**Conservation in the early Federal Republic of Germany - A difficult way to interdisciplinarity**

**Michael von der Goltz**

Due to the consequences of the NS-system and the Second World War, in Germany, the development of conservation science and scientific conservation started with a delay of many years. Important influencers from the NS time who continued in the first decades after the war, especially Kurt Wehlte, considered the practice of conservation a craft, emphasizing manual and technical skills. At first, pupils of Wehlte, like Thomas Brachert and Rolf Straub, carefully expanded of the art technological dimensions of this craft. Later, in the 1960s, several publications (by Edgar Denninger, Hans Kittel, Erwin Hermann) showed the importance of natural science in conservation. On the other side natural science was sometimes also seen as a threat. However, the dispute finally led to an interdisciplinary profession bringing together craft with the natural sciences and the humanities.