**Seminar of the research network “Migreval”**

**Historical perspectives into exile – Shanghai Jews and Ovaherero in the United States – Crossed Perspectives**

**Institute DynamE, University of Strasbourg, February 14, 2020**

Location : **Salle Amériques (265)**, MISHA, Allée du Général Rouvillois, 67000 Strasbourg

Arrêt de tram : Observatoire

This seminar will be held at the occasion of the venue of Kevin Ostoyich, Professor at the Valparaiso University (Indiana, USA). Kevin Ostoyich is Professor of History, specialized in Oral history. Over the past years, he has worked specifically on Jews who fled to Shanghai from Nazi persecution.

**9-10 AM: Presentation of Kevin Ostoyich’s and Elise Pape’s joint work on Shanghai Jews and Herero**

This discussion will reflect on ways to connect biographical experiences of two groups: Jews who fled Nazism in the 1930-40s and who found refuge in Shanghai and Herero, who experienced political exile at two historical moments: during the genocide committed against their ethnic group under German colonial rule in today’s Namibia between 1904-1908 and between the 1960-1980s during South African rule of Namibia.

The presentation will aim at working out historical perspectives on the situation of refugees in (post)genocidal and (post)colonial contexts. It will furthermore address methodological challenges for historians and sociologists working on these topics.

**10-12 AM: Case study 1 on Shanghai Jews by Kevin Ostoyich: "Three Families and Shanghai: The Abrahams, Kisches, and Sternbergs"**

Analysis of case studies of survivors of the Holocaust who fled to Shanghai during Nazism and who later migrated to the USA.

**Lunch**

**2-5 PM: Case study 2 on Shanghai Jews by Kevin Ostoyich: "Three Families and Shanghai: The Abrahams, Kisches, and Sternbergs"**

Analysis of case studies of survivors of the Holocaust who fled to Shanghai during Nazism and who later migrated to the USA.

Joint discussion on the methods of oral history and sociological biographical interviews.

Kevin Ostoyich is professor of history at Valparaiso University, where he served as chair of the History Department from 2015 to 2019. He has directed Valparaiso University’s Study Abroad Center in Hangzhou, China and its Study Abroad Center in Reutlingen, Germany. Ostoyich holds his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his A.M. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He has served as a research associate at the Harvard Business School and an Erasmus Institute fellow at the University of Notre Dame. He is currently a board member of the Sino-Judaic Institute, an advisory board member of the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum, a non-resident fellow of the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies of the Johns Hopkins University (AICGS), and an associate of the Center for East Asian Studies of the University of Chicago. He has been invited to be a visiting fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München for the summer of 2020. At Valparaiso University he was bestowed the Excellence in Teaching Award for 2017-2018. Ostoyich is the author of *The German Society of Pennsylvania: A Guide to Its Book and Manuscript Collections* (German Historical Institute, 2006) and publishes regularly on German history, German Americans, and the Shanghai Jews.  His work has been published by (among others) AICGS, *American Nineteenth Century History*, *Catholic Historical Review*, *German Studies Review*, and *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies*.