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The Ibero-American Institute

The Ibero-American Institute (IAI) is an interdisciplinary center for academic and cultural exchange between Germany and Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal. It is home to the largest specialist library in Europe for the Ibero-American region. It is also a place of knowledge production, exchange and cultural translation. Combining an information center, a research center and a cultural center, the IAI is both a platform for cooperation and a catalyst for intercultural and transcultural dialogues.

The combination of research, research assistance, conferences and publications defines the scientific profile of the IAI. It provides researchers with a unique fund of books, journals, bequests and special collections on the Ibero-American cultural area, and it also provides excellent institutional facilities, competent assistance and an inspiring interdisciplinary working atmosphere.

Ibero-American Institute

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The Ibero-American Institute Science and Research

Science and Research at the IAI

Research activities at the IAI are based on three principles: First, as a non-university center, the Institute endeavors to build bridges among the plurality of academic disciplines by interlinking them through research on specific issues. Second, the IAI is committed to cooperating with other university and non-university institutions that carry out research on Latin-American and Iberian topics on a national and international level. Third, wherever possible, the IAI places emphasis on the practice of “researching with” instead of “researching into”.

The research activities of the IAI concentrate on archaeological, anthropological, historical, literary, cultural, linguistic and political issues. In the years 2010–2014, the main focus of research activities of the IAI deals with the “Cultural transfers and scientific exchange between Europe and Latin America”. It combines different projects of the Institute which analyze processes of mutual reception, exchange and interpretation between the two regions. The researchers of the IAI are also involved with individual projects on other topics.



**Ibero-Amerikanisches
Institut**
Preußischer Kulturbesitz



Research Grants and Fellowships

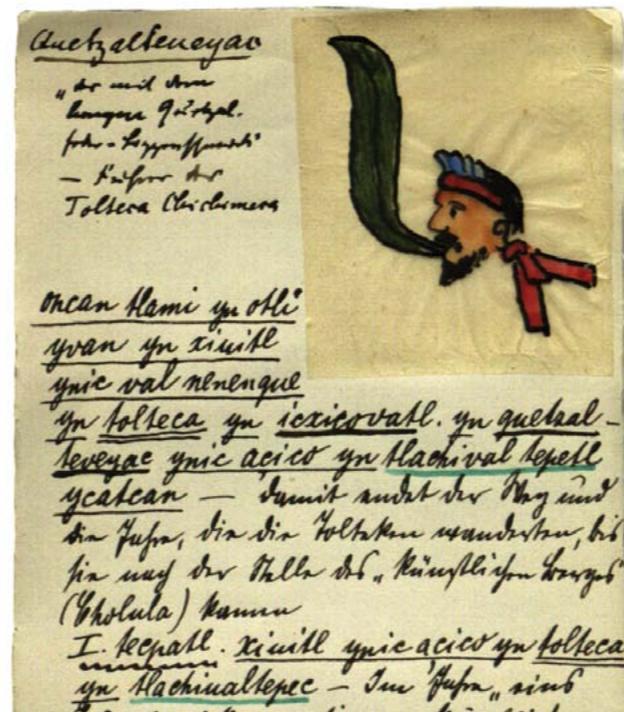
The IAI awards ten to twelve grants each year to support a one to three months research stay in Berlin. These grants are intended to give scholars the opportunity to use the IAI's library holdings for their research, and to establish contact with colleagues in Germany. The Institute awards grants in response to individual applications or calls for applications on specific topics. The minimum requirement for obtaining a grant is a university degree at the time of the application. Furthermore, the IAI invites Fellows who bring in their expertise in the development of new research projects of the Institute.

Special Collections

The special collections of the Institute offer a unique combination of sources that include texts, sounds, and images. These are related to the other library holdings such as books and bequests. The audio library encompasses a wide range of audio media from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal. It includes music from numerous genres, interviews with writers and politicians, audio books, ethnographic material, and language courses. In the film collection, acquisition efforts have focused on adaptations of literature, feature films, and documentaries. The map collection contains topographical and topical maps, atlases, city maps, roadmaps as well as historical maps. Other collections include posters, photographs, postcards, slides, and press clippings.

Bequests

The bequest collection of the IAI consists of nearly 400 legacies which are very important for international research activities. Every year, numerous scholars come to Berlin to work with these materials. The bequests mainly belonged to German explorers and scholars. The Institute applies for external funding support to make these materials accessible to the international scientific community. Thanks to the support of the German Research Foundation (DFG, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), the IAI could make accessible the bequests of the archeologist Max Uhle, the anthropologist Robert Lehmann-Nitsche, and the political scientist Wolfgang Hirsch-Weber. Other important bequests include material from the writer Roberto Arlt, the anthropologist Paul Ehrenreich, the diplomat Guilherme Gaelzer-Neto, the anthropologist Walter Lehmann, the explorer Teobert Maler, diplomats Vicente and Ernesto Quesada, the geographer Hans Steffen, and the botanist August Weberbauer.



Publications

The IAI publishes a wide range of books and scientific journals in German, Spanish, Portuguese, and English. These publications are the result of the Institute's own research activities, conferences held at the IAI, cooperative projects with other research institutions as well as texts based on the outstanding work of individual scholars. The IAI publishes three series of monographs and collections on Latin American, Spanish and Portuguese literatures and languages, history, culture, social anthropology, economy, and politics (*Bibliotheca Ibero-Americana*, *Estudios Indiana*, *Biblioteca Luso-Brasileira*). The Institute also publishes monographs and collections in cooperation with national and international partners. Furthermore, the IAI publishes three scientific journals (*Iberoamericana*, *América Latina—España—Portugal*, *Indiana*, *Revista Internacional de Lingüística Iberoamericana*) and several online publications (*Ibero-Analysen*, *Ibero-Bibliographien*, *Ibero-Online*).

Visiting Scholars

Each year numerous international visiting scholars conduct research at the IAI. Many of them are supported by grants from funding institutions such as the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst), the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH, Alexander-von-Humboldt-Stiftung) or from their national scientific foundations and universities. The scientific staff of the IAI involves the visiting scholars in its scientific activities and debates. They have the opportunity to present and discuss their research projects in an interdisciplinary academic colloquium that takes place on a regular basis. On the other hand, the visiting scholars pay off for the Institute as they introduce their expertise, stimulate the discussion of new academic topics, participate in events and publications and strengthen the international networks of the IAI.

