News from the Leibniz-Gesellschaft

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Academy Edition Update: Volume II, 2 (Philosophical Correspondence, 1686 - 1694) has appeared in February 2009; it is available on the web since December 2008. Volume VIII, 1 (Scientific, Technical and Medical Writings) will appear soon. Volumes I, 21 (General, Political and Historical Correspondence, April - December 1702) and III, 7 (Mathematical, Scientific and Technical Correspondence, July 1696 - December 1698) will appear in 2010. Volume II, 3 (Philosophical Correspondence, 1695 - 1700) is fairly advanced.

As there still are some current misunderstandings, I would like to point out that the Leibniz edition has two editors, the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie and the Göttingen Akademie; they are on equal footing. The edition was started by the Berlin Academy, but since it was joined by the Göttingen Academy, the vast majority of the volumes is edited by the Göttingen Academy.

The Leibniz-Forschungsstelle Münster put a cumulative index of the books mentioned in the Leibniz Academy edition on the internet (http://www.leibniz-edition.de). The Leibniz-Editionsstelle Potsdam replaced the index rerum (hitherto a big pdf file) by a data base, which can be used more easily. The Leibniz-Archiv Hannover added more than a thousand pages of Leibniz’ letters from the years 1714 and 1715 to the internet presentation.

A meeting of the Leibniz-Gesellschaft took place at November 13, 2009. The report of the secretary Dr. Dittrich will be found soon on the homepage of the Leibniz-Gesellschaft: http://www.gwlb.de/Leibniz/Gesellschaft/Mitgliederversammlung/Berichte/index.html.

The book Dascal (ed.): Leibniz - what kind of rationalist? was given as a donation to those members who paid their membership fee in 2008.

The IXth International Leibniz Congress will take place 19 – 24 September 2011 at the Leibniz University Hannover. More details will be published in a circular soon.
The 65th birthday of Professor Martin Schneider was celebrated by a conference on April 29th, 2009. As the decision about a successor has not yet been made, Professor Schneider is still the head of the Leibniz-Forschungsstelle Münster.

Several special issues of Studia Leibnitiana have been published: Kulstad/Laerke/Snyder (eds.): The Philosophy of the Young Leibniz; Paul Rateau (ed.): L’idée de théodicée de Leibniz à Kant: héritage, transformations, critiques; Barke/Wernstedt/Breger (eds.): Leibniz neu denken.

Another special issue of Studia Leibnitiana is in print: Nicolàs (ed.): Leibniz und die Entstehung der Modernität.

The Leibniz University Hannover has established a Leibniz professorship; in the beginning it will be devoted to philosophy. At the moment the decision about the first person holding this chair has not been made.

The Leibniz edition in Potsdam and other institutions (including the Leibniz-Gesellschaft) will hold an international symposium on 300 Jahre Essais de Théodicée - Rezeption und Transformation. The symposium will take place from 8th to 11th October 2011 in Potsdam and Berlin. Organization is provided by Prof. Dr. Wenchao Li and Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Schmidt-Biggemann.

An international conference on Leibniz in der Zeit des Nationalsozialismus will take place in Hannover during 23 – 25 September 2010. Organization is provided by Dr. Hartmut Rudolph on behalf of the Leibniz-Gesellschaft.

Prof. Dr. Paul Rateau and Prof. Dr. Michel Fichant are organizing an international symposium on the 300th anniversary of the Théodicée which will take place at the Sorbonne in Paris 24-26 June 2010.

On behalf of the Leibniz-Gesellschaft Dr. Hartmut Rudolph organized a series of lectures on Leibniz’s political theory in August 2009 in Hannover. The occasion for this series were the German federal elections. Lectures were given by Prof. Salas (Madrid), Dr. Basso (Padova) and Prof. Sakai (Tokyo). The lectures will be printed in the journal Studia Leibnitiana.
Dr. Nora Gädeke organized on behalf of the Leibniz-Gesellschaft a study trip to Helmstedt, a former university town. In a ranking according to the importance of towns with correspondants of Leibniz, Helmstedt was number six (after Paris, Hannover, Berlin, London, Wien). Quite a number of houses of Leibniz’s correspondents were visited.