the European context.

Save the date and stay tuned for further information.

## NARRATIVES OF DEPENDENCY

July 15–16, 2021

Convenors: [Elke Brüggem](#) and [Marion Gymnich](#)

Originally planned as a seated event last year, the Workshop on "Narratives of Dependency" will now take place in an online format on the 15th and the 16th of July 2021.

The Workshop will focus on the analysis of how and from what different angles slavery and other forms of strong asymmetrical dependencies have been represented, negotiated and at times questioned in factual and fictional narratives from a wide range of different cultural and historical contexts. The Workshop brings together scholars from various disciplines, including Egyptology, German Medieval Studies, and Ottoman History.

More information will follow soon.

## JOSEPH C. MILLER LECTURE SERIES JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2021

Please **register** for each online presentation via [events@dependency.uni-bonn.de](mailto:events@dependency.uni-bonn.de). We will send you a unique link for the **ZOOM lecture**.

After the individual presentations there will be an opportunity to ask questions to the speaker.

**March 29, 2021, 4 pm**

*Henry B. Lovejoy:*

Building West Africa Historical GIS: Mapping Enforced Internal and External Migrations during the Age of Abolition

**April 12, 2021, 4 pm**

*Sheryllynne Haggerty:*

'I am so chained down by my business to this spot'. Making Money in Jamaica, 1756

**April 26, 2021, 4 pm**

*Hans Kopp:*

'Slavery' and 'dependency' as interpretative tools for analysing Roman mutiny narratives

**May 10, 2021, 4 pm**

*William Clarence-Smith:*

tba



LECTURE  
SERIES

**May 31, 2021, 4 pm**

*Finbarr Barry Flood:*

tba

**June 14, 2021, 4 pm**

*Fırat Yaşa:*

An Adopted Country? Seventeenth-Century Life among the Manumitted Slaves of Crimean Khanate

[Visit our events website for more dates.](#)



## JOSEPH C. MILLER MEMORIAL LECTURES SERIES



**Trevor Burnard:**

***From “Little Better than Slaves” to “Cowskin Heroes”***

Joseph C. Miller Memorial Lectures Series, Vol. 4.

Berlin: eb Verlag 2021.

This article estimates the numbers of unfree whites before the 1760s, allows as far as sources allow some voice to these poor whites, and examines their status as unfree people in a society increasingly oriented around principles of white supremacy. Over time, the political and economic position of ordinary whites dramatically improved as the principles of white racial superiority took hold in the last quarter of the eighteenth century. It meant that the people somewhat derisively called ‘cowskin heroes’ due to their penchant for lording it over enslaved people were in the ascendant as the principles of white racial superiority took hold as the foundations of social, economic and political order in the island.



**María Fernanda Ugalde:**

***Clay embodiments: Materializing Asymmetrical Relations in Pre-Hispanic Figurines from Ecuador***

Joseph C. Miller Memorial Lectures Series, Vol. 5.

Berlin: eb Verlag 2021 [in print].

In this article, figurines from different cultures and time periods in this tradition are analyzed with an emphasis on body politics, presenting the author’s reflections about how these artifacts embody ancient relations between people, especially with regard to gender asymmetries. The study argues that the figurine traditions of particular cultures implicitly emphasize some ideals, such as naturalizing the idea of females depending on males. The author argues that the frequent representations of female individuals associated with pregnancy and childcare can be seen as a political agenda designed to idealize the roles of mother and wife for women, and to limit the influence of female individuals in public activities connected to power and authority.

[Visit our publications website for more information.](#)

## CURATORIAL COORDINATOR

Apply until **31 March, 2021**

A central project of the BCDSS, led by Research Area B “Embodied Dependencies,” is the organization and realization of the exhibition “Slavery in Context: Materialities of Asymmetrical Dependencies.”

For this project, the BCDSS is now looking for a Curatorial Coordinator to ensure its smooth operation and success.

**CALLS  
FOR  
APPLICATIONS**

[Click here for more information](#)

## 5 PHD POSITIONS

Apply until **30 April, 2021**

The BCDSS is currently calling for applications for five PhD researchers to join us. The positions are offered for 3+1 years, starting October 2021. We are looking for graduate students who are interested in contributing to an outstanding interdisciplinary and international research center.

[Click here for more information](#)

## MASTER'S PROGRAM 2021

Are you looking for cutting-edge research? Join the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies! We offer two broad and in-depth Master's programs that are unique and innovative.

The Master programs “Dependency and Slavery Studies” (two-year program) and “Slavery Studies” (one-year program) are offering you a broad perspective on interdisciplinary research on slavery and other forms of strong asymmetrical dependencies through time and space.

These Master degrees will provide students with new insights into area studies and historically and philologically oriented subjects. They will offer access to newly developed and empirically proven analytical tools for the investigation of complex dependency problems and resulting options for actors.

**Start:** Winter semester (October)

**Program Language:** English

[Click here for more information](#)

**Imprint**

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AND SLAVERY  
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