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Eugen Schochenmaier*

Mondonomo LLC, ICOS, e-Onomastics, Lahr/Schwarzwald, Germany

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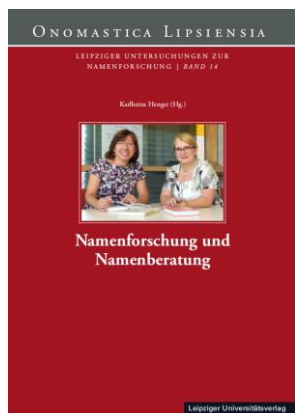
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* Contact: Kanadaring 49/1, D-77933 Lahr/Schwarzwald, Germany; e-mail: dr.schochenmaier@gmail.com.



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This volume within the *Onomastica Lipsiensia* series represents a kind of festschrift collection. The occasion is the “milestone birthdays” of the two prominent ladies who are representatives of the ongoing tradition of onomastic research at the University of Leipzig where they have been responsible for the *Namenkundliches Zentrum* for many years.

The congratulations open with short biographical notes about both anniversary celebrants. It is of the greatest interest to read that even before Dietlind Kremer started her research studies, the XV International Congress of Onomastic Sciences was held at the University of Leipzig in 1984. It was her very first work activity in this area to which she would devote her life. As the youngest researcher, she received

help and support from the renowned onomasticians Hans Walther and Ernst Eichler.

The first Professor of Onomastics in Germany Karlheinz Hengst reminds us that in 1991, for the first time in Germany, the Faculty of Philology established a minor university course entitled “Name Research”. Dietlind Kremer initiated the efforts to mount the course, evolving into a more effective and impactful teacher. After German reunification, the question of proper names in society gained attention. In this regard, Dietlind was active in a commission reporting to the Saxon State Ministry of the Interior. As a representative of the university, she was able to influence the development and implementation of guidelines for naming when the winds of change were blowing through Germany.

Later, Dr. Kremer found a further field of work researching personal names of the past (how hagiolatry and the Reformation shaped major naming patterns, or the origin of occupational surnames, etc.). Special mention should be made of her contribution to the two-volume editions in the series *Onomastica Lipsiensia* with international authorship, dedicated to the topics “Die Stadt und ihre Namen” and, as a reference work, “Familiennamen im Deutschen”. Recently, the jubilarian’s attention has repeatedly been focused on given names (e.g., of new students). In Leipzig university’s magazine, Dietlind launched the new series “Die Universität und ihre Namen”, bringing onomastics very close to real life. Due to her diversified teaching, Dr. Kremer has contributed considerably to a steadily growing number of students.

Over three decades, Dietlind Kremer has also taken on executive responsibilities in the *Gesellschaft für Namenkunde*. Thus, she has been Vice-Chair of the Society for four years and co-editor of the journal *Namenkundliche Informationen/Journal of Onomastics* (NI) from 1994 to 2017, i.e., for over twenty years. She is also a member of the editorial board of the series *Onomastica*

Lipsiensia with 14 volumes to date. The list of the jubilarian's publications, which reflects her participation in the International Congresses of the ICOS as well as in numerous meetings and conferences in various European countries, is included after expressions of the warmest congratulations and the heartiest gratitude by Professor K. Hengst.

Next, Dietlind Kremer offers best wishes to her colleague and friend Gabriele Rodríguez in the second biographical note. Our unexpectedly departed colleague Gabriele Rodríguez (1961–2022) is known to a large audience, especially in the German media, as a name consultant. Dr. Rodríguez studied the Slavic and Romanic languages. From 1991 to 1994, she worked as a research assistant at the German Central Office for Genealogy incorporated into the Leipzig State Archives. In 1994, she made her debut by specialising in forenames, analysing data provided by registry offices in Saxony. Soon her expertise was in demand from all over Germany. Then she acted as a name consultant at the University of Leipzig. Dr. Rodríguez proved to be a competent member of staff, who was able to cover a wide range of languages and continuously acquired further language skills. Everybody could feel her enthusiasm for names, especially first names. From August 2001, Gabriele was a research assistant in the Department for German-Slavic Onomastics, now the *Namenkundliches Zentrum* of the University and Name Advisory Service.

In addition to the advisory tasks for civil registrars and parents, there are numerous media tasks, which Gabriele Rodríguez fulfilled with joy and courage. After the death of Wilfried Seibicke, who was the writer of the first German historical dictionary of first names that documents their occurrence and distribution, she took over his nickname, namely in its feminized form, "Popess of Forenames". Her book *Namen machen Leute. Wie Vornamen unser Leben beeinflussen* ("Names make people. how first names influence our lives", Komplet-Media GmbH Munich, 2017) aroused great interest. Over the course of 248 pages, Gabriele Rodríguez tells of the everyday life of a name consultant: from historical facts, such as the development of the Germanic "anthroponymic model", to anecdotes from her almost twenty-five years of work at the university's name advisory service. Generally, it was Gabriele Rodríguez's desire to make name research accessible to the general audience. Numerous lectures at schools, registry offices, associations, and at the annual baby fairs, among others, attest to this. She supported onomastics in other countries, too. In this regard, she established intensive contacts with institutions in Mexico, Cuba and Brazil; she regularly lectured there and took part in the *1st Jornadas Antroponomásticas* organised in Mexico in 2018.

In recent years, the tasks of the Name Advisory Service have changed. There has been an increase in enquiries about changing both forenames and surnames for a wide variety of reasons. Social changes also brought new challenges for the jubilarian. After having wished Dr. Rodríguez health and energy, Frau Kremer finishes her laudatory review with a full list of Gabriele's publications.

The following chronicle of *Namenkundliches Zentrum* at the University of Leipzig documents key events and decisions over the last 70 years about name research and consultancy (1951–2021).

The collection of essays opens with the article about cultural specificities of German and Georgian given names by Barbara Aehnlich, Manana Bakradze, Miranda Gobiani, Dana Schluchtmann and Jakob Wunsch from the Universities of Jena (Germany) and Kutaisi (Georgia). Based on a comparative onomastic study carried out in Germany and Georgia in 2016, this article focuses on the attribution of forenames and examines naming motifs and phonetic structures. In the following article, entitled “Überlegungen zu den Onymen *Guido*, *Tegrimus* und *Bibensanguinem*”, Maria Giovanna Arcamone (Florence) shares her thoughts about the name of the aristocratic and powerful family Guidi, which is of Germanic origin and spread into Italy with the Franks. Then, Diana Ascher from Hamburg presents her reflections on some older names of districts, waters, fields and streets with obscure semantics. These layers of names are of particular interest because they still preserve ancient words, many of which are extinct. Thus, these names point to the earliest language situation within the Hamburg area.

In the article with the intriguing title “Noterella antroponomastica oder Namengebung ist politisch: Der Vorname *Yásnaya* / Ясная in Mexiko”, Lidia Becker (University of Hannover) discusses a first name that, thanks to its bearer, is in the limelight for the Mexican and Latin American public. It is the name of *Yásnaya Elena Aguilar Gil*, a well-known activist, linguist and writer, who has distinguished herself as a tireless campaigner for the rights of indigenous language speakers in Mexico. We may find out that *Yásnaya* is a name that originates in the Russian language, meaning “clear / light / bright”. Ana Boullón, as a member of the Royal Galician Academy, focuses on the onomastic controversy in Galicia in her Spanish article “La polémica onomástica en Galicia. La ciudadanía y los nombres propios”. Unlike toponymy, which is regulated by the public administration, anthroponymy, although also subject to legislation, is susceptible to certain changes only on the basis of individual initiative. The professor from the University of Santiago de Compostela clearly shows how big the difference is between the social normalisation and the progress in anthroponymic studies in Galicia, which have experienced an enormous boost in recent years. The author also considers the sociolinguistic situation where Castilian has influenced the development of surnames and second names in Galicia.

The title of the paper “Dorlamm, der verhinderte Dichter”, by Donatella Bremer (University of Pisa), hints at the main subject of consideration, that is, the most significant pseudonym of the poet Dichter Dorlamm. It describes an author who has not yet achieved fame and who, in addition, is controversial because of his poetic technique at the point when rhyme and musicality of poetry have lost their value. The Italian article “Consulenza, competenza, documentazione e didattica onomastica in Italia” by Enzo Caffarelli (Rome) presents the crude reality of onomastic studies in Italy: low competence of both public administration

and general audience, lack of information, difficulty of the distribution of results, unsuccessfully managing book stock at national libraries and deficiency in communication flows for the dissemination of onomastic research results. However, he admits that the academic landscape is slowly improving by pointing out that the interest in onomastics is growing at universities and that there are up to eight centres of Italian onomastics: Turin, Pisa, Palermo, Udine, Genoa, Trento, Rome and Padua.

Austrian onomastician Peter Ernst (University of Vienna) presents names as linguistic ambiguities in his work “Namen als sprachliche Zweifelsfälle” where he provides a theoretical insight into the different uses of the onym *Europe* and its forms. The researcher from the University of Freiburg (Germany) Dieter Geuenich asks the question whether the database of the University Library of Tübingen “Namen von Personen und Personengruppen des Mittelalters” (“Names of Persons and Groups of Persons of the Middle Ages”, NPPM) can be compared with the name collection compiled by the founder of German onomastics Ernst Förstemann¹. He describes the database that currently contains 460,646 names used to refer to persons from the 4th to the 12th century, which have been taken directly from medieval manuscripts without conjectures, standardisations or case changes. The author emphasises that it is also an online resource for the Middle Ages, which can be used as an extended and improved version of Förstemann’s personal name book.

The article “Namenforschung in der Erinnerungskultur jüdischen Lebens in der Stadt Dresden: Straßennamen – Denkzeichen – Stolpersteine” by our deceased colleague Rosemarie Gläser brings forward the Dresden street names, memorials and “stumbling stones” as onomastic examples of the historic responsibility towards the Jewish community and the culture of its commemoration. The article “Namenberatung und Sprachkultur” by Albrecht Greule (University of Regensburg) reveals the relationship between name research and name consultancy service. Drawing on the examples of D. Kremer and G. Rodríguez, the author defines the activities of name advisors as an act of language cultivation. In his conception, linguistic consultation has a mediating function, insofar as the consultancy specifically disseminates findings of onomastics to laypersons and thus popularises them.

The Czech researcher from Bratislava Milan Harvalík summarises the popularisation of name research in the media. It is a delightful pleasure to read that practically all Czech onomasticians have pursued the tradition of popularising their discipline. Thus, through the example of the project *Divnopsis*, Milan demonstrates how onomastics found its place in the daily press, on radio, on television and on the internet.

Wolfgang Haubrachs from Saarbrücken introduces a real detective story showing how he undertook attempts to find out the etymology of the town

¹ The latter is widely known by the very first statistical research of various linguistic phenomena (sounds, grammatical features, names), thanks to which Förstemann (1822–1906) is considered as one of the pioneers of quantitative linguistics.

Mastershausen (Rhein-Hunsrück District) and discovered the Romance language islands near Kastellaun and on the Moselle River. The Doyen of Scandinavian toponomastics Botolv Helleland reviews the results of the Norwegian Place Names Act adopted in 1990 by laying out its challenges for name research, politics and society. Volkmar Hellfritsch (1935–2022) from Stollberg describes the stake of onomastics and its popularisation in journals, as in the case of the Saxon regional *Erzgebirgische Heimatblätter*. The latter is the periodical published since 1979 by the *Kulturbund Landesverband Sachsen e. V.*, on whose editorial board the German researcher served from 1980s.

The former chair of the German-Slavic Onomastics Department at Leipzig University Karlheinz Hengst favours name research and name consultancy by showing necessities and expectations from science and public, illustrated by toponymic and anthroponymic examples. Sandra Herling (University of Siegen) centres on the “amateur linguistic” name criticism in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement. Its consequences after 2020 have not only political or socio-cultural relevance, but also update an onomastic research agenda: the renewed awareness of racist incidents has triggered a debate about the names of companies, products and geographical entities such as streets. In other words, in the media and elsewhere, we sometimes must follow pseudo-scientific discussions about proper names that, according to Black Lives Matter activists, have “racist” connotations.

The paper of our dear departed German colleague Edgar Hoffmann (1957–2021) from the University of Vienna deals with Russian deanthroponymic chrematonyms, which may be categorised into three groups: names of organisations, names of goods and services, and the names of economic events. His focus is on what names, originally considered as personal names, were transferred into these three name classes and have thus become chrematonyms or components of such onyms. The “names-focused” family of Rosa and Volker Kohlheim from Bayreuth report about their onomastic press work, namely about one year of surname interpretation for the *Bayerische Rundschau* journal (Kulmbach). The article of Claudia Maria Korsmeier, a Münster-based researcher on the project “Ortsnamen zwischen Rhein und Elbe²”, addresses those who are interested in farm names in Verl in East Westphalia and their origins (e.g., *Krax*, *Jacobfeuerborn*, *Annalohstrothrodemann*, etc.).

Dieter Kremer, Professor Emeritus at the University of Trier, in his outspoken article “Namenforschung und Publikum”, expressly intends to acknowledge the work of the current *Namenkundliches Zentrum* (with *Namenberatungsstelle für Vornamen und Familiennamen*) at the University of Leipzig. The prominent author admits that thanks to the dedication of its director, the Name Research Centre has survived down the years and, after the retirement of the person honoured in this edition, the professional onomastic focus might be history. Lutz Kuntzsch (Wiesbaden) shares a detailed hindsight analysis of his *curriculum vitae*: from Leipzig

² “Place Names between the Rhine and the Elbe” (by the Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities), project under the direction of Jürgen Udolph and Kirstin Casemir.

via Kiev to Omsk and back via Moscow to Wiesbaden. Wherever he went, forenames have been his faithful companions and objects of his hobby, teaching and language advisory work. The Romance philologist Antje Lobin (Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz) elucidates the concepts of nomination in urban spaces of the French-speaking Canton of Geneva in relation to language policy and internationalisation.

Our Mexican colleague Yolanda Guillermina López Franco provides the festschrift with an overview in French regarding the methodological aspects of the lexicological and socio-anthroponymic study of forenames. Saskia Luther (University of Magdeburg) ascertains a clear correlation between pharmaconyms and business interests. By pharmaconyms, the author means names of medicines, which may exist at three levels: as product name (*Aspirin*), as generic name (*acetylsalicylic acid*) and as chemical formula ($C_9H_8O_4$). Wolf-Armin Freiherr von Reitzenstein (University of Munich) adduces examples of toponyms used in Bavarian newspapers published in Munich, namely *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and *Münchner Merkur*. The latter, since 2019, has been publishing the series “Our mountains and their names”, for which the author is selecting well-known or etymologically interesting mountain names; these include oronyms that are not easily comprehensible or that can be misinterpreted.

A member of the *Gesellschaft für deutsche Sprache* (GfdS – “Association for the German Language”) from Wiesbaden Frauke Rüdibusch reports on its work on given names. With over 70 years of experience in name advisory service and the progressive enlargement of the most popular first names annual published since 1977, the Association became an important source of onomastic information for parents, registry offices and media. Anikó Szilágyi-Kósa (Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary) introduces us to the formation of the Hungarian first names system. It ought to be noted that at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, within the Department of Language Technology and Applied Linguistics, there is a commission appointed to decide on registration of new first names where the applications by Hungary’s 13 minorities, foreign citizens and Hungarian citizens living abroad are regulated separately.

Our Romanian colleague Domnița Tomescu (Ovidius University of Constanța) offers insight into the flexibility of the first name in contemporary Romanian onomastics. In her article “La mobilité de la prénomination dans l’onomastique roumaine actuelle”, the author goes through some significant aspects of how the traditional anthroponymic stock has been recently updated due to the socio-political and cultural contexts. She ends up by identifying numerous changes in the Romanian forenames which risk interrupting the continuity of naming traditions. In the following article, Roman Trültzsch (Zschorlau) deciphers the “exotic” family name *Leuoth* from the Ore Mountains³ area. He attempts to answer the following questions: what does the “lion” (from *leu-*) in the family name stand for, and what does the final

³ The Ore Mountains lie along the Czech-German border, separating the historical regions of Bohemia in the Czech Republic and Saxony in Germany.

element *-oth* mean?

The article of Germany's latest Professor in Onomastics⁴ Jürgen Udolph is deeply reminiscent about the first steps towards mapping surnames at Leipzig University. His contribution reminds us of the time when onomastics in Leipzig broke new ground in surname research by exploiting modern computer-aided and internet-based possibilities, which today belong to the basic equipment of every institution dealing with surname analysis. Prof. Udolph's great storytelling style makes you feel each thrill, just like on a roller-coaster ride, when onomastic PC-assisted cartography was going through ups and downs between 2000 and 2008. Our Russian colleague Natalija Vasil'eva (Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow) presents the Russian *katoikonoms*, or, in other words, city residents' names as objects of language and name consultancy. Those onyms have been analysed from the grammatical (their word-formation models) and lexicographical (their lemmatic sequences) perspectives. The author ends up with concrete examples to demonstrate how they function in the language usage and what occasions arise in this regard at the naming advisory services.

In the article "Die ukrainischen Familiennamen auf *-uk (-juk)*, *-čuk* (dargestellt am Beispiel der Region Pokutien)", Nataliya Vyrsta (Ternopil Volodymyr Hnatiuk National Pedagogical University) focuses on Ukrainian family names ending in *-uk (-juk)*, *-čuk* illustrated by examples of the Pokuttia region. Those surnames were collected and mapped by the author from 2005 to 2011 in the villages of Pokuttia and examined in structural and semantical terms in her dissertation, which contains a total of 11,090 regional family names. The article concluding the volume by Christian Zscheschang (Sorbian Institute, Branch Office in Cottbus, Germany) informs us about two new projects demonstrating how to do onomastic knowledge transfer effectively. These projects are dealing with Lower Sorbian names and can be found on the portal *niedersorbisch.de*.

In conclusion, I would like to note proudly that the reviewed volume is an outstanding example of onomastics, and, for the most part, in Germany. We may discover across many countries how 'amazing' onomatology can be through articles, reports, consultancy, workshops, statistics, fieldwork and hands-on activities at universities, research centres, newspapers and even abandoned villages. This collection of essays should also be considered as the very best of birthday greetings to Dietlind Kremer and Gabriele Rodríguez, two "Queens of Name Research", who have made cutting-edge onomastics accessible to the public. Their works took up the challenge of communicating its achievements, developing a wide range of tools to transfer science out of dusty archives into public spaces. All contributors unanimously point out that their name studies and naming advisory services can capture the imagination, stimulate curiosity and even change the world (at least that of information-seekers and/or of researchers).

⁴ Academic title (*Professor für Namenforschung*), which has been used in some European Germanic countries.