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RECTOR'S WELCOME

PROF. DR. RER. NAT. BERNHARD EITEL
RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG

Dear Reader,

For the past couple of years, the Ruperto Carola has been bracing itself for the arrival of two graduating classes bound for higher education at once. Heidelberg University has responded to this challenge by increasing the number of freshmen slots, establishing new programs, creating new professorships, expanding facilities, and broadening academic services. The Heidelberg Center for American Studies has played an important and successful role in these efforts.

Thus, supported by a special program of the state of Baden-Württemberg, in 2010 we announced the creation of two new professorships which the HCA is sharing with the Department of Geography and the Faculty of Theology, respectively. The two new professorships laid the groundwork for the creation of a new academic program at Heidelberg – the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies (BAS) – that helped the Ruperto Carola to cope with the increase in students. I am pleased and proud to report that in its target year of 2012 the BAS has exceeded the expected number of newly enrolled students. It is a particular pleasure for me to congratulate the HCA on this stellar achievement!

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the title of Honorary Senator of Heidelberg University has recently been conferred on one of the HCA's most steadfast supporters. Soheyl Ghaemian is the sponsor of the Ghaemian Fellowship-in-Residence at the HCA and of the Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars. The Ruperto Carola is thus honoring an exceptional entrepreneur who is known for his courage, vision, and social responsibility. I look forward to working closely with him for the future benefit of the HCA, Heidelberg University, and the arts and sciences in Heidelberg.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Bernhard Eitel".

Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Bernhard Eitel
Rector of the University of Heidelberg



PREFACE

PROF. DR. DR. H.C. DETLEF JUNKER
FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF THE HCA

Dear Friends and Benefactors, Students and Colleagues,

After nine years of publishing our Annual Report, we decided it needed a facelift. We hope that you will agree with us that our new design is more reader-friendly, less compressed and overloaded, with more space for pictures and reports. Once more, we will distribute 1,200 copies worldwide.

As always, I would like to focus your attention on some special initiatives and events at the HCA in the last year.

Following an important pattern of the global educational market, we at the HCA decided to pursue a pro-active strategy to promote our non-consecutive Master in American Studies program to attract talented and ambitious students from all over the world who are willing and able to pay 2,500 Euro per term for tuition and fees. Since 2005, 122 students from 37 countries have successfully completed their M.A. in American Studies at the HCA.

In line with this new initiative we accepted the invitation of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to take part in the China Education Expo 2012. I was accompanied by Katia Rostetter and Anne Lübbers from the HCA and two representatives from Heidelberg University's International Office, Ulrike Riedling and Chun-Mei Chan, to present the university and the HCA at four expositions in Beijing, Xi'an, Chengu, and Shanghai. In the German pavilion, more than 100 representatives of German universities answered the questions of the Chinese students. Heidelberg was the most famous German university present and captured the interest of a lot of students. Altogether, the expo in Beijing attracted 28,000, in Shanghai 20,000, in Chengu 2,000, and in Xi'an 3,000 students.

In Beijing I lectured at the Beijing Foreign Studies University and the China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU) as well. The delegation from Heidelberg University engaged in lively debates with students and faculty about the structure of American Studies in China and Germany.

We were moved by reuniting with four MAS alumni, with Fei Ye (MAS 2009) and Harry Zhang (MAS 2011) in Beijing, and with Cassie Zhang (MAS 2008) and Cen Jiang (MAS 2011) in Shanghai. Our alumni were fabulous hosts and made us feel at home in China.

Another dimension of the HCA's global reach is our Spring Academy. The HCA's oldest and extraordinarily successful program has attracted students from all over the world. In 2013 the Spring Academy, a one-week interdisciplinary conference for doctoral students, will celebrate its 10th anniversary, thanks to the long-standing commitment of the John Deere Company.

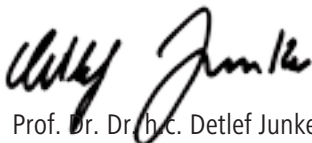
Having taken place for the first time in 2004 with 24 students from 10 countries, it has continued as successfully as it started. Over the last nine years 188 doctoral students out of a pool of 750 applicants from 59 different countries have been selected to participate in the conference. The Spring Academy does not just bring together young researchers in the field of American Studies, but also offers its participants the opportunity to network with other Ph.D. students, get feedback on their projects, and take part in workshops led by renowned scholars from around the world.

Another highlight of 2012 took place on June 14, when the HCA together with the Faculty of Theology celebrated the first recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award, Professor Albert J. Raboteau, Henry W. Putman Professor of Religion at Princeton University. As outlined in our last Annual Report, in June 2011 our long-time benefactor, Dr.h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, announced the inauguration of this award, accompanied by an official message of greetings and appreciation from U.S. President Barack Obama. The prize pays tribute to the African American churchman and former slave James W.C. Pennington, who in 1849 received an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University.

This Annual Report gives testimony to the ever increasing importance of the HCA as a forum for public debate. Under the leadership of Dr. Anja Schöler our forum has developed into a sophisticated and inspiring marketplace of lectures, debates, panel discussions, book launches, and exhibitions. The detailed report about the forum's activities illustrates the breadth and depth of this truly multidisciplinary enterprise.

Finally, I again would like to thank our generous benefactors, the State of Baden-Württemberg and Heidelberg University, for their unwavering and continual support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Detlef Junker', written in a cursive style.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker

Founding Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies



THE HCA

MISSION STATEMENT

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) is a central academic facility of the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg. As an intellectual center dedicated to the study of the United States, the HCA serves as an institute for higher education, as a center for interdisciplinary research, and as a forum for public debate. Building on long-standing ties between Heidelberg and the United States, the HCA also fosters interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange across the Atlantic.

Officially inaugurated in 2004, the HCA has become one of the leading centers for American Studies in Europe. It provides excellent research and education opportunities for scholars and students from all over the world. In addition, the HCA strengthens the profile of Heidelberg University as one of Germany's finest academic institutions. Heidelberg University's 625-year-old tradition of excellence, its international reputation, and its strong record in the study of the United States combine to create the ideal environment for the HCA.

BENEFACTORS OF THE HCA

Although the HCA is legally and institutionally a central academic institution of Heidelberg University, financially it is perhaps the only public-private partnership (PPP) in the humanities in Germany. Without the long-standing support and patronage of dedicated benefactors, the founding and continuous operation of the HCA would not have been possible. The HCA is sincerely grateful for the generosity of many individuals, corporations, and institutions.

This report is testimony to the generous support of our benefactors, whose contributions are acknowledged on these pages. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all individuals, institutions, and corporations who have supported the HCA for many years, among them six Honorary Senators of Heidelberg University: Curt Engelhorn, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Soheyl Ghaemian, Rolf Kentner, Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, and Dr. Hans-Peter Wild. In addition, the HCA gratefully appreciates, in alphabetical order, the donations of Claudia Bussmann, Dr. Martin Bussmann, and the Ladenburg Foundation; Dr. Kurt Bock and the BASF Group; Elfie and Ray Carrell; Herbert A. Jung; and Dr. Oliver Neumann and the John Deere Company. Donations from these benefactors not only enabled the institutional development of the HCA in general, but also provided several scholarships for its Master's and Ph.D. programs as well as funding for conferences.

With exceptional generosity, Honorary Senators Curt Engelhorn and Heidemarie Engelhorn have provided the Heidelberg Center for American Studies with a sound financial footing for years to come. In 2008, they committed to supporting the HCA with 400,000 EUR annually for ten years. Simultaneous with this long-term financial support, the Engelhorn family most hospitably put the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais at the HCA's free disposal and, moreover, underwrote construction of an annex to the landmarked palais that houses additional academic facilities and was dedicated in October 2009. (see p. 26-27).

Again, the Ladenburg Foundation and the Friends of the HCA, headquartered in New York City, have been pillars of institutional support. The Ghaemian Foundation, which established the Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars in 2007, decided to further support the HCA. Starting in the academic year 2009-10, the Foundation has offered a Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship at the HCA. The first recipient of this fellowship was Professor Rashida Braggs, who came to the HCA from Stanford University, followed by professors Patrick S. Roberts, from Virginia Tech University, and by Charles Postel, from San Francisco State University. In the academic year of 2012, the HCA welcomed Professor Sarah-Jane Mathieu from the University of Minnesota as the current Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence.

One of the most active benefactors of American Studies in Heidelberg since 1991, Rolf Kentner, established the Rolf-Kentner-Dissertation Prize in 2010. This annual award recognizes an outstanding and yet unpublished dissertation submitted at a German University. In 2010, the award went to Daniel Stein from Göttingen University; the 2011 recipient was Frank Usbeck from the University of Leipzig; and in 2012, Leonard Schmieding, also from the University of Leipzig, received this award.

Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger and the Lautenschläger Foundation continued their longtime support of the HCA by providing the initial funding for a new and exciting program set up jointly by the HCA and the Faculty of Theology: the James W. C. Pennington Award. On the occasion of the award's inauguration, the HCA was honored to receive a message of greetings from U.S. President Barack Obama acknowledging this new initiative (see HCA Annual report 2010-11). In 2012, this prestigious award, named for the first African American to receive an honorary doctorate from a European University, brought the first preeminent visiting scholar in this program to the HCA, Professor Albert J. Raboteau from Princeton University.

During the academic year 2011-12, six MAS students and seven Ph.D. candidates were privileged to enjoy the support of the BASF Group, Elfie and Ray Carrell, Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn, and the Leonie Wild Foundation. And once more, the 2012 Spring Academy was made possible due to the generosity of the John Deere Company, while Herbert A. Jung's support was crucial in allowing three participants from soft-currency countries to profit from this signature program.

Last but not least, two foundations, the Schurman Foundation and the Friends of the HCA (FHCA), are responsible for managing parts of our privately donated funds. With a registered office in Heidelberg, the Schurman Foundation is in charge of tax-deductible contributions to the HCA from Europe and Germany.

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Since the spring of 2004, the American counterpart of the Schurman Foundation, the FHCA, has administered tax-deductible donations to the HCA from the United States:

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ORGANIZATION

As a central academic institution of Heidelberg University, the HCA is not part of a single faculty or department but is directly affiliated with the Rector's Office. A Board of Trustees, composed of long time supporters of the HCA and chief executives of Heidelberg University, advises the HCA in structural and financial affairs as well as in the solicitation of donations. A Board of Directors, one from each of the six faculties participating in the HCA, provides advice on strategic decisions and supervises the center's academic activities. Founding Director Detlef Junker heads the HCA; daily business is managed by Executive Director Wilfried Mausbach.

HCA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In November 2005, the HCA established a Board of Trustees. Today, it consists of eleven members, all of them long time supporters of the HCA and of the endeavor to create a leading center for American Studies and transatlantic exchange at Heidelberg University. Along with HCA Founding Director Professor Detlef Junker they are: Dr. Kurt Bock (BASF Group, Ludwigshafen), Dr. Martin Bussmann (Mannheim LLC, New York), Curt Engelhorn, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Soheyl Ghaemian (Reutax Corp.), Rolf Kentner (BW-Bank, Mannheim), Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger (MLP Group, Heidelberg), Dr. Bernd-A.von Maltzan (Deutsche Bank Group, Frankfurt/Main), Dr. Hans-Peter Wild (Rudolf-Wild-Werke GmbH & Co KG, Eppelheim), and the Rector of Heidelberg University, Professor Bernhard Eitel. The Board of Trustees meets at least once a year to discuss the institute's progress and to advise its future developments. Dr. Hans-Peter Wild serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



DR. HANS-PETER WILD

The HCA's Board of Trustees is headed by Dr. Hans-Peter Wild, owner and chairman of the Wild Group of Companies. He studied law at Heidelberg University and business administration in Mannheim, Cambridge, and at the Sorbonne, Paris, and holds a doctorate from the Faculty of Law of the University of Mannheim. Dr. Wild was Managing Director of the Oil and Shipping Company Diersch & Schröder before joining his parents' company in 1974. Today it is the world's largest private manufacturer of natural ingredients for food and beverages. Additionally, Dr. Wild has taught at the University of Sofia. He also is president of the Leonie Wild Charitable Foundation, which he established with his mother in 1997, supporting social and cultural projects. For a long time he has been supporting Heidelberg University, which named him Honorary Senator in 1996. Based on his experience with foreign markets and other cultures, Dr. Wild has always acknowledged the importance of paying attention to and respecting cultural differences. To provide others with the opportunity to also learn about the cultural specifics of the U.S., he has been supporting the HCA from the very beginning, e.g. with the endowment of the Wild Scholarships for the M.A. in American Studies program.



DR. KURT BOCK

Dr. Kurt Bock is Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF. Since 2003 he has been a Member of the Board of Executive Directors and served as Chief Financial Officer of the BASF Group, responsible for Finance, Corporate Controlling, Global Procurement & Logistics, and Information Services as well as for Corporate Audit. In this capacity, his responsibilities also included the North America regional division. Dr. Bock was born in Rahden, Germany, in 1958. From 1977 to 1982, he studied business administration at the universities of Münster and Cologne as well as at Pennsylvania State University. He received his doctorate in economics from the University of Bonn in 1985. He joined BASF's Finance Division in 1985 and served as executive assistant to the CFO until 1991 and as Head of Technology, Planning and Controlling, Engineering Plastics division, until 1992. In 1992 he joined the Robert Bosch GmbH in Stuttgart, first as Senior Vice President, Finance and Accounting, before becoming Managing Director of Bosch Brazil. In 1998 he returned to BASF, this time as CFO of BASF Corporation, Mount Olive, New Jersey. In 2000 Dr. Bock became President of Logistics & Information Services at BASF headquarters in Ludwigshafen. As a member of the Schurman Foundation he has been involved in promoting research and education in American history and culture at Heidelberg University for many years.



DR. MARTIN BUSSMANN

Dr. Martin Bussmann is a Trustee of the Mannheim Trust in New York. He is Managing Director of Mannheim LLC and also active in other portfolio companies of the Mannheim Trust. He spent 15 years in the health care and chemical industry with Knoll AG, Abbott Laboratories, and BASF in Europe and in the United States. Dr. Bussmann obtained his law degree from Heidelberg University in 1975 and was a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School in 1977. He received his Dr. juris. utriusque degree from Heidelberg University in 1978.



PROF. DR. RER. NAT. BERNHARD EITEL

Professor Bernhard Eitel studied geography, German philology, and literature at the University of Karlsruhe. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Stuttgart in 1989 and his *venia legendi* from the same university in 1994 with a study on calcium-rich cover beds and calcrete generations in Namibia. Prior to coming to Heidelberg, Professor Eitel taught at the University of Passau. Since 2001, he has held the Chair in Physical Geography and has also acted as Head of the Department of Geography at Heidelberg University. His major fields of research are in geomorphology, geoecology, the Quaternary research, soil geography, geoarchaeology, and dryland areas. His major research areas besides geography are drylands in Namibia, Peru and China. In October of 2007, Professor Eitel assumed the office of Rector of Heidelberg University.



CURT ENGELHORN

Curt Engelhorn was born in Munich. From 1947 to 1952 he lived in the U.S., where he studied chemical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. After graduation and a traineeship at a pharmaceutical company, Curt Engelhorn returned to Germany, working at the Munich-based chemical company Perutz. In 1955 he joined the pharmaceutical family business of C.F. Boehringer & Söhne GmbH, later called Boehringer Mannheim. From 1960 to 1990, Curt Engelhorn served as the company's CEO, transforming it to a leading global producer of health care products. He retreated from operative business in 1990 to become Chairman of the Board of Corange Ltd., which held his and his partners' shares in Boehringer Mannheim. In 1997 they were sold to Hoffmann-La Roche. Curt Engelhorn is a patron of many charitable projects in Germany and abroad, supporting the arts and culture as well as research and education. He was named Honorary Senator of Heidelberg University in 1959. His support of the university includes the endowment of a Seminar Center, a Chair in American History, major donations to the Schurman Library for American History, the generous dedication of the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais and an annual donation of 400,000 EUR to the HCA over the next ten years, and an annex to the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, which provided the HCA with new academic facilities. In 2011, on the occasion of the 625th anniversary of the Ruperto Carola, Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn funded the lavish renovation of the Aula of the "New University."



HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN

Heidemarie Engelhorn was born in Munich, where she studied at the College of Business Administration. In 1970 she moved to Italy to manage a company founded by her first husband. Orm Berggold Chemistry soon acquired an excellent reputation for dependable top quality chemical products and became very profitable. Heidemarie Engelhorn sold the company to Safety Kleen in 1991 after the death of her first husband. In 1995 she was married to Curt Engelhorn. She has since been instrumental in selecting and shaping many charitable projects of her husband, especially the extraordinary support of sustainable and far-sighted projects at Heidelberg University. In 2008, Heidemarie Engelhorn was named Honorary Senator of the university for her unflinching commitment to and support for the promotion of American Studies in Heidelberg.



SOHEYL GHAEMIAN

Soheyl Ghaemian was born in Teheran, Iran, grew up in Heidelberg, and studied computer sciences at the University of Karlsruhe. Prior to completing his studies, Ghaemian had already been active in staffing projects and quickly recognized the growing demand for flexibility in the German labor market, especially in the sectors of IT and engineering. In 2002, he founded a one-man company, Reutax, which has now grown into a corporation with 200 regular employees and 2000 freelancers. Operational headquarters of the three companies under the roof of Reutax AG are located in Heidelberg with subsidiaries in Los Angeles, Moscow, Prague, Vienna, Zurich, and Milan. The Reutax Group's steering committee is located in Zurich. Reutax Corp. is not only the fastest growing company in the German staffing market, but also the only remaining independent company in the branch that is run by its founder. The Heidelberg based Ghaemian Foundation supports activities in the fields of culture, sports, and the sciences. Furthermore, Ghaemian is an active member of the Rotary Club Heidelberg-Schloss and the Heidelberg Club International. This year, Soheyl Ghaemian was named Honorary Senator of the University of Heidelberg.



PROF. DR. DR. H.C. DETLEF JUNKER

The Founding Director of the HCA was born in Pinneberg near Hamburg. He studied history, political science, philosophy, and German philology in Innsbruck and Kiel, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1969. In 1974 Professor Junker was appointed Associate Professor at the University of Stuttgart. He taught modern history at Heidelberg University from 1975 to 1994 and held the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History there from 1999 to 2004. From 1994 to 1999, Professor Junker served as the Director of the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Washington, D.C. The foci of his research are U.S. foreign policy in the twentieth century, German history, international relations and the history of transatlantic relations, and the theory of history. His most important recent publications include his monograph *Power and Mission. Was Amerika antreibt* (2003) and the two volume handbook *The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War 1945-1990* (2004), which he edited. In 2005, Professor Junker was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Maryland—University College Europe (UMUC) in Heidelberg, recognizing his commitment to fostering German-American dialogue and cross-cultural understanding. In 2007, he was appointed Distinguished Senior Professor of Heidelberg University. In 2009, Professor Junker was elected president of the American Studies Network Association (ASN) Europe. In September 2010, he received the Federal Cross of Merit for his exceptional support of American Studies as a discipline, his academic teaching, and his administrative abilities.



ROLF KENTNER

Rolf Kentner studied business administration in Germany and the United States, graduating with the degree of Diplomkaufmann from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg in 1973. After holding positions for an international commercial bank in Germany, Great Britain, Italy, and the United States, he joined the Baden-Württembergische Bank AG in Mannheim in 1982 as a member of the general management. From 2005 until his retirement in 2009, he headed the Corporate Clients Key Account II of Baden-Württembergische Bank. Rolf Kentner is active in many charitable organizations, among others as Chairman of the Schurman Society for the Promotion of American History, and as Chairman of the Jacob Gould Schurman Foundation. Both organizations are named after the Heidelberg Alumnus Jacob Schurman, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Germany from 1925 to 1930, and both have been crucial in the establishment of the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History

as well as of the HCA. Rolf Kentner is Honorary Senator of Heidelberg University and of the Mannheim University for Applied Sciences. In 2009, he endowed the annual Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize for a yet unpublished outstanding dissertation in American Studies submitted at a German university.



DR. H.C. MANFRED LAUTENSCHLÄGER

Manfred Lautenschläger studied law at the universities of Heidelberg, Freiburg, and Hamburg. After graduating in 1968, he practiced as a lawyer for a short time before co-founding the Marschollek, Lautenschläger und Partner KG (MLP) in 1971. Following its conversion into a public limited company in 1984, Manfred Lautenschläger assumed the position of CEO, expanding the company to one of Germany's leading suppliers of financial consultation services. From 1999 to 2008, he was Chairman of the Supervisory Board of MLP Group; since then he has been a member of the Supervisory Board. For many years, Manfred Lautenschläger has been actively supporting Heidelberg University, e.g. with the provision of the biennial Lautenschläger Research Prize, endowed with 250,000 EUR, and the new building of the university's children's hospital, partly funded by a donation from the Manfred Lautenschläger Foundation. In 1998, Lautenschläger was named Honorary Senator of the University. Recognizing that Germany owes the United States a special debt of gratitude for its democratic and prosperous development after World War II, Manfred Lautenschläger is convinced that a center such as the HCA can foster mutual understanding, especially in times when political differences create irritations in transatlantic relations. In October of 2008, Manfred Lautenschläger was awarded an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University. In 2010 he generously underwrote the James W.C. Pennington Award, created by the HCA and the Faculty of Theology of Heidelberg University to honor the African American abolitionist and pacifist.



DR. BERND-A. VON MALTZAN

Until his retirement in 2011, Dr. Bernd von Maltzan was the Vice Chairman of Deutsche Bank's global division Private Wealth Management. Before that, he was responsible for the build-up of the Private Banking division. Until 1996 he headed Deutsche Bank's investment banking in Germany. Prior to that, Dr. von Maltzan held global responsibility for Deutsche Bank's Trading & Sales activities. He joined Deutsche Bank in 1978 after finishing his doctorate in Business Administration at the University of Bonn. He studied Economics in Munich and Bonn from 1971 to 1975. Before that he served as an officer in the German army. Dr. von Maltzan is a member of several advisory boards in privately held companies. Additionally, he is active in various international non-profit organizations. Among others, he has been nominated as Chairman of the Königswinter Foundation (German-British Society) and is the Founding President of the American Berlin Opera Foundation, New York. A few years ago he won the Cultural Award of "Elyseum – Between the Two Continents," a transatlantic cultural institution. Since its inception Dr. von Maltzan has been an avid supporter of the HCA.

HCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies consists of members from the six faculties that contribute to the HCA. These are the Faculties of Chemistry and Earth Sciences; Economics and Social Studies; Law; Modern Languages; Philosophy; and Theology. The six representatives adopted the proposal of Professor Peter Hommelhoff, then Rector of Heidelberg University, and named Professor Detlef Junker the Founding Director of the HCA. The late Professor Winfried Brugger and Professor Michael Welker were named Deputy Directors.



PROF. DR. MANFRED BERG

On the HCA's Board of Directors, Professor Berg represents the Faculty of Philosophy. He has held the Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History since September 2005. From 1992 to 1997, Professor Berg was a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. Subsequently he taught at the Free University of Berlin, Cologne University, and the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. He also served as executive director of the Center for USA Studies at the Leucorea Foundation of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. The foci of his research and teaching are African-American History, the history of mob violence, and the history of U.S. foreign relations. He is the author of *The Ticket to Freedom: The NAACP and the Struggle for Black Political Integration* (2005) and *Popular Justice: A History of Lynching in America* (2011). In 2006 Professor Berg received the David Thelen Award from the Organization of American Historians (OAH) for the best article on American history published in a foreign language for his article "Black Civil Rights and Liberal Anticommunism: The NAACP during the McCarthy Era." In the spring of 2009 Manfred Berg served as the Lewis P. Jones Visiting Professor of History at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. From 2010 through 2012, Professor Berg served as dean of the Faculty of Philosophy.



PROF. DR. ULRIKE GERHARD

Ulrike Gerhard is professor for Human Geography of North America at the HCA and the Geography Department. Previously she taught North American Studies as well as urban geography at the universities of Cologne (2000-2001), Würzburg (2001-10), Munich (2005-06) and also Heidelberg (2008-09). She studied geography at Marburg as well as Waterloo and Edmonton, Canada, and received her Ph.D. in 1998 from Marburg University doing research on urban consumer landscapes in

Canada and Germany. Since then she has analyzed political and socioeconomic trends in US American cities (see, for example, *Global City Washington, D.C. – eine politische Stadtgeographie*, 2007), spending several months in Washington, D.C., and other urban centers. Her most recent research topics deal with reurbanization trends in North American cities, urban inequality in the Americas, and the discursive structuring of cities as well as consumerism in North America and Europe. Professor Gerhard joined the HCA Board of Directors in 2011.



PROF. DR. BERND GRZESZICK

Bernd Grzeszick studied law at the universities of Bonn, Freiburg, and Heidelberg. In 1992 he passed his First State Examination. From 1992 to 1993 he worked as a research assistant at the University of Freiburg and pursued LL.M.-studies at Cambridge University in 1993 and 1994. From 1994 to 1996 he completed his Referendariat, during which he also practiced in Paris and New York. In 1995 he was awarded a doctoral degree (Dr. iur.) for his dissertation on the development of federalist thinking in Germany, *Vom Reich zur Bundesstaatsidee. Zur Herausbildung der Föderalismusidee im modernen deutschen Staatsrecht* (1996). In 1996, after having passed the Second State Examination in Berlin, Bernd Grzeszick acceded to the position of assistant professor, first at Mannheim University, later at the University of Cologne. In 2001 Bernd Grzeszick received his *venia legendi*, having written a Habilitation thesis on rights, claims, and the reconstruction of state liability from individual rights (*Rechte und Ansprüche. Eine Rekonstruktion des Staatshaftungsrechts aus den subjektiven öffentlichen Rechten*, 2002). Afterwards he was a visiting professor at the universities of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Bonn and Münster, where he was appointed Professor for Public Law in 2003. In 2004 he assumed the chair for Public Law, International Public Law, and Legal Philosophy at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, where he also served as Director of the Institute for Legal Philosophy and General Theory of the State. In 2009 Bernd Grzeszick was appointed Professor for Public Law, International Public Law, and Legal Philosophy at the University of Mainz. Since 2010 he holds the chair for Public Law, International Public Law, and Legal Philosophy as well as the directorship of the Institute for Constitutional Law, Constitutional Theory, and Legal Philosophy at the University of Heidelberg. He joined the HCA's Board of Directors in 2011.



PROF. DR. SEBASTIAN HARNISCH

Sebastian Harnisch is professor for International Relations and Comparative Foreign Policy and Director of the Institute for Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences. He taught international relations, German and American foreign and security policy at Trier University (2003-2006), the Federal Armed Forces University, Munich (2006-2007), and recently at Beijing Foreign Studies University (2011). Sebastian Harnisch holds degrees in history and political science from Trier University (M.A., Doctorate and Habilitation) and was research fellow at JCIE (Tokyo, 1996), Columbia University (New York, 1996), Yonsei and Seoul National University (Seoul, 1996-1997), and Heidelberg's Center of Excellency, the Marsilius-Kolleg (2011). He has published widely on U.S. foreign and security Policy, including a monograph on U.S.-Korean relations (1850-1995), and most recently an edited volume on role theory in international relations (2011). Professor Harnisch joined the HCA Board of Directors in 2010.

PROF. DR. DR. H.C. DETLEF JUNKER

(See p. 17)



PROF. DR. GÜNTER LEYPOLDT

Günter Leypoldt is professor of American literature and culture at the Faculty of Modern Languages. He taught American Studies at the universities of Tübingen (2001-2007), Maryland—College Park (2003), and Mainz (2007-2009). Günter Leypoldt holds degrees in American, British, and German literatures from Cape Town (B.A.) and Tübingen (doctorate and habilitation). He has published essays on literary transcendentalism, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century aesthetics, twentieth-century literary and cultural theory, and a monograph on contemporary fiction, *Casual Silences: The Poetics of Minimal Realism* (2001). His most recent study deals with nineteenth-century U.S. literary culture and its modernist reconstruction, *Cultural Authority in the Age of Whitman: A Transatlantic Perspective* (2009). His present research interests include transatlantic romanticism and modernism, American pragmatism, transculturality, the borders between aesthetic and religious experience, and the sociology of knowledge formation. Professor Leypoldt joined the Board of Directors in 2009.



PROF. DR. DR. H.C. MICHAEL WELKER

Professor Michael Welker represents the Faculty of Theology on the Board. He teaches systematic theology with a focus on new theories in Anglo-American theology at Heidelberg University. Professor Welker served as Director of the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg from 1996 to 2006. He taught at both Harvard and Princeton universities and is currently Administrative Director of the Forschungszentrum für Internationale und Interdisziplinäre Theologie (FIIT) in Heidelberg. Professor Welker is co-editor of *The End of the World and the Ends of God: Sciences and Theology on Eschatology* (2002), *Reformed Theology: Identity and Ecumenity* (2007), *Clashes of Knowledge* (2008), and *Which Forms and Themes Should Christian Theology Uphold in Dialogue with Secular Culture?* (2009). The fourth edition of his work *Gottes Geist. Theologie des Heiligen Geistes* was published in 2010. In 2012 he published the Yale Taylor Lectures *The Theology and Science Dialogue: What can Theology Contribute?* and *Gottes Offenbarung: Christologie* (first and second editions). English and Korean translations will be published in 2013.

FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT

In January of 2002, a group of Heidelberg professors and administrators set up an interdisciplinary initiative with the aim of establishing a new center for the study of the United States of America at Germany's oldest university. The first order of business of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) was to develop a novel postgraduate studies program: the Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS). To raise public awareness of its activities, the HCA initiative also organized a public lecture series, "Typically American," during the winter term 2002/03, which soon attracted a broad audience. Within a year of its creation, the HCA opened a small office from which it continued to develop the MAS and future research projects and conferences.

Ten departments from six faculties committed themselves to the program, enabling a broad range of disciplines to be represented at the HCA: American Literature and Culture, Economics, Geography, History, Law, Musicology, Philosophy, Political Science, Theological Studies, and Sociology.

In December of 2003, thanks to the generous support of Heidelberg entrepreneur and philanthropist Manfred Lautenschläger, the HCA was able to settle into more spacious quarters in Heidelberg's beautiful Weststadt.

Four months later, the center hosted its first conference, the HCA Spring Academy 2004 on American History, Culture, and Politics. Twenty-six European and American Ph.D. students from ten countries and six academic disciplines participated in this conference. The annual Spring Academy has since become a highly regarded forum for international Ph.D. students in the field of American Studies and has to date attracted 750 applications from 49 countries.

After Heidelberg University and the Ministry of Science, Research, and the Arts of the State of Baden-Württemberg both approved the statutes of the HCA as well as the regulations governing the proposed new Master's program, the HCA was officially inaugurated as a central academic institution at Heidelberg University on October 20, 2004. Simultaneously, the first class of the MAS program enrolled. A Board of Directors was established, convening for the first time in December of 2004, and was subsequently joined by a Board of Trustees.

During the following years, the HCA substantially expanded its activities. This would not have been possible had it not been for another major donation. In early 2006, Curt Engelhorn acquired the "Haus Neukirch," a beautiful baroque town house in the heart of Heidelberg's historic city center. With restorations still under way, the HCA moved into its new home, the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, in May of 2006.

The Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais opened up a whole new range of possibilities for the HCA. In order to fully realize the new potential, Heidelberg University, the State of Baden-Württemberg, and private donors agreed to set up a matching fund for the future development of the HCA. This fund enabled the HCA to initiate a joint venture with the American Academy in Berlin,

bringing renowned fellows of that prestigious institution to the region as part of the Academy's Baden-Württemberg Seminar. In addition, the HCA was able to introduce a year-round Fellow-in-Residence program in 2007 and add another three young scholars to its staff, thereby broadening its research and teaching capacities. These were much needed, as a year earlier, in 2006, the HCA had launched a three-year English-language Ph.D. with a multidisciplinary curriculum.

The next major development was the commitment of Heidelberg University in the spring of 2009 to provide funding for the HCA on a permanent basis once its start-up financing expired. In light of this reassuring news the HCA could celebrate the fifth anniversary of its founding (and the 70th birthday of its founding director) at Heidelberg Castle. The center's vibrant growth continued after these festivities. In October, the HCA not only celebrated its fifth commencement but also dedicated its new academic facilities, a modern annex to the landmark palais. The fall of 2009 also saw the first semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar under the exclusive direction of the HCA.

In late November of 2009, the HCA learned that its application – supported by Heidelberg University – for the creation two professorships to be shared with the Department of Geography and the Faculty of Theology, respectively, had been approved by the state government. These professorships were allocated under a special program designed to alleviate the impact of two classes of secondary school graduates hitting German universities in the same year, 2012. In the spring of 2011, Ulrike Gerhard came to the HCA as Professor of Geography of North America, and Jan Stievermann joined the HCA as Professor of the History of Christianity in the United States. A few months earlier, the HCA had successfully completed negotiations with the English Department over a joint appointment of Günter Leypoldt, Professor of American Literature and Culture. This was the second joint appointment after Manfred Berg, the Curt Engelhorn Chair of American History, in 2009. With two "bridge professors" and two joint appointments, the HCA has now established firm operational "bridges" to the Departments of History, English, Geography, and Theology.

This development went hand in hand with new obligations, as the HCA was required to establish a new B.A. program in order to create the necessary capacities for the anticipated students. The first half of 2010 was therefore dominated by conceptualizing a new course of studies that would be true to the HCA's multidisciplinary custom, yet geared toward a different, i.e. undergraduate, clientele. Under the guidance of Dr. Andreas Barz from the Dezernat für Studium und Lehre, and with support from the Faculties of Philosophy, Theology, Chemistry and Earth Sciences, Modern Languages, Economics and Social Sciences, and Law, as well as several student representatives, the B.A. in American Studies (BAS) was developed in record time and shepherded through the bodies of the university. When the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research, and the Arts finally authorized the results, barely four weeks were left before the university's application period for the fall term closed. Nevertheless, we received 140 applications for the new BAS, admitted 50 applicants, and in October 2010 opened the semester with a splendid group of 20 students. This initial class, the BAS class 2013, will graduate next summer. Its successor class has 16 members and 36 students are currently enrolled in the BAS 2015.

The HCA also continued to expand its activities both as a center for interdisciplinary research and as a facilitator of transatlantic academic exchange. In June 2012, we joined Heidelberg University's Faculty of Theology in awarding the first James W.C. Pennington Distinguished Fellowship to Albert J. Raboteau, Henry Putnam Professor of Religion at Princeton University (see p. 141). The following month, we inaugurated the Jonathan Edwards Center Germany (see p. 136). Directed by Jan Stievermann, one of our "bridge professors," and designed as a partnership with the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale Divinity School, the center is intended to promote research and teaching on early American religious history, in particular on Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758), the tradition of New England Puritanism from which he came, and his legacy in contemporary Christianity.

THE CURT AND HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PALAIS

The home of the HCA is a beautiful old Bürgerpalais with a long history. The location can be traced back to 1564. In 1699, the "Haus Neukirch" was purchased by Burkhard Neukirch. The current structure was built at the beginning of the eighteenth century, making the home of the HCA in fact fifty years older than its subject of study, the United States of America. In 2006, the former "Haus Neukirch" was renamed in honor of Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn, who bought the building and generously granted the HCA rent-free use of the rooms for ten years.

Within walking distance of the University Library, two student cafeterias, as well as the university's time-honored premises at University Square – the Alte Universität, dating to 1712, and the Neue Universität, erected between 1929 and 1932 with funds raised in the United States by then-Ambassador Jacob Gould Schurman and fully refurbished on the occasion of the Ruperto Carola's 625th anniversary in 2011 – the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais is the ideal location for students and faculty alike. It also is an architectural gem, particularly the decorative

The Atrium of the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais





One of the five reliefs in the HCA's Bel Etage

stucco on the walls and ceilings of the second floor. The extensive restoration of the Bel Etage, revealed carvings long lost to multiple coats of paint, with lions' heads, musical instruments, roses, and women's faces literally coming out of the ceiling.

Thanks to the generosity of the Engelhorn family, a modern annex to the historic building was envisioned from the very start in the interior courtyard separating the palais from the student cafeteria and main university library. In October 2009, Honorary Senators Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn, Heidelberg Mayor Dr. Joachim Gerner, Heidelberg University Rector Prof. Dr. rer. nat. habil. Bernhard Eitel, HCA Founding Director Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker, sponsors and friends of the HCA, staff members, students, and guests gathered after the MAS Commencement for the official dedication of the HCA's new academic facilities. The annex comprises a new lecture room, an elevator, a kitchen equipped for event catering, and additional restrooms. The most spectacular feature of the new building, however, is a 360-square-meter glass-covered Atrium with a corkscrew staircase, making the entire space available for use as an auditorium, exhibition room, or concert hall.

The two seminar rooms, called Stucco and Oculus for their signature architectural features, have been outfitted with interactive whiteboards that combine integrated sound and dual use functionality. Thus, the HCA is well-prepared to host not only its new BAS, MAS, and Ph.D. students but also increasing numbers of international conferences and workshops.

PEOPLE 2011-2012



JAN BAUER **PH.D. ADMINISTRATION**

Jan Bauer is part of the BAS 2013 at the HCA. From July 2011 to July 2012 he worked as a student assistant in the HCA's Ph.D. program.



BRYAN BANKER, M.A. **STUDENT ASSISTANT/ CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

Bryan Banker received a B.A. in History in 2005, focusing on subjects ranging from Latin American revolutionaries to African-American history and culture. He recently completed an M.A. degree in American Studies at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies with a thesis detailing the transnational and cultural trajectory of Paul Robeson. In 2012, Banker was the research assistant to Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence Professor Charles Postel and assisted in organizing the 5th ERP Conference in May of 2012. Banker began his Ph.D. this fall at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität-München, titled "'I Got a Nine Pound Hammer, Let It Ring!' The Unsettled Question of Transcending Social Death: Paul Robeson, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, and Muhammad Ali," which seeks to investigate how agency, art, and transnationalism are employed by Robeson, Hughes, Wright, and Ali.



KATHARINA BEDORF, B.A. **EVENT MANAGEMENT**

Katharina Bedorf started her M.A. program in global history at Heidelberg University in 2012, focusing on American history. She received her B.A. in international politics and history at Jacobs University Bremen. Katharina Bedorf interned at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. She started working at the HCA as a student assistant in the summer of 2012 and is now primarily responsible for event management.

PROF. DR. MANFRED BERG

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

(see p. 20)



DR. TOBIAS ENDLER

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE/ PH.D. & RESEARCH COORDINATOR

Tobias Endler studied English, political science, and German in Heidelberg and London. He received his state exam in 2006. During his studies he specialized in American politics and culture studies with a particular focus on intellectual life in the United States. In 2007-08, Endler taught at Yale University. During this time, he also conducted a series of interviews with prominent public intellectuals, which he turned into his first book: *After 9/11: Leading Political Thinkers about the World, the U.S., and Themselves*. In 2012, Endler published his second book: *How to Be a Superpower: The Public Intellectual Debate on the Global Role of the United States after September 11*. He continues to be interested in the history of political thought, democracy, intellectual life, and foreign policy.



PROF. KIRSTEN FISCHER, PH.D.

FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Kirsten Fischer is an associate professor of history at the University of Minnesota. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Duke University in North Carolina. Her first book, *Suspect Relations: Sex, Race, and Resistance in Colonial North Carolina* (2002), shows how ordinary people, participated in the making of a racial hierarchy in this developing slave society. Fischer also co-edited *Colonial American History*, a collection of scholarly essays and primary sources (2002). Fischer's current research pertains to American religious history and especially the presence of free thought in the early Republic. She is writing a book about Elihu Palmer (1764-1806), an ardent advocate in New York of the most radical ideas coming out of the European Enlightenment. Fischer conceptualized this project when she was the Deutsche Bank Junior Fellow at the HCA in 2008-2009. She returned to the HCA as a Fulbright fellow in 2011-2012, and she taught a BAS course on "America in a Revolutionary Age." In 2011 the University of Minnesota recognized her outstanding contributions to undergraduate education.



DR. DOROTHEA FISCHER-HORNUNG
UNIVERSITY LECTURER, AMERICAN STUDIES

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung was Senior Lecturer in the English Department of Heidelberg University. Her research focuses on ethnic and post-colonial literatures and film in English as well as performance theories and practices. She is founding co-editor of the journal *Atlantic Studies* and president of MESEA, Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas. For several years, Dr. Fischer-Hornung taught the MAS course "Methodology I: Introduction to American Studies." She retired in early 2012 but will continue to facilitate the HCA Spring Academy. Dr. Fischer-Hornung is currently a Visiting Professor at the City University of Hongkong.



LUISA GAA
RESEARCH/CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Luisa Gaa has been attending the HCA since the winter term 2010-11 as a student of the first BAS class. Since April 2011 she has been a research assistant at the HCA and served as a co-coordinator of the international conference "Religion and the Marketplace," held in October 2011.

PROF. DR. ULRIKE GERHARD
PROFESSOR OF NORTH AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY

(see p. 20-21)



IRIS HAHN-SANTORO, M.A.
BAS COORDINATOR

Iris Hahn-Santoro received her M.A. in linguistics, Scandinavian Studies and philosophy from the University of Cologne in 2002. She wrote her thesis on anglicisms and neologisms in contemporary Icelandic. After receiving her M.A., Iris Hahn-Santoro served as a research assistant at the Smithsonian Institute's Arctic Studies Center in Washington, D.C. She joined the HCA in August of 2009 as the MAS program coordinator and took over the coordination of the BAS following the establishment of the program in 2011. She is also a member of the HCA's Ph.D. program researching endangered Native American languages.

PROF. DR. SEBASTIAN HARNISCH

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

(see p. 22)



CLARA HÖHN, B.A.

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Clara Höhn was a student at Heidelberg University from 2008 to 2012, majoring in history and political science. She worked at the HCA from March 2010 to June 2012 as a student assistant for event management and the HCA's Public Relations Department.

PROF. DR. DR. H.C. DETLEF JUNKER

FOUNDING DIRECTOR

(see p. 17)



CHRISTIAN KEMPF, M.A.

PUBLISHING

Christian Kempf studied history and religious studies at Heidelberg University, where he received his Master's degree in the summer of 2012. He joined the HCA in March 2009 as part of the MAS team and was responsible for the MAS newsletter and the MAS reader. After an internship at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., in the summer of 2010, he rejoined the HCA and since then creates much of its graphic design. He also supports the publishing of the annual report.



EVA-MARIA KIEFER, M.A.

BAS-COORDINATOR

Eva-Maria Kiefer received her M.A. in American Studies, political science, and psychology from Bonn University. Since October 2010 she has been a Ph.D. student at the HCA, focusing on how securitization processes shaped U.S. congressional behavior after 9/11. From September 2010 until October 2012 she was the BAS coordinator at the HCA.



SANDRA KÖNIG
ASSISTANT MAS COORDINATOR

Sandra König has been attending the HCA since the winter term 2011-2012 as a student of the BAS program. In September 2012 she joined the MAS team as a student assistant. She is in charge of the MAS newsletter and the HCA alumni.



CHRISTINA LARENZ
OFFICE MANAGER

Christina Larenz concluded her studies at the English Institute Heidelberg as a translator for English, French, and Spanish in 1988. Since then she has worked in various branches of industry and administration. She has also worked as a translator and a foreign language teacher. She joined the HCA team in September of 2008 and is responsible for the institute's administrative matters.

PROF. DR. GÜNTER LEYPOLDT
PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

(see p. 22)



ANNE LÜBBERS, M.A.
MAS COORDINATOR

Anne Lübbers studied political science, German philology, and Romance languages (Italian) at Heidelberg University and the University of Bologna, Italy. After receiving her M.A. in 2006, she started working on her Ph.D. thesis about Machiavelli's reception in political romanticism in Italy. From 2003 to 2007, she worked as a research assistant for the HCA, where she was responsible for the organization of the Spring Academy and the Baden-Württemberg-Seminar. Since 2007, she has been working as MAS coordinator. In 2010 she was instrumental in developing and implementing the B.A. program at the HCA. Anne Lübbers also taught literature seminars at the Romance language department and is the editor of the online journal "HeLix – Heidelberger Beiträge zur romanischen Literaturwissenschaft" and the book series "HeLix im Winter" published by Winter Verlag.



DR. WILFRIED MAUSBACH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Wilfried Mausbach received his Ph.D. from the University of Cologne where he studied History, Political Science, and Philosophy. A research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., from 1995 to 2000, he proceeded to assistant professorships in history at both the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin and Heidelberg University. He has also been a Volkswagen Foundation fellow and a Marshall-Monnet Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His major research interests are in transnational history with a particular emphasis on the study of social movements. His most recent publications include *“Entrüstet Euch!” Nuklearkrise, NATO-Doppelbeschluss und Friedensbewegung* (co-edited with Christoph Becker-Schaum et al., 2012); *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (co-edited with Dietmar Schloss and Martin Thunert, 2012); and *Changing the World, Changing Oneself: Political Protest and Collective Identities in West Germany and the U.S. in the 1960s and 1970s* (co-edited with Belinda Davis, Martin Klimke, and Carla MacDougall, 2010, paperback 2012). Since 2005 he is the Executive Director of the HCA.



PROF. SAJE MATHIEU, PH.D.

GHAEMIAN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Sarah-Jane (Saje) Mathieu, an Associate Professor of History at the University of Minnesota, is the 2012-2013 Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence. Professor Mathieu earned a joint Ph.D. in History and African American Studies from Yale University and specializes in twentieth century American and African American history. Her first book *North of the Color Line: Migration and Black Resistance in Canada, 1870-1955* (2010) examines the social and political impact of African American and West Indian sleeping car porters in Canada. She is currently working on her next book, *1919: Race, Riot, and Revolution*, a global study of race riots in the post Great War era. This new project investigates how black intellectual-activists galvanized new transnational models of political resistance in response to international outbreaks of racialized violence. Professor Mathieu has earned several international awards and is a former fellow at the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and at Harvard University's W. E. B. Du Bois Institute. She is also the recipient of the University of Minnesota's Arthur 'Red' Motley Exemplary Teaching Award.



GINO MEIER, DIPL.-GEOGR.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Gino Meier studied geography, political and social science at the University of Würzburg, where he graduated in April 2011 with a thesis about current potentials of socialist residential constructions in times of shrinking cities and urban restructuring. He has been working as a research associate at the Institute of Geography at Heidelberg University since May 2011. A member of the research group "North American Geography / Urban Geography" his main research interest focuses on the role and development of public participation in recent urban planning as well as the involvement of citizens in urban planning processes.



JASMIN MIAH

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Jasmin Miah is part of the Class of 2013 in the American Studies B.A. program. She worked as a research assistant at the HCA from April to August 2012.



ANJA MILDE, M.A.

SPRING ACADEMY

Anja Milde received her B.A. in Philology and Communication Science in 2003 from the University of Erfurt. In fall 2003, she started studying at Heidelberg University, majoring in history and art history. Before joining the HCA's Master program in 2007, she spent a year on a Fulbright scholarship at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., where she majored in American Studies and after which she interned at the GHI in Washington, D.C. In 2009-10, Anja Milde spent seven months in the U.S. researching her dissertation on the linkages between the civil and gay rights movements and conducting a series of interviews with leading figures of both movements as well as politicians and intellectuals. In fall 2007, Anja Milde started to work at the HCA as a public relations assistant and tutor for American history. In March 2010, she took on the position of Spring Academy coordinator. She also taught the BAS history tutorial in the winter semesters of 2010-11 and 2011-12. In 2012, she submitted and successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis "'Liberal Oases in Conservative Hell': Blacks, Gays, and the Struggle for Equality."



KENNETH MINKEMA

VISITING PROFESSOR

Kenneth P. Minkema is the Executive Editor of *The Works of Jonathan Edwards* and of the *Jonathan Edwards Center & Online Archive at Yale University*. He has a dual appointment, serving as Research Faculty at Yale Divinity School and as Research Associate at the University of the Free State, South Africa. He has a B.A. from Calvin College, an M.A. from Bowling Green State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. Professor Minkema is a leading expert on Jonathan Edwards, who is widely considered the most significant figure in early American theology. He has published numerous articles on Jonathan Edwards and on topics in early American religious history in professional journals including *The Journal of American History*, *The William and Mary Quarterly*, *The New England Quarterly*, *Church History* and *The Massachusetts Historical Review*; he has edited volume 14 in the Edwards Works, *Sermons and Discourses: 1723-1729* and co-edited *A Jonathan Edwards Reader*; *The Sermons of Jonathan Edwards: A Reader*; *Jonathan Edwards at 300: Essays on the Tercentennial of His Birth*; and *Jonathan Edwards's "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God": A Casebook*. He has also co-edited *The Sermon Notebook of Samuel Par- ris, 1689-1694*, dealing with the Salem Witchcraft crisis, and *The Colonial Church Records of Reading and Rumney Marsh, Massachusetts*. Finally, Professor Minkema is currently part of a team being co-led by the HCA's Jan Stievernann, preparing Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana*, the first Bible commentary written in the New World, for publication.



HANNES NAGL, M.A.

WEBSITE/TEACHING ASSISTANT

Hannes Nagl studied English and American literature and political science at Heidelberg University. After graduating in 2009, he joined the HCA's Ph.D. program working on a thesis on "Figurations of Violence: Contemporary American Fiction and the Sociology of Modernization." From August 2010 to July 2011 he was a research assistant at the English Department of Heidelberg University as part of the research project "Violence and the Hidden Constraints of Democracy: A New Civilization Studies Approach to American Literature and Culture." At the HCA he teaches American literature and culture for the BAS and MAS and is responsible for the institute's website.



MICHAELA NEIDIG

ADMINISTRATION

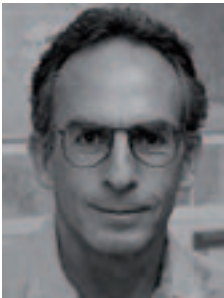
Michaela Neidig graduated as European (trilingual) secretary from the Merkur International Akademie in Mannheim. Before joining the HCA team in February 2012 as administrative secretary of Professor Stieverman's chair, she had worked in the medical as well as in the industrial sector. Besides, she has been a secretary of the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History since 2009, where she is also responsible for the contracts of the student research assistants in the history department.



VERA NEUBECKER, B.A.

OFFICE ASSISTANT

From 2008 to 2012, Vera Neubecker studied history and religious studies at Heidelberg University. She worked in the HCA's main office for two years, starting in August 2010.



PROF. CHARLES POSTEL, PH.D.

GHAEMIAN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

The Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence 2011-2012, Charles Postel is an associate professor of history at San Francisco State University. He has also taught at California State University, Sacramento, and at the University of California, Berkeley. Charles Postel earned both his B.A. in history (1995) and his Ph.D. in history (2002) from the University of California, Berkeley. An award winning historian of American political thought and society, he is the author of *The Populist Vision* (2007), a history of the original Populist movement of the 1890s, which received the Bancroft Prize in History and the Frederick Jackson Turner Award from the Organization of American Historians, two of the most prestigious prizes in the historical profession. His current book project is *Pursuit of Reform, 1865-1920*, a new interpretative work on the post-Civil War reform movements that culminated in the Progressive Era. Charles Postel is also researching the historical origins of the Tea Party movement.



PROF. ALBERT RABOTEAU, PH.D.
JAMES W.C. PENNINGTON
DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

Albert J. Raboteau is the Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion at Princeton University and was the first recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award, a prize given by the HCA and Heidelberg University's Faculty of Theology to scholars who have done distinguished work on the African American experience in the Atlantic world. Professor Raboteau has written the seminal book on Christianity among American slaves, *Slave Religion: The 'Invisible Institution' in the Antebellum South* (1978). He is also the author of *A Fire in the Bones: Reflections on African-American Religious History* (1995) and of *Canaan Land: A Religious History of African Americans* (1999) as well as co-editor of *African-American Religion: Interpretive Essays in History and Culture* (1997). In the summer of 2012, he taught a seminar on African American religious history together with Professor Jan Stievermann.



MARIA RENTMEISTER
STUDENT ASSISTANT

Maria Rentmeister has been attending the HCA since the winter term 2011-12 as a student of the Bachelor Class of 2014. She currently works as a student assistant in the Institute of Geography at Heidelberg University.



KATIA ROSTETTER, M.A.
MAS COORDINATOR/
SPRING ACADEMY COORDINATOR

Katia Rostetter holds an M.A. in English literature, history and political science of South Asia. She is a Ph.D. candidate at the English Department and works on the American author Cormac McCarthy as part of the research project "Violence and the Hidden Constraints of Democracy: A New Civilization Studies Approach to American Literature and Culture." She joined the HCA staff in September of 2010 as part of the MAS team, has taught the methodology course for the BAS, and is currently working as MAS coordinator in addition to organizing the Spring Academy.



AMY SCHMITZ

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Amy Schmitz has been a student at Heidelberg University since 2010 and is part of the Bachelor Class of 2013 in the American Studies program of the HCA. She currently works as a student assistant for Professor Dr. Jan Stievermann.



PROF. DR. DIETMAR SCHLOSS

PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

Professor Dietmar Schloss teaches American literature and culture at both the HCA and the English Department of Heidelberg University. He holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and a postdoctoral degree (Habilitation) from Heidelberg University. As a fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies, he was a visiting scholar at the English and History Departments at Harvard University. He has published widely in the fields of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and twentieth-century American literature and culture; his book *The Virtuous Republic* (2003) examines the political visions of American writers during the founding period of the United States. In 2009 he published a volume of conference proceedings entitled *Civilizing America: Manners and Civility in American Literature and Culture* as well as a collection of critical essays on the contemporary American novel. In his new project, entitled "Spaces of Decivilization," he explores the phenomenon of violence in American literature and culture from the vantage point of Norbert Elias's sociological theory. In the MAS, Professor Schloss has taught the courses "Visions of America: Colonial Period and Early Republic" and "Visions of America: The Nineteenth Century", as well as the interdisciplinary seminar "The American Presidency: Literary, Cultural, & Political Perspectives" together with PD Dr. Martin Thunert.



TIMO SCHRADER

SPRING ACADEMY

Timo Schrader has been studying English and education at Heidelberg University since 2009. Thanks to an ERASMUS-Stipend he was able to spend a year abroad in England at Loughborough University. After an internship at his old high school and one at the HCA, he joined the HCA in April 2012, where he is now part of the Spring Academy team.



DR. ANJA SCHÜLER

COORDINATOR BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG SEMINAR/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Anja Schöler studied history, English and journalism at the University of Münster, the University of Georgia in Athens, and the Free University Berlin, where she earned an M.A. in American History. She was a DAAD Fellow at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and lived in Washington, D.C. for several years. She received her Ph.D. from the Free University of Berlin in 2000 with a dissertation on „Women’s Movements and Social Reform: Jane Addams, Alice Salomon, and the Transatlantic Dialogue, 1889-1933.“ Her research interests include German and American social history, gender history, and transatlantic history. From 2006 to 2010, she taught at the University of Education in Heidelberg. Starting in 2006, she has been teaching Academic Writing at the HCA. Since 2009, she has also been responsible for the coordination of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar and many other events as well as for public relations.



DANIEL SILLIMAN, M.A.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Daniel Silliman joined the HCA in April 2011 as a research associate and instructor in American religion. He studied philosophy at Hillsdale College in Michigan, where he completed two B.A. thesis projects. He earned an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Tübingen, writing a master’s thesis entitled, “Sacred Signs in a Secular Sky: The Problem of Pluralism in Apocalyptic Evangelical Fiction.” He is building on that project for his Ph.D., researching how pluralism functions in contemporary evangelical faith fiction. He also worked for several years as a journalist, reporting on crime for a daily newspaper south of Atlanta, Georgia.



LAURA STAPANE, M.A.

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Laura Stapane studied history of art and media studies, history, and political science at the University of Oldenburg. After finishing her M.A. thesis about family portraits as a reflection of bourgeois culture in the late nineteenth century (“The Wilhelmine Bourgeoisie as Depicted in Art: An Analysis of its Self-Presentation in Family Portraits”), she worked

as an intern at the Florence Art Institute (Italy) and the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. She is currently working for the HCA as a research fellow and project coordinator, where she is responsible for the coordination of the research, digitization, and exhibition project "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany" as well as for "The Nuclear Crisis - Transatlantic Peace Politics, Rearmament, and the Second Cold War" project.



JULIA STEHLIN, M.A.

SPRING ACADEMY

Julia Stehlin studied political science, Islamic Studies and Spanish at Heidelberg University from 2007 to 2012. Besides gaining international experience in the U.S., Spain, and Turkey, she spent a semester at the Universidad Católica in Santiago de Chile with a DAAD-stipend in 2010-11 and worked as an intern at the German Consulate General in Boston. From June 2011 to the summer of 2012 she worked at the HCA, first as a student research assistant and later as part of the Spring Academy team.



PROF. DR. JAN STIEVERMANN

PROFESSOR OF THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE U.S./DIRECTOR JONATHAN EDWARDS CENTER

Jan Stievermann came to the HCA in April 2011 as a joint appointment with the Faculty of Theology at Heidelberg University. He has published on a broad range of topics in the fields of American religious history and American literature. His book *Der Sündenfall der Nachahmung: Zum Problem der Mittelbarkeit im Werk Ralph Waldo Emersons* (2007) is a comprehensive study of the co-evolution of Emerson's religious and aesthetic thought. Together with Reiner Smolinski, he published *Cotton Mather and Biblia Americana—America's First Bible Commentary* (2010). He is currently at work on a book, tentatively titled *The Ethnic Fantastic* that examines issues of spirituality in contemporary ethnic minority literatures. Concurrently, he leads a DFG-funded team transcribing and editing vol. 5 of Cotton Mather's hitherto unpublished *Biblia Americana*, the first comprehensive Bible commentary produced in British North America. He also serves as the executive editor for the Biblia-project as a whole and as the director of the John Edwards Center Germany.



PD DR. MARTIN THUNERT

SENIOR LECTURER SOCIOLOGY/POLITICAL SCIENCE

Martin Thunert joined the HCA as research lecturer in political science in September 2007. He is a graduate of Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe University Frankfurt, holds a doctoral degree (Dr. phil.) from the University of Augsburg, and received his Habilitation in political science from the University of Hamburg, where he was an assistant professor. Martin Thunert was an exchange student at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and did graduate work at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, and at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. He has held appointments in political studies at several German universities and spent four years (2002-2006) as visiting associate professor of political science at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He was a Kennedy-Fellow at the Harvard Center for European Studies and has gained practical experience as staff assistant in the U.S. Senate (Labor, Education and Health Committee).



LARA TRACK, B.A.

ASSISTANT MAS COORDINATOR

From 2008 to 2012, Lara Track studied history and sociology at Heidelberg University. She joined the HCA in December 2009 as a student assistant. After studying at Newcastle University, UK, for two semesters, she returned to the HCA until the summer of 2012, working as a member of the MAS team and coordinating the MAS newsletter.



DIPL.-SOZ. MICHAEL TRÖGER

IT

Michael Tröger graduated from Heidelberg University in 2007 with a degree in sociology, majoring in industrial sociology. From 2001 to 2003, he was in charge of the IT administration at the Institute for Anthropology of Heidelberg University. After completing an internship in Lisbon in 2003, he started his own IT business. He is currently an IT service provider at the HCA.



CHRISTIANE VINCK

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Christiane Vinck is a B.A. student in American Studies of the Class of 2013 and has been at the HCA since 2010. In October 2011, she started working as a student assistant for Professor Gerhard in the North America section at the Geography Department. During the summer term 2012, she was the TA for the "Grundlagenkurs Geographie." Christiane is currently an exchange student at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City where she is pursuing her studies in geography and political science.



STELLA WANCKE

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Stella Wancke is a student of the first BAS class. From October 2011 to summer 2012, she was one of the photographers of the HCA and was also responsible for event engineering.



PROF. RACHEL WHEELER, PH.D.

FULBRIGHT SENIOR LECTURER

Rachel M. Wheeler, a 2011-2012 Fulbright Scholar, is associate professor of religious studies at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and associate editor of the journal *Religion and American Culture*. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University. Professor Wheeler is a leading expert on Christian missions to Native Americans, having authored a critical book on the subject, *To Live Upon Hope: Mohicans and Missionaries in the Eighteenth-Century Northeast* (2008), which traces one Mohican Christian family from its pre-conversion days in 1740s Massachusetts to its annihilation in Indiana in 1815. Additionally, she has written over thirty articles, essays, and papers on the subject, and recently co-authoring a new textbook on American religious history for Cambridge University Press.



VERONIKA WERNER

PH.D. PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Veronika Werner has been a student at Heidelberg University and member of the first BAS class at the HCA since October 2010. She joined the HCA staff in September 2012 as Ph.D. Program Assistant.



REBECCA ZIMMERMANN

TA POLITICAL SCIENCE/ CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Rebecca Zimmermann studied political science, American literature and classics at Heidelberg University and received her state exam in the summer of 2011. She joined the HCA in September 2010 as a tutor for the BAS, supporting Martin Thunert's seminar on American politics. She also assisted in organizing the ERP conference "Energy Policy and Energy Security – Transatlantic Perspectives."

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Hasan Adwan, M.A.
Teaching Assistant political science

Millie Baker, M.A.
Presentation and Media Skills

Dr. Christian Broecking
Lecturer musicology

Ana Maric, M.A.
BAS "Key Competences"

Dr. Anthony Santoro
Lecturer religious studies

Styles Sass, M.A.
Teaching Assistant American literature

Daniel Sommer
BAS "Debating Club"/"Presentation Skills"

Cynthia Wilke, J.D.
Lecturer Law

ASSOCIATED FELLOWS

Prof. Elizabeth Borgwardt, Ph.D.
Professor of History, Washington University
St. Louis

Prof. Rashida Braggs, Ph.D.
Professor of Africana Studies, Williams Col-
lege

Dr. Jana Freihöfer
Heidelberg University Rectorate, Communica-
tion and Marketing

Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert
Professor of History, University of Augsburg

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Professor of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Dr. Felix Philipp Lutz
Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University

Dr. Alexander Vazansky
Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Simon Wendt
Professor of History, University of Frankfurt

HCA INTERNS 2011-2012

In 2011-12, the HCA successfully continued its internship program, which began in the fall of 2005. We were very fortunate to host excellent interns during the year who provided valuable support for our work. We would like to thank:

Katharina Bedorf (Heidelberg University), who assisted the public relations department in the organization of several book launches and lectures of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. She also supported the HCA in organizing the first James W.C. Pennington Award lecture. Since Katharina proved to be an excellent colleague, she joined the HCA as a staff member after her four-month internship. She is now responsible for event management.

Timo Schrader (Heidelberg University) supported the Spring Academy team in the organization of the ninth Spring Academy, during spring break 2012. In addition, he assisted the MAS team in organizing this year's commencement ceremony in April 2012. After his internship, Timo joined the HCA staff and is now part of the Spring Academy team.

If you are interested in applying for an HCA internship or in further information please contact Anne Lübbers at aluebbers@hca.uni-heidelberg.de.

COOPERATION AND SUPPORT

The HCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following institutions in facilitating its programs:

The Alliiertenmuseum Berlin; the American Academy in Berlin; Deutscher Bundestag; the Enjoy Jazz Festival; the Archiv Grünes Gedächtnis, Berlin; the Ecologic Institute; the Forum für internationale Sicherheit (FiS), Heidelberg; the Fritz Thyssen Foundation; the German Council on Foreign Relations; the German Program for Transatlantic Encounters (Transatlantic Program) financed from ERP (European Recovery Program) funds provided by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi); Andreas Henn Kunsthandel Galerie Stuttgart; the Hertie School of Governance; the Kunstverein Neuhausen; Museum am Checkpoint Charlie; the Department of History, University of Augsburg; the Institute for International Studies, Charles University, Prague; Institut für England- und Amerikastudien, Goethe Universität, Frankfurt a.M.; the Institute of North American Studies, King's College, London; the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Jagiellonian University, Krakow; the Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg, The Netherlands; the Department of History, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; the German American Institute Heidelberg (DAI); the Carl-Schurz-Haus / German American Institute Freiburg; the German American Institute Tübingen (dai); the German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV); the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin; the Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach; the Zentrum für Europäische Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften (ZEGK), Heidelberg University; the Department of Religious Studies, Heidelberg University; the Heidelberg University Association and its executive director Irmintraud Jost; Heidelberg Alumni International and its director Silke Rodenberg; the American-European Friendship Club, Heidelberg; the American German Business Club, Heidelberg; the Democrats Abroad Germany; the Republicans Abroad Germany; the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); the German-American Fulbright Commission; the German Historical Institute (GHI), Washington, D.C.; the Government of the State of Baden-Württemberg; and especially the United States Embassy in Berlin and the United States Consulate General in Frankfurt/Main.

Additionally, the HCA would like to thank the following institutions of Heidelberg University for their support:

The Rector and the Rectors's Office; the Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung (ZUV); the International Office; the Press Office; the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy; the Computing Center (URZ); the University Guest Houses; the Studentenwerk Heidelberg; and the University Library.

Furthermore, special thanks go out to the administrative staff of the Schurman Foundation (Christina Larenz) and the FHCA (Irina Padejeke-Enke and Lucy Whitehead), to the office of the Engelhorn family (Gunda Baumgartner), to attorney at law Klaus-Dieter Freund, to business consultant Lothar Götsch, and to architect Horst Müller.



AN INSTITUTE FOR
HIGHER EDUCATION

AN INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

As an institute for higher education, the HCA trains American Studies specialists in response to an increasing demand in academia, the public sector, and the business community. The HCA provides interdisciplinary academic and cultural teaching on the United States for students from around the world.

Having offered a Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) program (see p. 52-81) from its inception and a three year Ph.D. in American Studies program (see p. 84-112) starting in 2006, the HCA completed its educational portfolio by adding a B.A. in American Studies (BAS) in October 2010. This year we welcomed our third class to the BAS program (see p. 48-51).

THE BACHELOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES (BAS)

The Bachelor of Arts in American Studies at Heidelberg University is unique in its broad range of subjects. The program is offered by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) in cooperation with the English Department, the Department of Geography, the History Department, the Institute for Political Science (IPW), the Law Faculty, and the Faculty of Theology, including its Research Center for International and Interdisciplinary Theology (FIIT). The option to concentrate in geography or theological and religious studies, as well as to obtain an additional jurisprudential certificate, makes this program unique in Germany and Europe and beyond.

The American Studies program is a one of a kind multi- and interdisciplinary program designed to understand a complex subject matter: the United States of America. Students receive a thorough education in literature, cultural studies, history, political science, theology, and geography and have the additional opportunity to acquire professional knowledge in U.S. constitutional and procedural law.

The B.A. in American Studies admits a small group of highly motivated students, up to 25 freshmen annually. It places a strong emphasis on intense one-to-one support and mentoring as well as on student responsibility within a research-oriented teaching program.

The BAS is a full-time program lasting six semesters. Students are admitted once a year at the beginning of the winter semester. Applications are accepted by Heidelberg University until July 15 of the respective year.

The program wants to attract German as well as international applicants holding a General Qualification for University Entrance ("Allgemeine Hochschulreife" or equivalent) with a special interest in the history, politics, society, and culture of North America.

BAS OUTLINE

The six-semester Bachelor in American Studies program at Heidelberg University offers students to choose their individual focus, allowing them to specialize in the areas they are most interested in. The course of studies comprises both subject-specific and practical parts.

The subject-specific parts of the program (fachwissenschaftlicher Teil) consist of an introductory module, four basic modules, two specialization modules, one interdisciplinary module, and the optional add-on law module:

- **Introductory Module:** This module imparts basic knowledge of the disciplines history, literature and culture, political science, geography, and theological studies. Students are given an overview of specific perspectives on the respective subject and its fundamental terms, theories, and methods. Additionally, students learn about the theories and methods of the integrative discipline American Studies.
- **Basic Modules:** These modules enable students to gain expertise in specific subject areas of the program. Students need to select four out of the five disciplines offered.
- **Specialization Modules:** During the second half of the program, students choose two specialization modules that allow them to concentrate more closely on two of the four fields they previously selected as basic modules.
- **Interdisciplinary Module:** Once students have attained a strong grounding in at least two of the disciplines offered, they enroll in an interdisciplinary module designed to promote interdisciplinary work and illustrate its synergy effects. The interdisciplinary module can either consist of an interdisciplinary seminar and an interdisciplinary colloquium or two courses on the same topic from different disciplines.
- **Add-on Module in Law:** The optional add-on module in law offers a supplemental qualification in the realm of Anglo-American public law. It provides an overview of U.S. constitutional law and of procedural law as far as infringements of basic rights such as life, liberty, and property are concerned. This add-on module spans three semesters and students will receive a separate certificate upon completion.

The practical parts of the program (praktischer Teil) consist of the following modules:

- **Language-in-Use Module:** The language-in-use module consists of a basic module and an advanced module. The basic module entails a language class, a class on academic writing, and a book club. Within the advanced module, students hone the skills they acquired in the earlier course by devoting time to more complex readings and perfecting their writing skills.

- **Key Skills Module:** The key skills module also consists of a basic and an advanced module. It trains students in pivotal competencies such as time management, non-supervised learning, intercultural communication, and other soft skills. On both the basic and advanced levels it includes a debating club meant to improve rhetorics by discussing current issues in U.S. politics, culture, and society or in a particular academic field.
- **Praxis Module:** The praxis module entails the preparation for as well as the realization and evaluation of an internship in an area relevant for American Studies. This internship should last for at least two months.

THE BAS CLASS OF 2015

This year, the program admitted 36 students from all over Germany. Most of them have already had some "American experience," be it a year abroad during high school or an extensive language class in the U.S. The new BAS students were welcomed at the HCA at the beginning of October with a two day orientation session and took up their course work afterwards.



The new students of the BAS Class of 2015 in the annex of the HCA (f. to b. and l. to r.): 1st row: Kathryn Trotter, Cosima Schmidhammer, Elena Volz, Leilani Trivisonno, Catharina Kohnen, Svenja Schmitt, Clarissa Ryan, Wanda Brandt, Stella Müller, Fabienne Damasch. 2nd row: Laura Rühl, Clara Günthner, Violetta Schleicher, Kristin Hubert, Isabella Mittelbach, Eva-Maria Weber, Julia Matthias, Ayfer Aksünger, Natascha Schiel, Laura Mischke. 3rd row: Moritz Gross, Moritz Stahl, Marius Keesmann, Quirin Sackmann, Sebastian Mayer, Alina Gieseke. 4th row: Sebastian Blum, Sophie Hirthe, Andrea Szabó, Enmanuel Hidalgo, Pia Lampert, Sandra Queißer. Not pictured: Karin Sledge, Viktoria Rado, Elisabeth Schramm



The BAS Class of 2013 poses at the horse sculpture near the Allied Museum in Berlin-Dahlem.

BAS STUDENT TRIP TO BERLIN 2012

From June 18 to 22, 2012, the students of the BAS Class of 2013 went on a trip to Berlin to learn about the German capital and its connection to the United States. For many, it was the first visit there. At the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin-Mitte they met Dr. Josef Braml, author of the book *Der amerikanische Patient*, which had been assigned to students enrolled the B.A. curriculum's Debating Club. Dr. Braml elaborated on his publication and answered questions graciously, demonstrating his expertise in the field of American politics. Next stop was the Allied Museum, where students got an impression of the situation in Berlin after World War II, the Berlin Airlift, and life in the different sectors through official documents, short movies, and objects that were used during that time. Afterwards they joined the Master students for dinner at The Bird, a New York style steakhouse that not only serves great steaks but also delicious burgers and fries, and where the combination of U.S. cuisine and good company made for a particularly American experience. For Wednesday, Dr. Martin Thunert had arranged a meeting with the head of the Ecologic Institute, an international think tank for environment and development. Andreas Krämer told his guests about the work of a think tank: the procedures and daily routines as well as its greater goals. The Q&A afterward allowed students a closer look at a possible future career choice. The next day, it was back to the Hertie School of Governance, where Barbara Finke, Head of the Master of Public Policy program, and Professor Dr. Andrea Römmele, Professor of Communication in Politics and Civil Society succeeded in getting some of the students thinking about joining the Master's program in Berlin after completing their studies at the HCA. In the afternoon the group visited the German Bundestag, taking a closer look at the plenary assembly room, listening to a talk about the history of the German Bundestag and the work of the delegates, and enjoying the spectacular view from the roof terrace and the top of the dome.

THE MASTER OF ARTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES (MAS)

The Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) at the HCA is an exclusive interdisciplinary program taught in English. It is aimed at qualified graduate students from around the world. American Studies in the MAS is defined by exemplary and interdisciplinary teaching of cultural knowledge about the United States of America. The three semester program provides training in academic and practical skills and offers inside knowledge with an outside perspective. A performance-related fast track option (two semesters) is available.

The HCA admits up to 30 students to the MAS annually. To date, seven graduating classes totaling 117 students have earned the master's degree. These 117 students came from 36 countries on five continents. Admission is competitive and depends on the quality and academic merits of the candidates. Most candidates will have studied humanities, social sciences, media and communication studies, or law at the undergraduate or graduate level.

The MAS begins in October of each year and is directed towards students who have already completed a four-year undergraduate studies program. The tuition fee for the MAS program is 2,500 EUR per semester. Curricula include a selection of courses from economics, geography, history, law, literature, musicology, philosophy, political science, religious studies, and sociology. The MAS curriculum is designed to give the participating students both a sound scholarly grounding and opportunities for the professional application of what they have learned.

The winter semester (October to early February) began with a one-week introduction followed by a weekly curriculum of three lectures with their accompanying tutorials in history, political science, and religious studies, a workshop in musicology, one interdisciplinary colloquium, and two additional methodology courses. The summer semester, which started in April, consisted of two lectures in geography and law, two tutorials, two interdisciplinary seminars, one presentation skills course and the continuation of the methodology courses and the interdisciplinary colloquium. The Berlin excursion took place in June. Over the two semesters, students had to choose three majors with mandatory attendance in the tutorials, oral exams, and term papers. In their chosen minors students also had to take oral exams.

The third and final semester was reserved for writing the M.A. thesis that has to be handed in by January 31, 2013. On October 19 and 26, the M.A. thesis workshop took place where students presented their thesis outlines. The graduation ceremony will take place on April 12, 2013.

Below you will find information on the MAS program of 2011-12, including course outlines of the classes offered, an outlook onto the academic year 2012-13 as well as short biographies of the classes of 2012 and 2013.

For more information please visit the MAS website at www.mas.uni-hd.de.

MAS COURSE OUTLINE

WINTER SEMESTER 2011-12

During the winter semester 2011-12, three lectures and a workshop were offered as well as two methodology classes and an interdisciplinary colloquium.

History

"Global Giant – Multicultural Society: The United States from the End of the Second World War to 9/11"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg

Teaching Assistant: Anja Milde, M.A.

After the Second World War, America achieved unprecedented global power and affluence. At the same time American society underwent sweeping changes, including a revolution in race relations and ethnic make-up. New ideas about gender roles, privacy, and sexual relations challenged traditions and provoked a series of backlashes and culture wars. The liberal welfare state came under tremendous pressure from the advocates of unfettered capitalism. From the Cold War to the War on Terror, Americans have hotly debated how to use their military and economic power in international affairs. In short, recent American history offers a complex and often contradictory picture of a global super power and a "postmodern" culture. This lecture focused on the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the United States in the second half of the twentieth century. In addition to providing an outline of major developments and events, Professor Berg discussed the traditions, ideologies, and key interests that have shaped American politics and society. He also introduced students to the most important historiographical approaches in interpreting twentieth-century American history.

Political Science

"Government and Politics of the United States"

Lecturer: PD Dr. Martin Thunert

Teaching Assistant: Hasan Adwan, M.A.

This course taught American politics and government in a way that goes beyond the basics but without ignoring the basics. It began by considering broad trends in U.S. society focusing on demographics, the racial and religious makeup of the country, and on crucial economic data. In a next step the lectures explored the foundations of American government in the Constitution, in federalism, and in the country's unique cultural traditions. This was followed by a look at the diverse and changing voting patterns of American citizens; we analyzed the electoral system, the role of parties, interest groups, lobbyist, consultants and the media, and the way in which average citizens participate in the political process. Shortly after mid-term, we approached the differ-

ent institutions that make up the government in Washington, D.C.: the Congress, the presidency, the bureaucracy, and the courts. Finally, we evaluated the larger context of American politics in the world. This course was taught as a lecture class with opportunities for questions and answers at the end of each session.

The accompanying tutorial held by Hasan Adwan served several functions: It extended the thematic scope of the lectures by specifically focusing on selected issues and readings in American foreign and security policy. The tutorial also aimed to help students whose undergraduate background is in other disciplines than political science to familiarize themselves with key concepts of political science. Finally, the tutorial provided a forum for student papers and short student presentations. More than 75% of the MAS class of 2013 took this course as a major and even some minors choose to attend the tutorial.

Besides introducing students to the fundamental principles of American politics and government, one of the main goals of this lecture course was to help students discern the logic or rationale embedded in the complex array of American political institutions and practices we observe today. Thus, portions of most lectures were devoted to the theoretical approaches to the study of American politics such as "new institutionalism," "rational choice," and "elite theory." We also – implicitly and explicitly – compared the policy performance and the governance capacity of the United States with other developed democracies.

Religious Studies

"History of Christianity in North America, 1800-1900"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Jan Stieversmann

The lecture class "History of Christianity in America, 1800-1900" offered a survey of the history of Christianity in North America from the revolutionary period to the end of the nineteenth century. Always with an eye on the European background, the lecture examined the often surprising ways in which the various forms of Christianity that were imported from the Old World developed in the different contexts of westward expansion, immigration, revivalism, and intercultural contact and conflict. While special attention was given to the American transformations of Christianity, we also discussed the fate of indigenous religions and looked at the development of non-Christian immigrant faiths and the birth of new religious movements such as Mormonism, Spiritualism, and New Thought.

Musicology

"Old and New Dreams: The History of Afro-American Jazz"

Lecturer: Dr. Christian Bröcking

This course offered an examination of jazz, which emerged in New Orleans and became the American art form of the twentieth century. Participants looked at the works of Louis Armstrong,

Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Cecil Taylor, and the Art Ensemble of Chicago; the social movements, economics, and politics of the different periods; parallel developments in other arts, the accomplishments of the music, and the problems raised in jazz performance and criticism. The course focused on the convergence of race consciousness, democratic desires, black protest, and performance as articulated in African American jazz and voiced by its originators, and on how music suggests modes of social interaction or political potential. Viewing and discussing Ken Burns' documentary *Jazz: A History of America's Music* was an integral part of the course. Students had one of their essays published on the website of the Enjoy Jazz Festival.

Methodology I

"Introduction to American Studies, Part I"

Lecturer: Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung

The course met once a week and students were required to read two to three essays in preparation for each class session. Methodology differs from other classes offered in the program in that it is not concerned with any particular aspect of American culture, such as history, religion, or law. Instead, the course looks at American Studies as a discipline. The class addressed questions such as: What issues and questions inform the development of and the current debates in this field? What are the methods and skills students can employ in their own work? During the course of the semester students read and analyzed not only articles on the origin, history, theory, and methods of American Studies, but texts and assignments were also coordinated with the class on academic writing taught by Dr. Anja Schüler.

The field of American Studies is conceived as an interdisciplinary effort that combines disciplines such as history, literature, political science, and sociology to analyze and describe American culture. Students read texts such as Henry Nash Smith's "Can American Studies Develop a Method?" and Gene Wise's "Paradigm Dramas in American Studies: A Cultural and Institutional History of the Movement," wherein foundational scholars debated theories and methods underlying the discipline. These debates became more pluralistic and complex when racial, ethnic, gender, and other minority studies were developed, challenging previous assumptions about a coherent and unified American culture and adding new perspectives and approaches to the field. For example, we read the following texts: Mary Helen Washington's "Disturbing the Peace: What Happens to American Studies If You Put African American Studies at the Center?"; Nina Baym's "Melodramas of Beset Manhood: How Theories of American Fiction Exclude Women Authors"; and George Lipsitz' "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: Racialized Social Democracy and the 'White' Problem in American Studies" and "Listening to Learn and Learning to Listen: Popular Culture, Cultural Theory, and American Studies." Collections such as Donald E. Pease's and Robyn Wiegman's *The Futures of American Studies*, written over half a century after the beginnings of the field, reflect the fact that viewpoints on theory and methods in American Studies have become ever more diverse. Globalization and the importance of United States culture for this process have forced scholars to acknowledge the importance of an international perspective on the field.

In articles such as Lisa Lowe's "The International within the National" there is a call for inter- or transnationalizing American Studies, one of the more recent trends in American Studies scholarship. Texts exploring queer studies and with an ecocritical perspective addressed contemporary critical concerns. After a good deal of hard work, participants had a solid perspective on both past and contemporary trends in American Studies scholarship and methodology

Methodology II

"Problems in Academic Writing, Part I and II"

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schöler

This two semester course offered concrete guidelines and practical advice for writing academic texts in English. In particular, it employed the "process approach" to academic writing, including narrowing down a topic, researching, planning, drafting, editing, and proofreading a paper. The class also discussed issues of writing in good style and selected grammar problems. Students applied their newly gained knowledge in short papers on topics from the Methodology I class, which were jointly given and graded by the instructors of both classes. In the summer semester, students deepened their knowledge of particular writing techniques and applied them to practical matters such as peer reviews, book reviews, and the grant writing process. After this, they were ready to tackle their MAS thesis.

MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium

Facilitator: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

In the winter term 2011-12 the Interdisciplinary Colloquium started off with a seminal talk by E. Brooks Holifield, Emeritus Professor of American Church History, Emory University, who asked, "Why Do Americans Seem So Religious in Comparison with Western Europeans: Markets or Contingencies?" Holifield argued that the historical conditions that most likely led to American religiosity were only different from other similar events in the history of Europe in degree. Thus, what was crucial was not that those events took place in the U.S., but the confluence of sometimes only marginal differences from the way they happened elsewhere. A few days later it was on to a lecture that connected one of the founders of American sociology with a local hero. Aldon Morris, Leon Forrest Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University, spoke about the role W. E. B. Du Bois played in building the first scientific school of sociology in the United States and the important impact German society and German scholarship – in particular Max Weber's – had in shaping Du Bois' world view and his approach to the social sciences. The very same week, students had the opportunity to attend the awarding of Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize 2011. Its recipient, Dr. Frank Usbeck from the University of Leipzig, illustrated how National Socialist ideology drew on Indian imagery in order to help construct and solidify a specific national identity. Accordingly, the Nazis went so far as to claim not only historical parallels but also biological ties and cultural relationships between Germans and Indians. Instructive, entertaining, and provocative, the talk garnered much applause and sparked a lively discussion.

October 20 and 21, 2011, provided students of the Class of 2013 an opportunity to observe their predecessors of the Class of 2012 presenting outlines of their M.A. theses, which ranged from U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East to intertextuality in the Coen brother's 1998 cult film *The Big Lebowski*. Two days of intensive discussions were capped off by a *privatissime* session with Ambassador Heinrich Kreft, the German Foreign Office's Special Representative for Dialogue among Civilizations. Ambassador Kreft shared his appraisal of the Arab spring with students and more generally discussed the task for state and non-state actors alike to promote intercultural understanding and broaden the basis for tolerance and especially interfaith respect among various groups and nations.

In November, Jewish-American author Lev Raphael took the audience back to the postwar years in New York City where he grew up the child of Holocaust survivors. He captivated students with tales from a household where classical music was revered but no record with a Deutsche Grammophon label ever made an appearance; where shopping for household items became difficult because everything was inspected for its origin; and where even sharing pleasant memories was dangerous, because it could take his parents back to the most terrible years of their lives. Yet his story was also about a reconciliation process that started on his first book tour through Germany and eventually led him to face the past and let it go. Our next speaker, Jennifer Culbert, Professor and Graduate Director of Political Science at Johns Hopkins University and at the time the Siemens Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin, offered students a philosophically compelling account of the Supreme Court's ongoing struggle to legitimate capital punishment, from the 1972 ruling that declared the death penalty unconstitutional (*Furman v. Georgia*) to the very recent execution of Troy Davis in Georgia in September of 2011. Before the colloquium's November schedule came to a close with the HCA's traditional Thanksgiving Dinner, there was more food for thought with a timely talk by Robin Einhorn, Professor of History at the University of California at Berkeley, who succeeded to put "American Tax Politics in Perspective."

There were three additional sessions prior to the Christmas break. First, Robert J. McMahon, Ralph D. Merison Distinguished Professor of History at Ohio State University, provided an instructive tour d'horizon of "America's Security Relationships in Cold War Asia." Next, Michael Herron, Professor of Government at Dartmouth College and at the time a Visiting Professor of Applied Methods at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, shed light on an often neglected aspect of U.S. elections, namely invalid ballots. Professor Herron identified a number of cases in which a group of voters chose not to vote for anyone in the face of a dominant candidate running for office who happened to be of a different race than the voters themselves. He concluded that voter engagement as measured by residual vote rates continues to reflect racial features of elections. Finally, a trip to the Frankfurt Städel Museum and a guided tour of the exhibition "Beckmann and America" introduced students to representations of America in Beckmann's painting.

January 2012 started off with Yone Sugita, Associate Professor of American History at Osaka University, Japan. In "Asian Nexuses: U.S. Relations with China and Japan in the Wake of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks," Professor Sugita delineated an Iraq-Indian Ocean-North Korea nexus as well as a China-Taiwan-North Korea nexus, arguing that ultimately both nexuses worked to Ja-

pan's disadvantage. The North Korean threat in particular, Professor Sugita maintained, placed Japan in a more dependent position vis-à-vis the U.S. and at the same time led the U.S. to deal more courteously with China than with Japan. Professor Sugita suggested that as a consequence future Japanese policy should rely less on the U.S., which it could afford because, he predicted, over the long haul China will be in turmoil and decline. Professor Sugita's analysis and policy recommendations provoked a lively discussion. Only two days later, Kirsten Fischer, Professor of History at the University of Minnesota and a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the HCA, introduced students to very different subject, namely the role of Pantheism in the Early American Republic. Professor Fischer chose Elihu Palmer, an ardent advocate in New York of the most radical ideas coming out of the European Enlightenment, to foreground a thread in the transatlantic exchange of ideas during the late eighteenth century that has hitherto gotten short shrift. Palmer's efforts show that the Enlightenment was not a purely moderate affair in America but that radical European Enlightenment did indeed play a role in the new nation. Realizing this might well recast current debates over the impact of religion in the Early American Republic. Our last speaker for the winter term was Styles Sass, a graduate of the MAS Class of 2011, who shared with the students his own experiences in writing a Master's thesis, commenting in particular on the research conducted for, the methodology applied to, and the results coming out of his investigation of "The Campaign Narratives of Barack Obama and John in the 2008 Presidential Election" — an excellent thesis that he is now developing into a Ph. D. dissertation.

SUMMER SEMESTER 2012

Two lectures and two interdisciplinary seminars were offered during the summer semester. The methodology classes and the interdisciplinary colloquium continued from the winter term.

Literature

"The American Novel: Beginnings to 1900"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

Teaching Assistant: Styles Sass, M.A.

This lecture course acquainted students with a variety of novelistic traditions in the United States from the founding era to the end of the nineteenth century. We examined the relevant literary philosophies, interpreted representative novels, and assessed the "cultural work" they perform. Among the works analyzed were Hannah Webster Foster's *The Coquette* (1797), Charles Brockden Brown's *Arthur Mervyn* (1799/1800), James Fenimore Cooper's *The Pioneers* (1823) and *Notions of the Americans* (1828), Tocqueville's *On Some Sources of Poetry in Democratic Nations* (1835), Ralph Waldo Emerson's *The American Scholar* (1837), Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1861/62), William Dean Howells's *The Rise of Silas Lapham* (1885), Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884), Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* (1893), and Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* (1899).

These works were discussed within the following topics: "The Rise of the Novel in the United States," "The Early Republic: Making Society Virtuous," "The Sentimental Novel: Women's Space," "The Novelist as a Social Historiographer and Moral Observer," "Consolidating the Nation: The Challenge of the Frontier," "The Historical Novel: In Search of an American Past," "The Age of Jackson: A Literature for Democracy," "The American Renaissance: Sources of the Self," "Before the Civil War: Slavery and the Promise of America," "The Domestic Novel: Home and Society," and "Realism and Naturalism: Making It Real."

The literature tutorial supported the lecture, providing additional material as well as allowing the students to interact with the texts through active participation in class discussions and other practical activities such as presentations. In addition to reviewing the key points of the lectures, the sessions consisted of discussing the literary texts and selected secondary materials. Deepening the knowledge of literary studies terminology in general and of literary genres in particular was another important component of the tutorial. Besides this, it laid particular emphasis on the evolution of key features within the novel throughout American history. Using secondary texts by critics such as Winfried Fluck, Edgar Allen Poe, Herman Melville, and Jane Tompkins, the class also engaged in discussions on the characteristics of literary genres like the sentimental novel, the historical novel, the romance, and the domestic novel.

Law

In cooperation with the Faculty of Law

"Introduction to the Law and Legal System of the United States"

Lecturer: Cynthia Wilke, J.D.

The study of the legal system of the United States provides valuable insights into the history, politics, and culture of the country. Students began the semester with a comparative look at the differences between the common law legal system of the U.S. and the civil law legal tradition. The course laid a foundation with the building blocks of U.S. law, including the court system; sources of law, with special emphasis on the pivotal role of case law; the procedural aspects of the litigation process; and the unique role of the jury in the American justice system. To add depth and understanding to the contact with the legal system and culture in the United States, students were introduced to other selected substantive law areas, such as tort and criminal law.

Students learned about the historical development of the U.S. Constitution, highlighting its uniqueness in the world at the time of its ratification in the eighteenth century and its pivotal role in the U.S. legal system as the country's highest legal norm. We were privileged to have Professor Robert Blecker from New York Law School as a guest lecturer. Through his fascinating and charismatic interactive presentation, Professor Blecker provided further insights into the importance of a constitution as a covenant between past, present, and future generations.

In the tutorial sessions, we had the opportunity to delve more deeply into special topics. These areas included the landmark case *Marbury v. Madison*; the death penalty; the varied selection processes of state judges, who in many states are elected to their positions; and the fascinating and viable institution of the jury. Students also participated in the symposium "From the Pentagon Papers to WikiLeaks: A Transatlantic Conversation on the Public's Right to Know" and gained insight into the issue of public access to government information through presentations by Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr., from the Brennan Center for Justice and Klaus Gronenberg from the German Federal Commission for Data Protection and Freedom of Information.

We periodically looked at current events and developments in the legal landscape of the United States. The most important case involved the legal challenges to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also known as "ObamaCare" and considered the signature legislation of President Obama's administration. We were able to complete our analysis through the timely arrival of the Supreme Court decision, upholding the law in the most part, a few days before our last class.

Throughout the course, the interesting mix of backgrounds, experience and nationalities of the HCA Masters students resulted time and time again in enriching, educational, and insightful discussions.

Interdisciplinary Seminar I (History and Religious Studies)

"African American Religious History"

Lecturers: Prof. Albert J. Raboteau, Ph.D., Prof. Dr. Jan Stievermann

This compact seminar gave students the opportunity to engage with one of the leading experts on African American History, who came to Heidelberg as the first recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award: Albert J. Raboteau is Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion at Princeton University and has written seminal works on the emergence and development of the black churches and African-derived forms of Christian spirituality in the United States. This seminar covered the crucial moments and central issues in the history of African American religion from the colonial period to the present. Students were familiarized both with key primary documents and important scholarly approaches in the field. The course proceeded historically and examined such diverse phenomena as the Independent African Church movement in the Colonial period, the "invisible institution" under slavery, the abolitionist movement, slave songs and slave consciousness, the role of black churches after the Civil War, and especially the impact of migration and urbanization on the churches and civic life, the civil rights era, and civil disobedience. The course also considered late twentieth-century and contemporary trends in black theology and critiques as well as discussing interpretive frameworks for understanding African American religious history.

Interdisciplinary Seminar II (Geography and Politics)

"Creative Cities and Urban Politics in North America: The New Urban Condition for Growth and Shrinkage in Cities"

Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Gerhard, PD Dr. Martin Thunert

Throughout the last century, cities in North America and elsewhere have experienced different phases of development. After a long and strong growth period due to industrialization, extensive suburbanization processes profoundly changed the urban fabric. This trend still continues; it is superimposed, however, by a trend "back to the city," the so-called re-urbanization trend described by gentrification, downtown revitalization, or waterfront development. A lot of academic and popular literature has analyzed these trends, often relating it to Richard Florida's *Rise of the Creative Class* (2002). Creative people such as artists, designers, and journalists but also students and other professionals seem to be the most important group of actors to raise the attractiveness of urban sites. With them, even decaying inner urban areas in U.S. American cities can gain new strength and will be upgraded to a new shine.

This interdisciplinary seminar combined insights from the disciplines of urban geography, political studies, and sociology. More than thirty students from the MAS class of 2013 and the BAS class of 2013 as well as from neighboring disciplines like geography, politics, and sociology studied and discussed re-urbanization trends and their possible consequences for the structure of political power in the U.S., for ethnic and class relations, or for the role of large U.S. and Canadian metropolitan areas as so-called "global cities" from different perspectives. After a brief introductory section on the rise and decline of urban and suburban America in the twentieth century, the class focused for three sessions on the ramifications of Richard Florida's theory of the creative class. It scrutinized Florida's theory against the background of empirical data on recent urban development in North America as well as by looking at rankings of urban areas in indices of creativity. After this segment participants had a better understanding of who the "creative class" is, what their rise has been doing and what it will be doing to the urban composition. Questions like the following were addressed in student presentations and classroom discussion: Is the creative class really that powerful in changing the urban condition? What is the relationship of the creative class to other actors in urban politics? What role do planners, politicians, and investors play for recent urban developments? The third section of the seminar was devoted to case studies of North American urban regions like Toronto, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, and San Diego. In the final segment we discussed selected issues in urban politics and urban geographies such as immigration and integration, poverty and race, and education. A critical reflection of the consequences of the observed re-urbanization trends concluded the seminar.

After all, there was no consensus among instructors and students on which parts of the city are really benefitting from re-urbanization and the creativity process and which ones are losing ground because of intensifying fragmentation and segregation within the city. These final reflections were embedded in the theoretical debate about urban development. At the end, students had to decide for themselves whether they were questioning or supporting the myth of creativity as the new urban condition for growth and shrinkage in cities.

Methodology I

"Introduction to American Studies, Part II"

Lecturer: Daniel Silliman, M.A.

In this class, students were introduced to a number of thinkers and theories that have been and continue to be of critical importance to cultural studies, with an eye towards the practical application. Often counter-intuitive and ignominiously difficult, these theories attempt to get behind or underneath the "obvious" self-presentation of cultural phenomena, that which appears as natural, normal, and self-evident. They take as their starting place the intuition that the apparently simple is, in fact, quite complicated, and attempt to provoke thought, especially when and where it seems unnecessary. These works have been used in American Studies as a "tool kit," enabling a variety of approaches and methodological strategies to allow for fuller and more thorough examinations of American life, past and present.

Students engaged directly with the ideas of Louis Althusser and Antonio Gramsci, Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucault, Judith Butler and Eve Sedgwick, Jacques Lacan, and Slavoj Žižek. They critically examined the writings of these diverse philosophers and also engaged in the practice of employing these respective thinkers' theories, using them to interpret cultural artefacts as various as popular television shows, fast food commercials, classic American novels, short stories, poems, and seminal American films. In doing so, the students evaluated the usefulness of such theories as deconstruction and psychoanalysis, gained a better understanding of their respective interpretive functions, and were able to engage with the often obtuse and abstract conceptualizations on the level of practice.

In the weekly two-hour seminar students asked questions such as: What affect does the text have in defining or constructing the self-identity of the reader? What cultural processes are at work in the formation of identity, how does one's identity come to be known, and how stable is it, finally? Why do texts seem so stubbornly open to interpretation? How are meanings produced? What is the role of power in deciding what counts as "knowledge"?

Each student selected one theory or thinking for further inquiry. For the final project, students made use of a particular problematic, method, or set of questions, applying it creatively to their own topics of interests, and thus evaluating the usefulness of that theory to ask and possibly answer important questions on subjects as various as the poetry of Sylvia Plath, Mormon's statements of faith, U.S. Naval officers' training, and the Rodney King riots.

Methodology II

"Problems in Academic Writing, Part II"

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schüler

See course description winter semester 2011-12

MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium

Facilitator: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

In the summer term, the Interdisciplinary Colloquium traditionally starts off with the commencement address for the previous MAS Class. Christopher Bigsby's reflections on "What Then Is the American?" (see p. 68) were followed a week later by an exploration of one of America's major intellectual traditions, with Professor Philip Kitcher, John Dewey Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, and at the time a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, talking about "The Enduring Significance of John Dewey's Project." Then it was on to a very special transatlantic comparison: Ray Carrell, a member of the advisory board at ECM Equity Capital Management and long-time supporter of the HCA, contrasted industrial relations in Germany and the United States. He discussed intellectual traditions and drew on his own experience as a CEO in both Europe and the United States to contrast labor relations and illustrate cultural differences.

The month of May saw a real plethora of renowned speakers, starting with William Chafe, the Alice Mary Baldwin Professor of History at Duke University, who employed three case studies – John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon, and Bill and Hillary Clinton – to analyze the way in which personal circumstances and the character of leaders do play an important role in their politics. Next, students were able to witness two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Neil Sheehan not only recounting the events that led to the publishing of the Pentagon Papers in the early 1970s but also making an emotional plea for critical and investigative journalism. This was followed by two exceptional treatments of nineteenth-century women's activists, with Karen Offen, Senior Scholar at the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford University, talking about "The French Connection: Building a Transatlantic Women's Network, 1888-1893," and Bonnie Anderson, Professor Emerita of History at the City University of New York, portraying Ernestine Rose as a freethinker, a feminist, a key figure in the women's rights movement and, above all, a true internationalist who scorned her contemporaries' attempts to classify her by country of origin or by religion. For our last presentation in May we were delighted to welcome back Robert Cherny, Professor of History at San Francisco State University and a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the HCA in 2009. This time, Professor Cherny focused on his place of abode California and asked, "Can California's New Election Laws Repair Its Dysfunctional Legislature?"

In June, the colloquium turned to literary topics. First, Johannes Völz of Goethe University Frankfurt demonstrated how Don DeLillo in his novel *Cosmopolis* merges concepts of security and concepts of risk. Then, John P. McWilliams, Professor of Humanities at Middlebury College, talked about "Revolution and the Historical Novel: Gore Vidal and Others." In between, the colloquium saw yet another highlight, when Albert Raboteau, the Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion at Princeton University and first recipient of the HCA's James W.C. Pennington Award, identified "Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement as Precedent for Religion in U.S. Politics" (see p. 141).

In July the colloquium welcomed Bryant Simon, Professor of History at Temple University, who delivered a fascinating description of "The Outsourcing of Everything." Subtitled "Learning about

Recent America from Starbucks,” Professor Simon’s presentation traced how coffee shops have become office spaces for flexible employees, how their restrooms have replaced public restrooms, and how – at a time when Americans are increasingly retreating into gated communities – they serve as simulacra for a missing sense of community, as resorts of sociability, where it is possible to seek out affiliation without encountering too many strangers. Our next speaker was Peter J. Thuesen, Professor of Religious Studies at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, who spoke about “Jonathan Edwards and the Transatlantic World of Books.” Calling Edwards’ library a confirmation of the “transatlantic thesis,” Thuesen pointed out that “Edwards’ book world was profoundly transatlantic.” On July 19, Cody Smith, who had chosen the MAS program’s fast-track option, introduced his fellow students to an outline of his M.A. thesis on “U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Afghanistan and Pakistan since 9/11.” For our last session of the summer term, the colloquium did stick with diplomacy, discussing “New Chances and Challenges for Transatlantic Relations” with Harald Leibrecht, Coordinator for Transatlantic Cooperation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Presentation Skills

Lecturer: Millie Baker

The course was a two day seminar in which students were encouraged to gain an insight into the subtleties of verbal and non-verbal communication to help get their message across. Students learned how to assess their own presentation strengths and weaknesses and tried out new communication strategies where appropriate. Furthermore, the course helped students to develop a critical awareness of their own and each other’s presentation styles; to build on and practice the English phrases of academic presentation; to develop strategies for dealing with unexpected or difficult situations, e.g. answering questions, technical problems, audience hostility; and to develop confidence and enjoyment in public speaking.

OUTLOOK ON THE MAS COURSE OUTLINE WINTER SEMESTER 2012-13

In the winter semester 2012-2013, the MAS schedule will include lectures in history on “Reluctant Empire? U.S. Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century” by Professor Dr. Manfred Berg, in political science on “Government and Politics of the United States” by PD Dr. Martin Thunert, in geography on “North American Cities” by Professor Dr. Ulrike Gerhard, and in literature on “American Literature” by Professor Dr. Dietmar Schloss. In methodology, Dr. Anja Schüler offers a class on academic writing, and Hannes Nagl, M.A., teaches the introduction to American Studies. Dr. Wilfried Mausbach chairs the interdisciplinary colloquium.

MAS CLASS OF 2012

Mahmoud Abdou (Palestine)

Mahmoud was born in Gaza City, Palestine in 1986. He graduated from Middlebury College in 2009 with a B.A. in political science and a minor in economics. Additionally, he spent the fall semester 2008 studying international law at American University in Washington, D.C. In the MAS, he chose history, religious studies and political science and wrote his M.A. thesis on "The Middle East Peace Process and U.S. Special Interest Groups."

Bryan Banker (USA)

Bryan has lived all over the United States, but New Jersey is his home. He received a B.A. in history from Westminster College, Utah, in 2005. After university, he taught U.S. history, American literature and film at the high school level in Virginia for a number of years. In Heidelberg he chose history, literature and sociology as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "'Keep A' My Wings and Cleave De Air': Paul Robeson as a Transnational Figure." He is now working on his dissertation entitled "'I Got a Nine Pound Hammer, Let It Ring!' The Unsettled Question of Transcending Social Death: Paul Robeson, Langston Hughes, and Richard Wright" at the university of Munich.

Ivana Banovic (Croatia)

Ivana was born in Split, Croatia. She enrolled in the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, Croatia where she graduated in English and art history in 2008. Before coming to Heidelberg, she worked as a translator. In the MAS program she chose history, literature and Jewish culture as her majors, writing her thesis about "Novel as Fan Fiction."

Ergün Baylan (Turkey)

Ergün was born in Karabük in 1987. He is a graduate of Hacettepe University, Department of American culture and literature. After graduation, he started to work as a research assistant for the Department of Western Languages and Literatures at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University. To broaden his horizon he chose literature, sociology and Jewish culture as his majors. He wrote his M.A. thesis on "Politics on Conscience: Transcendental Morality in the Life and Writing of Henry David Thoreau."

Evan Cacali (USA)

Evan was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Montana. During university, he spent a year at the University of Utrecht in The Netherlands, where he was first introduced to American Studies. Before starting his studies in Heidelberg, he lived in Japan and taught English in public schools. As his majors he chose literature, religious studies and sociology, writing his M.A. thesis about "'The Way the Whole Darn Human Comedy Keeps Perpetuating Itself': Dialogism, Appropriation, and Intertextuality in *The Big Lebowski*". Graduating at the top of his class, Evan delivered the valedictory address at the commencement ceremony.

David Cagle (USA/Turkey)

David was born in Augusta, Georgia in 1989. He graduated with a B.A. in American Studies from Ege University in Izmir, in 2010. He spent his second year at university studying in Germany at TU Dortmund via the ERASMUS Exchange program. He also minored in teaching ESL and has taught 6th and 7th grade English for a semester at Yavuz Selim Primary School. In Heidelberg he chose law, Jewish culture and religious studies as his majors and delivered his thesis about "Understanding the Religious Issue in the Presidential Elections of 1960 and 2012."

Doina Octavia Dumbravescu (Romania)

Doina was born in Brasov, Romania in 1988. She graduated from the "Transilvania" University of Brasov with a B.A. in American Cultural Studies. She worked as an English teacher at Magister Educational Center in Brasov. For the MAS she chose political science, sociology and Jewish culture as her majors and wrote her thesis on "Arab and Arab American Lobbies: Their Political, Social and Cultural Representation in Post 9/11 U.S."

Aikaterini Katsouri (Greece)

Aikaterini was born in Komotini, Greece in 1988. She obtained her B.A. in English literature and philology from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 2009. She also studied at Karl-Franzens University of Graz, Austria during her last semester of studies. After that, she worked as an English teacher in schools of foreign languages and gave private lessons as well. In the MAS program she majored in literature, sociology, and law and wrote her thesis on "'Think before you Click': Cyberbullying among Young Adolescents in the USA."

Nicholas Musto (USA)

Nick was born in 1987 in Boston, Massachusetts and spent most of his life in the New England area. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland with a B.S. in history and a minor in Spanish. In Heidelberg he chose political science, sociology and law as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "Competing Interpretations and Paradigms for a post-cold War World."

Tami Newton (USA)

Born in the USA, Tami received her B.A. in journalism and mass communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In the MAS program she majored in history, sociology and law. She wrote her M.A. thesis on "The African-American Woman Reclaiming and Redefining 'Mammy's Legacy'."

Chester Prestes Pra Baldi Junior (Brazil)

Chester was born in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul in 1975 and moved to São Paulo in 1991. There he attended a Bachelor of Social Science program at the University of São Paulo (USP). In addition, he worked at the Instituto Itaú Cultural, which promotes and researches Brazilian arts and culture. As his majors he chose literature, sociology and Jewish culture and wrote his M.A. thesis on "Is Soccer becoming an American Game? The Role of the 1994 World Cup for the Development of Soccer in the USA."

Nikola Radinovic (Serbia)

Nikola was born in Belgrade, Serbia in 1987. He was enrolled at the University of Belgrade at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Department of International Studies. In 2008-09, Nikola was one of the first students from Serbia to be granted a scholarship funded by the EU, which allowed him to study political science at Heidelberg University for a year. To broaden his horizon he chose political science, sociology and law as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "Torture Debate in the U.S. after 9/11: Legal, Ethical and Political Perspectives."

Edra Sulo (Albania)

Edra was born in 1984 in Shkodra, Albania. She graduated in American and English Studies from the University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi." She has worked as a lecturer at this university, where she has also lectured on American Literature. In addition, she worked as a teacher of English. In Heidelberg she majored in literature, political science and law. As a topic for her M.A. thesis she chose "The Albanian Lobby in the US."

Michael Taylor (USA)

Mike was born in Pleasant Grove, Utah in 1985. Before entering his university studies, he spent two years in Hamburg as a volunteer for a Christian outreach program. He earned his B.A. in English and German Studies at Brigham Young University, where he was also employed as a German instructor and honors writing tutor. He chose history, literature and religious studies as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "The American Indian as a Souvenir: Antiquarianism, Exoticism, and Sentimentalism in Cooper's *The Pioneers*." Mike is now working on his Ph.D. in American and First Nations literature at the University of British Columbia.

Fiona Würthner (Germany)

Fiona was born in 1985 near Düsseldorf, where she later received a Bachelor's degree in history and media science. She was part of the first class in the Master's program of Public History at the Free University of Berlin. Fiona worked in various countries throughout the world, including Ecuador, Canada, and Australia. In the MAS program she chose history, literature and law as her majors and wrote her thesis on "'Peaceful Muslims, pls refudiate.' Arab American Experiences after 9/11: From the Patriot Act to Park 51."

MAS COMMENCEMENT 2012

On Friday, April 13, 2012, the Master students of American History celebrated their commencement in the lecture hall of the Alte Universität. The class of 2012 consists of fifteen graduates from eleven countries. It is the seventh class of Master students to have graduated from the Heidelberg Center for American Studies.

Professor Manfred Berg, Curt Engelhorn Professor of American History and Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, welcomed the graduating class, their families and friends as well as the faculty and staff of the HCA. He extended his congratulations to the graduates and said that he found it “gratifying to see how the hard work and dedication” of the students had paid off. In his speech the dean praised the Heidelberg Center of American Studies and its founding director Professor Junker, saying that the institution had put itself on the map internationally within its young exis-

The students of the MAS Class of 2012 enter the Old Lecture for their commencement.



The MAS Class of 2012. (l. to r.): Tami Newton, Evan Cacali, Michael Taylor, Chester Prestes Pra Baldi Jr., Mahmoud Abdou, Nikola Radinovic, Ergün Baylan, Aikaterini Katsouri, Bryan Banker, Ivana Banovic, Edra Sulo. MAS graduates not pictured: David Cagle, Doina Dumbrarescu, Nicholas Musto, Fiona Würther, and Xianzhi Meng (MAS 2011)





Professor Christopher Bigsby
(University of East Anglia)
delivering the commencement
speech.

tence of less than a decade. Professor Berg called the HCA a great asset to Heidelberg University as it strengthened the university's focus on area studies and reinforced its commitment to internationalization. The commencement of the class of 2012 was a proud day for Heidelberg University and the HCA because academic achievement was the common mission of both institutions.

In his address to the graduates, Professor Junker warmly congratulated the graduating class. He described the unusual and enriching circumstances of their time at the HCA: The highly international mix of students and the small group size created a unique environment for academic study as well as personal development. Their studies at the HCA allowed the students to gain "inside knowledge from an outside perspective on all things concerning the United States," as Professor Junker put it, it also gave them the chance to transcend their personal boundaries regarding religion, culture, and countries. Professor Junker outlined several apogees of the students' stay in Heidelberg: The 625th birthday of Heidelberg University as well as America Day, when the inauguration of the James W.C. Pennington Award was publically announced. Professor Junker called an official message of greetings from President Barack Obama on this occasion an emotional highlight. Professor Junker also expressed his pride that students at the Heidelberg Center of American Studies have the freedom "to agree to disagree." The HCA's founding director then thanked the benefactors of the institution, which is the only public-private partnership of humanities at a German university.

As keynote speaker, Professor Christopher Bigsby of the University of East Anglia gave a British perspective on the question "What, then, is the American?" Professor Bigsby is the founder of the Arthur Miller Center and a member of the American Studies Network. The scholar of American Studies made a confession: "I am a professor of American Studies – but I do not understand America." He added that his only consolation was that he did not think the Americans understood it, either. Bigsby regarded his question of what exactly the American was both relevant and hard to answer due to the heterogeneity of the American society. Bigsby's speech was very descriptive of the quirks of American culture perceived from a European's view. In a humorous

yet critical manner he questioned the purpose of cheerleading and bashed the multitude of billionaires in American politics. While Professor Bigsby disapprovingly commented on issues such as the high infant mortality and crookedness of politicians in America, he was also utterly clear in his admiration for the freedom the United States offer. He claimed that nobody went to America to remain who they were but to become someone new. Comparing the United States to a perpetual construction site and calling its citizens shape shifters, Professor Bigsby came to positive conclusion; namely that, despite all problems the super power may have, it remained the hope of the world for many people, including himself: "Whether I understand it or not – it remains my America, my newfound land."

After the light-hearted musical interlude, which was provided by J. Hatch and featured three piano pieces from New Orleans, the graduates were awarded their diplomas. Eleven students rose and individually stepped onto the stage to accept their degrees from Professor Junker and Dean Berg: Mahmoud Abdou (Palestine), Bryan Banker (USA), Ivana Banovic (Croatia), Ergün Baylan (Turkey), Evan Cacali (USA), Aikaterini Katsouri (Greece), Tami Newton (USA), Chester Prestes Pra Baldi Junior (Brazil), Nikola Radinovic (Serbia), Edra Sulo (Albania) and Michael Taylor (USA). Four students were admitted their degree in absentia: Donia Dumbravescu (Romania), Xianzhi Meng (China), Nicholas Musto (USA), and Fiona Würthner (Germany).

Evan Regis Cacali was presented as the valedictorian of the class of 2012 due to his outstanding academic achievements and his thesis titled "The Way The Whole Darn Human Comedy Keeps Perpetuating Itself": Dialogism, Appropriation, and Intertextuality in The Big Lebowski". Professor Junker read excerpts from Cacali's thesis and presented the valedictorian the HCA book prize. In his valedictorian speech Evan Regis Cacali thanked the friends and families of all students for their support and also the professors, faculty, and staff of the HCA for their guidance and patience. After extending his sincere gratitude, Mr. Cacali jestingly demanded that he and his fellow graduates henceforth be addressed as "Master" when spoken to. Cacali's speech centered around two words that he had learned years ago and that had immediately formed a concept in his mind. The words were "quixotic" and "autodidact." "Quixotic" is derived from Cervantes' novel Don Quixote and refers to being "foolishly impractical in the pursuit of romantic ideals," as the valedictorian explained. "Autodidact" is the Greek word for "self-taught." In Evan Cacali's mind these two words had come to describe his own academic path. After all, he said, at the M.A. level students were no longer simply vessels to be filled with knowledge, but self-taught learners in and outside of the classroom – and "it is a little foolishly romantic to get a Master's degree in the arts." In reference to this personal interpretation of their academic careers, Cacali bode his fellow graduates farewell with the words: "May you all foolishly follow your dreams."

After the official commencement ceremony at the Alte Universität, the graduating students and their guests gathered for a reception with the faculty and staff in the Atrium of the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais.

Congratulations to the MAS class of 2012!

VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH

Thank you and good evening. I wrote my thesis about a movie whose main character is named “Dude” and my paper incorporates the “F-word” or one of its derivatives about 50 times. Considering these facts, it’s a miracle that I graduated at all and surely it’s a folly that I have been allowed to address this distinguished audience.

Speaking of which, I would like to thank all the friends and family who made the journey to be here today. Although we humbly appreciate all the support that you have selflessly given us over the years, unfortunately, we will expect that you refer to us as “Master” when addressing us from now on. I would also like to thank, on behalf of the whole class, the professors and TAs, the tireless HCA staff, and our patient thesis advisers. You all provided the support and guidance that we were in desperate need of nearly all of the time. Finally, let me thank Professor Bigsby for coming here to speak today. We really appreciate it, so Thank You.



Evan Regis Cacali, valedictorian of the MAS Class of 2012.

We were lucky to have a great group of students in the MAS class of 2012 and any of my classmates could have – and probably should have – been standing here to give this speech instead of me. The problem is that I have never really liked all this sort of pomp and circumstance. I'm a typical iconoclastic American whose revolutionary war against the authority of European forms runs deep.

As I grow older, however, for some mysterious reason my once uncompromising stance against traditions and ceremonies seems to be softening. Maybe it's directly related to my age or it could be that the Heidelberg Center for American Studies often beautifully pairs pomp with beer, champagne, and delectable finger foods. Lately, like Pavlov's dogs, my mouth waters at the mere scent of a ceremony.

For whatever reason, I now see that these fixed events, like today, serve as convenient markers of time, opportunities to celebrate and assess our pasts while providing closure and setting us loose on our futures. So here I stand to say farewell to the past year and a half.

Years ago I learned two words on the same day that were immediately paired to form a concept. Since then, I have personally identified with these two words. I find them handy when I assess my own past and future so maybe they can serve on this occasion, too. These useful words are: "quixotic autodidact."

"Quixotic" is derived from Cervantes' *Don Quixote* and it refers to being foolishly impractical in the pursuit of romantic ideals. I like the idea of being foolishly impractical and idealistic. In my opinion, we all need to be a bit quixotic, if just to counteract the occasionally harsh grind of reality. Whether we like to admit it or not, each of us has our own quest against the windmills, our own romantic goals and dreams that we chase.

Just look at us. It is a little foolishly romantic to get a Master's degree in the arts, right? Reality says MBA, quixotic says M.A.. It's clear that, despite the fact that we are in Germany, we didn't all join the program for some bureaucratic maneuver or for another über rational reason. Some of us applied to the program in order to reinvent ourselves, or for the sake of love, or for self and professional improvement, or just to live in Europe for a while. But in the end, each of us entered this program as a means to pursue our personal romantic dreams.

The second word, "autodidact," is more neutral. As our resident Greek scholar could tell us, "auto" means "self" and "didact" means "teach." So, autodidact means "self-taught."

In the context of a university experience, it might sound odd to harp on being self-taught, but at this level of education, students are not empty vessels to be filled by professors. In fact, often to the chagrin of our professors, we are discriminating, self-filtering knowledge seekers who hear what we want and stubbornly ignore the rest. However, as self-filtering autodidacts, we must own our failures as much as our successes. We must all take responsibility for our educations.

Thankfully, the University of Heidelberg offered us the chance to work with excellent professors, participate in classes outside of the program, listen to lecture series, and attend other university related events. But part of being autodidactic also means that we learn beyond the classroom through experience.

One of the graduating students here, for example, is learning the self-taught lessons of being a new father, and two others are discovering what it means to be engaged across international borders. One of us found out the hard way just how cold the Neckar is in mid-winter, but now he knows. And one of our long-haired classmates discovered what it's like to find himself surrounded by a stadium of drunk and riotous skinhead football fans. Other classmates have worked as interns, acted on the stage, relaxed by the Neckar, and extensively traveled around Europe. Furthermore, all of us have learned from the intimate relationships we've made along the way, from our classmates and friends.

Putting these two words together, "quixotic autodidact" essentially means "self-taught dreamer," and in my opinion, it is a good way to go through life. Being actively self-taught adds a degree of good old-fashioned American pragmatism to your philosophy because as you go, you learn what works and what doesn't. To balance this sometimes dry, pragmatic approach to life, however, we all need a romantic, quixotic edge that motivates us to foolishly strive for ideals.

So as we leave this hall today and spread out across the world, to Greece, Turkey, Albania, Croatia, Serbia, Japan, the United States, Brazil, Romania, Palestine, and other parts of Germany, let's do it as self-taught dreamers. That way, we will continue to take responsibility for our educations, be they in a classroom or experiential, and like Don Quixote, we will continue to boldly chase idealistic dreams, wherever they may take us. With that, I say farewell MAS class of 2012, may you all foolishly follow your dreams and trust in yourself to learn how to achieve them.

Thank you, Evan Cacali



MAS graduate Bryan Banker with his parents at the HCA reception.

THE MAS CLASS OF 2013

Ilgin Aktener (Turkey)

Ilgin was born in Izmir, Turkey in 1988. In 2005, she started to study translation and interpretation at the Izmir University of Economics. She received her B.A. in translation and interpretation and in public relations and advertisement in 2009. She also worked as a research assistant at the Izmir University of Economics. In Heidelberg she chose history, science and law as her majors.

Bahaa AlDahoudi (Palestine)

Bahaa was born in Saudi Arabia to a Palestinian family in 1987. In 2004, he attended the United World College of the Adriatic in Italy, where he received his International Baccalaureate. After his I.B., he was offered a scholarship to attend Westminster College, Mo., where he received his B.A. double majoring in international relations & diplomacy and business administration. At the HCA he majors in history, political science and law.

Natalia Bayduraeva (Russia)

Natalia was born in 1988 in Ulyanovsk, Russia. In 2010 she graduated from Ulyanovsk State University, where she obtained two Master's degrees with honor in linguistics and international relations. In addition to participating in academic conferences and social events, she worked as a personal tutor in English with primary school children. Her majors are history, political science and law.

Akua Bobson (Germany)

Akua was born in Germany but spent most of her life in Accra, Ghana. She studied at the University of Ghana, graduating with a major in English and a minor in psychology. She worked as a teaching assistant with the Department of English, University of Ghana. In the MAS program she chose history, religious studies and literature.

Stefanie Drews (Germany)

Stefanie was born in Northern Germany in 1984. She holds a B.A. in French and Spanish from Humboldt University of Berlin as well as an M.A. in language, culture, and translation from Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. Her international experience includes study programs in the U.S., the Netherlands, and Belgium. She majors in history, political science and law.

John Andrew Elsik (USA)

Drew was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1984. He earned his B.A. from Westminster College in Missouri where he double majored in political science and philosophy with a concentration in history. Following his undergraduate studies, he worked in two Missouri state political campaigns. In 2008, Drew served as a legislative aide for Missouri House Minority Caucus Secretary Sara Lampe. He chose history, political science and law as his majors.

Rachel Goss (USA)

Rachel was born and raised in Indiana, where she attended Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. She graduated from there in 2010 with Highest Honors and a B.A. in political science along with minors in Spanish and religious studies. After graduation, Rachel moved to Germany to work as an intern in the Global Services and Parts Department at Daimler AG in Stuttgart. In Heidelberg she chose political science, religious studies and law as her majors.

Naijun Liu (China)

Naijun was born in 1986 in Tianjin, China. She received a Bachelor degree in world history and a Master's degree in American history from Nankai University. During her school years, she volunteered as an interpreter at an international communication program of Nankai University, working together with students from Germany, the Netherlands and other parts of Europe. In the summer of 2010, she taught English and American history in the summer camp of Tianjin New Oriental School. She chose history, political science and law as her majors.

Anthony Rush (USA)

Tony was born in Peekskill, New York in 1989 and lived in Putnam Valley, N.Y. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2011, with a B.S. in political science honors and a minor in Arabic. As an undergraduate student, Tony participated in a semester exchange program with the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and in a summer foreign exchange cruise with the Spanish Navy. In the MAS program he majors in history, political science and law.

Ferdinand Sacksofsky (Germany)

Ferdinand was born in 1985 in Heidelberg, Germany. He received his Bachelor's degree in 2011 from the Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, where he majored in political science, with American Studies as his minor. He spent a semester abroad at The College of New Jersey in Trenton, N.J. Before returning to Germany he interned at the North American Bureau of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in Washington D.C. He chose history, political science and law as his majors.

Cody Smith (USA)

Cody was born in Loveland, Colo. in 1988. He graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a B.A. in international studies and minors in German, history and political science. Over the past 4 years, he has traveled extensively to study at the University of San Diego, the Leibniz University Hannover, and DID Institute in Berlin. In Heidelberg he chose history, political science and law as his majors. Due to the fast-track option of the MAS program, he already finished his studies and wrote his M.A. thesis on "U.S. Foreign Policy toward Afghanistan and Pakistan since 9/11."

Bryce Taylor (USA)

Bryce was born in Pleasant Grove, Utah in 1982. Before his university studies, he spent two years in Frankfurt, Köln, Darmstadt, and Mannheim volunteering for a service based Christian outreach program and fell in love with the German people. He earned his B.A. in history from Utah Valley University. For the past years Bryce has been a teacher and basketball coach for both primary and secondary students at American Heritage School. He majors in political science, religious studies and law.

Robin Tim Weis (Luxembourg)

Robin Tim Weis was born in Zoetermeer, Netherlands in 1989. He is a graduate of Vesalius College in Brussels and holds a B.A. Cum Laude in international affairs. During his studies in Belgium, Robin worked at the American embassy in Brussels and for the global logistics firm UPS. In the meantime, Robin has taken on a freelance journalist position at FrumForum.com. He chose history, political science and law as his majors.

Oliwia Wolkowicz (Poland)

Oliwia Wolkowicz was born in Warsaw, Poland but spent her childhood and adolescence in the United States. She returned to Poland after graduating high school and enrolled in the Faculty of Philology at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow where she graduated with an M.A. in American literature. In Heidelberg she chose history, religious studies and law as her majors.

Yi Xiao (China)

Born in Suzhou, China in 1987, Yi received a B.A. in English education in 2010. During her studies, she volunteered to work for many international cultural events and participated in exchange programs in universities in HK, Macau (2007) and South Korea (2009). She has work experience as a translator, as a teacher of English, and as a staff member of the Italian Pavilion at the Shanghai EXPO (2010). She majors in history, religious studies and law.

THE MAS CLASS OF 2014

This year we welcome fifteen new students from eleven different countries: Khizir Aydamirov (Russia), Daniel Blottenberger (USA), Hibetallah Chourabi (Tunisia), Thomas Dale (United Kingdom), Dušan Fischer (Slovakia), Christopher French (USA/Germany), Mohammadali Jafari (Iran), Lisette van Leemput (Netherlands), Xiaoxu Lu (China), Edward Palmi (United Kingdom), Jacqueline Purification (Bangladesh), Julia Rettig (Germany), Maria Dolores Saura Campillo (Spain), Emerson Stuckart (USA), and Katherine Xiao (USA).

MAS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The HCA tradition of the TGIF, “Thank God it’s Friday,” continued during the past academic year. Instead of having food, drinks, and conversation at the HCA only, the tradition was expanded to include a number of field trips.

We get to know each other in Neustadt an der Weinstraße

At the end of Welcome Week in October, the students’ heads were bursting with timetables, room numbers, and course information. So on Friday, October 7, instead of studying at Heidelberg, we went to Neustadt an der Weinstraße to find out about German culture in a much more relaxed way. Strolling around the wine festival gave students and staff the opportunity to enjoy a drink or bite of food together and get to know each other.

Thanksgiving

Our festive Thanksgiving dinner has by now become a tradition at the HCA. So again in November 2011, M.A. and B.A. students, faculty, and staff celebrated the occasion in the Atrium. Everybody had contributed to a rich buffet made up of traditional dishes. After the ceremonial opening, we enjoyed delicious food along with conversation and laughter.

Christmas Rolling On

On December 16, M.A. and B.A. students, faculty and staff celebrated our yearly Christmas TGIF. With cookies, mulled wine, and mistletoes, the evening started out in a traditional way. As it progressed, numerous students, staff and faculty members proved their singing talent at the karaoke machine. The song choice varied from traditional Christmas songs to current rap music.



Legends of Rock at the HCA Christmas TGIF (l. to r.): Christian Kempf, Tony Rush, Lara Track, Katia Rostetter



A summer barbecue in the HCA's backyard

The self-made entertainment lasted long into the night and in the end everyone agreed that the Christmas TGIF had been a lot of fun and a huge success.

TGIF hike to Klosterhof Neuburg

In January, HCA students, faculty, and staff showed that they are not afraid of the cold. For the year's first TGIF activity, students from both the MAS and BAS classes went hiking through a wintery scenery. The destination was Klosterhof Neuburg, an organic farm and porterhouse. It is run at the site of a still active Benedictine abbey that goes back to the 1130s. There we enjoyed well-earned cake, some tasted the beer which is brewed at the monastery and everyone had a good time. After this relaxing break we went out only to discover that it had become dark and rainy, so we took a bus back to Heidelberg.

Summer Barbecue

We celebrated the arrival of the well-earned summer break in good American tradition: With a barbecue. The HCA backyard offered an ideal atmosphere for a garden party. HCA staff and faculty, M.A. and B.A. students brought delicious food and some of the students showed their skills as barbecue chefs. The event gave us also a chance to say goodbye to one of our M.A. students, Cody, who took the fast track option and will thus finish his studies at the HCA after just two semesters.

BERLIN REPORT

From June 18 to June 23, the MAS class visited the German capital as part of its curriculum. Here is the report of Toni Rush, Class of 2013.

For one week this past June, my classmates and I traveled to Germany's capital city, Berlin. What an opportunity it was! Educationally, recreationally, and culturally, the Berlin excursion is an exceptional component of our MAS program at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. Not only did the trip afford our class the chance to visit several museums and to tour the city, but it also gave our class the chance to further bond not only as classmates, but as friends.

After a five hour train ride, we arrived in Berlin on a Monday afternoon, ready to explore the city. Fortunately, soon after our arrival, we had a 2-3 hour private bus tour and saw many of the sites: the Berlin Wall, the Reichstag, the Victory Column, and much more. In seeing many of the city landmarks, we were able to get a detailed oration of Berlin's remarkable history. Throughout the rest of the week, we had several educational opportunities to take advantage of. For instance, we went to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, where we learned about many of the successful escapes from East Germany. Additionally, we went to the Reichstag, which houses the German Bundestag. There we were given a tour of the building and a chance to sit in the Bundestag chambers while listening to an in-depth explanation of how the German Parliament operates. To end the visit of the Reichstag, we went to the dome atop the building, which provides for a beautiful panoramic view of the city. Also, we went to the German Foreign Office, where we met with Ambassador Kreft and listened to him speak about driving issues regarding the Middle East. Lastly, the class also went to the Ethnological Museum as well as the American Academy, both of which were interesting to visit. Clearly, the excursion to Berlin was indeed an excellent educational opportunity!



The MAS students at the Reichstag in Berlin

Of course, the Berlin trip was also a cultural immersion program as we were able to visit many of the city's sites, such as the Brandenburg Gate. Another highlight of the week was dinner at The Bird on Tuesday night. As an American, it is hard to admit, but I had perhaps the best hamburger of my life there (and two American classmates agreed). One redeeming thing about it is that the restaurant was founded and is owned by two New Yorkers (I'm a New Yorker myself). Nevertheless, if you are ever in Berlin, make sure you go to The Bird for a hamburger. Another highlight of the week was my visit to the Pergamon Museum. The reason I enjoyed it so much was because this past March I had traveled to Turkey, where I visited the site of the Temple of Zeus at Pergamon. However, after excavation of the site at Pergamon, archeologists uncovered the Temple of Zeus, brought it to Berlin and restored it there. Now I have a picture of the original site of the Temple of Zeus and a picture of where it is today. It is neat to see the two pictures next to each other – my plan is to enlarge and frame them someday! Lastly, the Euro Cup was occurring when we were there, so our class watched the games together throughout the week. Given that the trip to Berlin was meant to be an educational and cultural endeavor, it was a fun and excellent opportunity to watch the Euro Cup together as a class.

Unfortunately, I had to leave Berlin early and it was tough to say goodbye to everyone because we were having a great week bonding. That shows how valuable this trip was, also for building camaraderie amongst our class. Throughout the week, we had many laughs, such as when one of my classmates was left behind at a tram stop one day; as the tram was pulling away the group saw her jumping and waving trying to get the tram to stop (luckily, she was able to get on the next tram and meet up with the group with no issues). Whether it was simply walking around the city, having lunch at a restaurant, or socializing at a bar in the evening, the Berlin trip allowed our class to grow closer together in a non-academic setting, giving us many memories and stories to share and remember. And that is a true value of the trip: allowing us to continue strengthening our friendships, friendships that will last a lifetime.

MAS TEAM AT EDUCATIONAL FAIRS IN CHINA

From October 17 to 30, an HCA delegation toured China to promote the MAS program. Professor Junker and the MAS coordinators, Katia Rostetter and Anne Lübbers, were accompanied by two colleagues from Heidelberg University's international office, Ulrike Riedling and Chun-Mei Chan. Together they participated in the China Education Expo (CEE) which took place in Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu, and Shanghai. At the CEE 2012, Germany was the country of honor on occasion of forty years of Chinese-German diplomatic relations. In the German Pavilion more than 100 representatives of German universities answered the questions of the Chinese students. Out of the thirty German universities present, Heidelberg was the best known school and therefore attracted a lot of students.

In Beijing, Professor Junker gave lectures at Beijing Foreign Studies University and at China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU). Afterwards he met with students and faculty to exchange ideas about the discipline of American Studies. A meeting with the vice-president of CFAU was



Heidelberg University at the
China Education Expo Beijing



The Heidelberg delegation at
China Foreign Affairs University
(l. to r.): Chun-Mei Chan, Anne
Lübbers, Detlef Junker, Zhu
Liquan, Wang Chunying, Zhang
He.

organized by two MAS alumni, Fei Ye (MAS 2009) and Harry Zhang (MAS 2011). In addition, they actively supported the HCA team at the fair in Beijing.

In Shanghai, the German delegation was invited by Tongji and Fudan Universities respectively to present its programs. At the fair, another two other former students, Cassie Zhang (MAS 2008) and Cen Jiang (MAS 2011), stopped by the HCA's booth.

The promotion tour was a great opportunity to venture into a new market and to make the MAS program known to promising young students. Professor Junker, Katia Rostetter and Anne Lübbers were very happy to meet the HCA alumni who were fabulous hosts and made them feel at home in China.

If you'd like to find out more about MAS and other HCA programs and events, visit the website, check out our newsletter or simply get in touch with the administration.



A CENTER FOR
INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

A CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

As a center for interdisciplinary research, the HCA provides the intellectual and organizational setting for international and interdisciplinary research projects as well as for individual research. Besides serving as a home for its resident scholars and numerous visiting researchers, the HCA hosts and organizes international conferences, symposia, workshops, and seminars.

THE PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Launched in 2006, the Ph.D. in American Studies program continues to attract talented young people from around the world. Currently 23 students from 12 different countries are enrolled in the program, working on projects that bring various perspectives from cultural studies, political science, history, literature, religion, and geography into a fruitful dialogue.

The HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies offers a structured three-year English-language program to students who wish to earn a research-oriented academic degree. The program aids students in acquiring the skills to independently conduct major scholarly research in the fields of American history, politics, geography, literature, and cultural studies. It not only offers a modern multidisciplinary curriculum but is committed to building a true community of scholars by fostering academic debate and continual exchange among students and faculty members. Graduates are awarded either a "Doktor der Philosophie (Dr. phil.)" or a "Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)" according to their choice.

To apply successfully, candidates need to fulfill not only the general entrance requirements, but must also present a meaningful proposal that sketches the guiding questions of the dissertation project while embedding them in the current academic debates. The project proposal should demonstrate that the dissertation will make an important and original contribution to the field. The proposal should also outline the source materials that will be used and provide a realistic timetable for the completion of the project.

Furthermore, applicants need a letter of intent from a professor at Heidelberg University that she or he is willing to be their advisor for the envisaged project. In addition to the letter of intent, candidates must provide two letters of recommendation that not only assess their academic qualifications but also evaluate the proposed dissertation project.

In October 2012, two new students – Debarchana Baruah from India and Heike Jablonski from Germany – joined the Ph.D. in American Studies. Simultaneously, the HCA bade farewell to two more students who graduated successfully from the program: Anja Milde from Germany and Cristina Stanca Mustea from Romania (see p. 109-110). As in previous years, a number of Ph.D. students are alumni of the MAS program and several work as teaching assistants for the MAS and BAS programs.

Curriculum

Once admitted, students are expected to take one class on theory, one class on academic writing, and one presentation and media skills class. For the duration of their enrollment, students are required to attend the Ph.D. colloquium. Regular progress reports and orientation talks with advisors are also an integral part of our Ph.D. program.

Theories and Issues in American Studies

(Dr. Tobias Endler, Dr. Wilfried Mausbach, Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss, PD Dr. Martin Thunert)

This course is designed to acquaint Ph.D. students with key concepts and debates in the four subject areas that form the core of American Studies at the HCA: literature, cultural studies, history, and political science. The class cuts across disciplinary landscapes and boundaries to give students a better understanding of the major contentions each of the four subjects brings to the pluralistic, contested, and dynamic field of American Studies. True to the interdisciplinary fabric of the HCA, the course is co-taught by faculty members with different areas of specialization. Among the various theorists and writers discussed are F.O. Matthiessen, Sacvan Bercovitch, Anne-Marie Slaughter, Toni Morrison, Edward W. Soja, Peter Novick, Hayden White, Lynne Cheney, Thomas Bender, Louis Hartz, Rogers Smith, Robert Putnam, and Richard Rorty. The course addresses issues and concepts such as deconstruction, imagined communities, gender, performance, postcolonialism, historical objectivity, memory, globalization, international relations, liberalism, and communitarianism.

Academic Writing

(Dr. Anja Schüler)

A successful doctorate depends on good research ideas and hard work but also on careful planning, drafting, writing, revising, improving, and finishing the text. This class focuses on the academic writing process: planning a sequence of chapters, organizing chapters and papers, writing in a clear professional style, managing the writing process, and pulling together a final draft. The course also addresses problems of grammar and style and gives many practical suggestions students can try out and adapt to their own needs. In addition, many Ph.D. students find that dealing with these issues as a group helps them to confront and solve the dilemmas every author must confront.

Media and Presentation Skills

(Millie Baker)

This course is a four-day seminar split into two modules in which students are encouraged to gain insight into the subtleties of verbal and non-verbal communication to help get their message across. They learn how to assess their presentation strengths and weaknesses and experiment with new communication strategies. Furthermore, this course helps students to develop

a critical awareness of their own and each other's presentation styles; to develop strategies for dealing with unexpected or difficult situations, e.g. answering questions, technical problems, or audience hostility; and to develop confidence in public speaking. Therefore, it is essential that participants receive not only verbal feedback from the trainer and each other, but also see themselves presenting on video (each student receives a copy of this video on disk to study at home).

Ph.D. Colloquium

Jointly organized by Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg, Dr. Wilfried Mausbach, and Dr. Tobias Endler, the Ph.D. colloquium offers Ph.D. candidates and visiting scholars an opportunity to present and discuss their research in an open, interdisciplinary setting. Participants are encouraged to give feedback and engage in scholarly debates with presenters from various disciplines in the field of American Studies. The participants of the Ph.D. colloquium meet weekly in the winter term and take part in an extended two-day session in the summer term. The Ph.D. colloquium in the winter semester of 2011-12 was directed by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach and Dr. Tobias Endler. It opened with a presentation by Styles Sass (USA) on a segment of his dissertation project titled "Gaining the Nation – Campaign Narratives and Their Use in the 2008 and 2012 Presidential Elections." Julia Lichtenstein, Michael Drescher, Stefanie Weymann (all from Germany), Barbara Kujath (Canada), Juste Simelyte (Lithuania), Axel Kaiser (Chile), Hasan Adwan (Palestine), and Maarten Paulusse (Netherlands), all students of the HCA Ph.D. program, presented their latest research to the HCA community.

HCA Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence Prof. Charles Postel (San Francisco State University) delivered a talk on "The Farmers' Grange: Inventing Modern America," whereas the HCA's Executive Director Wilfried Mausbach gave a speech titled "Nuclear Winter: Bombs, Biospheres, and the 1970s/80s Crisis Decades." In addition, both Fulbright Fellow Prof. Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota) and Prof. Yone Sugita from Osaka University introduced their current research activities to a sizeable and very interested audience.

In June 2012, the Ph.D. colloquium relocated once again to its traditional summer retreat. For the first time, this year's two-day summer workshop took place at the Kurhaus Annweiler/Trifels, a beautifully renovated villa in picturesque Rhineland-Palatinate. In a pleasant and inspiring atmosphere and in the presence of their colleagues and professors, Ph.D. students from the HCA as well as guests from the University's History and English Departments and the TU Kaiserslautern discussed their research projects and received valuable feedback. For the first time, the colloquium also featured a panel on the technical and organizational challenges of writing and finishing a dissertation, with several of the HCA's more advanced Ph.D. students sharing their experience with the audience. On Friday evening, Fulbright Fellow Prof. David Canon (Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison) gave a fascinating talk on various aspects related to the 2012 U.S. presidential election.

PH.D. CANDIDATES



HASAN ADWAN CLASS OF 2013

Hasan Adwan was born in Gaza City, in the Palestinian Territories, in 1985. He studied for the International Baccalaureate in Norway at Red Cross Nordic United World College between 2002 and 2004. In 2005, he was awarded the Davis-UWC scholarship to study at Westminster College in Missouri. He received a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in political science, with emphasis on political philosophy, and American history. After completing his bachelor studies he moved to Germany where he attended the HCA and earned a master degree. Hasan Adwan joined the HCA's Ph.D. program in 2011 and his current research deals primarily with the impact U.S. Foreign Aid has had on Middle East politics; his dissertation working title is "U.S. Foreign Aid and the Decline of the Peace Party." Hasan Adwan is currently working as a student assistant at the HCA, tutoring a course on the government and politics of the United States, where he is teaching American foreign politics and policy.

The elections of 2006 in the Palestinian Territories marked a turning point in contemporary Middle Eastern history. The rise of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, at the cost of the decline of Palestinian Liberation Movement, Fatah, meant that the Middle East peace process reached a deadlock. Hamas' electoral victory and its subsequent takeover of the Gaza Strip drove the region into a more unstable direction. Hasan Adwan's dissertation seeks to develop a better understanding of the relationship between the Palestinian Authority and Fatah on the one hand and the United States on the other. The thesis focuses particularly on U.S. foreign aid to the Palestinian National Authority and how this aid contributed in a number of ways to Fatah's failure in the 2006 parliamentary elections and the party's continuing decline. So far, research has not extensively discussed the role of U.S. foreign aid and how the Palestinian voters' perception of the purpose of this financial assistance led them to rethink their support for Fatah.

Primary supervisors: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker, PD Dr. Martin Thunert, HCA



DEBARCHANA BARUAH

BASF SCHOLARSHIP/CLASS OF 2015

Debarchana Baruah was born in Guwahati in north-east India. In 2005, she moved to Delhi and later completed her B.A. (2008), M.A. (2010), and M.Phil. (2012) in English literature at the Department of English, University of Delhi. Ever since her graduate days she gravitated towards studies in American literature and frequently her papers explored areas of American studies such as the alternative family structure in African-American communities, the "flappers" in the writings of F. Scott Fitzgerald in the 1920s, Gertrude Stein's writings as an insistent modernist form, and a study of iconic photographs of the Vietnam War.

In July 2012, Debarchana submitted her M.Phil dissertation entitled "Elusive Dreams: Suburbia in Post-World War II American Literature." During her M.Phil., she also taught as a guest lecturer in Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi. Some of her areas of interest are consumer culture and representations of modernity, feminist theories and body politics, and ideologies of dissent. She began her doctoral program at the HCA in October 2012, focusing on negotiations of modernity in U.S. post World War II literary and cultural texts. The working title of her dissertation is "Reflections of Modernity: How America Views Its Post World War II Modern Self." Her dissertation will examine the factors that create and circulate the contemporary desire to re-memorialize and return to the period of modernity following World War II. She will analyze the phenomena of the retro boom and its consumption through culture theories and media studies, along with understandings of modernities and their cultural and political contextualizations. In doing so, she will look at American literary texts, ads, sitcoms and movies that activate and re-energize perceptions and attitudes towards a notion of modernity closely associated with the idea of "American-ness." And finally, she wishes to engage with the politics behind the circulation of nostalgic representations of the period following World War II. These representations re-constitute and re-activate the memory of the period and in turn the period in peculiar ways configure and interpret faith and fractures in present America.

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt



THI DIEM NGOC DAO

HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2012

Born in 1984, Thi Diem Ngoc graduated from the College of Foreign Languages, Vietnam National University, in 2006 with a B.A. degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). In the HCA'S MAS program, she chose history, international business culture, and political science as her major. With her M.A. thesis about "Moving on to a Common Ground: Vietnam-U.S. Normalization of Relations, 1990-1997" she qualified for the HCA's Ph.D. program.

Her project focuses on the main themes of Vietnam-U.S. relations in the late 20th century from historical and political perspectives. After the Vietnam War, the "continuation of war by other means" among American people and policymakers to codify the meaning of the war and cope with its legacy seemingly made normal relations between two countries a remote possibility. The freeze of Vietnam-U.S. relations dragged on, despite early efforts to improve relations and remove the U.S. economic sanctions on Vietnam. It was only in 1995 that President Clinton established normal diplomatic relations with Vietnam. Preceded by the lifting of the U.S. trade embargo on Vietnam in 1993, establishing diplomatic relations was a critical move to thaw relations between the two countries. There has been a wealth of literature on the Vietnam War; however, little has been done to shed light on how the U.S. and Vietnam have come to achieve reconciliation and "move on to common ground." Therefore, the project is intended to explore the complexities of the normalization process as well as to specify the most important factors contributing to normalized relations in the 1990s. Thi Diem draws on the following points in her research: 1) the significance of the prisoners of war and missing-in-action (POW/MIA) resolution in the Vietnamese and U.S. political contexts 2) the weight of mutual economic and security interests in moving towards normalization of relations, and 3) state and non-state actors' roles in the establishment of normal relations. Hopefully, the significance of this project will illustrate a turning point in Vietnam-U.S. relations against a haunting past of war memories and ideological conflicts.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg



MARIA DIACONU

HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2011

Maria Diaconu received her B.A. from the University of Bucharest, Romania, majoring in English and minoring in American studies, with a B.A. thesis concerned with the Beat Generation writers and the American avant-garde movements. She completed an M.A. degree in American Studies at Heidelberg University with her thesis "Narrating Memory: A comparative study of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*." At the moment, she is in the process of finishing her dissertation that deals with the post 9/11 novel. She has also worked as a tutor for American literature within the HCA's M.A. program.

Her dissertation "The Literature of Trauma: Perspectives on 9/11" explores the various literary responses to September 11, including references to 9/11 poetry, film, art, and popular culture. In the aftermath of September 11, many voices pronounced irony and postmodernist playfulness dead and hailed a return of the real. Are we witnessing a turning point in American culture and literature, "a return of the real," as some critics seem to suggest, or are these new literary works simply using 9/11 as a background for re-enacting the same major themes of pre-9/11 literature? This is the main question that the dissertation intends to tackle by offering an overview of the major 9/11 literary works, which Diaconu has divided into three categories that often overlap and that serve as the basis for a more comprehensive analysis. Due to the complexity and the wide variety of literary responses to the event, Diaconu's methodology encompasses an extensive array of recent cultural studies' theories ranging from literary trauma theory and transnationalism to the representation of terrorism. While never losing sight of the differences between the approaches of the works it deals with, the dissertation attempts to offer a unitary perspective on the subject.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



MICHAEL RODEGANG DRESCHER

GERMAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC FOUNDATION/ CLASS OF 2014

Michael R. Drescher was born in Kassel, Germany, in 1985. He studied English philology, political science and law at Heidelberg University and received his Magister degree with honors in 2011. Michael Drescher is a doctoral stipendiary of the German National Academic Foundation focusing on political dissent in American and German literature. Among others, his academic interests are the study of resistance and dissent, the representation of democratic processes in literature, the development of human rights and modern political theory. During his studies, he worked as tutor and served as student representative for the English department. In 2010 and 2012, he assisted in organizing MESEA's conferences in Hungary and Spain. Michael works as lecturer for American culture and language at Heidelberg University and as trainer for intercultural communication at BASF, Ludwigshafen.

Michael Drescher's dissertation project "Poets of Protest – The Representation of Dissent in American Antebellum and German Vormärz Literature" endeavors to analyze and describe the representations of dissent in American and German literature before and during the revolutionary periods in the middle of the nineteenth century. It employs a hermeneutic and comparative method, focusing on image, function and evaluation of dissent as depicted in given national literatures. Furthermore, it searches for intertextual links, sources and common elements, which inform the representations. By uniting a literary method with theories of political process, this project strives to be a contribution to the field of American literature as well as to democratic theory. Its results are meant to inform a transatlantic and political approach towards literature and its implications for trans-cultural protest studies between Europe and North America.

Primary Supervisor: Prof Dr. Günter Leypoldt



RAYMOND EBERLING

CLASS OF 2010

Raymond Eberling is a retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel who spent the majority of his career as a KC-135 (aerial refueling tanker) navigator. He has had tours of duty at the Pentagon; the U.S. Special Operations Command; and at Headquarters, United States Air Forces Europe. While pursuing his Ph.D., Ray taught courses in Television and American Life and The Military and American Society for Eckerd College's (St. Petersburg, Florida) American Studies program. He was also the 2010 Visiting Scholar for the University of Florida's Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. Ray holds a B.A. in education from the University of Florida, an M.S. in systems management from the University of Southern California, and a B.A. with distinction in creative writing from Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida. In 2006 he received his M.A. in American Studies at Heidelberg.

Raymond Eberling's dissertation "Come on Down! The Selling of the Florida Dream, 1945-1965" explores how the state of Florida promoted itself during the twenty-year post-World War II period when it grew at a rate more than three times that of the United States as a whole. With the largest advertising budget of any state at the time, Florida reinvented itself in the following twenty years, not only to attract more tourists but permanent settlers and clean industry as well. Through cooperative advertising with airlines, railroads, and bus lines, as well as the state's tourism and citrus industries, the Florida government exploited the already-familiar stereotypes of sunshine, palm trees, beaches, oranges, and eternal youth to form a standard "look" to its advertising, an image commonly known as "The Florida Dream." Through meeting minutes, annual reports, archival newspaper and magazine advertising, and especially the over one thousand promotional films of the period available at the Florida State Archives, Raymond Eberling analyzes the various advertising campaigns and how they evolved during the twenty year period. In addition, the project utilizes oral histories, including those archived at the University of Florida and those Eberling conducted on his own with political figures, industry executives, and television producers of the period.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg



MELANIE GISH

CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2011

Melanie Gish graduated from the University of Mannheim with a B.A. in German and geography in 2003, and from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, with an M.A. in German in 2004. At Waterloo, she focused on cultural studies and questions of intertextuality and worked as a research assistant in the linguistics department. From 2005 until 2007, Melanie lived in Tennessee and Colorado and held several non-academic jobs. In 2007 she received the HCA Director's Fellowship to participate in the MAS program. Melanie is a member of the Ph.D. Class of 2011 and her dissertation "Caught in the Middle? - Creation Care Activism and the Intersection of Contemporary American Evangelicalism and Environmentalism" explores the organizational and ideological space evangelical environmentalists occupy in the contemporary United States.

Evangelical environmentalism – or creation care – is a fairly recent religio-political phenomenon in the U.S. that has not been assessed comprehensively yet. Most of the evangelical non-profits currently active in the realm of creation care were founded in the past three to ten years, and there are only a few academic publications on the evangelical environmental movement specifically. The central research question – What is going on here? – has not been engaged extensively with regard to the creation care movement, its relationship to mainstream environmentalism, and the opposition towards it from within the larger evangelical community. Hence, the primary goal of Melanie Gish's thesis is an investigation of the organizational and discursive/ideological foundations of organized creation care, as well as its historical, cultural, and political contextualization with the overarching aim to paint a holistic yet nuanced portrait of this movement and to better understand its position/ing on the "battlefield map" of the culture wars. While pursuing this primarily hermeneutic task, her thesis adds sociologically relevant knowledge to the literature on American evangelicalism, environmentalism, and citizen "lobbying." The core of Melanie Gish's data are qualitative interviews with creation care movement leaders conducted during an extensive research trip to the U.S. in 2010.

Primary supervisors: Prof. Dr. Günter Leyboldt, PD Dr. Martin Thunert



IRIS HAHN-SANTORO

CLASS OF 2010

Iris Hahn-Santoro received her M.A. in linguistics, Scandinavian studies and philosophy from the University of Cologne in 2002. She wrote her thesis on anglicisms and neologisms in contemporary Icelandic, focusing on computer terminology. As part of her research, she spent a year at the University of Iceland as the recipient of scholarships from the German-Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Icelandic Ministry of Culture and Education. After receiving her M.A., Iris Hahn-Santoro served as a research assistant in the Arctic Studies Center at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

Iris Hahn-Santoro's dissertation examines the sociolinguistic factors that play major roles in Native American language revitalization efforts. She spent several months in the United States last year conducting her field research with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in Michigan. Utilizing a multimethodological approach consisting of participant observation, questionnaires and interviews, she will identify the different sociolinguistic factors that influence the tribal members' decisions on whether or not to participate in language revitalization efforts. She will also take different levels of language setting into consideration, e.g. domestic vs. public use. This is a particularly contested area in this case study since although the Ojibwe language is considered extinct in this region, an immersion school has been established for tribal members. This bottom-up process is a reversal of the more common top-down language death process, which typically takes place in public settings first and survives in the domestic domain.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Joern Albrecht



HEIKE JABLONSKI

HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2015

Heike Jablonski was born in Giessen, Germany. After graduating from high school, she volunteered at a retreat facility for a year, working in the kitchen and preparing guest rooms. She studied English and American literature, history, and politics, as well as business studies and economics at the Universities of Passau and Kassel. In 2008-09, Heike was an exchange student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where she also wrote her B.A. thesis. In 2010 she spent a few months working at the German Consulate General in San Francisco. She was awarded her M.A. degree in English and American Studies at the University of Kassel in 2012 after having completed a thesis on Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon stories. Her research interests include the intersections of literature and religion, the portrayal of history in fiction, and the literature of the Midwest. Heike is also a freelance translator and a bike mechanic.



AXEL KAISER

FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION/ CLASS OF 2014

Axel Kaiser was born in Santiago de Chile in 1981. He is a lawyer with a master's degree in international law from Heidelberg University. From 2007 to 2009 he worked as a business lawyer and as legislative adviser to a Chilean senator. In 2008, he started writing for the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C. and in 2009 he became professor of Latin-American politics and political philosophy at two universities in Chile. Since 2005 he is an opinion columnist of the Chilean financial newspaper "Diario Financiero" in Chile. In 2011 he obtained the degree of Master of Arts in American Studies from the HCA.

In the 1970s and 1980s Chile conducted a complete overhaul of its economic system. It was a free market revolution led by a group of young economists trained in the United States, mainly at the University of Chicago. These reforms had influence beyond Chilean borders, setting the stage for economic reforms in other countries. Until now the discussion over the Chilean free market revolution has focused on its technical aspects. There has been little research on its philosophical foundations, that is to say, on the ideas which were behind the economic reforms. In his dissertation project "Jose Piñera and the American Philosophical Foundations of the Chilean Free Market Revolution" Axel Kaiser will focus on the work of one particular reformer, Jose Piñera, who was one of the central actors of the free market revolution. Kaiser will explore the American libertarian philosophy, including the Founding Fathers and others that inspired Piñera's work shaping the new economic system in Chile.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Katja Patzel-Mattern



EVA-MARIA KIEFER

KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION/ CLASS OF 2013

Eva-Maria Kiefer received her Magister degree in American Studies, psychology, and political science from Bonn University. In 2007, she spent a year at the University of Pennsylvania on a scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), where she gained expertise in political science and wrote an independent study on power shifts in the U.S. government. During her academic studies, she completed internships at the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Institute for International and Foreign Affairs. In November 2009, she wrote her Magister thesis about the “imperial” Bush presidency. In October 2010, Eva-Maria Kiefer joined the HCA as a Ph.D. student. In the winter term 2012-13, she teaches a class on the U.S. Government.

Eva-Maria Kiefer’s research focuses on how fear and threat shaped U.S. congressional behavior in the years after 9/11. She argues that the threat after 9/11 was multidimensional. The dissertation will include a case study of laws from the realm of homeland and national security and aspires to explain when different threat mechanisms had an influence on congressional activity. The working title of her Ph.D. thesis is: “U.S. Government in Times of Crisis: How Securitization shaped Congressional Behavior after 9/11.”

She presented at the HCA’s Spring Academy in March 2012 and discussed parts of her results at the Fifth International Conference of the Graduate School for North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, in May 2012.

Primary supervisors: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Harnisch, PD Dr. Martin Thunert



BARBARA KUJATH

CLASS OF 2011

Born in 1979 in Calgary, Canada, Barbara Kujath studied German as a foreign language, philology and English philology with a focus on literature at Heidelberg University. She earned an M.A. in English philology in 2007. She worked as an assistant lecturer in the English Department at Heidelberg University from 2007 until 2009.

Barbara Kujath's Ph.D. project is entitled "The Emergence of a New Concern with and Understanding of Violence in American Culture of the 1960s and 1970s." The 1960s and 1970s in America were decades of change on many levels and saw the advent of scientific and cultural discourse on the subject of violence. Barbara Kujath's project deals with the role played by both serious and popular literature of the 1960s and 70s in shaping American cultural perceptions and attitudes toward violence and in particular toward violent crime. Some of the more central novels that will be analyzed include *The Executioner's Song* by Norman Mailer as well as Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*; *The Family* by Ed Sanders, *Helter Skelter* by Vincent Bugliosi as well as Robert Bloch's *Psycho*.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



JULIA KRISTINA LICHTENSTEIN

CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2012

Julia Kristina Lichtenstein studied at the J.W. Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main where she received her B.A and M.A in American Studies, political science, and law in 2008. During her studies she was awarded a DAAD internship scholarship and was nominated for the best M.A thesis of the American Studies Department at Frankfurt University. In October 2009 Julia Lichtenstein joined the HCA's Ph.D. program, receiving the Curt Engelhorn Ph.D. scholarship.

Julia Lichtenstein's dissertation with the working title "Inner and Outer Space: Literary Negotiations of Southern Identity in Postsouthern Times" investigates how contemporary Southern authors Barry Hannah, Larry Brown, and Harry Crews create and perpetuate a distinctive Southern literary space she calls the *Ultra South*. At first glance contemporary Southern storytelling still reproduces and perpetuates traditional literary Southern tropes, but a closer investigation reveals their alienating role as empty signifiers. The equivalents of the Southern Gothic rotting mansion are in today's suburbs or trailer parks, residences with bad substance built with dirty or loaned money. William Faulkner's history-ridden cast is distortedly mirrored in Hannah's catfish-frying, cheap porn-bootlegging country folks, who sneer at mainstream America, or in Brown's white trash who term Oxford, Miss., "up north," and ironically have never heard about the Civil War. In the works investigated, Julia Lichtenstein argues, the readers are lured into the Ultra South by familiar markers and known defining features just to find themselves surrounded by surprisingly unfamiliar territory, but a territory still well-defined and with sometimes still seemingly impenetrable borders.

Within the portrayed version of the South a space Julia Lichtenstein calls the inner space is constituted by cultural practices and brings forth the imagined region. A strong and resilient regional identity is constituted and communicated, both in the protagonists and in the reader, and embedded in the outer space of the United States as a whole.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt



JIawei MAO

HCA PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTED BY THE LANDESGRADUIERTENFÖRDERUNG/CLASS OF 2010

Born in 1983 in Ningbo, China, Jiawei Mao received his B.A. in English and international relations from the China Foreign Affairs University in 2006. He received the "Best Speaker Award" at the FLTRP Cup National English Debating Competition in 2005 and attended the English Speaking Union's International Relations Conference at Oriol College at Oxford University in 2006, representing China. He was also a participant in the Harvard Model United Nations Conference in 2006. Mao worked as a journalist with the *New Beijing Daily* in 2004 and 2005 and as a freelance writer and translator. His Chinese translation of Jane Austin's novel *Sense and Sensibility* was published by the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press in Beijing. Jiawei Mao entered the HCA's MAS program in 2006 as recipient of the LBBW Scholarship 2006-07, majoring in law, history, and international business culture. In 2007, he earned his M.A. with a thesis entitled "Honeymoon Turned Nightmare: Why the Neoconservative U.S. Foreign Policy Is Doomed to Fail."

Mao is currently working on his dissertation entitled "Chronicle of a Long March Retold: A Political-Economic Analysis of the Sino-U.S. Negotiations on China's Resumption of the GATT Contracting Party Status and Its Accession to the World Trade Organization," which aims at integrating political science and economic history in the context of trade relations between today's largest economy and that with the potential to be tomorrow's. By studying the dramatic institutional change in the world trade regime over the 1990s and its far-reaching impact on the shifting principles, patterns, and priorities of the two countries' trade policies, he attempts to analyze the causal links between seemingly independent issues. Mao has conducted interviews with members of both Chinese and American delegations at various stages of the negotiation and has done archival research at various Chinese institutions. Having presented his project at HCA's annual Ph.D. Colloquium in Oberfloekenbach and Weinheim in 2008 and 2009 respectively, Mao also presented part of his work at the 2010 World Trade Organization Public Forum in Geneva.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Detlef Junker



HANNES NAGL

CLASS OF 2012

Hannes Nagl studied English literature and political science at Heidelberg University. After graduating in 2009, he joined the HCA's Ph.D. program working on a thesis on "Figurations of Violence: Contemporary American Fiction and the Sociology of Modernization." Between August 2010 and July 2011 he worked as a research assistant at the English Department as part of the research project "Violence and the Hidden Constraints of Democracy: A New Civilization Studies Approach to American Literature and Culture." At the HCA he is responsible for the institute's website and teaches American literature and culture.

In his thesis, Hannes will analyze different contemporary American novels which are notorious for their depictions of violence. He will especially focus on the following questions: What motivates the fascination with violence in contemporary American literature? How do these representations of violence square with the notion of a "pacified" and "civilized" society? The basic assumption that underlies the project is that such novels offer not only entertainment and thrill but can be read as socio-analytical novels, which present a quasi-sociological analysis of the role violence plays in postmodern American society. From this perspective, the main aim of the thesis will be to make these socio-analytical and, to a certain extent, socio-critical aspects of contemporary "novels of violence" transparent. This thesis will draw on rather uncommon theoretical sources: Besides more recent sociological research on violence, it will use Norbert Elias' "theory of civilization" and other sociological theories of modernization as a theoretical background for the interpretations of the novels. From an Eliasian perspective, the literary and cultural fascination with violence and the reality of "pacified" modern societies are not contradictory, but rather complementary facts. Beyond the individual "worlds" of the novels, the Eliasian approach will thus also help to shed new light on the various restraints and self-restraints that establish social discipline and peaceful cooperation in "civilized" Western societies as well as on the cultural role of real and imaginary violence in this context.

Primary Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



MAARTEN PAULUSSE

CLASS OF 2013

Maarten Paulusse was born in 1984 in the town of Hilversum in The Netherlands. He received his bachelor's degree in history at Utrecht University in 2007. In 2009 he completed his master's degree in American Studies at the same university with a thesis on the appeal of the Bush administration to the "apocalyptic climate" in the United States from 2001 to 2004. During his studies at Utrecht University he did an internship with the U.S. correspondent of the leading Dutch current affairs television program *Nova* in New York City, and undertook several other ventures into journalism. In the summers of 2010 and 2011 Maarten Paulusse taught two courses on Dutch history and culture at the Summer School of Utrecht University to international students at the bachelor level. He also served as a coordinator of several other Summer School courses offered by the Department of History.

The study with the working title "Politically Engaged Spirituality in the American Public Sphere" will explore the ways in which politicized forms of "new spirituality" are having an impact on the American public sphere. In this way the project aims to make a contribution to the contemporary debate on the role of religion in American politics. In this far from settled debate among historians, political scientists, sociologists, theologians, and other analysts of public life in the United States, the focus in the past two decades has been on the "Christian Right" and the "Babyboom" cohort. In this research the matter will primarily be explored from the angle of the movement of "Spiritual Progressives," sometimes referred to as the "Religious Left," which includes the "spiritual but not religious." The interaction between this movement and the "Millennial Generation," which is emerging as the most influential political force in the United States, will be explored as well.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Inken Prohl



STYLES SASS

CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/ CLASS OF 2014

Styles Sass received his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Iowa. After teaching in the Basque country of Northern Spain, he moved to Germany, where he was awarded several writing fellowships and published a collection of poetry and prose pieces titled *More Than These Few Days*. For his master's degree in American Studies at Heidelberg University, he wrote on the intersection of literature and politics in presidential campaign narratives. He lives in Stuttgart where he works as a writer, editor, and teacher.

In his interdisciplinary dissertation project "Swaying the Nation: Campaign Narratives in the 2008 and 2012 Presidential Elections," Styles Sass will begin with a discussion of what narratives are and why they are important in the political arena. After delineating both the Democratic and Republican campaign narratives from 2008, he will do the same for those of the 2012 race. In comparing and cross-comparing these two sets of narratives, Sass will focus on how the narratives from 2008 both maintained a necessary consistency while, at the same time, they were adapted to fit the new environment in which the 2012 election took place. Finally, he will look at what these campaign narratives have to say about the current landscape of American political sentiment.

Primary Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



MARLEEN SCHULTE

CLASS OF 2012

Marleen Schulte earned her Magister degree with honors in European and bilingual education from the University of Education Freiburg. There she also completed a certification as writing consultant and subsequently worked at the college's writing center consulting students in creative and academic writing as well as offering workshops. While earning her degree, she completed internships at renowned international schools in China, the UK, and the USA. Schulte was a Socrates/ERASMUS stipendiary representing Germany at the 2005 international education conference in Madrid, "Borders, Mobilities, Identities: European Educational Action." She helped her university host the event the following year. She was also an honor student at Utah Valley University as well as at the University of Michigan. At Michigan she participated in the New England Literature Program (NELP). The program provided her with a comprehensive understanding of New England's literary tradition through experiential learning directly within and about the region's landscape and culture.

Marleen Schulte's dissertation, "White Trash on Puritan Soil: Constructing the North East Through its Contemporary Realist Fiction" analyzes the works of Richard Russo, Elizabeth Strout, Cathy Pelletier, Carolyn Chute, and Ernest Hebert. She studies the sense of place and a shift in the region's perceived borders. Further, she analyzes how certain puritan and transcendental ideals, such as self-reliance, are prevalent still, whereas the perception and depiction of other concepts, for example social decline, have drastically changed.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt



JUSTE ŠIMELYTE

HCA PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTED BY THE LANDESGRADUI-ERTENFÖRDERUNG/CLASS OF 2011

Juste Šimelyte studied law at the University of Vilnius (Lithuania) where she specialized in commercial law. In 2007, she received her master's degree in law. In Lithuania, she also worked as a legal consultant in the Law Clinic of Vilnius University where she offered pro bono legal advice. In October 2007, she began her studies at the HCA, majoring in law, political science and international business cultures. In 2008, Juste Šimelyte received her M.A. in American Studies with a thesis entitled "Cultural Globalization: 'Made in the USA' or 'Made in Europe'?"

Currently Juste Šimelyte is working on her thesis "Americanization and Europeanization: Two Forms of Cultural Globalization in Lithuania." Her thesis deals with social processes of the last twenty years in Lithuania, which has undergone dramatic changes in the political, economic, and cultural realm. After regaining its independence, Lithuania had to build new state institutions, create national laws, and determine new political and economic as well as cultural strategies. In 2004 Lithuania became a member of NATO and the European Union. The accession to the single European market and the free movement of goods, capital, and people facilitated transnational cultural contacts that brought new possibilities and challenges for Lithuanian culture. This empirical study focuses on the changes that occurred in Lithuania since 1990s (after it became independent from the Soviet Union) and refers to the research areas that can be summarized in such key-words as space and place, identity, consumption, and cultural values. From the perspective of Americanization and Europeanization this thesis analyses the transformation of Lithuanian cultural places and spaces, the building of a new identity, the perception of European values as "imposed from above," the consumption of popular culture, western artefacts and (N)ostalgia remaining in a post-communist Lithuania. The thesis reveals the perception of Americanization and Europeanization as well as the relationship between these two multidimensional processes.

Primary Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Detlef Junker, PD Dr. Martin Thunert



ERHAN SIMSEK

CLASS OF 2013

Born in Ankara, Turkey, Erhan Simsek received his B.A in English language teaching from Middle East Technical University with a minor degree in European Studies. Following that, in 2009, he received his M.A from the HCA, writing his M.A thesis on American literature. After his M.A., he continued his studies at the Free University of Berlin. In 2010 Simsek came back to Heidelberg, this time as a Ph.D. student at the HCA. The working title of his dissertation is "Changing Images of Business and Businessmen in American Fiction and Social Thought, 1880-1929."

Erhan Simsek's dissertation analyzes the changes in the image of businessmen from 1880 to 1929 by looking at the relationship between fiction and social thought of the period. Although business was one of the important components of American society, the novels concerned mainly with business and businessmen appeared only with the rise of realism in the late nineteenth century. Some of the novels he intends to analyze are *The Rise of Silas Lapham* by William Dean Howells, *The Financier* by Theodore Dreiser, and *Babbitt* by Sinclair Lewis. In this period, both business novels and social thought flourished, analyzing the economic processes in society. Simsek intends to explore mainly William Graham Sumner and Thorstein Veblen and locate business and businessmen in their social theories. His research aims to answer and raise further debates about the following questions: How does the image of business and businessmen change in fiction and social thought of the period? How do the fiction and social thought on business interact throughout the period? What is the relationship between social prominence and wealth in the works of thinkers and selected novels?

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



STEPHEN URICH

CLASS OF 2012

Stephen Urich grew up in the Washington, D.C., area. He graduated from St. John's College with a bachelor in liberal arts. He then began working as an analyst on several projects for United States governmental agencies such as The United States Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. During this period he earned an MBA at Virginia Tech. Later while working in Brussels, he graduated magna cum laude from the Centre Européen de Recherches Internationales et Stratégiques with a master's degree in international politics. His thesis explored the state of North American integration. Since finishing that program he has worked at United States European Command in Stuttgart.

Urich's dissertation titled "Delegation of Power as a Political Tool of the United States Congress" intends to explore the United States Congress' delegation of authority and decision-making power to the executive branch of the government.

Primary supervisor: PD Dr. Martin Thunert



STEFANIE WEYMANN-TESCHKE

CLASS OF 2012

Stefanie Weymann-Teschke studied English and American Studies as well as modern German literature at the University of Freiburg, where she graduated in 2006 with a B.A. In 2007, she continued her studies at King's College London as a student of English. Stefanie completed her M.A. degree in 2008 with a thesis on memory and oblivion in Samuel Beckett's *Molloy*, *Malone Dies* and *The Unnamable* before joining the HCA in 2009 with a dissertation project tentatively entitled "Performing Space: The City in Contemporary American Literature."

Although largely considered an illegible text, the city in postmodern literature is still read by many as a metaphor or symbol that distinctly informs the narrative. The present project moves away from this interpretation and focuses instead on the various modes of producing post-modern urban space in literature. Taking as a vantage point the diverse ways in which fictional characters experience urban space through the senses – seeing, hearing, smelling and touching the city – the dissertation approaches the city in literature above all as the product of the spatial practices of its inhabitants. The city thus practiced is then not only a text, but also the result of a performative enactment: a performance of fictional space. How, then, do contemporary writers practice the city? What do these cities look like? Why are spatial practices so important for an understanding of urban space in literature as well as everyday life? To answer these questions, this project brings together sociological theories of urban space and the fictional cities of writers such as Don DeLillo, E. L. Doctorow, Siri Hustvedt, Jonathan Lethem, and John Wray, among others.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

COMPLETED PH.D.s



ANJA MILDE

HCA PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTED BY THE BASF GROUP/ CLASS OF 2011

Anja Milde received her B.A. in philology and communication science in 2003 from the University of Erfurt. In the same year she started studying at Heidelberg University, majoring in history and art history. Before joining the HCA's Master program in 2007, she spent a year on a Fulbright scholarship at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., where she majored in American Studies and after which she interned at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. During her studies, she specialized in American history, politics, and constitutional law with a particular focus on social movements. In 2009-10, Anja Milde spent seven months in the U.S. researching her dissertation on the linkages between the civil and gay rights movements and conducting a series of interviews with leading figures of both movements as well as politicians and intellectuals. In fall 2007, Anja Milde started to work at the HCA as a public relations assistant and tutor for American history. In March 2010, she took on the position of Spring Academy coordinator. She also taught the BAS history tutorial in the winter semesters of 2010-11 and 2011-12. In July 2012, she successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis titled "'Liberal Oases in Conservative Hell': Blacks, Gays, and the Struggle for Equality." This dissertation focuses on the interface between the African-American Civil Rights Movement and the Homosexual Rights Movement in the United States.

The author argues that the organizations and activists of the Civil Rights Movement paved the way for the gay liberation movement in the late 1960s and indeed provided the framework in which gays would structure their advocacy for sexuality-based civil rights.

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg



CRISTINA STANCA-MUSTEA
HCA PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLAR-
SHIP SUPPORTED BY THE BASF GROUP/
CLASS OF 2009

Cristina Stanca-Mustea studied at the universities of Bucharest, Vienna and Heidelberg and specialized in film and media studies. In 2006, she received her M.A. in American Studies from Heidelberg University being enrolled in the second year of the MAS program. She majored in literature, religious studies, and law. Afterwards, she started working on her Ph.D. thesis titled "Carl Laemmle, the Forgotten Movie Mogul." This study focuses on the life of the German-Jewish immigrant Carl Laemmle, who founded Universal Pictures, the oldest still existing U.S. film studio. Due to his work and legacy Laemmle can also be considered as the founder of film as a form of entertainment. Cristina Stanca Mustea successfully defended her dissertation in July 2012. The publication is in preparation. Currently she is working at UNESCO in the field of cultural management.

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert, University of Augsburg

AWARDING OF THE ROLF KENTNER DISSERTATION PRIZE

Since 2006, when the HCA established its Ph.D. in American Studies program, more than two dozen aspiring scholars from 13 different countries have decided to pursue their doctorate in this field at Germany's oldest university. On November 15, in front of a big audience in the HCA's Atrium, another two young scholars, representing the Ph.D. Class of 2015, officially started their doctoral training: Debarchana Baruah from India and Heike Jablonski from Germany. In his welcome remarks, Prof. Dr. Detlef Junker introduced both of them as well as the new MAS Class of 2014, drawing a big round of applause. Prof. Junker also congratulated two successful Ph.D. candidates – Anja Milde (Germany) and Cristina Stanca Mustea (Romania) – on completing their dissertations; both started working at prestigious institutions almost immediately after leaving the HCA: Anja Milde is with the Technoseum-Landesmuseum für Technik und Arbeit in Mannheim, whereas Cristina Stanca Mustea works at UNESCO in Paris.

Prof. Junker then provided a brief sketch of how the HCA's Ph.D. program has evolved from a small group of ambitious researchers to one of Germany's most international and interdisciplinary doctoral programs that attracts students worldwide. The main part of the evening, however, was reserved for the awarding of the Rolf Kentner Prize. Sponsored by one of the HCA's most active benefactors, Rolf Kentner, chairman of the Schurman Foundation, the award recognizes an outstanding and yet unpublished dissertation in the field of American Studies completed at a German university. This year's recipient was Dr. Leonard Schmieding from the Department of History at the University of Leipzig, currently a Fulbright Fellow at Stanford University. After a short introduction by Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg, Leonard Schmieding came to the lectern to deliver his keynote address "Hip-Hop Under Honecker: 'This Is Our Party!'" The audience had already been brought into the mood with an impressive Hip-Hop dance performance by the AlphaBeats, a young all-ladies group from the Haus der Jugend in Heidelberg. Excerpting from his prize-winning dissertation, Schmieding then presented some of the key arguments of his work which looks at the enthusiasm that developed for Hip-Hop music and dancing in the former GDR. Schmieding



Cristina Stanca Mustea (l.) and Anja Milde (m.) receive their certificates from the HCA's founding director, Prof. Detlef Junker



The AlphaBeats on stage



Prof. Manfred Berg congratulates this year's recipient of the Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize, Leonard Schmieding

started his talk with a short excerpt from the 1984 movie *Beat Street*, which introduced hip-hop culture to audiences in the GDR, turning Leipzig, Berlin, and Dessau, among other cities, into strongholds of East-German Hip-Hop. In his analysis of this teenage fascination with American popular culture in East German socialism, Schmieding argued that many hip-hop practitioners in fact “became Black”: They appropriated cultural forms encoded as “Black” since for them they had become powerful symbols of rebellion and “being different.” Instructive, entertaining, and provocative, Schmieding’s talk garnered much applause and sparked a lively discussion.

The evening ended with a reception in the HCA's Bel Etage, where the prize-winner, the benefactor, and a large audience continued their discussion.

HCA RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context

This multidisciplinary and multinational research project (current members hail from the United States, The Netherlands, Poland, Italy, and Germany) explores the Transcultural Atlantic as a realm of cross cultural interaction from the period of the late eighteenth-century Atlantic revolutions to the end of the Cold War and beyond. More precisely, it investigates various processes of transatlantic networking, community-building, and dissent in the realms of business, academia, the media, popular culture, government, law, and the military. The project sheds new light on the men and women who shaped cultures of transatlantic exchange and cooperation; on the transfer and adaptation of ideas and values across the Atlantic; and on the changing nature of the Atlantic space in an increasingly globalized world. Taking up this approach not only allows us to resituate discourses about the “West” within a larger global framework; at the same time, it will place a greater and necessary emphasis on the contingent, pluralist, and protean nature of transatlantic cultures itself. Because it considers the making of the Atlantic world over a broad span of time, the project will trace changes in the culture of different, sometimes competing communities in the Atlantic realm – to highlight continuities and ruptures; to show the effects of increased flows of goods, services, information, ideas, and identities; and to reassess the impact of major historical developments across the centuries.

Our research endeavor is a cross-disciplinary undertaking, combining the insights of political science, history, cultural studies, literature, and geography. We do not treat culture, society or politics in a vacuum but examine how they influenced each other through ideas, institutions, and practices. Transnational communities have never been crafted solely and primarily by statesmen and diplomats. Rather, we hypothesize that they grow out of socially constructed values, customs, and symbols as well as the ways in which these were disseminated, interpreted, and adapted in the Atlantic world. To examine these culture flows, our project rejects the traditional notion of cultures as holistic entities and embraces a more recent definition that conceives of cultures as highly interdependent and permeable. Transculturality emphasizes the plurality of existing societal designs and ways of life in the Atlantic realm, highlighting their transnational contours.

The most important project activity in 2011-2012 were the ERP workshops “From Pentagon Papers to WikiLeaks: A Transatlantic Conversation on the Public’s Right to Know,” held at the HCA from May 10-12, 2012 and “Lessons from the North Atlantic Financial and Economic Crisis,” held at the HCA from December 13 to 15.

The overall project, organized around a series of workshops, is funded by the Transatlantic Program of the Federal Republic of Germany with funds from the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and the Global Networks Program of Heidelberg University. The last conference of this series, titled “Lessons from the North Atlantic Financial and Economic Crisis,” takes place at the HCA on December 13-15, 2012.

African-American History: National and Transnational Vistas

In 2008, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies joined a research initiative with the German Historical Institute, Washington D.C. and Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY) on "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany." Initiated by Professors Maria Höhn (Vassar) and Martin Klimke (New York University/Abu Dhabi), this research project and digital archive (www.aacvr-germany.org) explores the connection between the establishment of American military bases abroad and the advancement of civil rights in the United States. It investigates the role African American GIs played in carrying the demands of the civil rights movement abroad beginning with World War II.

In July 2009, the project was awarded the Julius E. Williams Distinguished Community Service Award by the prestigious civil rights organization NAACP (the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) at its Centennial Convention in New York City. As the NAACP explained: "By giving voice to their experience and to that of the people who interacted with them over civil rights demands and racial discrimination on both sides of the Atlantic, Höhn and Klimke are preserving and expanding the history of the African American civil rights movement beyond the boundaries of the U.S."

As part of this research initiative, an exhibition on "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany," including more than 50 black and white photographs as well as other exhibition samples, is currently shown in both Germany and the United States. By illustrating the untold story of African American GIs and the transnational implications of the civil rights movement, the exhibit aims at advancing a more nuanced and sophisticated sense of how America's struggle for democracy reverberated across the globe.

The exhibition has already been shown in Ramstein, Berlin, Munich, Mainz, Augsburg, Tübingen, Hamburg, and Heidelberg as well as in Washington, D.C., Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Berkeley, Calif., Oxford, Miss., San Francisco, Athens, Ga., Chapel Hill, N.C., and London, among others. The accompanying book *A Breath of Freedom: The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany* by Maria Höhn and Martin Klimke was published by Palgrave Macmillan in October 2010.

For further information on the project, the digital archive and the exhibition, please visit:

www.aacvr-germany.org; for further information on the project's publication, please see:

www.breathoffreedom.org.

The Nuclear Crisis: Cold War Cultures and the Politics of Peace and Security 1975-1990

On December 12, 1979, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) implemented the so-called Double-Track Decision: In case arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union failed, the West would station intermediate nuclear forces to provide a counterweight to the new Soviet SS-20 missiles. This momentous decision, alongside the almost simultaneous Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, directly affected international politics as well as domestic developments in Europe and North America. The world moved from an era of reduced tension to a newly heightened East-West confrontation during the "Second Cold War." East-West tensions and the threat of nuclear war provoked sustained political protest. This was further augmented by domestic political turmoil, which in Western societies was heightened by the arrival of a new brand of Western leaders such as Margaret Thatcher, Ronald Reagan, and Helmut Kohl. The early 1980s thus saw the biggest protest mobilization of the Cold War. This research project seeks to establish a transnational history of this "Nuclear Crisis," which engulfed both Western Europe and North America, yet transcended the European and global East/West divide as well. The "Nuclear Crisis" explores this discourse from three distinct but interrelated angles:

(1) It looks at the diplomatic, political, and strategic debate surrounding the nuclear armament issue. Only recently have historians started to look at this most salient political issue of the 1970s and 1980s. "Traditional" actors such as the political, diplomatic, and military elites carried this debate forward. Yet "anti-establishment" forces as well as other domestic and transnational actors, such as the churches and intellectuals, were equally important.

(2) By merging an "establishment" perspective with an analysis of protest cultures, this project aims to transcend the narrow boundaries of traditional diplomatic history: It seeks to bring non-state actors, intellectual discourses, and the role of culture into the study of international relations. It also looks at manifestations of "nuclear" death in popular culture, as well as in "high art," including—but not limited to—music, film, and novels.

(3) The project transcends the traditional East/West divide in postwar European history in a number of ways: it explores the "nuclear crisis" on both sides of the Iron Curtain; it looks at the connections between establishment and anti-establishment forces across national borders; it places them in a transatlantic and pan-European setting (one that is potentially global, given the impact of nuclear testing in the South Pacific); and it asks how and to what extent people envisioned themselves as part of larger transnational communities and spaces.

The accompanying digital archive has three main goals: First, it gathers and preserves materials on this most important chapter of transatlantic and European history. Second, it makes these materials available worldwide and free of charge to scholars and teachers. Third, it fosters the growth of a community of scholars, teachers, and students engaged in teaching and learning about the nuclear crisis of the 1980s; for more information please visit <http://www.nuclearcrisis.org/>

"Nuclear Crisis" is a collaborative project by the German Historical Institute (GHI), Washington, D.C.; the Institute for Contemporary History (IfZ), Munich-Berlin; the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA), Heidelberg University; and the History Department, University of Augsburg. It is directed by Philipp Gassert, University of Augsburg, Germany, Martin Klimke, New York University/Abu Dhabi, and Wilfried Mausbach, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Heidelberg University. In cooperation with: Archive Green Memory (Archiv Grünes Gedächtnis), Berlin; Das Bundesarchiv, Koblenz; International Center for Protest Research (ICP); and Volda University College, Volda, Norway.

Publications that grew out of this project and were published in 2011 and 2012 include Philipp Gassert, Tim Geiger, and Hermann Wentker, eds., *Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive* (München: Oldenbourg Verlag, 2011); Christoph Becker-Schaum, Philipp Gassert, Martin Klimke, Wilfried Mausbach and Marianne Zepp (with the assistance of Laura Stapane), eds., *"Entrüstet Euch!" Nuklearkrise, NATO-Doppelbeschluss und Friedensbewegung* (Paderborn: Schöningh, 2012); Philipp Gassert, "Die Popularität der Apokalypse: Überlegungen zu einer Kulturgeschichte der Nukleangst seit 1945," *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* 46 (2011); Phillip Gassert, "Arbeit am Konsens im Streit um den Frieden: Die Nuklearkrise der 1980er Jahre als Medium gesellschaftlicher Selbstverständigung," *Archiv für Sozialgeschichte* 52 (2012): 489-514; and Wilfried Mausbach "Vereint marschieren, getrennt schlagen? Die amerikanische Friedensbewegung und der Widerstand gegen den NATO-Doppelbeschluss," in *Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung*, eds. Gassert, Geiger, and Wentker, 283-304.

Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011: Regional Coordination – United States, Canada, Chile and Mexico

HCA faculty member Dr. Martin Thunert is regional coordinator for the OECD member states in the Americas (Canada, Chile, Mexico, United States) and affiliated member of the Board of an continuing international and comparative research project, which is conducted and sponsored by the Bertelsmann Foundation in Gütersloh – the Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI). The SGI is a cross-national survey of governance in the OECD that identifies reform needs, forward-looking practices and offers full access to its data set. The Status Index examines states' reform needs in terms of the quality of democracy and performance in policy fields. The Management Index focuses on governance capacities in terms of steering capability and accountability.

The SGI project was launched in 2006-07 and published its first edition of results in the spring of 2009. The first edition of the Sustainable Governance Indicators 2009 was based on the period from 2005 to 2007. The second SGI round for the observation period 2008-2010 was launched in late 2009 and the results of Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011 were published online on March 31, 2011 and in print in the late summer of 2011. Future editions are scheduled to appear biennially. A more detailed project description is available on the SGI website (see below).

SGI Assessment Process

Employing both qualitative and quantitative research methods, the Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) identify effective policy-making strategies throughout the OECD, with printed and online reports aimed at interested citizens, the media, and policy practitioners alike. More than 80 international experts contributed to this large-scale study. Taking nearly 150 qualitative and quantitative indicators into account, SGI experts created a detailed profile of each country's strengths and weaknesses

In all, for SGI 2011, 62 country experts assessed, for the Status Index, the current performance in each of the 15 policy fields and, for the Management Index, the internal processes taking place within governance bodies and their interactions with external actors. The expert reports are based on a catalogue of questions and standardized responses, which are answered on a scale of 1 to 10. In addition, two country specialists – in collaboration with the regional coordinator – provide a detailed country report. SGI 2011 country specialists for the United States were Prof. Dr. Andreas Falke, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, and Prof. Dr. Paul J. Quirk, University of British Columbia, Vancouver. The findings of these country experts are edited and consolidated by seven regional coordinators and converted into 31 synopses reports, with the regional coordinators comparing the assigned scores among countries and regions. Finally, the results of each country team are vetted by the SGI Board, which is the governing body of the SGI project, made up of leading international specialists, before the individual points are tallied into the separate rankings for the Status Index and Management Index. This multi-tier assessment process is meant to ensure the greatest possible level of objectivity.

The role of the regional coordinator for the Americas (Canada, Chile, Mexico, and the United States) has been to edit, amend, and consolidate expert assessments written by eight recognized country specialists—two for each country, representing at least two academic disciplines (e.g., economics and political science) or two nationalities, including the subject nation. The end results are four separate country reports of 30 pages each on reform capacities of the United States, Canada, Chile, and Mexico, incorporating quantitative data interpreted through the lenses of the qualitative expert assessments.

Key Findings and Current Status of the Project

The Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011 were released online on March 31, 2011 and in print in the late summer of 2011, the second major publication of data that builds on the successful and widely acknowledged first release in 2009. The SGI 2011 release was accompanied by a comprehensive overhaul of the project's website at <http://www.sgi-network.org>. The entire data, rankings, and sub-rankings for each policy area as well as the country reports are accessible online free of charge. Based on highly interactive functionality, the SGI website offers users easy access to every level of information including a short version of key findings. For a direct link to the U.S. country data and report go to http://www.sgi-network.org/index.php?page=countries_keyfindings&country=USA. The USA country report written by Martin Thunert, Andreas Falke, and Paul Quirk can be downloaded at http://www.sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI11_USA.pdf. The key findings for the United States were on balance positive compared to the results of SGI 2009.

In the Status Index, the United States moved up to rank 13 of 31 OECD countries (plus four ranks relative to SGI 2009). At rank seven in the Management Index, management performance in the USA has also improved (plus two ranks relative to SGI 2009). The full indicator scores for the United States can be accessed and downloaded at http://www.sgi-network.org/index.php?page=scores_countries&country=USA.

The new edition of the Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011 (SGI) was released in print in summer 2011. This second major publication includes the 2011 findings and essays on the project's conceptual framework and methodology. It also incorporates summaries and strategic forecasts for each of the 31 OECD countries examined. Since the period under review ranged from May 2008 to April 2010, the results at display cover the performance of these countries amid the global financial turmoil and economic crisis.

Media Coverage and Future Activities

SGI was covered extensively e.g. in a series of the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* in the summer (editions 26/2012-29/2012), entitled "The Craft of Governing" (Das Handwerk des Herrschens). The series singled out 'good governance' as the central topic for policymakers and bureaucrats in these times of economic and financial crisis. In its introductory article, *Der Spiegel* describes the Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) and its sister project for developing and transition countries, the Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI), as the "most ambitious experiment in comparative politics since Aristotle's time."

The SGI are updated on a regular basis every two or three years. The next round of observation and measurement will commence in early 2013 and the next edition will be published in 2013-14. In a meeting of the SGI Board in September 2012 in Berlin the next SGI round of observation and measurement was prepared by board members, regional coordinators and the Bertelsmann SGI team.

HCA SPRING ACADEMY 2012

The Conference

The HCA Spring Academy is a one-week interdisciplinary conference on American history, culture, and politics for doctoral students from all over the world and has been taking place annually since 2004. In 2012, the conference was held from March 26 to March 30. It was, again, a big success and Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung, one of the two principal facilitators of the conference, especially praised the cooperation and support of the participants. This praise was echoed by all present, pointing out the international and multidisciplinary approach to the panels: historians had a unique viewpoint when it came to political topics, literary scholars had great insight into social and cultural issues, and everybody was able to say something about Disney and Pixar films, the subjects of a panel on animated movies on Friday.

Support

One of the world's largest producers of agricultural and consumer equipment, the John Deere Corporation, has graciously been a longtime supporter of the HCA Spring Academy. John Deere operates one of the major tractor-production factories in the neighboring city of Mannheim. Since 2005, the John Deere European Headquarters has offered generous financial support for the conference. John Deere also invited the participants to visit the Mannheim factory and learn more about the company and its work. Thanks to the support of HCA benefactor Herbert A. Jung, the HCA has also been able to cover travel expenses for participants registered and residing in developing and soft-currency countries.

Report

The conference officially opened on Monday with a reception in the HCA's Atrium. HCA Executive Director and Mr. Spring Academy Dr. Wilfried Mausbach introduced the HCA, its academic programs, major research areas, and public events. He especially thanked John Deere for its continuing support of the conference and Herbert A. Jung for sponsoring three participants as well as Professor Chantasingh from Thailand. Afterwards, Ms. Spring Academy Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung personally welcomed everybody and talked about her long-standing commitment to the Spring Academy. Over a glass of champagne or orange juice, the participants had the opportunity to mingle some more before the conference started with the first workshop.

Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung opened the week long gathering with the by now traditional introductory workshop entitled "Warm Up: What Is/Are American Studies? – Where Is It Going?" For her the Spring Academy is "the academic high-point" of her year and she is taking part in it for the seventh year. This year's workshop included a new warm-up exercise in which everybody had 30 seconds to tell their partners in a revolving circle how their topic is related to American Studies. Afterwards, everyone wrote down one dominant phrase or word and briefly explained why they chose it. Terms like inter- trans- or multidisciplinary, transatlantic relations, and political power were amongst those mentioned most. A follow-up discussion addressed the complexity of these terms and the issue of methodology: should American Studies develop its/their own methodology or combine approaches from other fields?

Jens Wegener (l.) and Martin Thunert (r.) at the Spring Academy



After lunch at the Zeughaus cafeteria, Dr. Martin Thunert chaired the first panel of the conference, "Elite Networks – (In)formally Shaping Transatlantic Relations." Jens Wegener had the honor of giving the first presentation on his dissertation project, "Creating an 'International Mind'? The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Europe, 1911-1940." He is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History and Civilization at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and was also a doctoral fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., in spring 2011. As the title of his project suggests, his research is concerned with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and how this endowment, which seeks to "promote peace and an international mind," shaped German-U.S. relations in the 1920s. Though the German government stood in opposition to this think tank at first, in 1923 the cooperation between the endowment and the German government grew and the endowment quickly became a new channel for communication, "promoting peace through promoting trade." The following discussion included issues of archival work and how to deal with information that is not available in written form.

The second speaker of the day was Albertine Bloemendal, a Ph.D. student at Leiden University's Institute for History. She is writing her dissertation on the Dutch Atlanticist, diplomat, economist, professor, and politician Ernst van der Beugel and gave a presentation entitled "Between Dinner Table and Formal Diplomacy: Ernst van der Beugel, (In)formal Diplomacy and Elite-Networks in Pursuit of a Cold War Atlantic Community." In 2009, she won the Theodore Roosevelt American History Award for her M.A. thesis "Abraham Kuyper's Road to the White House: How Kuyperian Thought Came to Influence American Welfare Reform." She also interned in the Political Department of the Netherlands Embassy in Washington, D.C. In her presentation she used Ernst van der Beugel as a window to see how international networks shaped the Atlantic community. During her research she spoke to close friends of Ernst van der Beugel, most notably Henry Kissinger. The discussion focused on the problem of balancing European and Dutch interests and why exactly Ernst van der Beugel was so invested in shaping the Atlantic community.



Ari Cushner from the University of California, Santa Cruz

Dr. Martin Thunert also chaired the second panel of the first day, entitled "U.S. Political Philosophy Before and During the Cold War." Stefanie Degner was the first speaker, giving a presentation on paleoconservatism entitled "Lost Cause: History and Ideology of Paleoconservatism." Stefanie received her M.A. in American cultural history, psychology, and law at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich in 2010 and is currently a doctoral candidate at the same department while working as a human resources manager for a telecommunications company. One of the many conservative movements in the U.S. is the paleoconservatism movement and Stefanie Degner examines the formation of this particular movement while looking at the ideology and what sets it apart from other similar movements. She plans to trace the main conflicts of conservatives from the Cold War to the Iraq War. Many in the room had not heard of paleoconservatism and thus this problem became one of the main focal points of the discussion. In light of the upcoming U.S. presidential elections, Stefanie Degner was also asked to explain how the Republican candidates, especially Ron Paul and Rick Santorum, fit into this movement, if at all.

Next up, Ari Cushner gave an enthusiastic talk about the Cold War, "Holding the Center: Cold War Liberalism, the Non-Communist Left, and American Global Power, 1945-1968." He is a Ph.D. student in the History of Consciousness Department at the University of California Santa Cruz and has been a teaching assistant there since 2008. In August 2012 he will be teaching an upper-division course on "Communism, Anticommunism, and the Cultural Cold War." Ari Cushner delivered an insightful talk on one of the most important eras in U.S. history. The HCA was hosting an exhibition on Melvin J. Lasky, journalist and part of the anti-communist left at the time of the conference and Ari used this as an introduction for his talk, which focused on the coalition between Cold War liberals and their allies on the non-communist left. In his presentation, he especially examined the influence of Democratic activist Arthur Schlesinger, Trotskyist philosopher Sidney Hook, and Socialist Party leader Norman Thomas. The follow-up discussion focused on the parallels between the Cold War and the War on Terror. A wine and cheese event at the HCA concluded the first day of the Spring Academy 2012.

The second day started with panel three, entitled “Ways to (Un-)Bury your Dead – Yesterday and Today,” chaired by Professor Kirsten Fischer, a Fulbright professor at the HCA, who introduced the first speaker of the day: Ingrid Fernandez, a Ph.D. student in Modern Thought and Literature at Stanford University, where she also teaches and mentors. She worked for the private industry in the field of public relations for over 12 years. Her dissertation project is entitled “Necrolife: Toward an Ontology of the Corpse in Nineteenth Century American Culture.” She gave a talk on memorial photography, which was accompanied by many fascinating if sometimes disturbing photographs. The presentation focused on one chapter of her dissertation and Ingrid Fernandez chose this chapter because she wanted to show that she is not interested in ghosts or spirits but “the real deal,” as she put it. She made clear that memorial photography of the nineteenth century is neither a hobby nor considered art; it sought to objectively record empirical events, showed that corpses are an integral part of life and that what some may find disturbing was completely common two centuries earlier. The discussion focused on immigrants and other ethnicities and their influence on mourning and funeral rituals of white Americans.

E. Sunny Greer, the second speaker in that panel, not only gave us an overview of her dissertation project but also included a history of Native Hawaiians and the problems that they are still facing. Her topic is “Burying ‘Tradition’: Native Hawaiians and the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).” Sunny, as she likes to be called, received her dual B.A. in American Studies and Political Science at the University of Hawaii and went on to work in state and municipal government for a decade before returning to school to get her M.A. and a J.D. in American Studies from the William S. Richardson School of Law. She is currently a Ph.D. student and teaching assistant at the University of Hawaii. She argues that NAGPRA has failed in returning the remains of Native Hawaiians to their rightful owners, partially blaming the fact that there is no distinction made between Native Americans and Native Hawaiians. Sunny is interested in the impact of NAGPRA on Native Hawaiians and the disputes that arose under NAGPRA. The question of how NAGPRA affected Native Hawaiian identity sparked a lively discussion.

Eva-Maria Kiefer (HCA) discussing threat shaped congressional behavior after 9/11



After a coffee break, it was on to panel four, "All Power to the Executive? The Impact of 9/11 on the Epistemic Community and Congressional Behavior," chaired by Dr. Tobias Endler. Both panelists were familiar with the HCA: Dorian B. Kantor received his M.A. here in 2009 and Eva-Maria Kiefer is a Ph.D. student at the HCA. Dorian Kantor gave the first presentation on "Politics as Law: Juridified Executive Unilateralism and the Conservative Legal Movement." He studied American Studies, political science, and law at Eötvös Lorand University in Budapest and at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. He worked as a lecturer at the Department of English Language Pedagogy at Eötvös Lorand University and after completing his M.A. at the HCA he is pursuing has pursued doctoral studies in political science at the graduate school of the John F. Kennedy Institute at the Free University Berlin. His presentation focused primarily on judicial unilateralism and the Bush administration after 9/11. He established his own definition of the term juridification and then looked at the effects of juridification on the changing nature of executive power. The audience was interested in the Supreme Court's role as opposed to the roles of Congress and the president. Another topic of discussion was the question of whether the issue juridification is with the institution of the presidency rather than any particular administration.

Next up was the HCA's own Eva-Maria Kiefer with a presentation on "U.S. Government in Times of Crisis: How the Dynamics of Fear and Threat Shaped Congressional Behavior after 9/11." Eva gained her Magister degree in American Studies, psychology, and political science from Bonn University and spent a year at the University of Pennsylvania on a scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service. She joined the HCA in 2010 as a Ph.D. student on a scholarship from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. She also works at the HCA as BAS Coordinator. In her talk she gave a structured overview of her research project, which included an important theory of her dissertation: securitization theory. She analyzes the "threat to life and liberty" in the U.S. by looking at rhetoric and voting records to measure the development of securitization. Major topics for discussion included the role of the media and the comparison of Reagan's War on Terror versus Bush's War on Terror.

The afternoon was reserved for Professor Charles Postel's workshop "U.S. Social Movements, from Populism to the Tea Party." Currently the Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence at the HCA, he gave a brief overview of the development of the Tea Party Movement and how it came into being. His slideshow featured several controversial signs, posters, and pictures of the Tea Party Movement (e.g. comparing President Obama to Hitler and Lenin) and fed a lively debate on the influence of the movement on politics and the larger public. He jokingly drew a parallel between the original Tea Party of 1773 and the Spring Academy, saying that holding endless seminars is in the spirit of the original movement. He also explicitly stated that the current movement is not an AstroTurf movement but a grassroots movement, they are "the real deal."

In the evening, the entire group paid a visit to its sponsor, John Deere, to tour its factory in Mannheim. Dr. Oliver Neumann, Public Relations Manager for Europe, Africa, and the former Soviet republics, was happy to welcome this year's Spring Academy group. The tour was certainly a nice change of scenery; everybody was stunned by the size and efficiency of the manufacturing facilities, and there was a lot to talk about during the ensuing reception.

On Wednesday's first panel "Literary Approaches to Zionism and Sociocultural Reality," Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung welcomed Roxana Ghita from Romania and Olesya Bondarenko from Ukraine, both of whom were sponsored by Herbert A. Jung. Roxana opened with her presentation entitled "Sin, Damnation, Revival in the Jewish-American Literary Tradition." Roxana just started as a Ph.D. student at the West University of Timisoara in October 2011, also teaching undergraduate courses. Before entering the Ph.D. program she received her B.A. in Romanian and English Language and Literature and an M.A. in American Studies, both at West University of Timisoara. For her talk she decided to focus on one of the major problems of Jewish history: landlessness. As the title of her project suggests, her main goal is to "explore a potential revival of Jewish American literature" in contemporary Jewish authors. Though literary scholars in the room were a minority, everyone joined the discussion, proving that the ongoing problems in the Middle East, especially the Israel-Palestine conflict, are of concern to every scholar from every discipline.

Olesya, the second panelist, also just started her Ph.D. project in 2011. It is entitled "Visual Politics and Production of Presence in Rae Armantrout's Work: Transforming Philosophical Poetry." Olesya received her M.A. in English, German and Comparative Literature from Kyiv National Linguistic University in 2009. From 2009 to 2011 she worked as a teaching assistant at the Chair of Theory and History of Literature, again at Kyiv National Linguistic University. She gave a fascinating presentation on the influence of poetry, reminding everybody of the power of language. She introduced the room to 2010 Pulitzer Prize winner Rae Armantrout and her craft to "integrate images from mass media and contemporary urban culture, place them in a new context so as to reveal the hidden ideological dimension of everyday visual experience." Generally, poetry is considered aesthetic, but Olesya argues for a new appreciation of the critical and political nature of poetry and its presence in everyday life. One major topic of discussion was the impact of Armantrout's poetry and her audience.

The panel entitled "Reflecting the World We Live In – Clouds of Romanticism and Hate Rock," once more chaired by Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung, concluded the Wednesday morning proceedings. Both presentations centered around music, yet could not have been more different. Christian O'Connell began with a talk on "Dreaming Up the Blues: Paul Oliver and the Nature of Transatlantic Blues Scholarship." Christian O'Connell received his B.A. in Geography at the University of Leeds in 2001 and his M.A. in American Studies at King's College in London in 2006. Afterwards he worked as a teacher of English as a Foreign Language in the UK, Italy, and Spain before eventually beginning his Ph.D. at the University of Gloucestershire in Cheltenham in 2009. Instead of giving an overview of his entire project he chose to explain what it is that he is so interested in – the real and gritty blues as opposed to its romanticized version. In his talk he focused on Paul Oliver, one of the most important blues scholars in the 1950s and 1960s. O'Donnell discussed the problem of whites talking about a primarily African-American movement and how, if at all, this distorted the facts. This issue was picked up in the discussion which focused on Paul Oliver's role as an outsider commenting and analyzing blues.



Kirsten Dyck, Washington State University

The second speaker was Kirsten Dyck, who talked about a highly controversial and equally stunning topic, namely "Hate Rock: White Power Music in International Perspective." Born in Canada and raised in the U.S., she completed an Honors BFA in Music in 2005 and an M.A. in Ethnomusicology and Musicology in 2008 at the York University in Toronto. Since 2009, she has been a Ph.D. student in American Studies at Washington State University. She also served as teaching assistant, graduate instructor, and writing tutor. She gave a thorough overview of her dissertation project in the first part of her talk and focused on the controversial topic of White Power music for the second part. Although music is supposed to stimulate the soul, the examples Kirsten played were hardly enjoyable. The following discussion focused on the tendency of bands to flip-flop on political and racial issues as well as the role of women in Hate Rock.

After the lunch break the Spring Academy participants were invited to a guided tour through Heidelberg's Old Town entitled "Murderers, Maids, and Malefaction." After taking a group picture on the Old Bridge with the Heidelberg Castle as a backdrop, the group learned a lot about the history of Heidelberg. Even a disgruntled student inside the University Library could not keep everyone from listening to an interesting story about the past of this magnificent library. The tour ended at the Schnookeloch, another traditional restaurant.

On Thursday morning it was time for panel six "From the Mess of the American West to Modern-Day Chaos," chaired by Professor Chalerm Sri Chantasingh, also sponsored by Herbert A. Jung's travel grant. After receiving her M.Ed. in English she went to the University of Kansas on a Fulbright scholarship, where she then earned her Ph.D. in American Literature and Culture. Her dissertation on the musical *The King and I* was well received internationally. Professor Chalerm Sri Chantasingh currently teaches literature and translation at the Faculty of Arts, Slipakorn University in Thailand and is an avid basketball fan, cheering for the Kansas Jayhawks, of course. The first panelist, Elisabeth Maurer, gave a presentation on "'This Astonishing Chaos of a Modern World': French-American Cultural Relations, 1871-1919." Elisabeth Maurer was born in Tübingen.



Participants of the Spring Academy in the HCA's Stucco

gen but received a large part of her education in the U.S. She completed her B.A. in English Literature at Allegheny College and then pursued an M.A in American Studies at the University of Wyoming in 2005. Four years later she completed another Master's degree in French Civilization at Middlebury College and then entered the Ph.D. program in History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2007. Instead of talking about methodology and the larger historical background, she focused on French theater in the U.S. at the turn of the twentieth century. She particularly pointed out her interest in theater as a space for "Frenchness" (food, culture, and fashion) and women. Her larger project is concerned with cultural diplomacy. The discussion focused on the cultural stereotypes that Yoska, one of the major French theater actresses and producers, portrayed, how other French women perceived Yoska and vice versa.

Next up was Alessandra Magrin, presenting her project on Buffalo Bill entitled "When Buffalo Bill Came to Italy: Reception and Re-Appropriation of the Western Epic." After completing her B.A. in Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Milan, she moved to Scotland to pursue an MLitt in American Studies at the University of Glasgow. She remained in Glasgow for her Ph.D. in History at the University of Strathclyde. Her project is funded by a research project run by the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyo., and she is currently in her second year of doctoral studies. Alessandra Magrin gave an enthusiastic talk on the implications of the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Tours in Italy and the USA during the nineteenth and twentieth century. Her talk especially focused on the effect that the two tours in 1890 and 1906 had on the Italians. Rumors actually spread that Buffalo Bill was Italian because it made the Italians relate better to the stereotypically Wild Western persona. Some participants were intrigued by Alessandra's interest in this specific subject as well as the image of America portrayed by the show.

After a short break it was time for Prof. Chantasingh's workshop entitled "*Americanism sans Frontières: The Reel Truth and Cultural Imperialism.*" Building on her Ph.D. dissertation she gave the audience an insight into Thai culture and how America represents this culture through sev-

eral different adaptations of the 1944 novel *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret London. She showed numerous clips to explain the differences between the film adaptations all the while threading a story of how and why America, specifically Hollywood, changes historical facts in its movies. The workshop fascinated all the participants and sparked a lively discussion about Hollywood and its role in cultural exchange.

The last panel of the day was chaired by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach and was entitled "World War II Propaganda and Anti-Communism – The Role of the Arts." He first introduced Austin Porter, whose presentation title included an interesting metaphor: "Paper Bullets: The Visual Culture of American World War II Print Propaganda." Austin was born and raised in the heart-land of the United States and studied at Kansas State University, where he received his BFA in Graphic Design in 2002. After a brief career as a designer he completed his M.A. in the History of Art at the University of Kansas in 2007. He then began his doctoral studies in the same field at Boston University. He also taught classes on the history of American art and photography and was a pre-doctoral fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. He wanted to use the presentation to give everybody an overview of his research project with the promise to answer more detailed questions in the discussion. He outlined all chapters and went from propaganda during the Great Depression to WWII propaganda to African-American propaganda to the so-called Womanpower propaganda, all the while showing slides with pictures, posters, and pamphlets both famous and unknown. Major discussion topics included the controversial artist Norman Rockwell and whether Americans knew that these posters and other forms of propaganda were, in fact, distributed by the government.

The last speaker of the day was Karen Patricia Heath, presenting her project with another fitting metaphor "Painting the Town Red: Conservatives and the Politics of Art, from Cold War to Culture War." Karen received her B.A. in Modern History at London Guildhall University in 2004 and went on to receive an MPhil in Historical Studies at the University of Cambridge in 2005. She is currently a DPhil candidate in Modern History at St. Anne's College, University of Oxford and has worked as a teaching assistant at Queen Mary, University of London. She started out with some artwork that sparked a huge controversy in the United States. In her presentation she gave an overview of her project and readily asked for suggestions on the structure of her dissertation, which currently centers on the chairmen of the National Endowment for the Arts. She is interested in whether there is something like conservative art and why it was so marginalized during a rather conservative Cold War era. Many participants offered great and valuable suggestions as to the issue of structure.

On the final day of the Spring Academy 2012, Professor Charles Postel introduced panel nine "The American Citizen – Cultural, Political and Legal Aspects of Citizenship." The first panelist of the day was Rabia Belt. Her topic was "Disabling Democracy in America: Disability, Citizenship, Suffrage, and the Law, 1830-1920." Rabia Belt is a Ph.D. candidate in the Program of American Culture at the University of Michigan. She received her B.A. in Social Studies from Harvard College and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School. She was the Executive Articles Editor of the *Michigan Law Review* and was also a legal intern at the South African Hu-

man Rights Commission, the University of Michigan Pediatric Advocacy Initiative, and Preston, Gates, and Ellis, LLP. Her presentation focused on the history of suffrage of people with mental impairments from the early nineteenth century up to right after the end of the First World War. She is interested in how the government distinguishes between people with mental impairments and those with physical disabilities with regard to voting rights in several states across the United States. The topic sparked a lively discussion on certain groups that exploited the fact that, in some states, so-called "lunatics" and convicts were able to vote, yet, for example, women were not.

Next up was Simone Diender with her presentation on "The Private Citizen: Expert Power and the Obligations of Work, Prayer, and Parenthood, 1923-1970." Simone Diender was born and raised in the Netherlands and received her B.A. at the Tilburg School for Journalism in 2002. She then became a reporter for Radio Netherlands before joining the University of Amsterdam, where she received another B.A. and an M.A. in American Studies in 2005 and 2007 respectively. She started her Ph.D. in American History in 2007 at Brandeis University but is now back in Amsterdam, where she combines dissertation-writing with lecturing. In her talk, Simone Diender first explained why she chose this particular period from 1924 to 1970 to find out how and why scholars studied parenthood, work, and prayer, all of which are quite private parts in the lives of ordinary Americans. Thus the following discussion focused on the role of the social scientist with regard to studying people's public versus private lives. Additionally, people were interested in the role of the "bad worker" and the dysfunctional family.

After a coffee break, Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung opened her last panel on "American Identity and Self-Understanding in Animated Movies." Justyna Fruzinska gave a talk on "Individualism in Walt Disney's post-1989 Animated Films." Justyna is the third participant sponsored by Herbert A. Jung. She has studied both psychology and English philology at the University of Lodz, where she is a Ph.D. student at the moment. Besides teaching American literature, American culture, translation, and practical English she is also a published poet and translator from English, Polish, and Hebrew. She gave an overview of her research project, pointing out that she is interested in "how Disney changes the original stories it chooses to adapt, and how the world of Disney's children films is saturated with distinctly American codes and values." She is also interested in the (non)existent individualism of women in Disney's films. She uses Emerson's model of self-reliance to analyze characters and how they are portrayed. The discussion included a question on the role that interpretation takes up in the dissertation and what other theoretical notions, besides Emerson's, she would incorporate. Many in the room suggested that it would be interesting to see how individualism turns into imperialism.

Dietmar Meinel was next with his presentation on "Exceptional Aesthetics: Reconsidering Aesthetic Experience in the (New) American Exceptionalism of Pixar Films." He received his M.A. in North American Studies, sociology, and German literature from the Free University Berlin in 2009, where he has been a Ph.D. candidate since 2010. He has edited and published a collection of student essays with the title *Black, White and In-Between*. He used the presentation to give a detailed analysis of the movie *Ratatouille*. In a brief, second part he also gave an overview of the



Simone Diender from the Netherlands.

larger theoretical context and claimed that American exceptionalism is unstable with regard to the ideology of the American Dream that *Ratatouille* and other Pixar films often portray. Irony is obviously a big part of Pixar movies and the audience inquired how this would be incorporated into the dissertation and what Dietmar Meinel thinks about this aspect of the Pixar movies. Some participants suggested that he distinguish between the American Dream and American exceptionalism, as these are two related but very different things.

After lunch, everybody reconvened for the last panel of the conference, chaired once more by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach. The panel was entitled “The U.S. on the Global Stage – Learning from the Past?” First up was Salvador Santino Regilme, another Ph.D. candidate at the Free University’s John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies in Berlin. Salvador Regilme gave a talk on “An American Behemoth: Antinomies of Freedom and Security in Post-9/11 U.S. Foreign Policy.” He holds a M.A. in Democratic Governance and Civil Society from the University of Osnabrück. He has presented his research in Oxford, Berlin, and Warwick, and has also published papers in several peer-reviewed academic journals. Salvador is interested in finding out whether “international variables really matter in exploring state-initiated human rights abuses in developing countries, especially during perceived global security crises.” Using 9/11 as a turning point he looks at pre-9/11 and post-9/11 Philippines, Indonesia, and Thailand in particular. Using his knowledge as a social scientist he has analyzed U.S. military aid and human rights violations in those countries and established a causal relationship between the two, namely that an increase in U.S. military aid in these developing countries leads to an increase in state-initiated human rights violations. A lively discussion included a suggestion to use a control group within the same region without U.S. military aid to exclude other factors that contribute to human rights violations. Dr. Wilfried Mausbach also cautioned Salvador Regilme not to fall into the *cum hoc ergo propter hoc* trap, pointing out that while his evidence showed that an increase in military aid does *not* lead to a *decrease* in human rights violations it might be hard to prove the putative causal nexus with regard to a positive relationship.

Finally, Heidelberg's own Gemma Ngoc Dao presented her project entitled "Over-coming the Shadow of War: Vietnam-U.S. Normalization of Relations, 1975-2006." She was born in Vietnam and earned her B.A. in Teaching English as a Foreign Language at the Vietnam National University in 2006. After spending two years lecturing at the College of Foreign Languages at the same university, she entered the HCA's M.A. program in 2009 and is currently a Ph.D. student here. With her archival research just completed, she gave an over-view of her project and then focused on chapter three, "No longer Foes, not yet Friends 1975-1979 (Ford Administration)." She said that most people only think of the Vietnam War but nobody really knows what happened after the war, which is why she is so interested in this topic, especially considering her own background as a Vietnamese. The discussion focused on how chapter three fits into diplomatic history and what Vietnamese-Americans think about the normalization period.

After another short break, Mr. and Ms. Spring Academy, Dr. Mausbach and Dr. Fischer-Hornung officially closed the Spring Academy 2012 with a "Cool Down and Debriefing." The participants talked about how their perception of American Studies had changed over the past week, keeping in mind the initial statements made during the warm-up workshop on Monday. Afterwards, it was time for feedback and general comments. Sunny jokingly noted that she felt as if she were in therapy, having to write down her thoughts and how things changed. In a nice flow of comments RabiaBelt first said that she is not just doing research but is actually in it "to make the world a better place." Professor Charles Postel picked up on that, saying that he admires the passion of the people for their research, which prompted Professor Chalerm Sri Chantasingh to observe that "knowledge will get us out of trouble." Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung closed the feedback part by noting the exceptionally cooperative and supportive atmosphere of this year's Spring Academy. Then it was time to hand out the certificates along with two group photos, and the gifts for an outstanding team of Spring Academy organizers. A farewell dinner in the HCA's Atrium concluded the proceedings for good.

CONFERENCES

"Marginalized Masculinities and the Nation: Global Comparisons, 1800-1945," March 15-17, 2012, at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Organized by Simon Wendt, Goethe University Frankfurt/Main and Pablo Dominguez, Humboldt University Berlin, this international conference sought to provide fresh perspectives on the inter-relationship between gender and the nation. Focusing on the role of marginalized masculinities in nation-building processes between 1800 and 1945, the conference brought together scholars from Europe, South America, and the United States. So far, the feminist literature on the relationship between nationalism and gender has focused almost exclusively on women and has neglected the role of masculinities in nation-building processes. The conference used R.W. Connell's concept of hegemonic and marginalized masculinities as a guiding theoretical concept to bridge this historiographical gap. It focused on two major questions: 1) What is the relationship between hegemonic and marginalized masculinities in nation-building processes and how did this relationship change between 1800 and 1945? 2) How did marginalized men resist their marginalization in the nation?

The keynote address was given by Michael Kimmel (State University of New York at Stony Brook), one of the leading scholars in the field of masculinity studies. His talk focused on contemporary masculinities on the extreme right. Based on interviews with Neo-Nazis in the United States, Sweden, and Germany, Kimmel employed an intersectional approach to explain how the often-downwardly mobile middle-class members of white supremacist groups envision themselves as marginalized by both women and non-white men.

Subsequently, six panels explored various aspects of the conference's two research questions. The first panel, for instance, explored the interrelationship between martial masculinities, war, and the nation. Denis Gainty (Georgia State University) questioned the clear-cut division between hegemonic and marginalized masculinities in his paper on martial masculinities in late Meiji Japan. While American commentators often described Japanese men as feminized, Japanese sources frequently reversed such ascriptions, emphasizing the strength and virility of martial Japanese men. Gainty emphasized that rather than simply adopting Western models of masculinity, multiple notions of masculine identity intersected and competed with one another in Japanese constructions of nationhood. Craig Thompson Friend (North Carolina State University) provided another example of the mutability and fluidity of the concepts hegemony and marginalization. His paper on the self-images of white southern men in mid-nineteenth century America showed how confederate manhood was constructed as marginalized despite the hegemonic patriarchy wielded by white southern men. During and after the Civil War, Friend emphasized, this rhetoric of marginalized manhood evolved into the reality of marginalized manhood as southern men lost their mastery over women and slaves.

Another panel concentrated on the role of “deviant” sexualities in nation-building processes. Steve Estes (Sonoma State University) showed how the American press routinely referred to the practice of polygamy to question the masculinity of Mormon men in the late nineteenth century. Polygamy, which became virtually synonymous with the Church of Latter-Day Saints in public discourse, served to feminize and racialize Mormon men as “other.” As Estes emphasized, this symbolic marginalization of Mormon men contributed to the construction of hegemonic masculinity and national identity in the United States. In a similar manner, Norman Domeier (University of Stuttgart) analyzed how debates about homosexuality during the Eulenberg scandal led to the masculinization and militarization of German politics before World War I.

During the final discussion, participants returned to some of the conference’s central points of debate. The organizers Simon Wendt and Pablo Dominguez tied the conference papers’ findings to R.W. Connell’s theoretical framework. While many papers had demonstrated the fluidity and historical mutability of male identities between hegemony and marginalization, the presentations generally confirmed the usefulness of Connell’s concepts for the study of masculinities and nationalism. Participants were split over the role of the nation-state within the construction of hegemonic masculinities: While some emphasized the state’s power to shape gender norms according to its own needs, others stressed marginalized men’s potential for agency and resistance. The conference clearly demonstrated that empirical historical research can contribute substantially to a better understanding of the central role that hegemonic and marginalized masculinities have played in modern nationalism.

“From the Pentagon Papers to WikiLeaks: A Transatlantic Conversation on the Public’s Right to Know,” May 10-12, 2012, at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies.

This was the fifth in a series of six workshops on different aspects of transatlantic history, society, and politics, which are related to the HCA’s research project “A Transcultural Atlantic” and are underwritten by the Transatlantic Program of the Federal Republic of Germany with funds from the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, administered by the KfW Bankengruppe. The conference on the public’s right to know was convened by Wilfried Mausbach and Martin Thunert (HCA), and Kathleen Donohue (Central Michigan University) with student assistance from Bryan Banker.

With the release and subsequent publishing of government classified material, organizations such as WikiLeaks have sought more visibility for the actions of government and especially the United States government. The publication of secret documents and materials has sparked a discourse within both the legal and media communities examining the public’s right to know. The role of the journalist and journalism as a whole are often at the heart of this discussion on privacy and secrecy, as they make the secrets public. This conference looked to broaden that discourse by examining current and historical cases when journalists assisted in the publication of such secret materials.



Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Neil Sheehan speaks at the HCA

The conference began Thursday evening with a keynote address by two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Neil Sheehan entitled “A Unique Gift to Truth and Freedom: The First Amendment and the Constitution to the United States.” In 1971, as a reporter for *The New York Times*, Sheehan obtained the so-called “Pentagon Papers,” a historical study with documents prepared in the late 1960s at the behest of Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara and classified “top-secret.” Sheehan subsequently wrote a series of articles that accompanied publication of selected documents from the “Pentagon Papers” in *The New York Times*, thus revealing the hidden history of United States military intervention in Vietnam. In his opening remarks, Sheehan spoke about the struggles and trials of investigative journalism and how, in the quest for truth, a journalist can rest assured in the protection of the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The first session on Friday morning, chaired by Wilfried Mausbach and entitled “How the U.S. Keeps Its Secrets,” began with an overall historical perspective on the freedom of information and government secrecy, provided by Kathleen Donohue. Louis Fisher, the second panelist and former research director of the House Iran-Contra Committee, detailed how the Executive Branch has over the years attempted to “manage the news.” Fisher also spoke about how the United States’ federal courts were unwilling to clarify their position in light of the actions of the executive in the debate concerning freedom of information and government secrecy.

The second session, led by Tobias Endler and titled “Investigative Journalism,” focused on the personal experiences of investigative journalists Susan Sheehan and Alicia Shepard. Sheehan, a writer for *The New Yorker* who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1983 for her book detailing the experiences of a New York woman diagnosed with schizophrenia (*Is There No Place on Earth for Me?*) discussed the importance of long standing patience and personal investment in order to get the complete story. Alicia Shepard, a professorial lecturer in journalism at American University and former ombudsman for National Public Radio, posited the Watergate investigation and the work of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein in today’s media climate.

Conference participants Kathleen Donohue, Louis Fisher, Wilfried Mausbach, and Jennifer Elsea



Cynthia Wilke, a lecturer in law at the HCA, led the third session, “The Courts and the Public’s Right to Know,” which addressed both the German development of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the American perspective concerning the legal ramifications of government secrecy. Klaus Gronenberg, the Minister Counselor in the Office of the Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, detailed the progress of freedom of information in Germany. The second speaker, the eminent Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr., Senior Counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University Law School and a former lead counsel for the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activity (Church Committee), illustrated how the U.S. court systems were fearful of their interpretation concerning government secrecy and the freedom of information. Schwarz especially pointed out how increased secrecy of the executive coupled with the lack of oversight from the federal courts prevented the law and courts from strengthening checks and balances within the U.S. government.

Heidi Kitrosser, professor of law at the University of Minnesota, began our fourth session entitled “Information Control in the Bush Era,” which Styles Sass chaired. She explained the evolving power of “executive privilege” over the years, a power most notably enabled by the Bush administration. Professor Kitrosser also pointed to the continued use of this privilege by the Obama presidency. Jennifer Elsea, legislative attorney at the Congressional Research Service first gave a history of government leaking, then focused on how the United States Congress has dealt with the leaking of information. Elsea outlined the legal ramifications of leaked information and the various forms of responses to leaks by the United States government.

The last session on Friday was a roundtable discussion titled “The Public’s Right to Know in the New Information Age.” The audience heard esteemed academics, government personnel, journalists, and lawyers discuss how technology has changed both investigative journalism and government regulations on freedom of information.

On the final day of the conference, session topics ranged from complete open access to information to challenging government control over secrecy. The fifth session chaired by Anja Schöler was titled “Challenging Government Secrecy Then and Now” and encompassed a current perspective of the declining state of journalism. Professor David Cuillier, professor of journalism at the University of Arizona and Chairman of the Freedom of Information Committee of The Society of Professional Journalists, explained that this decline was due to the lack of strength found in of the Freedom of Information Act in the United States. Professor Cuillier pointed to the lack of interest by journalists in getting access to information. Barry Sussman, editor of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein at the *Washington Post* during the Watergate Scandal, also spoke about this current decline in investigative reporting, using the lack of media discernment during the buildup to the Iraq war in 2003 as a poignant example of the failures of mainstream media outlets.

In similar fashion, session six, entitled “Keeping the Public Informed in a Corporate Age” and chaired by Wilfried Mausbach, picked up this deterioration of investigative journalism, first with Robert Parry, an investigative reporter who was one of the principle journalists that broke the Iran-Contra Scandal. Parry discussed the “battle of wills” between the press and the government. He criticized the current state of the press, calling contemporary journalists that cover the government simply “stenographers of power.” Robin Fields, a senior editor at ProPublica, the award winning online independent newsroom of investigative journalists, talked about pushing for the real newsworthy stories. Fields also spoke to reshaping the current journalistic image by pursuing truly important stories in the public’s interest, even against outside pressures.

Martin Thunert led the last panel discussion entitled “Open Access to Information,” where we heard from professor Christoph Bieber, the Welker Chair for Ethics in Political Management and Society at the NRW School of Governance in Duisburg. He addressed ethical questions of open access to information. Professor Bieber also highlighted the German perspective concerning the evolving story surrounding the WikiLeaks phenomenon. The last panelist, Marcel Rosenbach, an investigative journalist for *Der Spiegel*, discussed his collaborative effort with *The Guardian* and *The New York Times* in publishing leaked government documents gained from Julian Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks. Rosenbach explained the relationship of open access groups like WikiLeaks with journalism and how they have influenced each other.

The last session of the conference looked back on the important topics and lessons learned from the conference. The panelists discussed the importance of losing control of information, executive secrecy, and how technology has shaped and will continue to shape journalism in the years to come. Clearly many were concerned about the state of journalism in the United States and Germany and about how investigative journalists will address newsworthy stories with the ever changing technological developments.

"New Avenues in Jonathan Edwards Studies and Eighteenth-Century Religious History," June 11-12, 2012, at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies

On June 11, 2012 the Heidelberg Center for American Studies celebrated the inauguration of the Jonathan Edwards Center Germany. The Center is a partnership between Heidelberg University's Department of Theology, the HCA, and the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale Divinity School. Jonathan Edwards (1703 - 1758) was a pastor, philosopher, scientist, missionary, and college president. He is widely regarded as the greatest North American theologian and has inspired intense and prolonged scholarly interest. The Center seeks to contribute to the study of Edwards and Christianity in Colonial America by supporting and encouraging examinations of this pivotal figure and his world from a transatlantic and comparative perspective that sees the American revivals as part of a much larger Protestant awakening, which included the English evangelical movement and the Scottish *Cambuslang Wark* as well as Dutch and German Pietism. The Center digitalizes important primary sources and makes them available online. It runs an online journal, organizes exhibits, offers online courses, and provides a platform for those interested in the history of evangelicalism. The Jonathan Edwards Center Germany is part of an international network of Jonathan Edwards Centers, which are located, for instance, in Hungary, Poland, South Africa, and Brazil.

Another interest of the Center is Edwards' continuing legacy and the ways in which his ideas are adopted and adapted in contemporary evangelical discourse, especially as recent years have seen a resurgence of religious interest in this Puritan thinker. As Professor Jan Stievermann, director of the Jonathan Edwards Center Germany and Professor of the History of Christianity in North America, said at the inauguration, Edwards' work serves as a window onto a whole vista of subjects. "We conceive of Edwards's voluminous works," he said, "as an entry point to study, both in a critical and in an interdisciplinary manner, the whole cosmos of early American religious and cultural history Edwards is also a great source to explore a great variety of topics that are not primarily religious or theological, including the history of slavery, Indian-white relations, the history of education, reading culture, the tradition of New England letters and literature. Moreover, as one of the founding fathers of the tradition of American revivalism, Edwards is a key figure for understanding the history of evangelicalism, so important to U.S. culture." Professor Stievermann stressed that the Center was not to be a place to train "Edwardsiens" but rather an entry point to study in an interdisciplinary fashion.

The keynote lecture of the conference was given by Professor Peter J. Thuesen, Professor of Religious Studies at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and author of the acclaimed *Predestination: The American Career of a Contentious Doctrine* (2011). Thuesen examined what is known of Edwards' expansive library, from there constructing the "mental world" in which Edwards lived, arguing that he has to be thought of in the context of a web of transatlantic ties. Calling Edwards' library a confirmation of the "transatlantic thesis," Thuesen told the international audience gathered in the HCA Atrium from prestigious universities in the United States Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the Czech Republic and elsewhere, that "Edwards' book world was profoundly transatlantic. If we were to remove the complex web of connections link-



Prof. Peter J. Thuesen giving the keynote address at the inauguration of the Jonathan Edwards Center Germany

ing him to the British Isles and Continental Europe – connections involving economic, political, cultural, and intellectual life – his book world would almost completely disappear.”

A day-long symposium following the inauguration explored new avenues for the study of Jonathan Edwards, building off of the idea that Edwards should be thought of in an international, transatlantic context. Professor Hermann Wellenreuther of the University of Göttingen spoke of how “Atlantic transfers” worked in the Early Modern period to affect religion; Dr. Sarah Rivett of Princeton examined the cultural exchanges at work in missionary linguistics in colonial New England; and Professor Reiner Smolinski of Georgia State University spoke of Edwards’ approach to the philosophical materialism being advanced in Europe at the time.

Prof. Stievermann said the symposium served as a foundation for one of the Jonathan Edwards Center Germany’s main missions: to serve as a hub for a research network connecting institutions and projects. “We already see the fruits of that growing network,” Stievermann said.

"Media, Material, and Visual Components of Contemporary American Religious Experience Worlds (Experience Worlds)," August 16-18, 2012, at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies

This major international conference brought together scholars and students from Europe and North America to discuss recent findings in and innovative approaches to the study of contemporary religious "experience worlds" in the United States. The conference was funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) as part of the ongoing research project on *Moderne religiöse Erlebnisgesellschaften – Mediale und ästhetische Präsentation von Lehren christlich orientierter Organisationen in den USA*; this project is under the general supervision of Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg (HCA/History Department) and Prof. Dr. Inken Prohl (Institute for Religious Studies). Dr. Anthony Santoro, Dr. Katja Rakow, and Sebastian Emling convened the conference, with student assistance from Amy Schmitz.

Roughly twenty participants ranging from students to senior scholars came together at the HCA for this three-day joint conference and workshop. This "ConShop," as the conveners and participants dubbed it, provided participants with a chance to present research findings as well as work in progress and receive critical feedback while providing the group a developing platform from which to contextualize their own research projects in light of the nuances and details of their peers' work; this was the "conference" half of the ConShop. The "shop" half paired the conveners off with established scholars to open up the scholarly space itself. Whereas Friday's conference focused on results, Saturday's workshop was dedicated to process and how we as researchers and writers bring others into our studies, in terms both of the physical space within which we do our work and the metaphoric spaces within which our research operates.

Professor Kathryn Lofton (Yale University) opened the conference on Thursday evening with her keynote lecture on "Spiritless Space: A Religious History of the Office Cubicle." This provocative and engaging opening immediately set the context for the weekend's work by offering a spirited and lively examination of the history of the office cubicle. This seemingly mundane combination of structure and space is, as Lofton convincingly argued, profoundly important for the way it changed the relationship of employees and employers to office space, to ideas of how individual employees fit into the corporate scheme, and how corporate office furniture could be put to different and more effective missionary ends at the hands of its creator, the Herman Miller company. The lively discussion that followed showed that the audience appreciated Lofton's arguments, with respondents pushing the discussion further with sharp, insightful questions and remarks. The discussion complemented the lecture and opened up the contested terrain of the religious "experience world" heading into Friday's conference.

Friday saw three panels examining different aspects of these "experience worlds" in greater detail. Anthony Santoro (Heidelberg University) led off by presenting an overview of the field and using a joint case study – the Oakland Raiders' Raider Nation and the Pentecostalist-oriented Church of the Nation – to highlight the different points at which researchers dig into "experience worlds" and the kinds of questions they pursue there. Sebastian Emling (Heidelberg University)

followed with his examination of Answers in Genesis (AiG), a creationist organization. One of AiG's hallmark ventures is the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. Emling explained how AiG takes a multi-sensory approach to its message, including different visual, aural, and olfactory stimuli, while pursuing a second track of argument: what it means to be researched by our interlocutors at the same time that we are researching them. Katja Rakow (Heidelberg University) concluded the introductory panel with her presentation of Lakewood Church, Joel Osteen's Houston, Texas, megachurch, in further unpacking the issues and questions at stake. Expounding on the conference theme with a detailed, precise articulation of the concept of "experience worlds," Rakow looked at the different ways these experiences are mediated in discrete spaces and times.

The second panel deepened these investigations in its focus on the scholar as a bilateral agent and on questions of evidence. Omri Elisha (Queens College, City University of New York) gave a detailed examination of problems of materiality in contemporary American evangelicalism. Focusing on gift giving, Elisha's paper was an elaborate, intricate meditation on the practices and perceived traps of materiality in contemporary evangelical Christianity but also focused on the persons involved and what it means to be a giver, recipient, or witness in gift-giving contexts. Kelly Baker (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) focused on problems of evidence and approach in addressing the "not quite" of religious studies. Digging into the contemporary prevalence of zombies, Baker interrogated the hows and whys of scholarship: How do we determine which methodological and disciplinary approaches to use with a different subject? What constitutes "legitimate" evidence for "real" subjects of study? What do these impulses toward legitimizing and de-legitimizing of subjects reveal about our inherent attitudes toward our scholarship, subjects, and audience? The discussion that followed from this panel established many of the themes for Saturday's workshops.

In the next panel, Monika Sauter (FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg) and Jennie Chapman (University of Hull) looked into questions of conversion, love, and interpretation in contemporary evangelical apocalyptic fiction. What does it mean, they asked, to speak of love in the context of end-of-the-world conversion narratives? How should we understand the complex relationship between study and revelation in these stories? And what do these narratives tell us about conceptions of contemporary religiosity and the society within which we live? These papers provided suggestive and clear answers to these questions.

Shreena N. Gandhi (Kalamazoo College) and Dmitry Okropiridze (Heidelberg University) followed with consideration of sports as sites where religious "experience worlds" are consciously created, branded, marketed, and sold. Gandhi's presentation was a vivid historically driven account of the way Yoga Magazine has packaged and marketed yoga as a spiritual, athletic, and consumer practice in the United States. Along the way, she sharply analyzed questions of gender and of materiality and commodity in the way spiritualities are advertised. Okropiridze examined the remarkable "Power Team," a missionary Christian athletic group that travels and performs for audiences demonstrating their strength and athletic ability while linking the healthy, strong body to the healthy, strong spirit. Deconstructing the performance – its staging, materiality, themes, and subtext – using a performative communications theory approach, Okropiridze showed the

many different layers operating in such a performance and how they should be read outward within the context of interactive experiences and sets of assumptions.

Friday's final panel focused on the various ways spiritually motivated activism and sacred architecture incorporate, narrativize, and deploy memory. Jens Kugele (LMU Munich) focused on the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., showing how the building has been subtly but distinctly modified over time and how these new touches and details narrativize and renarrativize the cultural memory depicted and deployed by the structure. Maarten Paulusse (Heidelberg University) similarly looked at the way memory is deployed as narrative in his examination of the spiritual underpinnings of the "Occupy Wall Street" movement. Both of these papers called attention to the particular molding and unfolding of selected narrative strands into a greater "tradition" that is then deployed to specific purposes. Both papers also focused on the "silences" inherent in such narratives, that is, which voices and stories are left untold, and why that might be. The discussion that followed returned to all of the various topics from the day's panels and was a thoughtful, spirited way to end the panel sessions.

On Saturday, participants convened three separate workshops focusing on different aspects of the research process itself. Kelly Baker and Anthony Santoro revisited questions of "legitimacy" of subject and approach; Kathryn Lofton and Katja Rakow led a vibrant discussion on the role of the body, bodily practices, and consumption in the creation and living of "experience worlds"; and Omri Elisha and Sebastian Emling led participants in a consideration of how believers discern the voice of the divine, what that compels them to tell scholars about their experiences, and how researchers should position themselves as researchers in detailing and working with these experiences. Saturday's workshops were extremely productive, with participants collegially sharing their tips, techniques, failures, and revisions around the table. It also had a therapeutic benefit in participants realizing that despite much of their work taking place within the confines of their studies, they are engaged in multiple interconnected extended communities at the same time. Thus bolstered and with new tools and techniques to use in their ongoing research, teaching, and studies, attendees capped off a highly successful weekend with a barbecue in the HCA's garden before departing back to their studies and future findings and publications.

JAMES W.C. PENNINGTON AWARD OF THE HEIDELBERG CENTER FOR AMERICAN STUDIES AND THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY, HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY



Celebrating the first recipient of the Jonathan Edwards Award (l. to r.): Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, Joanne Shima, Prof. Albert J. Raboteau, Prof. Dr. Bernhard Eitel

On June 14, 2012, the HCA celebrated the first recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award, Professor Albert J. Raboteau, Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion, Princeton University, and James W.C. Pennington Distinguished Fellow, Heidelberg Center for American Studies (see p. 37).

In 2011, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) and the Faculty of Theology of Heidelberg University established the James W.C. Pennington Award. The first awards were generously endowed by the Manfred Lautenschläger Foundation. The prize pays tribute to the African American churchman and former slave James W.C. Pennington, who in 1849 received an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University. Born in 1809, Pennington escaped bondage at the age of eighteen. He learned to read and write and in 1834 was the first black man to attend classes at Yale University. In 1838 he was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church. At the 1849

World Peace Congress in Paris, Pennington was befriended by the Heidelberg scholar Friedrich Carové. Pennington so impressed Carové that in the same year he persuaded the Heidelberg Faculty of Theology to confer a doctoral degree on the black minister. It was the first time that an African American received this highest academic honor from a European university and perhaps from any university worldwide.

The James W.C. Pennington Award is given to scholars who have done distinguished work on topics important to Pennington: slavery, emancipation, peace, education, reform, civil rights, religion, and intercultural understanding. The award encompasses a month-long stay in Heidelberg to engage in research on and discuss these topics. On the occasion of the award ceremony, recipients give a public lecture exploring new avenues in their respective fields of research. When the new award was inaugurated in June 2011, U.S. President Barack Obama sent official greetings to the HCA to convey his gratitude for the initiative and express his conviction that honoring Pennington's achievements would inspire future generations of Americans and Germans. The first award was bestowed on Professor Albert J. Raboteau, the esteemed scholar of the history of African American religion from Princeton University and author of *Slave Religion: The 'Invisible Institution' in the Antebellum South*. Professor Raboteau spoke on "Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement as Precedent for Religion in U.S. Politics."

After the official welcomes by Rector Professor Dr. Eitel and by Professor Dr. Junker, Professor Dr. Stievernann introduced the recipient of the award. Professor Raboteau grew up in a segregated United States, but when he was a college student, the Civil Rights Movement gained momentum. Professor Raboteau went to Yale University, which was predominantly white. He is the author of a number of books and journal articles on African American religion and history and as a scholar made slave religion more visible in the history of the United States.

In his acceptance speech, Professor Raboteau thanked Heidelberg University and said he was "honored and gratified to receive the Pennington Award." Professor Raboteau dedicated the following lecture to his great-grandmother, who was a slave, and to his great-grandfather. He began his lecture on Martin Luther King, Jr. by singing the hymn of the Civil Rights Movement, "We Shall Overcome," in which he was joined by the audience.

In his talk, Professor Raboteau described the hardship of African Americans under Jim Crow and during the Civil Rights Movement and gave the church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama, as an example: In 1963 several young black girls were killed in an attack on a church, which sparked outrage throughout the country. Professor Raboteau explained that King knew that non-violence needed active resistance. He also argued that the movement for equality was not over yet and that hopeful examples still existed today. In his opinion, the current debate over religion in politics, particularly in the light of the upcoming presidential elections, was not improved by the ignorant behavior of the media.

After Professor Raboteau's insightful lecture, the HCA invited the large and receptive audience to a splendid reception in the HCA's backyard.

RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPERVISED BY HCA FACULTY

The following HCA staff members and associates are currently working on their Ph.D. projects which address major topics and problems in American Studies:



JENS HOFMANN, M.A.

"Subsidized Hegemony? The Problem of the Offset Treaties in U.S.-German Relations, 1960-1976"

Supervisor: Prof.Dr. Manfred Berg (History Department)

Between 1961 and 1976, the United States and Germany signed eight treaties designed to offset the security costs for stationing American troops on German soil as a conventional counterbalance and deterrence to the military forces of the Soviet Union. The initiative for these Offset treaties originally came from the Eisenhower Administration, which argued that Germany should take an active part in the financing of the burdens of the Cold War's security costs. Germany first accepted but grew more and more displeased with the Offset agreements, claiming that the U.S. was using its dominant position within the NATO alliance to draw money from Germany. However, it was only in 1976 when Chancellor Helmut Schmidt finally succeeded in persuading U.S. President Gerald Ford that the Offset treaties were out of date.

This dissertation project aims at a variety of goals. First of all, it wants to shed light on the process and the arguments brought forward to convince the Ford Administration of finally terminating the Offset agreements. For that reason, it focuses on the political, economic, and cultural background and the actions that propelled or aggravated this process. Second, by integrating the theoretical and methodological approaches of other disciplines such as political science, sociology, psychology and anthropology, the project aims at combining the traditional focus and approach of diplomatic history with the concepts of social history and cultural studies. However, it still conceives political factors and actions as the driving force in the field of international relations. Third, the project comprehends itself as a contribution to the research of U.S.-German relations during the short period of the Ford presidency, which has been widely neglected so far in comparison with the U.S.-German relations during the Carter presidency, characterized by continuously growing disagreement.



KATIA ROSTETTER, M.A.

“‘Spaces of Decivilization’: A Civilization-Studies Approach to Cormack McCarthy’s Fiction”

Supervisor: Prof.Dr.DietmarSchloss (English Department)

Long ignored and sometimes even denounced as merely another writer who exploits depictions of excessive violence to attract readers, Cormac McCarthy has only recently been recognized as a writer of serious fiction by literary critics.

This dissertation, which is part of a larger project on “Violence and the Hidden Constraints of Democracy: A New Civilization Studies Approach to Contemporary American Fiction,” aims at a more comprehensive understanding of the role of violence in Cormac McCarthy’s fiction. It looks at depictions of violence in their context, as part of the societies McCarthy portrays in his books. The dissertation will look at and explain the frequent and sometimes very graphic violence found in McCarthy’s fiction using theories of modernization and civilization as theoretical framework. In particular, Norbert Elias’ theoretical premise that the process of increasing pacification of the habitus is closely connected, in fact, indivisibly linked, to processes of state-formation as ever more complex and dense networks of interdependence evolve will inform my approach to understand the depictions of violence in their societal context. The project aims to look at the depictions of violence in Cormac McCarthy’s fiction from two different but connected angles. First, it approaches the novels as metaphorical or allegorical commentaries on American society and the role of violence therein. Second, the project aims to explore the sociological and aesthetic dimension of literary depictions of violence. Questions concerning the reasons why violence seems to be attractive to largely pacified readers living in a democratic state, or how depictions of violence might offer an outlet for feelings which have to be repressed in postmodern American society, will guide this part of the dissertation project. As part of the larger project, this subproject aspires to give a better understanding of the role violence plays in American fiction, and how it is then reflected upon American society.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

The following list includes books and book chapters, articles and entries for reference works that have been published by HCA faculty and staff in 2011-12. It furthermore encompasses publications relevant to the field of American Studies that have been published by scholars affiliated with the HCA.

Manfred Berg (HCA and History Department)

Popular Justice: A History of Lynching in America (Chicago: Ivan Dee Publishers, 2011).

With Simon Wendt, eds., *Racism in Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation* (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2011).

With Simon Wendt, eds., *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

With Simon Wendt, "Introduction. Racism in Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation," in: *Racism in Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation*. Ed. by Manfred Berg und Simon Wendt (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2011), 1-19.

With Simon Wendt, "Introduction: Lynching from an International Perspective," in: *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective*. Ed. by Manfred Berg and Simon Wendt (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), 1-18.

Berg, Manfred, "Der 11. September – eine historische Zäsur?" in: *Zeithistorische Forschungen/Studies in Contemporary History* 8/3 (2011): 463-474.

"Race and Reform: The Establishment Responds to the African American Civil Rights Movement," in: *The 'Establishment' Responds – Power, Politics, and Protest since 1945*. Ed. by Kathrin Fahlenbrach, Martin Klimke, Joachim Scharloth, and Laura Wong (New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), 77-90.

"Lynching and the Ambivalence of Modernity," in: *Fractured Modernity: America Confronts Modern Times, 1890s to 1940s*. Ed. by Thomas Welskopp and Alan Lessoff (München: R. Oldenbourg Verlag, 2012), 151-168.

"Ziemlich beste Freunde. Saudi-Arabien ist eine islamische Despotie und müsste für die USA eigentlich zur 'Achse des Bösen' gehören. Dennoch sind die beiden Länder seit 1945 fest verbündet. Die Geschichte einer sonderbaren Allianz," *DIE ZEIT*, May 3, 2012.

Tobias Endler

After 9/11: Leading Political Thinkers about the World, the U.S., and Themselves (Opladen & Farmington Hills, Mich.: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2011).

How to Be a Superpower: The Public Intellectual Debate on the Global Role of the United States after September 11 (Opladen & Toronto: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2012).

"In the Arena! Ein Aufruf." *Carta*, (September 4, 2012), <http://carta.info/47955/in-die-arena/>.

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (English Department)

With Rocio G. Davis and Johanna Kardux, eds., *Aesthetic Practices and Politics in Media, Music, and Art: Performing Migration* (New York and London: Routledge, 2011).

Philipp Gassert (University of Augsburg)

"Erzählungen vom Ende: Rückblick und Ausblick auf das amerikanische Jahrhundert," in: *Osteuropa* 61 (2011): 13-29.

"Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung: Einleitende Überlegungen zum historischen Ort des NATO-Doppelbeschlusses von 1979," in: *Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung. Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive*. Ed. By Philipp Gassert, Tim Geiger and Hermann Wentker (München: Oldenbourg, 2011), 7-29.

"Viel Lärm um Nichts? Die Debatte um den NATO-Doppelbeschluss als Katalysator gesellschaftlicher Selbstverständigung in der Bundesrepublik," in: *Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung. Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive*. Ed. by Philipp Gassert, Tim Geiger and Hermann Wentker (München: Oldenbourg, 2011), 175-202.

"Die Popularität der Apokalypse: Überlegungen zu einer Kulturgeschichte der Nuklearangst seit 1945," in: *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* 46 (2011).

"Eliten für das amerikanische Jahrhundert. Zur Politik von Elitennetzwerken im transatlantischen und globalen Kontext," in: *Abschied vom Professorium. Beiträge aus 7 Jahren 'Historische Ringvorlesung'*, ed. by Stefan Grüner und Günther Kronenbitter, (Augsburg 2011), 179-196.

"Die Vermarktung des Zeitgeistes: Nicoles ‚Ein bißchen Frieden‘ (1982) als akustisches und visuelles Dokument," in: *Zeithistorische Forschungen* 9 (2012): 168-174.

"The Specter of Americanization: Western Europe in the American Century," in: *Oxford Handbook*

of *Postwar European History*, ed. by Dan Stone (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), 188-200.

"Popularität der Apokalypse: Überlegungen zu einer Kulturgeschichte der Nukleangst seit 1945," in: *Das Ende des Atomzeitalters*. Ed. by Johannes Piepenbrink (Bonn: Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung, 2012), 126-141.

"Transnationale Geschichte," in: *Zeitgeschichte: Konzepte und Methoden*, ed. by Frank Bösch und Jürgen Danyel (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2012), 447-464.

"Antiamerikanismus und Anti-Imperialismus um 1968: Proteste gegen die US-Außenpolitik," in: *1968 und die "68er": Ereignisse, Wirkungen und Kontroversen in der Bundesrepublik*. Ed. by Gerit Dworok and Christoph Weißmann (Köln: Böhlau Verlag, 2012), 153-170.

"Arbeit am Konsens im Streit um den Frieden: Die Nuklearkrise der 1980er Jahre als Medium gesellschaftlicher Selbstverständigung," in: *Archiv für Sozialgeschichte* 52 (2012): 489-514.

Iris Hahn-Santoro (HCA)

"Advantages of Bilingualism," in: *Tribal Observer* 22 (2011): 21.

Mischa Honeck (GHI Washington, D.C.)

We Are the Revolutionists: German-Speaking Immigrants and American Abolitionists after 1848 (Athens, Ga.: The University of Georgia Press, 2011).

"An Unexpected Alliance: August Willich, Peter H. Clark, and the Abolitionist Movement in Cincinnati," in: *Germans and African Americans: Two Centuries of Exchange*. Ed. by Larry A. Greene and Anke Ortlepp (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2011), 17-36.

"Abolitionists from the Other Shore: Radical German Immigrants and the Transnational Struggle to End American Slavery," in: *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 56/2 (2011): 10-48.

With Peter Meusburger, "Amerikanische Studierende bis 1915," in: *Wissenschaftsatlas Heidelberg: 625 Jahre wissenschaftliche und räumliche Beziehungen der Universität Heidelberg*. Ed. by Peter Meusburger (Knittlingen: Bibliotheca Palatina, 2011), 224-28.

"A Cheer for Free Labor Cotton: Transatlantic Antislavery Economies and Mid-Nineteenth Century Reform," in: *American Economies*. Ed. by Eva Boesenberg, Reinhard Isensee, and Martin Klepper (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012), 35-56.

Günter Leyboldt (HCA and English Department)

"'The Fall into Institutionalization': Literary Culture in the Program Era," *American Literary History* 23.4 (2011): 844-859.

"Don DeLillo's Auratische Dinge," in: *Warenästhetik: Neue Perspektiven auf Konsum, Kultur und Kunst*. Ed. by Heinz Drügh, Christian Metz and Björn Weyand (Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 2011), 225-247.

"Emerson and the Romantic Literary Field," in: *Civilizing and Decivilizing Processes: Figurational Approaches to American Culture*. Ed. by Christa Buschendorf, Astrid Franke, and Johannes Voelz (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011), 209-26.

Wilfried Mausbach (HCA)

"Vereint marschieren, getrennt schlagen? Die amerikanische Friedensbewegung und der Widerstand gegen den NATO-Doppelbeschluss," in: *Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive*. Ed. by Philipp Gassert, Tim Geiger, and Hermann Wentker (München: Oldenbourg Verlag, 2011), 283-304.

With Dietmar Schloss and Martin Thunert, eds. *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012).

With Dietmar Schloss and Martin Thunert, "The American Presidency: History, Politics, Culture," in: *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*. Ed. by Wilfried Mausbach, Dietmar Schloss, and Martin Thunert (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012), 1-53.

With Christoph Becker-Schaum, Philipp Gassert, Martin Klimke, and Marianne Zepp, eds. *"Entrüstet Euch!" Nuklearkrise, NATO-Doppelbeschluss und Friedensbewegung* (Paderborn: Schöningh, 2012).

With Belinda Davis, Martin Klimke, and Carla MacDougall, eds. *Changing the World, Changing Oneself: Political Protest and Collective Identities in West Germany and the U.S. in the 1960s and 1970s* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2012 (paperback edition)).

Peter Meusbürger (Department of Geography)

With M. Heffernan and E. Wunder, "Cultural Memories. An Introduction," in: *Cultural Memories. The Geographical Point of View. Knowledge and Space 4*. Ed. by P. Meusbürger, M. Heffernan and E. Wunder (Dordrecht: Springer, 2011), 3-14.

"Knowledge, Cultural Memory, and Politics," in: *Cultural Memories. The Geographical Point of View. Knowledge and Space 4*. Ed. by P. Meusburger, M. Heffernan and E. Wunder (Dordrecht: Springer, 2011), 51-72.

With M. Honeck, "US-Amerikanische Studierende bis 1914," in: *Wissenschaftsatlas der Universität Heidelberg*. Ed. by P. Meusburger and Th. Schuch (Knittlingen: Bibliotheca Palatina, 2011), 296-299.

With T. Schuch, eds. *Wissenschaftsatlas of Heidelberg University: Spatio-temporal Relations of Academic Knowledge Production* (Knittlingen: Bibliotheca Palatina, 2012).

With M. Honeck. "American Students up to 1914," in: *Wissenschaftsatlas of Heidelberg University: Spatio-temporal Relations of Academic Knowledge Production*. Ed. by Peter Meusburger and T. Schuch (Knittlingen: Bibliotheca Palatina, 2012), 269-99.

Charles Postel (HCA and San Francisco State University)

"Why Norquist's Pledge Is Different." *Politico* (December 8, 2011), <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1211/70111.html>

"The Tea Party in Historical Perspective: A Conservative Response to a Crisis of Political Economy," in *Steep: The Precipitous Rise of the Tea Party*. Ed. by Lawrence Rosenthal and Christine Trost (San Francisco: University of California Press, 2012).

"Occupy: Die Wiederkehr des amerikanischen Populismus," *Mittelweg* 36 21.5 (2012): 46-52.

"Why Voter ID Laws Are Like a Poll Tax." *Politico* (August 7, 2012), <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0812/79416.html>

"The End of White Affirmative Action." *Reuters* (November 16, 2012), <http://blogs.reuters.com/great-debate/2012/11/16/the-end-of-white-affirmative-action/>

Dietmar Schloss (HCA and English Department)

With Wilfried Mausbach and Martin Thunert, eds., *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012).

With Wilfried Mausbach and Martin Thunert, "The American Presidency: History, Politics, Culture," in *The American Presidency*. Ed. by Wilfried Mausbach, Dietmar Schloss, and Martin Thunert (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012), 1-53.

Laura Stapane (HCA)

"Mediale und visuelle Strategien der Friedensbewegung," in *"Entrüstet Euch!" Nuklearkrise, NATO-Doppelbeschluss und Friedensbewegung*. Ed. by Christoph Becker-Schaum, Philipp Gassert, Martin Klimke, Wilfried Mausbach and Marianne Zepp (unter Mitarbeit v. Laura Stapane) (Paderborn: Schöningh Verlag, 2012), 229-246.

Jan Stievermann (HCA and Theology Department)

"Der Heidelberger Katechismus in Nordamerika: Von der Kolonialzeit bis zum Bürgerkrieg," in: *Evangelische Theologie* 72.6 (2012): 435-446.

"Increase Mather," in: *Dictionary of Early American Philosophers*. Ed. by John R. Shook (New York: Continuum, 2012), 698-704.

Martin Thunert (HCA)

"The Performance of Canadian Democracy and Governance within the OECD World – An Analysis through the Lens of the Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) Project," in *Canadian Studies: The State of the Art*. Ed. by Klaus-Dieter Ertler, Stewart Gill, Susan Hodggett, and Patrick James (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2011), 33-56.

"Wirkung von Gesellschaftsberatung – Grenzen, Potenziale und Evaluationsmöglichkeiten," in *Was Politik von Bürgern lernen kann. Potenziale politikbezogener Gesellschaftsberatung*. Ed. by Bertelsmann Stiftung (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 2011), 167-200

With Andrew Sharpe and Donald J. Savoie, *Country Report Canada, Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 2011), Online at http://sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI11_Canada.pdf.

With Andreas Falke and Paul Quirk, *Country Report United States, Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 2011), Online at http://sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI11_USA.pdf.

With Edgar von Knebel and Klaus Schmidt-Hebbel, *Country Report Chile, Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 2011), Online at http://sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI11_Chile.pdf.

With Jörg Faust and George Philip, *Country Report Mexico, Sustainable Governance Indicators 2011* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 2011), Online at http://sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI11_Mexico.pdf.

"Think Tanks in Germany," in *Think Tanks in Policy-Making, Do They Matter?* Ed. by Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung – Shanghai Office (2011), 43-54. (English and Mandarin).

"Der Wahlsieg der Konservativen und die Zukunft des kanadischen Parteiensystems," *Zeitschrift für Kanada-Studien*, 31. 2 (2011): 27-34.

With Wilfried Mausbach and Dietmar Schloss, eds., *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012).

"Beyond the Imperial Presidency: Presidential Power and Its Limits during the George W. Bush Presidency," in: *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*. Ed. by Martin Thunert, Wilfried Mausbach, and Dietmar Schloss (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag 2012), 135-166.

With Wilfried Mausbach and Dietmar Schloss, "The American Presidency: History, Politics, Culture," in *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*. Ed. by Wilfried Mausbach, Dietmar Schloss, and Martin Thunert (Heidelberg: Winter, 2012), 1-53.

"Regieren und Politikberatung. Akteure, Einfluss und Legitimation," in *Handbuch Regierungsforschung*. Ed. by Timo Grunden and Karl-Rudolf Korte (Wiesbaden: Springer-VS 2012), 319-28.

"Vom Think Tank zum Do-Tank. Wohin steuern die Denkfabriken?" *CSR Magazin* 1.5 (2012): 18-20.

With Caroline Rosenthal and Doris Eibl, "Editorial." *Zeitschrift für Kanada-Studien* 32 (2012): 3-6.

Simon Wendt (Goethe University Frankfurt)

With Manfred Berg, eds., *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

With Manfred Berg, eds., *Racism in the Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation* (New York: Berghahn, 2011).

With Michael Butter and Patrick Keller, eds., *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2011).

"Bodybuilding, Male Bodies, and Masculinity in 19th and 20th Century America: Eugen Sandow and Arnold Schwarzenegger," in *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image*. Ed. by Michael Butter, Patrick Keller, and Simon Wendt (Heidelberg: Winter, 2011), 25-48.

"Nationalist Middle-Class Women, Memory, and Conservative Family Values, 1890-1945," in *Inventing the Modern American Family: Family Values and Social Change in 20th Century United States*. Ed. by Isabel Heinemann (Frankfurt: Campus, 2012), 31-58.

SELECTED TALKS

During 2011-12, the following HCA staff members, students, and associates gave talks at the conferences, workshops, and panel discussions listed below.

Manfred Berg (History Department and HCA)

"Lynchjustiz: Amerikas 'nationales Verbrechen' in globaler Perspektive." Universität Hamburg, Hamburger Vorträge zu Gewalt und Genozid, January 2012, Hamburg.

"Ursprünge und Formen der Sklaverei in Nordamerika; Die Unterdrückung der Afroamerikaner nach dem Bürgerkrieg und die Lynchjustiz." Fridtjof-Nansen-Haus, January 2012, Ingelheim.

"'Free At Last'? Afroamerikanische Geschichte und Gegenwart in der politischen Kultur der USA." Fridtjof-Nansen-Haus, January 2012, Ingelheim.

"Das Ende der Lynchjustiz in den USA." Carl-Schurz-Haus, February 2012, Freiburg.

"Das Ende der Lynchjustiz in den USA." Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut, April 2012, Tübingen.

"Lynching: America's 'National Crime' from a Global Perspective." Buffalo State College Buffalo, October 2012, New York.

"Lynching: America's 'National Crime' from a Global Perspective." State University of New York at Buffalo, October 2012, New York.

"Lynching: America's 'National Crime' from a Global Perspective." University of North Carolina. Keynote speaker. Without Sanctuary: A Conference on Lynching and the American South, October 2012, Charlotte, North Carolina.

"From White Supremacy to the White House: The Struggle for Black Voting Rights in Historical Perspective." Electoral Cultures: American Democracy and Choice, Amerika-Haus München, November 2012, München.

Tobias Endler (HCA)

"After 9/11: Leading Political Thinkers about the World, the U.S., and Themselves." Book Launch, HCA, Heidelberg University, April 2011, Heidelberg.

"10 Years After 9/11: Social and Cultural Changes in American Society." Panel Discussion, English Theatre, September 2011, Frankfurt/Main.

"9/11 als Zäsur? Buchvorstellungen zum Thema." Conference Zeitenwende 11. September? Eine transatlantische Bilanz zehn Jahre danach, HCA, Heidelberg University, September 2011, Heidelberg.

"The World After 9/11." Deutsches Haus at NYU, September 2011, New York, USA.

"Ein Blick von Innen: Wie denkt Amerika heute über den 11. September?" September 2011, Multikulturelles Zentrum, Dessau.

"10 years after 9/11: How Does U.S. Foreign Policy Evolve in Light of the 2012 Presidential Elections." Panel Discussion, Center for North American Studies, University of Economics, November 2011, Bratislava, Slovakia.

"Amerika – der fremde Freund." BR-alpha: *Forum Wissenschaft*, February 2012.

"After 9/11 – Reading and Discussion." Leipziger Buchmesse 2012, March 2012, Leipzig.

"BR Fernsehen – *alpha forum* Porträtgespräch." BR-alpha, October 2012.

"Die gespaltenen Medien von Amerika. Panel Discussion." Presseclub München and Bayerischer Journalisten Verband BJV, October 2012, München.

"Panel Discussion on the U.S. Election: Wie denkt Amerika?" Universität Augsburg (Philolog.-Historische Fakultät) and IHK Schwaben, October 2012, Augsburg.

"Countdown für Obama." Panel Discussion on the U.S. Election, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, October 2012, Heidelberg.

"Election Night Leipzig Panel Discussion." U.S. Consulate General Leipzig, November 2012, Leipzig.

"MDR Aktuell." TV-Interview on the US elections. MDR-Fernsehen, November 2012.

"Evaluation of the U.S. Election." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2012, Heidelberg.

Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota and HCA)

"Elihu Palmer's Enlightenment: Vitalist Materialism in a Transatlantic Context." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 2011, Boston, USA.

"Women, War, and Violence in Early America." Fifteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, June 2011, Amherst, Massachusetts.

"The Historical Discipline in American Doctoral Programs and the Future of Area Studies." Conference Internationalisierung der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften zwischen Area Studies und systematischen Disziplinen, Deutsches Historisches Institut, November 2011, Paris, France.

"Religion and the Founders." Lecture and Workshop, Teacher Training Seminar, Center for United States Studies at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle-Wittenberg and by the Consulate General in Leipzig, November 2011, Lutherstadt Wittenberg.

"Enlightenment Heritage: Vitalist Materialism and its Radical Egalitarian Promise in the Early American Republic." French Association for American Studies, May 2012, University of Perpignan, France.

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (English Department)

"'Artifacts of a Shared Imagination': Circulating Cultures in Amitav Ghosh's *Sea of Poppies*." Symposium Transnational American Cultures: Stories, Objects, Spaces, The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA) and City University of Hong Kong, March 2011, Hong Kong, SAR, People's Republic of China.

"Border Crossings: The Mexican-U.S. Border in Hollywood Films." Lecture series (Trans-) Migration in den Amerikas sponsored by the Department for Romance Languages and the Initiative for Excellence Transcultural Studies, June 2011, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg.

"Moodling Through the Indian Diaspora: An Interdisciplinary, Transnational E-Learning Project." International Conference Life Without Media, Blanquerna Faculty of Communication, Ramon Llull University, June and July 2011, Barcelona, Spain.

"Economies of Global Empire in Amitav Ghosh's *Ibis* Trilogy." Landscape, Seascape, and the Spatial Imagination, Center for the Humanities, National Sun Yat-sen University, November 2012, Taiwan.

Philipp Gassert (University of Augsburg)

“Die Nuklearkrise: NATO-Doppelbeschluss, Friedensbewegung und die Nachrüstungskontroverse der 1980er Jahre.” Augsburger Hochschulkreis der Katholischen Akademie in Bayern, January 2011, Augsburg.

“Eliten für das amerikanische Jahrhundert: Zur Politik von Elitennetzwerken im transatlantischen und globalen Kontext.” Lecture Series Eliten in der Geschichte, January 2011, Augsburg.

“Der 11. September – Eine Wendepunkt der Weltgeschichte?” Catholic University, January 2011, Eichstätt.

“Die Nuklearkrise: Nachrüstungsdebatte, Populärkultur und gesellschaftliche Selbstverständigung in den 1980er Jahren.” Zeitgeschichtliches Kolloquium der Universität Jena, February 2011, Jena.

“Viel Lärm um Nichts? NATO-Doppelbeschluss, Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung, 1979-1983.” Treff im Stift Obernkirchen, February 2011, Obernkirchen.

“The End of the American Century?” Conference American Dream – Escape from Old Europe? Central and Eastern Europe between Desires, Fears, and Illusions, Goethe-Institute, February 2011, Prague.

“The Nuclear Crisis: Popular Culture, Political Protest, and Social Change during the 1970s and 1980s.” GHI London and Institute of Historical Research of the University of London, March 2011, London.

“Wohin treibt die deutsche Außenpolitik? Zur Zukunft der transatlantischen Beziehungen.” University Talks Future, May 2011, Augsburg.

“Nuclear Questions: The Nuclear Crisis and the Peace Politics of the 1970s and 1980s.” Conference 1979-1981: Un tournant dans les relations internationales, GHI Paris, May 2011, Paris.

“9/11 – A Turing Point in World History?” Conference 9/11 – Ten Years After: History, Narrative, Memory, Amerika-Haus München, July 2011, Munich.

“Zeitenwende 9/11? Antiamerikanismus und Antieuropäismus.” Conference Zeitenwende 9/11? Eine transatlantische Bilanz, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, September 2011, Heidelberg.

“Antiamerikanismus und Anti-Imperialismus um 1968: Proteste gegen die US-Außenpolitik.” Conference 1968 und die 68er: Ereignisse, Wirkungen und Kontroversen in der Bundesrepublik, University of Würzburg, October 2011, Würzburg.

“Die Nuklearkrise: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss, die Nachrüstungsdebatte und das Ende des Kalten Krieges.” Universitas Ruperto Carola, November 2011, Heidelberg.

“After ‘68: Protest Movements in Italy and Europe in the Last Decades of the Cold War.” Biblioteca del Senato della Repubblica, November 2011, Rome.

“Die Salemer Hexenprozesse: Ereignis und Erinnerung.” Lecture Series Hexerei und Hexenverfolgung. Interdisziplinäre Annäherungen, Augsburg University, December 2011, Augsburg.

“Biographik und Landesgeschichte.” Zeughaus Mannheim, December 2011, Mannheim.

“The Anti-American as Americanizer: Revisiting the Anti-American Century in Germany.” Department of General History, University of Haifa, January 2012, Haifa.

“Der Erdölpreisschock 1973 und seine Folgen.” Lecture Series Wirtschaftskrisen in der Geschichte, University of Augsburg, February 2012, Augsburg.

“Der Erdölpreisschock 1973 und seine Folgen.” Dominikus-Zimmermann-Gymnasium, Landsberg am Lech, February 2012, Landsberg am Lech.

“Amerikanisches Leben in Augsburg.” exhibition opening Amerikanisches Leben in Augsburg, Neue Stadtbücherei, March 2012, Augsburg.

“Was tun mit den Augsburger Erinnerungen an Amerika? Konzeptionelle Überlegungen zu einem Friedensort Halle 116.” Conference Amerika in Augsburg: Aneignungen und globale Verflechtungen in einer Stadt, University of Augsburg, March 2012, Augsburg.

“‘Vertrauen, Einsicht und guten Willen zu wecken’: Überlegungen zu einem Schlüsselbegriff westdeutscher Außenpolitik.” 49. Deutscher Historikertag, September 2012, Mainz.

“Wahlen, die Geschichte machten: Zwölf epochale US-Präsidentschaftswahlen.” d.a.i. Tübingen, October 2012, Tübingen.

“Vor der Präsidentenwahl: Wie denkt Amerika?” IHK Schwaben und Presseclub Augsburg, October 2012, Augsburg.

“New York als Ort der Katastrophe vor und nach 9/11.” Catholic University Eichstätt, November 2012, Eichstätt.

“Krisen und Übergänge: Der weltpolitische Kontext zu Beginn der 1960er Jahre.” Conference Das Zweite Vatikanum in seiner und unserer Zeit, Katholische Akademie in Bayern, November 2012, München.

“Überlegungen zu einem Friedensort Halle 116 – ‘Museum der Befreiung’.” November 2012, Augsburg.

Iris Hahn-Santoro (HCA)

“The Importance of Language Revitalization.” Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Week, May 2011, Mount Pleasant, Mich., USA.

“The Unsuccessful Success Story of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe: Language Revitalization Efforts on the Isabella Reservation.” HCA Ph.D. Colloquium, July 2011, Ritschweiher.

Mischa Honeck (German Historical Institute, Washington D.C.)

“‘Freemen of all Nations, Bestir Yourselves!’ Exile, Emancipation, and Cosmopolitan Nationalism in the Age of the American Civil War.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 2011, Boston.

“Why Continue to be the Humble Maid? The Transnational Abolitionist Sisterhood of Mathilde Franziska Anneke and Mary Booth.” Conference German and German-American Dimensions of the Civil War, University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 2011, Madison, Wisconsin.

“Uprooted Emancipators: Transatlantic Abolitionism, the American Civil War, and the Politics of Belonging.” Conference The Transnational Significance of the American Civil War: A Global History, University of Jena, September 2011, Jena.

“Campfire Diplomats: American Boy Scouts at the 1933 World Scout Jamboree.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 2012, Chicago.

“An Empire of Youth: A Global History of the Boy Scouts of America.” Center for Public Administration and Policy, Virginia Tech University, April 2012, Alexandria, Virginia.

“Men of Principle: The German American War for the Union.” Symposium Creating an Army to Preserve the Nation, United States Capitol Historical Society, May 2012, Washington, D.C.

“A German Blueprint for a New South: Karl Heinzen and the Radical Democracy.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association, November 2012, Mobile, Alabama.

Detlef Junker (HCA)

“Sind die USA eine imperiale Macht?” Lions Club Heidelberg, April 2011, Heidelberg.

“Sind die USA eine imperiale Macht?” Förderverein der Freunde des Historischen Seminars der Universität Heidelberg, May 2011, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg.

“The Widening Atlantic. Market Gap, War Gap, God Gap.” Center for Transatlantic Studies of the Jagiellonian University, June 2011, Krakow, Poland.

“Heidelberg Center for American Studies – Development and Structure.” Friends of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2011, New York.

“Sind die USA eine imperiale Macht?” Evangelische Kirche, January 2012, Walldorf.

“Sind die USA eine imperiale Macht?” Geburtstagskolloquium Prof. Klaus Schwabe, March 2012, Aachen.

“Obamas Amerika.” Bunsengymnasium, September 2012, Heidelberg.

“The Widening Atlantic: Market Gap, War Gap, God Gap.” Beijing Foreign Studies University, October 2012, Beijing.

“The Widening Atlantic: Market Gap, War Gap, God Gap.” Foreign Affairs University, October 2012, Beijing.

“Sind die USA eine imperiale Macht?” Heidelberger Geographische Gesellschaft HGG, November 2012, Heidelberg.

“Heidelberg Center for American Studies – Development and Structure.” Friends of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2012, New York.

“Obamas Amerika.” Heidelberger Kreis, November 2012, Heidelberg.

“Sind die USA (noch) eine imperiale Macht?” Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate / TU Kaiserslautern, November 2012, Lambrecht/Pfalz

Eva-Maria Kiefer

„Neue Angst durch 9/11? Der Einfluss medial verstärkter Bedrohung in den USA.“ Conference Zeitenwende 11. September? Eine transatlantische Bilanz zehn Jahre danach, HCA, Heidelberg University, September 2011, Heidelberg.

Günter Leypoldt

"Stationen des Charismabegriffs nach Hegel." Conference Genie und Charisma: Relationen zwischen dem alteuropäischen Geniebegriff und Max Webers Charisma-Theorie, June 2011, Heidelberg.

"Dignified Tackiness: Blue-Collar Poverty in the Work of Raymond Carver." Conference Arm und Nicht Sexy, FRIAS, July 2011, Freiburg.

"The Production of Singularity in the Literary Field." Conference Religion and the Market Place, HCA, October 2011, Heidelberg.

"New England Transcendentalism." University of Tübingen, November 2011, Tübingen.

"Schwarze Kultur? Zum ‚Ghetto‘-Diskurs aus praxeologischer Sicht." Conference Praxistheorien, December 2011, Heidelberg.

"The Construction Race: A Praxeological Approach." Conference on Praxeology, HGGG Heidelberg, December 2011, Heidelberg.

"The Transcendental Turn in New England." November 2012, Tübingen.

"Singularity in Sister Carrie." Vienna University, November 2012, Vienna.

"Singularity and the Market: Theodore Dreiser's Sister Carrie." Vienna University., November 2012, Vienna.

Julia Lichtenstein

"Spacing the Ultra-South: How Literary Southern Tropes Create Contemporary Dixie." HCA Spring Academy, March 2011, Heidelberg.

Wilfried Mausbach (HCA)

"Gun Passion? Waffenbesitz in den USA." Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum/ James F. Byrnes-Institut e.V., March 2011, Stuttgart.

"Gun Passion? The Second Amendment and What It Really Means." Democrats Abroad Heidelberg, May 2011, Heidelberg.

"Nuclear Winter: Bombs, Biospheres, and the 1970s/80s Crisis Decades." Annual Meeting of Historians within the German Association for American Studies, February 2012, Trier.

"Obama vor der Wiederwahl?" York-Pennsylvania Club, March 2012, Leinfelden-Echterdingen.

"Ist eine Welt ohne Atomwaffen eine Illusion?" SWR2 Journal, March 2012, Stuttgart.

"Die spinnen, die Amis: How Germans Perceive the U.S. Presidential Elections." Meeting of the Heidelberg Alumni U.S. (HAUS), May 2012, The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Peter Meusbürger (Department of Geography)

"Geography of Science." Eötvös Loránd University, November 2011, Budapest.

"Creative Milieus." Eötvös College, November 2011, Budapest.

"American Students at Heidelberg University before World War I." Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, February 2012, New York.

"Universities and Their Impact on Economy and Society. The Example of Heidelberg University." German House of Innovation and Science, February 2012, New York.

"First Heidelberg Lecture." March 2012, Delhi.

"Raumwissen und Wissensräume." Exzellenzcluster TOPOI, August 2012, Berlin.

"American Students in Heidelberg." Symposium Geography of Knowledge, September 2012, Loughborough, U.K.

Charles Postel (San Francisco State University and HCA)

"The Tea Party in Historical Context." University of Amsterdam, October 2011, Amsterdam.

"The Rise of the Tea Party Movement – Historical and Contemporary Contexts." Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum/ James F. Byrnes-Institut e.V. and Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Stuttgart, October 2011, Stuttgart

"The Crisis of Inequality – the Populist Response." public forum on the 2012 election, with John Fund (American Spectator), Newt Gingrich (video link), and Ken Sherman (video link), Literature House, Democrats and Republicans Abroad, October 2011, Oslo.

"The American Crisis of Inequality," NRK-TV, (Norwegian national public broadcast), November 2011, Oslo.

"Populism in the History of American Ideas." Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages, University of Oslo, U.S. Embassy Oslo, November 2011, Oslo.

"From the Tea Party to Occupy Wall Street – Historical Contexts." Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies, Norwegian Defense University College, U.S. Embassy Oslo, November 2011, Oslo.

"The Tea Party Movement." Regensburg European American Forum, the Institute for Political Science, and U.S. Consulate General Munich, November 2011, Oslo.

"The Farmers' Grange and the Making of Modern America." Ph.D. seminar, HCA, November 2011, Heidelberg.

"American Populism." public lecture, German Scholarship Foundation, University of Dortmund, November 2011, Dortmund.

"The Rise of the Tea Party Movement: Historical and Contemporary Contexts." American Studies, University of Dortmund, December 2011, Dortmund.

"The Civil Rights Movement." middle school history project, December 2011, Frankfurt/Main.

"The Tea Party Movement and American Populism: Historical and Contemporary Contexts." Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate and Department of Political Science, Technical University of Kaiserslautern, January 2012, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

"Populism, Progressivism, and the Present Crisis of Political Economy." Annual Conference of Historians in the German Society for American Studies, February 2012, Trier.

"Tea Party and Occupy Wall Street – Origins, Goals, and Meaning." Conference on the Tea Party, Occupy Wall St., and the 2012 U.S. Elections, Center for Political Education, Atlantic Academy of Rhineland-Palatinate, U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt, March 2012, Mainz.

"The Origins of the Tea Party Movement." Deutsch-Amerikanische Vereinigung der Parlamentsmitarbeiter, U.S. Embassy Berlin, March 2012, Berlin.

"The American Crisis of Inequality: Election 2012 in Historical Context." and "The Origins of the Tea Party Movement." National teacher training seminar, Universities of Greifswald and Rostock, U.S. Embassy Berlin, March 2012, Rostock.

"The Origins of the Tea Party Movement." Institute for American Studies, University of Leipzig, April 2012, Leipzig.

"Populism, Progressivism, Capitalism and Democracy." Annual Conference Organization of American Historians, April 2012, Milwaukee.

"What is the Tea Party Mad About? The Conservative Movement in Context." Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate, and U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt, April 2012, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

"Threat to Freedom or Models of Reform? Populism & Progressivism Then and Now." Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate, and U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt, April 2012, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

"Polarized Politics – The United States in the Age of the 'Tea Party' and 'Occupy'." Berliner Colloquien zur Zeitgeschichte, Einstein Forum, Hamburg Institute for Social Research, May 2012, Berlin.

"The U.S. and the 2012 Elections." Department of Journalism, University of Leipzig, U.S. Consulate General in Leipzig, May 2012, Leipzig.

"The American Crisis of Inequality: Elections 2012 in Historical Context." and "The Origins of the Tea Party Movement." Nationale Fachleiter Konferenz, U.S. Embassy, Amerikazentrum Hamburg, May 2012, Potsdam.

"Tea Party & Occupy Wall Street: Origins and Meanings." Bavarian American Academy, American Studies, Ludwig Maximilian University, May 2012, Munich.

"If They Repeal the Progressive Era Should We Care?" Annual Bryce Lecture (keynote address), Historians of the Twentieth Century U.S. (HOTCUS) Annual Conference, Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London, Fulbright Commission, June 2012, Middelburg.

"Populism and Modernity in American Culture." American Studies, University of Göttingen, June 2012, Göttingen.

"The Rise of the Tea Party Movement: Historical and Contemporary Contexts." Department of English and American Studies, Philipps University Marburg, June 2012, Marburg.

"Tea Party & Occupy Wall Street: Origins and Meanings." Carl-Schurz-Haus/Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut, July 2012, Freiburg.

"US Election 2012 – What Role Will Religion Play?" panel discussion, HCA, July 2012, Heidelberg.

"The Rise of the Tea Party Movement in Historical Context." American Studies Institute, German Fulbright Commission, San Francisco State University, September 2012, San Francisco.

"If They Repeal the Progressive Era, Should We Care?" Clinton Institute for American Studies, University College Dublin, Irish Fulbright Commission, October 2012, Dublin.

"What Role for the Tea Party? Election 2012." Presidential Election Forum, Netherlands American Studies Association, Leiden University, November 2012, Leiden.

Anthony Santoro (Department of History, Heidelberg University)

"Houses of Play, Houses of Spectacle: Professional Football and the Creation, Mediation and Branding of Sacred Space." Meeting of the German Association for the Study of Religion, September 2011, Heidelberg.

"Sensational Spaces." Conference Religion and the Marketplace in the United States: New Perspectives and New Findings, October 2011, Heidelberg.

"CongreNations: The Raider Nation, the Church of the Nation, and Experiences in the 'In-Between'." Media, Material, and Visual Components of Contemporary American Religious Erlebnisswelten ("Experience Worlds"), August 2012, Heidelberg.

"Society, Violence and Sacrifice in The Walking Dead: Robert Kirkman's Girardian Meditation on Just Violence." American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2012, Chicago.

Dietmar Schloss (HCA and English Department)

"Beyond Postmodernism? Don DeLillo's Novel Underworld (1997) and the Contemporary American Scene." Lecture Series Literaturgeschichte, English Department, Heidelberg University, February 2011, Heidelberg.

"Peace, Stability, and Risk: Joel Barlow on Commerce." Conference Speculations: Aesthetics, Risk, and Capital in the Circum-Atlantic World, 1790-1830, City University New York, April 2012, New York.

"Joel Barlow in Algiers: A Case Study of 18th Century Orientalism." Conference Hemispheric Encounters: The Early United States in a Transnational Perspective, University of Leipzig, April 2012, Leipzig.

Anja Schüler (HCA)

“‘The Real Conflicts and Difficulties Are Just the Same’: An International History of Chicago’s Hull House.” Workshop Enacting Social Reform: Religion, Charity, and Social Movements (1850–1939), Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum Geschichte und Kultur Ostmitteleuropas e.V. an der Universität Leipzig (GWZO), June 2012, Leipzig.

Daniel Silliman (HCA)

“Sacred Signs in a Secular Sky.” Conference Religion and the Marketplace, HCA, October 2011, Heidelberg.

“US Election 2012 – What Role will Religion Play?” Panel Discussion, HCA, July 2012, Heidelberg.

“The Possibility of Secularity and the Material History of Fiction.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2012, Chicago.

Jan Stievermann (HCA and Faculty of Theology)

“Envisioning the ‘Old World’.” Conference Old Creeds in the New World, University of Pennsylvania, December 2012, Philadelphia.

Martin Thunert (HCA)

“Multiculturalism and its Implications for the Welfare State: Canada as a Test Case?” Lecture series Northamerica, University of Kiel, January 2011, Kiel.

“Medien und Politik in der politischen Kultur der USA.” Conference Michelle Obama and the Media, University of Regensburg, January 2011, Regensburg.

“Amerikanische Politik, Medien und Gesellschaft: Neue Polarisierung oder alte Kontroversen.” Evangelische Akademie Arnoldshain, April 2011, Schmitten.

“A House Still Divided? Polarisierung in der amerikanischen Politik.” Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate, April 2011, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

“Contemporary Populism in North America: Canada and the United States Compared.” Free University, John F. Kennedy-Institut for North American Studies, May 2011, Berlin.

“Konservativer Aufbruch oder Strohfeuer? Die Tea Party Bewegung, die wieder erstarkten Repub-

likaner und die konservativ-libertäre Opposition zu Obama." Amerika-Zentrum Hamburg, May 2011, Hamburg.

"Blessing or Curse? Canada/Alberta as an Energy Supplier to the United States." Workshop Energy and Energy Security, HCA, May 2011, Heidelberg.

"Amerikanischer Konservatismus – Topographie und intellektuelle Strömungen." Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum Nürnberg, June 2011, Nürnberg.

"Ten Years After 9-11: A View from Germany." English Theatre Frankfurt, September 2011, Frankfurt/Main.

"Amerikanische Wahrnehmungen Europas vor und nach dem 11. September 2001." Conference Zeitenwende 9/11? Eine transatlantische Bilanz, HCA, September 2011, Heidelberg.

"American Politics 10 Years After 9/11 – Impact on Society: Elite Debates." Annual Meeting Political Scientists in the German Association for American Studies, November 2011, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

"US Foreign Policy in the Lead-Up to the Presidential Election: A Response to Kim Holmes (Heritage Foundation) and Jackson Janes (American Institute for Contemporary German Studies)." Hertie School of Governance, November 2011, Berlin.

"Die Think Tank Szene braucht externe Impulse." Symposium Think Tanks Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen, January 2012, Berlin.

"Tea Party und Occupy Wall Street: Welche Auswirkungen auf die Politik in Washington?" Conference on the Tea Party, Occupy Wall St., and the 2012 U.S. Elections, Center for Political Education, Atlantic Academy of Rhineland-Palatinate, U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt, March 2012, Mainz.

"Restoring America: The United States Facing the 2012 Presidential Election: Domestic Policy." Evangelische Akademie Loccum, June 2012, Loccum.

"Cooperation & Conflict in the Indian Ocean: Economic and Strategic Dynamics: the View of the United States." Hengstberger Symposium on Power, Politics and Maritime Governance in the Indian Ocean, Heidelberg University, July 2012, Heidelberg.

"Money Matters, But So Do Issues and Ideas! Issues, Ideen und Denkfabriken im Präsidentschaftsjahr 2012." Summer School 2012 Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate, August 2012, Lambrecht/Pfalz.

"Amerikanische Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik am Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts." Bundeswehr,

Fachhochschule des Bundes für Wehrtechnik, October 2012, Berlin.

"Decision USA 2012: Die *general campaign*, das Wahlverfahren und die *battleground states*." Atlantic Academy of the Rhineland-Palatinate, November 2012, Kaiserslautern.

"Election Night 2012 – Panel Discussion." U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt, November 2012, Frankfurt/Main.

"'Mosaic' vs. 'Melting Pot': North American Searches for (Multi-) Cultural Identities." Hessian Center for Political Education and Center for North American Studies, University of Frankfurt, November 2012, Weilburg.

"The U.S. 2012 Election Result and What it Means for the United States and for Transatlantic Relations." American-German Business Club Heidelberg, November 2012, Heidelberg.

"Die soziale und wirtschaftliche Lage in den USA: Herausforderungen und politischer Reformbedarf." Conference Die USA nach der Wahl – Konstanten der Innen- und Außenpolitik, Politische Akademie Tutzing, Dezember 2012, Tutzing.

SOHEYL GHAEMIAN TRAVEL FUND FOR SCHOLARS

In January of 2008, the Ghaemian Foundation established the Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars as part of its commitment to promote the arts and sciences in Heidelberg.

The purpose of the fund, which is administered by the HCA, is to facilitate research and scholarly exchange in the field of American Studies by providing grants for travel to a library, an archive, or academic conference. The fund is able to make annual allocations up to a total amount of 10,000 EUR. Grants are awarded in a speedy and unbureaucratic manner.

Especially in the humanities, and in particular for graduate students and younger scholars, the challenge to procure funds for research-related travel is ever recurrent and often insurmountable. The Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars helps alleviate this condition by assisting scholars with the expense of travel. Grants are awarded by the HCA on a competitive basis. Eligibility is limited to graduate students, Ph.D. candidates, and postdoctoral scholars at Heidelberg University who work on topics related to the United States, Canada, or transatlantic relations.

In 2012, the Ghaemian Travel Fund supported the following young scholars and their research projects:

Bahaa Aldahoudi (MAS, HCA): International Youth Leadership Conference, Prag, Czech Republic.

Bryan Banker (MAS, HCA): 8th Biannual MESEA (Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies) Conference, Barcelona, Spain.

Michael Drescher (Ph.D. candidate, HCA): "Poets of Protest – The Representation of Dissent in American Antebellum and German Vormärz Literature,"): 8th Biannual MESEA (Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies) Conference, Barcelona, Spain.

Eva-Maria Kiefer (Ph.D. candidate, HCA): "Is the U.S. Democracy Safe in Crisis? A New Assessment of Congressional Reaction to Threat Inflation due to Changed Paradigms after 9/11," Berlin, Germany.

Sophie Lorenz (Ph.D. candidate History Department): "'Peace, Friendship, Solidarity'? East Germany and Angela Davis, 1965 – 1989," Archival Research, Santa Cruz, California and New York, USA.

Maarten Paulusse (Ph.D. candidate, HCA): "Progressive Spirituality & The Religious Politics of the Millennial Generation," Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies, Trier, Germany.

Johannes Steffens (Ph.D. candidate, History Department): "The Racial Integration of the American Workplace: How U.S. and Foreign Companies Ended Racial Discrimination in Employment," Archival Research, New York, USA.

Bryce Taylor (MAS, HCA): Irish Association for American Studies Conference 2012. Cork, Ireland.



SPECIAL FEATURE

SPECIAL FEATURE

The author of this year's special feature is Leonard Schmieding from the University of Leipzig, who received this year's Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize for his 2011 dissertation "Jugendkultur HipHop in der DDR, 1983-1990." Dr. Schmieding is currently a Fulbright post-doc at Stanford University, studying nineteenth-century immigrant food cultures. Below, we document Schmieding's presentation on the occasion of the awarding of the Rolf Kentner Prize on November 15, 2012.

"HIP-HOP UNDER HONECKER: 'THIS IS OUR PARTY!'"

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please allow me to take you on a trip to 1984, when the movie *Beat Street* introduced hip-hop culture to audiences in America and Europe: In its first five minutes, which I will be showing here, you find everything you need to know in order to understand hip-hop and its four classic elements of b-boying and b-girling (breakdance), graffiti, DJing, and rap.

In my presentation today, I will analyze the cultural transfer of hip-hop that *Beat Street* triggered in the German Democratic Republic. I will start by focusing on the feature film *Beat Street* itself in order to show how it not only served as a mentor for hip-hop aficionados in the becoming, but also why it was imported, released, and highly acclaimed in the GDR by the officials of the Ministry of Culture as well as the media. I will then show how *Beat Street* inspired self-fashioning in its most literal sense: hip-hop fashion in the city. And lastly, I will concentrate on a graffiti-artist and a rapper and DJ, both from Dresden, to present two case studies about hip-hop culture and in the GDR.¹

In my analysis of this teenage fascination with American popular culture in East German socialism, I argue that many hip-hop practitioners became Black. I am here referring to Moritz Ege's study *Schwarz Werden* about afro-americanophilia in West Germany around 1968. I follow his definition of afro-americanophilia as a cultural theme: the appreciative appropriation and perception of cultural forms encoded as "Black" and the analogous relationship to Black people and/or their representations. Becoming Black, then, as a heuristic term for analysis, means an imaginary and symbolic identification with African-Americans. In my close readings of youth performing hip-hop in the GDR, I flesh out how they identified with African-Americans on an imaginary and symbolic level.²

Hip-Hop in East Germany: *Beat Street* as Cultural Mobilizer

Since it was impossible to directly interact with African-American agents of hip-hop culture in order to learn about and get involved in it, teenagers in East Germany got in touch with it through other channels: radio, television, and, most importantly, the feature film *Beat Street*.



The 2012 recipient of the Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize, Leonard Schmieding

Beat Street boosted the evolution and spread of hip-hop culture in the GDR, not only by amplifying teenage interest and involvement in breakdancing, DJing, rapping, and graffiti, but also by depicting “America” in a way the cultural authorities found acceptable. In this respect, the film also served as a point of reference for official appropriations of hip-hop culture. *Beat Street* made it onto the GDR screens for two reasons: One, it could be categorized as a so called problem-film, that is, a film criticizing the United States and thus educating its East German viewers about the dangers of American capitalism: racism, oppression, and exploitation; at the same time, it promised to draw an audience large enough to make it a “Millionenfilm,” the socialist name for a blockbuster, that is, a movie to make money with. While it is pretty clear that, with three million tickets sold, *Beat Street* indeed was a “Millionenfilm,” I highly doubt that teenage hip-hop heads interpreted the film as the officials had intended. So let us first look at the way the Ministry of Culture perceived and rated the movie and then see how the young hip-hoppers appropriated *Beat Street* for their own hybrid practice of hip-hop and their self-fashioning in the GDR.

The Ministry of Culture's head office for film approved *Beat Street* for public screening on March 14, 1985.³ Not only had they seized the very first opportunity to watch the movie, with a delegation traveling to West Berlin to attend its West German premiere on July 27, 1984, but they also approved it in a mere eleven months, a very short period compared to the approval process for other Hollywood productions and even other socialist movies.⁴

Their interpretation of *Beat Street* explained why this American movie should be screened in the GDR. Siegrid Geerds of the Progress film distribution company that handled the approval process stressed the aspects of community, of living in the ghetto, and the role hip-hop plays for the protagonists in coping with their everyday lives. This emphasis paved the way for a favorable review. The company recommended the film be approved for its social criticism, its staging of music and dance, and its attractiveness to a young audience:

The film impressively shows where the roots of this new wave called “hip-hop” – of breakdance, graffiti paintings, and rap music – are to be found. The film achieves its authentic character especially through its many original locations, which put on display the forbidding and disintegrating street blocks where the black populations live, and by casting the main characters with youngsters who live in this milieu, who really do breakdance in the subway, on the streets, etc. Music and dance connect and determine the plot of the film; they are not presented as mere show, because as in the movie, they are in the center of the youngsters' lives. The boys are usually out of work after leaving school, so that dance, music, and painting help them to pass the time.⁵

Geerds furthermore tied *Beat Street's* achievements to its producer Harry Belafonte, whom she lauded for his involvement in the peace movement and the struggle for black emancipation. She regarded Belafonte as a guarantee that the movie constituted “not only an effectively staged musical, but also an unmasking narrative about the life of youngsters in the black ghetto of New York.”⁶ Years later, she recounted that “with its story and way of depicting it, [*Beat Street*] matched well with the image we wanted to convey of America.”⁷ The cultural authorities' interpretive goal, then, the way they wanted youth in the GDR to watch and understand the film, was geared towards raising consciousness for America as a place of capitalist exploitation which created ghettos and discriminated against African Americans.

Hip-Hop Self-Fashioning

A glance at the way GDR teenagers appropriated *Beat Street* reveals the wide gap between their youth-cultural understanding of the film and the official goal. For them, *Beat Street* performed authentic hip-hop culture. For one thing, it enabled them to meet real hip-hop stars, their role models, albeit on screen: Kool DJ Herc, DJ Jazzy Jeff, Afrika Bambaataa, the New York City Breakers, and the Rock Steady Crew. For another, they were able to identify with the everyday teenagers in the movie and observe them “doing their thing” in hip-hop: Kenny the DJ and MC, Lee the b-boy, and Ramon the graffiti-artist.

What GDR youth had previously pieced together on the basis of media snippets from the West, they could now view “live,” in color, and basically anytime they wanted for only 50 pennies. *Beat Street* appealed to them because of its style rather than any political message in its story. Or, as the b-boys themselves recalled about their viewing experience: “What these teenagers had in the Bronx and did with it was a lot more stylish, worlds cooler than anything we teenagers in the GDR had.”⁸

In their self-fashioning, GDR b-boys, rappers, MCs, and graffiti artists emulated *Beat Street* in many ways. They performed their visions of New York in their clothing, their graffiti, and their DJ mixes and rap lyrics. Posing in front of run-down houses in central Dessau, for instance, they invoked “a whiff of New York,” meaning a ghetto in the Bronx. Equating the Bronx with inner cities in the GDR, though, challenged the sanctioned marketing of socialist cities, which held them up as paragons of modern housing for everyone and relied on spreading immaculate im-



"A Whiff of New York" in Dessau

ages of progressive urban socialist achievements. Furthermore, this conjuring up of Black spaces on GDR turf represents the symbolic and imaginary identification with African-Americans which is characteristic of afro-americanophilia.

Simo: Becoming Black by Doing Graffiti

Similarly, with the practice of graffiti, writers expressed themselves visually and imagined themselves into their visions of "America" that enabled them to take part in the transatlantic culture of hip-hop. They thus committed a temporary "Republikflucht," a short flight from socialism, which they thought constrained them – like a ghetto. And if they had to live in a ghetto, one could say, they preferred the Bronx over the GDR.

Take, for example, the writer Simo from Dresden. At age 14, he watched *Beat Street*, and after that, graffiti became his life. The following graffiti sketches, taken from his black book of the 1980s, show how he is taking cues from *Beat Street* and other hip-hop media of the time:

See how he made Simo his writer name by dropping the final N of his name Simon, just like Ramo/Ramon in *Beat Street* did; also note how he graphically bowed to US-rappers and New York City as the birthplace of hip-hop. Furthermore, his motives and comments suggest that he iconically conceived of himself as an African-American writer living in New York: He is a "subway writer," writing graffiti with a personalized spray-can, roaming the boroughs of New York like his own neighborhoods. He knows all the names and places, as if he was a member of the hip-hop scene there, and not in Dresden.

For the members of the state apparatus attempting to control the practice of hip-hop, these graffiti were difficult to interpret, just like the whole self-fashioning of hip-hop heads proved quasi indecipherable to this older generation. An aspect yet complicating the control of the youth culture was blackness – on the one hand, as seen in the official praise for *Beat Street*, African



Kai Simon: "Bronx"



Kai Simon: "Graffiti Frust"

Americans were perceived as members of the international working class and therefore deserved sympathy; and on the other hand, there were white teenagers in the GDR emulating Blacks in the Bronx, sporting brands, listening to American music in public, and spray-painting graffiti.

TJ Big Blaster Electric Boogie: "This is Our Party"

Electric B., as he called himself, alluding to his New York idols like Afrika Bambaataa, MC Melle Mel, or Erik B. and Rakim, organized a number of parties, workshops, and contests in Dresden. Especially with the rap contest and the rap workshop in 1988 and 1989, he intended to bring together hip-hop artists from all over the GDR to form the Universal Hip Hop Family. The Family, again a reference to Bambaataa and his Zulu Nation, was to organize hip-hop as a youth cul-

ture independently from the Socialist Unity Party (SED) and its mass organizations like the Free German Youth (FDJ). Although the fall of the wall and its aftermath ended the founding of the Universal Hip Hop Family, Electric B.'s activities show how he used DJing and rap to create an artist persona which allowed him to come to an arrangement with socialism and, at the same time, speak out against it.

With the help of a journalist who supplied him with hip-hop records, a youth-club director who managed to undermine the FDJ, and the youth-club Scheune in Dresden-Neustadt, he started performing as the hip-hop DJ and rapper TJ Big Blaster Electric Boogie. His hip-hop parties attracted large crowds, and while he performed under an official license, he did not shy away from criticizing the socialist cultural landscape.

In his 1988 rap "Time to Fite," TJ Big Blaster Electric Boogie reflects about hip-hop's public appeal, criticizes the restrictive mode of musical production in socialism, and presents rap as a method to rebel against it and thus break out of the system. He starts by observing the public's reaction – incomprehension, astonishment, condemnation – to his hip-hop activities. In answer to this reaction he boasts about his artistic potential in hip-hop and invites his audience to join in. He "disses" everyone who refuses to join in, and he combines his disrespectful treatment of the others with a critique of the system. He does not want to succumb to the official requirements, bans, and rules for making music. For him, rap is a method to resist these imposed conditions, and, moreover, to fight them with explicit lyrics and bellicose rhetoric. His weapon of choice is the microphone, which amplifies his voice and – combined with a sound system and his DJ mixes – blasts away his enemies. Talking about blasting away his enemies refers to the hip-hop practice of taking one's own sound scape into the public with the device of the so-called ghettoblaster, a portable tape-recorder. The streets of Dresden would thus become an arena where DJs played their mixes, rappers performed their rhymes, and b-boys and b-girls danced to the beats. Speaking from this textually performed position of power, of self-empowerment, TJ Big Blaster Electric Boogie casts himself as a rebel who is inciting his youth cultural audience to follow him and be their selves. He disposes of the old traditions and gives his peers what he thinks they need. The scenario of breaking out, however, is not enough for him, as he voices his desire for true change, a revolution, in which he can produce his own records, far away from the state label Amiga. He is fully aware of the official strategy to defuse non-conformist artists by granting them the possibility to release their own record with Amiga. He avoids 'selling' himself to the system like that:

die drei majestäten sind hier um die party
den beat zu leiten der euren sitz zerbrechen wird
ihr alten fürze und verwalter der musikszene
wir kommen mit unseren besten stücken aber narren werden nur närrischer
wir zerbrechen eure tüten und schmeißen eure fenster ein
wacht auf ihr ärsche ein frischer neuer wind bläst
wann werdet ihr endlich auf uns eingehen
und musik produzieren die man sich anhören kann

was sollen wir mit dieser schlecht gemachten hitscheiße anfangen
schmeißt das zeug weg wir haben die schnauze voll davon
gebt uns eine chance platten zu machen wie diejenigen
die für ihren mist bezahlt werden den sowieso keiner hören will
aber bildet euch ja nicht ein ihr würdet uns aus der gosse ziehen

Instead, he wants to remain true to hip-hop as a street culture, and he emphasizes his claim to be authentic when he states that they are not a bad imagination of a do-it-yourself culture. They are the real thing – they do not have to steal emotions, do not care for money.

In his rap “This is our Party” from 1988, Electric B. employs the typical hip-hop strategies of boasting and dissing to voice his anger towards the system he lives in. He criticizes all other parties as bad and presents his hip-hop parties as the best ones to be had. His celebrations offer a “way to escape the shitty everyday which has made us sick,” and he reminisces about the early days of hip-hop in Dresden: “when Electric B., in midst of the ruins of the run down city of Dresden-Neustadt, with his needle on the vinyl soul tracks, put together the Black sound.” His hip-hop, that is, exclusively the mixes he produced from Black Soul Music and his rap lyrics, functioned as an antidote against the everyday, as a way to cope with boredom. It is with his groove, his “boogie in this boring state” that people can free their minds and dance to his hip-hop.

das ist unsere party

erinnert ihr euch an die zeit wo electric b in der
abgewirtschafteten neustadt die ersten sommertage
vierundachtzig die nadel auf der soulplatte
machte die nächte taghell
scharfe klinge schnitt ich den schwarzen sound zusammen
keine konkurrenz denn ich war besser
brachte die leute in bewegung mit dem sound
wir haben sie alle untergekiegt
mit dem donner der aus den boxen kam
electric b machte es locker
denn die zeit lehrte uns mit dem beat zu arbeiten
und die zeit gab uns die besten parties
es gab kein rumhängen out sein scheiße quatschen
unsere parties gingen nie ohne rap ab
wir haben die ganze nacht durchgetanzt und am morgen
ein großes frühstück veranstaltet [...]

jetzt haben wir ein großes auto und wir fahren
quer durch die neustadt um den boogie in die stadt zu bringen
wir sind die einzige stadt in diesem langweiligen land
die den richtigen groove hat und die beste boogie band

und ihr ganzen arschkriecherrapper seid weniger als ein rest denn
das ist unsere party

ein bißchen romantik
tanzt alle mit
tanzt den twist
ihr habt kein risiko
mach deinen kopf frei

dann schaffen wir es vielleicht

das ist unsere party

kümmere dich nicht um das gewäsch von diesen typen
bei uns stimmt der groove und unser gebläse arbeitet die
ganze nacht um eure körper in bewegung zu halten
hey ihr befotzten plaste deejay's laßt uns einen test machen
betet eure hirnlosen sprüche daher und seht mich gewinnen
das verpißte zeug mit dem ihr rumpfuscht bringt mich höchstens zum lachen
electric posse hat einen apparat der sehr hart bläst
und euren plaste scheiß zermalmen wird und hinterläßt
den harten boogie sound von dem wir nicht genug kriegen können
also tanze mit oder renne um dein leben denn hier kommt [...]

With its strategies of boasting and dissing, hip-hop and especially rap provided a musical genre in which a boosted ego and blunt criticism of the system—both concepts alien to the idea of socialism—seemed appropriate. At the same time, with its beats and rhymes, it offered an escape from the teenage boredom in Dresden-Neustadt in the 1980s.

Conclusion

From 1983 to 1990, hip-hop culture became very much alive in the German Democratic Republic. A small but highly visible scene used the authorities' positive disposition towards African-American culture as working-class culture and created its own versions of breakdance, graffiti, DJing, and rap. In this process of cultural transfer, *Beat Street* played a decisive role. Originally imported in order to educate good young socialists about bad capitalism in America, it had quite the opposite effect and instilled in many young viewers the wish to become a hip-hopper in New York City. At the same time, it served as a role model for aspiring b-boys and b-girls, graffiti-writers, DJs, and rappers, to emulate what they saw on the movie screen. Against their performances – be it on official stages, be it on the streets – the controlling agencies' strategies proved useless in the long run.

Notes

1. For a more detailed argument, see my publications: Leonard Schmieding, "Boom Boxes and Backward Caps: Hip-Hop Culture in the GDR," in *East German Material Culture and the Power of Memory*, ed. Uta Balbier, Cristina Cuevas-Wolf, and Joes Segal, vol. 7, Bulletin of the German Historical Institute Supplement (Washington, D.C., 2011), 67-86; Leonard Schmieding, "Taking Beat Street to the Streets in Socialist East Germany," in *Participating Audiences and Imagined Communities: The Cultural Work of Contemporary American(ized) Narratives*, ed. Sebastian M. Herrmann et al. (Leipzig: Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 2012), 43-61.
2. Moritz Ege, *Schwarz werden: „Afroamerikanophilie“ in den 1960er und 1970er Jahren* (Bielefeld: Transcript, 2007), 11.
3. Ministerrat der DDR, MfK, HV-Film, Abt. Filmzulassung, „Protokoll 27/85“, March 14, 1985, BArch, DR-1Z, 5689.
4. Ministerrat der DDR, MfK, HV-Film, Abt. Filmzulassung, „Vorläufiges Protokoll 238/84“, August 15, 1984, BArch, DR-1Z, 5689b.
5. Ministerrat der DDR, MfK, HV-Film, Abt. Filmzulassung, „Protokoll 27/85“, 3. Translation LS.
6. Ibid.
7. Nico Raschick, *Here We Come*, DVD, Dokumentarfilm (Alive - Vertrieb und Marketing/DVD, 2007), chap. Bonus Material "Beat Street", 20:45–21:00.
8. Ibid., chap. Bonus Material "Beat Street", 05:48–06:14.
9. Archive Nico Raschick/Here We Come; private collection Beatschmidt.
10. Private collection Kai Simon.



FORUM

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC DEBATE

As a forum for public debate, the HCA facilitates communication among academia and the general public as well as between the business community, the political sphere, and the media.

Events in the HCA Forum present new research and current issues in the field of American Studies. They include the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the HCA as well as individual lectures on the United States and high-profile keynote addresses on U.S. and transatlantic affairs, debates, panel discussions, book launches, and exhibits.

Strongly believing that mutual respect and consideration can only be achieved through an open-minded but critical debate, the HCA seeks to establish a venue for dialogue and discussion about the United States, thus enhancing the understanding of the United States in Germany.

THE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG SEMINAR

Each spring and fall, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies invites distinguished scholars, public policy experts, journalists, writers, and artists to its Baden-Württemberg Seminar. The program was initiated in the spring of 2007 as a lecture series with fellows of the American Academy in Berlin coordinated by the HCA. Since the summer of 2009, the HCA is fully responsible for the Baden-Württemberg Seminar, which has also extended its base. Participants present their current work, discuss issues of transatlantic interest or read from their writings at selected institutions throughout the state.

Baden-Württemberg's profound interest in the United States is reflected in many of its cultural, political, and economic institutions, its corporations, museums, and libraries. This past year, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies was pleased to present the tenth and eleventh semesters of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. Our cooperation partners in 2011-12 were the History Department, Heidelberg University, the Kunstverein Neuhausen, the Carl-Schurz-Haus/Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut Freiburg, the d.a.i. Tübingen, and the Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach. We wish to thank this committed network of partners for their continued support.

Fall Seminar 2011

The tenth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar once more featured eminent scholars from Northwestern University, Johns Hopkins University, the University of California at Berkeley and Dartmouth College as well as two authors and an art curator.



Aldon Morris, Leon Forrest
Professor of Sociology at
Northwestern University

It got off to a great start on October 11, 2011, with a lecture that connected one of the founders of American sociology with a local hero. Aldon Morris, Leon Forrest Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University, spoke about the role W. E. B. Du Bois played in building the first scientific school of sociology in the United States and the important impact German society had in shaping Du Bois' world view and his approach to the social sciences. These German influences were central in enabling Du Bois to assume a historic role in developing scientific sociology in America. In particular, Professor Morris argued three points: First, during the late nineteenth century, Germany helped transform Du Bois' world views on the nature of racial inequality. Second, German scholars and their social science research at the University of Berlin, where Du Bois studied from 1892-94, provided him with the intellectual perspective and tools necessary to establish the first school of American scientific sociology. And third, Max Weber, by that time a renowned sociologist, deeply influenced Du Bois' intellectual achievements; finally, Du Bois also shaped Weber's approach to social inequality and his political views regarding racial inequality. Professor Morris also elaborated on how Weber, a continent away, embraced Du Bois' scholarship and reached out to him as a highly capable scholar. In so doing, Weber was able to absorb this scholarship and use it to enrich his own. Because of Du Bois' political values, Weber was able to discard his provincial race biases and embrace a perspective stressing cultural pluralism and full democracy. Professor Morris talk showed that there was a strong reciprocal connection between Du Bois' pioneering school of sociology and the scholarly world of German social science of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They were both enhanced by the Du Bois' German connection. The lecture was followed by a memorable discussion with some dedicated Weber scholars in the audience.

Two weeks later, the Baden-Württemberg Seminar was co-hosted by the Kunstverein Neuhausen, where JoAnne Northrup gave a talk on "Luminous Currents: The Return of Post-Painterly Abstraction." JoAnne Northrup is the Director of Contemporary Art Initiatives at the Nevada Museum of Art and was visiting the state as a Fulbright Scholar at the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie in Karlsruhe. Her lecture revisited Laszlo Moholy-Nagy's and Oskar Fischinger's avant-garde films in the 1920s and 1930s that probed the nature of perception. More recently,

she explained, the ubiquity of personal computers has enabled the media artists to explore light, color, and motion in three dimensions and create immersive environments. She questioned whether this work can harness technology to enable us to see, hear, and feel the patterns of the natural world as a profoundly aesthetic experience or whether we have simply returned to the 1960s lava lamps.

The November talks of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar turned out to be a little more gloomy. On November 15, we welcomed Jewish-American author Lev Raphael at the HCA. He is considered a pioneer in writing fiction about what has come to be called America's Second Generation. Among his many publications is *My Germany*, which describes his initial travels in the country that haunted him throughout his childhood. After an introduction by Public Affairs Officer Janet Miller from the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt, the author took the audience back to the postwar years in New York City where he grew up the child of Holocaust survivors. His parents, whose families came from Lithuania and Czechoslovakia, met in the Hillersleben Displaced Persons camp near Magdeburg after his mother escaped from Polte munitions plant in Magdeburg and his father was freed from a train evacuating Bergen Belsen in the spring of 1945. After a few years in Belgium, his parents moved to the United States where Lev Raphael and his brother grew up haunted by the memories of survivors. Lev Raphael captivated the HCA audience with tales from a household where classical music was revered but no record with a Deutsche Grammophon label ever made an appearance; where shopping for household items became difficult because everything was inspected for its origin; and where even sharing pleasant memories was dangerous, because it could take his parents back to the most terrible years of their lives. Loathing everything German shaped Lev Raphael's Jewish identity, his life, and his career. Yet his story was also about a reconciliation process that started on his first book tour through Germany and eventually led him to face the past and let it go. After the lecture, the audience kept the author busy with questions and requests to sign copies of *My Germany*.

The Baden-Württemberg Seminar continued two days later with a lecture by Jennifer Culbert, Professor and Graduate Director of Political Science at Johns Hopkins University and at the time the Siemens Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. The author of the acclaimed book *Dead Certainty: The Death Penalty and the Problem of Judgment* took her sizeable audience on a philosophical tour de force illuminating the different ways in which the United States Supreme Court has justified its life and death decisions in terms of "truth" in a Nietzschean sense. Starting with the 1972 ruling *Furman v. Georgia*, which declared the death penalty unconstitutional, Prof. Culbert proceeded to interpret the subsequent history of capital punishment in the U.S. with an emphasis on how the Court tried to place its decisions not in the merely actual world but in the immutable world of essence and being. Her fascinating insights included the Supreme Court's decision to include victim impact statements in capital cases as well as the discourse of the "new abolitionists" like Governor Ryan of Illinois surrounding DNA evidence and innocence. She also discussed one of the most recent cases, the execution of Troy Davis in Georgia, in the light of her findings, which, she postulates, do not argue for or against the death penalty. Instead, Prof. Culbert offered her audience a compelling account of the Supreme Court's ongoing struggle to legitimate capital punishment. Predictably this engaging talk was followed by a very lively discussion.

The November events of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded on November 22 with a talk by Robin Einhorn, professor of history at the University of California, Berkeley. The renowned author of *American Taxation*, *American Slavery* gave a very instructive talk on the history of taxes in the United States: "Same as It Ever Was? American Tax Politics in Perspective." Professor Einhorn's lecture showed the deep, broad, and continuous roots of America's fear and loathing of taxes. From the earliest colonial times right up to the Civil War, slaveholding elites in particular feared a strong and democratic government. Professor Einhorn revealed how the heated battles over taxation, the power to tax, and the distribution of tax burdens were not necessarily rooted in debates over personal liberty. She also exposed the antidemocratic origins of the enduringly popular Jeffersonian rhetoric about weak government. The talk pointed out the complex and ever-changing systems of taxation, and their relationship to local and national politics to a fascinated audience.

Why do some voting districts in U.S. electoral history have a higher percentage of voters who go to the polls but do not deliver a valid vote? In the last Heidelberg lecture of the fall 2011 Baden-Württemberg Seminar, "Blacks, Whites, and Hispanics: A Study of Race-based Residual Voting Rights in Chicago," Michael Herron, professor of political science at Dartmouth College and at the Hertie School of Governance, presented the audience at the HCA with some possible answers. He pointed out that voter race figures prominently in residual vote rates, and it is well understood that white voters have historically cast fewer residual votes than minority voters. Yet, much of the literature on race and residual votes is based on electoral environments that predate the passage of the Help America Vote Act, and it is natural to inquire whether the racial regularities observed under pre-Act conditions, often with voting technology that has since been superseded, still obtain. With this imperative in mind, Prof. Herron's studies show that, even with modern optical scan voting equipment, there were significant differences among black, Hispanic, and white residual vote rates in the city of Chicago during the Municipal Election of 2011 and the Illinois General Election of 2010. Moreover, these three race-based residual vote rates varied with the availability of, respectively, black, Hispanic, and white candidates for office. Hispanics often had the highest residual vote rates among the three major race groups in Chicago, and Professor Herron's studies identify a number of cases in which a group of voters chose not to vote for anyone in the face of a dominant candidate running for office who happened to be of a different race than the voters themselves. Professor Herron concluded that voter engagement as measured by residual vote rates continues to reflect racial features of elections and that, holding constant electoral administration and voting technology, the political contexts of elections are highly relevant to the residual vote rates associated with them. After asking numerous questions, the audience certainly gained a new perspective for the 2012 elections.

The fall semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded in Freiburg with a talk by Ian Johnson, author of *A Mosque in Munich*, who gave a fascinating account about the genesis of his book. After 9/11, Johnson wondered how radical Muslims could sink roots into Western soil. Most accounts he looked at reached back twenty years, to U.S. support of Islamist fighters in Afghanistan. When he started to dig deeper, to the start of the Cold War, he uncovered

the untold story of a group of ex-Soviet Muslims who had defected to Germany during World War II. There, they had been fashioned into a well-oiled anti-Soviet propaganda machine. As that war ended and the Cold War began, West German and U.S. intelligence agents vied for control of this influential group, and at the center of the covert tug of war was a quiet mosque in Munich – radical Islam’s first beachhead in the West. Ian Johnson’s account truly fascinated his audience in the lecture hall at the University of Freiburg.

Spring Seminar 2012

The spring semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar once more covered a wide array of topics, ranging from architecture and first amendment rights to international feminism. It concluded with two readings in Marburg and Freiburg.

The program kicked off at the d.a.i. in Tübingen with a talk on “Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry: Thoughts on the Development of American Architecture,” by Sarah Canon, an architect from Madison, Wisconsin. It then returned to the HCA on April 17, 2012, where Lisa McGirr, professor of history at Harvard, spoke on “Evangelicals and U.S. Politics in the Twentieth Century.” The author of the book *Suburban Warriors: The Origins of the New American Right*, introduced her eager audience to a topic that is historical and yet of great current interest, particularly in regard to the presidential election in November 2012: The linkage of the Evangelicals with American politics. Professor McGirr defined Evangelicals as a very heterogeneous group of Protestants who take the Bible literally. She elucidated that today’s connection between this particular religious group and U.S. politics did not exist before the nineteenth century and that it was ultimately a result of the national prohibition in the twentieth century. This political decision was due to the political engagement of the Evangelicals in the temperance movement. They attempted to enforce their goal of the salvation of the people’s souls by the means of temperance as a “grassroots organization.” However, the Eighteenth Amendment – prohibiting the manufacturing, sale, or transportation of alcohol – also brought violence and lawlessness in its wake and hence more moderate Protestants distanced themselves from it. Ever since prohibition, Evangelicals have had some influence on American politics, acting as a “moral authority.” Today the morals and evangelical world view manifest themselves in the Republican Party in particular. Although Professor McGirr does not attribute phenomena such as the Tea Party Movement solely to the impact of Evangelicals, it is a contributing factor, as the movement would not have been possible without a base of fundamentalist Christians. Professor McGirr called upon her audience and the general public to be aware of the importance of religion and moral views in politics. After her lecture the guests got involved in a passionate debate about the implications of a connection between Evangelicals and U.S. politics.

The Baden-Württemberg Seminar continued on April 19, 2012, with a lecture by Professor Philip Kitcher, entitled “Rethinking Social Values: The Enduring Significance of Dewey’s Project.” Philip Kitcher is a professor of philosophy specializing in the philosophy of science, bioethics, and pragmatism at Columbia University. In his lecture, Professor Kitcher focused on the ideas of



Lisa McGirr, Harvard University

John Dewey and William James, both American philosophers and psychologists who are deemed crucial for the philosophy of pragmatism. Professor Kitcher defined pragmatism as the desire to investigate the world and wanting to find out as much information as possible to help the greater good in the time that we have. This must be a cooperative endeavor of sciences so the outcome is actually significant for the greater good. Hence, a social division of labor of scientists is necessary. According to Professor Kitcher, William James was interested in the significance of questions but not in their meaning. However, John Dewey connected philosophical questions to social issues. He wanted philosophy to have an impact on reality. For Dewey, the role of philosophy was to facilitate social conversation. It was the goal of philosophy to make proposals that advance the common good through solving the problems of the time. Professor Kitcher remarked that today's debate on climate change showed that there was an enormous failure of embedding science in democratic systems. There was no strong connection between scientific findings and actual policies and science was not being used for the greater good. Professor Kitcher argued that the system for inquiry was distorted by economic institutions. He also argued that not only was science more or less ignored in the political process, it was also under pressure itself because education was pressured by economic institutions. After his lecture Professor Kitcher opened the floor for debate. He asserted that today, philosophy was irrelevant for the society of the USA. However, he added, there was a small modern movement bringing up Dewey's core ideas again. But for Professor Kitcher's taste, this movement was not taking Dewey's ideas far enough.

On May 3, 2012, the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar continued with a contribution by William Chafe, the Alice Mary Baldwin Professor of History at Duke University. Professor Chafe is a distinguished scholar in the field of gender history, the former president of the Organization of American Historians, the recipient of numerous fellowships and the founder and former Academic Director of the Duke UNC Center for Research on Women. He has published twelve books, and his latest volume entitled *Bill and Hillary: The Politics of the Personal* received splendid reviews in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Boston Globe* in September 2012. In his lecture

William Chafe, Alice Mary
Baldwin Professor of History at
Duke University



Professor Chafe posed the question whether the personality of political leaders had an impact on their policies. Introducing three case studies, namely John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon, and Bill and Hillary Clinton, he came to a very clear conclusion: Yes, the personal circumstances and the character of leaders do play an important role in their politics. Describing the example of John F. Kennedy, Professor Chafe argued that Kennedy's military experience in World War II shaped him as a person but also had an impact on the way Kennedy handled the Cuban Missile Crisis: According to Professor Chafe, Kennedy's personal dislike for the unnecessary shedding of blood and his mistrust of military judgment since his own deployment caused the president to resist the military's advice to bomb the missiles in Cuba. Thus Kennedy's personal convictions drastically shaped the outcome of the crisis, Professor Chafe stated. Concerning Richard Nixon, Professor Chafe elucidated how Nixon's distrustful nature and his profound ambition combined with his insecurities shaped his presidency and were therefore relevant for his politics. Yet Professor Chafe made his most compelling case about Bill and Hillary Clinton. Describing both their professional careers and their love lives, Professor Chafe pointed out to his eager audience the intersection of politics and the personal. Professor Chafe described the instances in which Hillary Clinton saved her husband's political career – which also perpetuated her own – by standing by him in the face of his many alleged affairs and openly demonstrating a strong marriage. Hillary was an equal partner in the politics of her husband and always occupied crucial political positions during his presidency. Professor Chafe maintained that the personal chemistry between Hillary and Bill Clinton shaped every single decision made in the White House during his presidency. Thus, the professor concluded, in the case of these two, the personal is the political. After the lecture Professor Chafe answered the many questions posed by his fascinated audience.

A week later, we welcomed Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Neil Sheehan to the HCA, who spoke on the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and its importance for the freedom of journalism. This talk was the keynote address on a conference on the public's right to know (see p. 132-135). During the Vietnam War, Sheehan had reported from the war zone. His war correspondence attracted the interest of the *New York Times*, where Sheehan

started working. In 1971, a source leaked confidential papers to Sheehan. The documents, later known as the Pentagon Papers, concerned the U.S. involvement in South Asia from 1945. The *Times* published Sheehan's coverage of the report, including parts of the classified documents, and the Nixon administration tried and failed to acquire an injunction. The Supreme Court ruled that the publishing of said classified papers was in the interest of the public. Sheehan's reporting won the Pulitzer Prize, a feat he repeated in 1989 for his book *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam*. In his lecture Neil Sheehan pointed out that the First Amendment to the American Constitution, which protects freedom of speech and freedom of the press, made U.S. reporters the "freest journalists in the freest country," and thus gave them the duty to look for important truths. Neil Sheehan recounted the events that lead to the publishing of the Pentagon Papers and gave an emotional account of how his editor at the *New York Times*, A.M. Rosenthal, had been willing to risk his career to publish the Pentagon Papers because he felt the people had the right to know. Neil Sheehan quoted him: "These papers belong to the American people. They have paid for them in the blood of their sons." Neil Sheehan was very critical of the media landscape during the Bush administration, blaming the media for forgetting their true duty. He appealed to today's journalists to remember that their duty was not to aid the government in its self-promotion but that their duty was to the public. "Take nothing for granted! Question, question, question! Dig deeper!" Neil Sheehan demanded. In the predictably engaging discussion with his very impressed audience, Neil Sheehan explained that he believed in publishing classified information if it was in the public's interest – under the condition that the sources remained protected and the publication of the material would not endanger people's lives. Therefore he criticized WikiLeaks as "terribly irresponsible" for publishing their sources.

On May 15, 2012, the HCA continued the Baden-Württemberg Seminar with a lecture by Dr. Karen Offen, a historian at Stanford University, who focuses on the history of Europe, especially France, and the history of feminism. Dr. Offen's lecture looked at two women and their international fight for women's rights: May Wright Sewall and Bertha Honoré Palmer. Both were active members of the International Council of Women (ICW), the first women's organization to operate internationally. Its intention was to create an international parliament of women to deal with women's rights issues but also with the greater issues of humanity. In 1888, woman leaders representing over 50 women's organizations from nine countries met in Washington, D.C. Both Mary Wright Sewall and Bertha Honoré Palmer had strong ties to French women, as they both lived in France for a period of time. They aimed at utilizing the World Exhibition in Chicago in 1893 to promote women's rights. Sewell and Palmer were anxious to also include French women, as they had the notion of a sister-nationhood with France. May Wright Sewall, who had always supported women's suffrage, became president of the ICW in 1899. She was a visionary who promoted the idea that there should be national councils of women, each sending spokeswomen to the international level. She wanted to promote internationality among women. The ICW turned out thousands of publications in English and French. Today, the International Council of Women holds consultative status with the United Nations, which is the highest possible accreditation for an NGO.

The Heidelberg events of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded on May 29, 2012, when Bonnie Anderson shared her research on freethinker Ernestine Louise Rose with a sizeable audience. Bonnie Anderson is Professor Emerita at Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She co-authored two books with Judith Zissner: *A History of Their Own: Women in Europe from Prehistory to Present* and *Women in Early Modern and Modern Europe*. Professor Anderson also is the author of *Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement, 1830-1860*. Currently, she is working on a biography of Ernestine Rose. In her lecture at the HCA, Professor Anderson introduced Ernestine Rose as a freethinker, a feminist, and a key figure in the women's rights movement in nineteenth-century America. Born in Poland to a Rabbi and his wife in 1810, Ernestine Rose was a rebel from childhood. She rejected her religious upbringing and broke with Judaism at the age of twelve. Her mother died three years later, leaving her some money; her father engaged her with a man she did not wish to marry. The marriage contract designed by her father stated that, in case of her refusal, all her inheritance would be disbursed to her fiancé. Ernestine Rose went to court, pleaded her own case – and won. She left her father and went to Berlin. Professor Anderson described Rose as a true international: She travelled Europe extensively, lived in Berlin and moved to England, where she got married. Later, she and her husband moved to America, where she worked for women's rights. Ernestine Rose did not approve of her contemporaries' attempts to classify her by country of origin or by religion. In Rose's eyes, humanity connected people more than anything – certainly more than nationality. During her time in England, Ernestine Rose joined the Owenite Socialism movement. The Owenites welcomed women, allowed them to speak publically – a rarity at this time –, and embraced inclusion and internationality, both of which Ernestine Rose stood for. According to Professor Anderson, several instances in Ernestine Rose's life suggest that part of her enjoyed being an outsider and a "misfit." While Ernestine Rose is most famous for her engagement in the women's movement and her captivating public speeches, the trait that most set her apart from her contemporary society was her work as a freethinker. In the nineteenth century, being a freethinker meant a public commitment to atheism, which was considered blasphemy and was thus illegal. For a woman to come out as an atheist was even more shocking. Ernestine Rose spoke publically for the freethinker movement and formed many international bonds and friendships. Unfortunately, she also inadvertently alienated some of her feminist connections. Professor Anderson theorized about the reasons that Ernestine Rose was forgotten, despite her sizeable influence on the feminist movement in the United States: She left the country and thus the focus of feminist historians, and she was a freethinker, which was deemed absolutely unacceptable at the time. After the lecture, Professor Anderson answered the questions of her audience, which sparked a lively debate on the women's movement in general and Rose's role in particular.

The spring 2012 semester of the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded with two readings of renowned authors: Hans Rudolf Vaegt, Helen & Laura Shedd Professor Emeritus of German Studies at Smith College read from his acclaimed *Thomas Mann, der Amerikaner* at the Literaturarchiv Marbach and the HCA (see p. 192) and Karen Russell, Mary Ellen von der Heyden Fiction Fellow at the American Academy Berlin, read in Freiburg from her novel *Swamplandia*.

HCA BOOK LAUNCHES

In the summer semester 2012, the HCA continued a format introduced a year earlier. Students, faculty and the Heidelberg public were invited to celebrate the publications of HCA associates. The series HCA book launches started on May 31, when Professor Dr. Manfred Berg, the Curt Engelhorn Professor of American History at Heidelberg University and Jun.-Prof. Dr. Simon Wendt of Goethe University Frankfurt presented their book *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective*. This book came out of a conference held at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies two years earlier, where twenty-five scholars from ten countries had gathered to discuss extralegal violence in its different forms from an international perspective. The conference volume compiles thirteen essays on lynching and vigilantism around the world. Both Professors Berg and Wendt are experts on the phenomenon of lynching in America. Introducing the book, Professor Berg explained that the aim of the conference was to place the American lynching experience in a different perspective. In order to do so, a comparative method was applied: The authors looked for cautious generalizations that could be drawn from the individual case studies. Also, the question of the travel of the phenomenon as well as the terminology of lynching was addressed. The origin of the term "lynching" is originally American, but it was adopted by many other languages such as German, Spanish, French, and Italian mainly because nationals from these countries were lynched. The U.S. in particular has a history of mob violence towards foreign nationals. Chinese, Mexicans, and Italians were among the victims. Often lynching was considered "necessary" in order to control black "crime," particularly the alleged rape of white women by black men. Lynching is often regarded to be a solely American phenomenon that is tied to racism. However, the point of the book is to show that this idea of negative American exceptionalism is too narrow and does not do the phenomenon as a whole justice. Ethnologists have, for example, researched vigilantism in Latin America and Africa. Professors Berg and Wendt made clear that it was not their aim to diminish the importance of racism or to belittle the suffering of blacks in America. Their goal was to show that collective violence is very common world-wide and always has been. Professor Berg defined lynching as a form of extralegal punishment perpetrated by a mob claiming to represent the will of the larger community. People feel they have a right to act if the justice system does not work properly. Hence they take the law into their own hands and exercise popular justice. There are different theories as to why people commit lynching. The frontier theory states that if the state monopoly of justice does not yet exist, like in the "Wild West," communal justice is seen as the first step towards law and order. In the weak state or failed state hypothesis, lynching is used as a form of self-defense of the unprotected. The conference and the book show that there is no negative American exceptionalism concerning lynching. However, there are specific components of U.S. lynching that do not apply elsewhere: Lynching as an instrument of racism did and does not exist outside the United States, not even in other white settler communities such as Australia and South Africa. Only in the U.S. is there a positive connotation of collective justice and a strong tradition of popular sovereignty and grassroots democracy as well as a weak concept of state monopoly of legitimate violence. Also, there is a high toleration of private violence such as legitimate self-defense. After the presentation a lively debate with the audience developed on lynching and its connection to the death penalty.

Hans Rudolf Vaget, Helen & Laura Shedd Professor Emeritus of German Studies at Smith College, speaks on Thomas Mann, *der Amerikaner*



On June 12, the HCA welcomed Hans Vaget, the Helen & Laura Shedd Professor Emeritus of German Studies at Smith College. Professor Dieter Borchmeyer from the German Department of Heidelberg University introduced his American colleague, whose book he called a “great epic,” which combined all the hallmarks of a great academic work with a dramatic narrative. Professor Vaget then shared some of the insights from his acclaimed *Thomas Mann, der Amerikaner* with the audience in the HCA Atrium. His talk “Der Gesegnete: Thomas Mann’s FDR” dealt with Thomas Mann’s perception of Franklin D. Roosevelt, whom Mann met in person several times. Thomas Mann idolized FDR and considered him “blessed.” Although Mann was also at times critical of FDR he always avoided public derision in order not to diminish FDR’s appeal. Mann deemed Roosevelt an exceptional politician and he worshipped him as he worshipped Napoleon or Bismarck. Thomas Mann had the opportunity to meet FDR three times. On the second occasion, Mann was shocked by the state of Roosevelt’s health. Yet Thomas Mann greatly admired FDR’s political genius and noted that his strength did not seem to be hampered by his impairments. Mann gave three reasons for his admiration of Roosevelt. Firstly, he was fascinated by FDR’s sense of duty to engage in politics. Also, for Mann FDR symbolized freedom and progress. Thomas Mann simply admired FDR’s charisma. When Roosevelt died unexpectedly in 1945, shortly before the allied victory over Nazi Germany, Mann was so shaken that he interrupted his literary work on *Dr. Faustus*. Mann regarded FDR as a “shining light in the battle against Fascism” and as an artist among mere politicians. To Thomas Mann Hitler was the enemy of mankind and Roosevelt was his natural and conscious opponent. After the presentation of the book, Professor Vaget engaged in a lively debate with his audience.

The summer term’s book launches concluded on July 3, when Karsten Senkbeil introduced his book *Ideology in American Sports: A Corpus-Assisted Discourse Study* in the HCA Atrium. Karsten Senkbeil was one of the first doctoral students to complete his Ph.D. studies at the Heidelberg

Center for American Studies. His book analyses the cultural impact of sports on the American identity. The talk commenced with the statement that “sports and academia are brothers – they both teach us something.” Karsten Senkbeil emphasized that American football and basketball were both invented at American colleges, which explains the strong tie between sports and academia still persisting today. He also explained the role of sports in Western post-industrial societies by their “secure boredom”; sports act as a stage for spectacles of dense emotions, epic stories of success and failure, and “good” and “evil.” He illustrated this role using the example of American football, highlighting a specific train of thought covered in one chapter of his book: violence and physical roughness in American football. Scholars often assume that American Football is a highly rationalized game of war where the goal is territorial gain. It has been highly technologized and is thus an industrial and rather violent game. Karsten Senkbeil, however, disagrees with this claim. He explained that sport anthropologists recognize a continuum of different kinds of violence: On one end of the spectrum there is cool, rationally used violence, which is the pure form of state controlled violence. This kind of violence is usually understood as necessary evil for a higher good and associated with “humane warfare.” On the other end, there is affective, highly charged violence, which is exercised for fun and play, such as in football. This “fun” kind of violence is also associated with “violence voyeurism,” for instance in movies. As the violence displayed in football is affective and of the “fun” kind, the sport can hardly be considered as rationalized modern warfare. But then, what is it? To answer this question, Karsten Senkbeil went back in American history to the frontier and to the development of “civilized behavior” as explained by Norbert Elias, which forbids violence or expressions of strong emotions in public. In the twenty first century, there is no frontier. Hence, sports have taken its place. In sports some rules of civilization do not apply and violence is condoned. The players style themselves into modern wanderers who venture beyond the frontier into the wild. In this sense, sports represent a pocket of decivilization. After the presentation of this chapter from his book, Dr. Senkbeil answered the questions of his keen audience and engaged in a lively discussion on violence and the phenomenon of hooliganism.

ENJOY JAZZ AT THE HCA

October 27, November 3, and November 10, 2011

On three Thursdays during the Enjoy Jazz Festival, the HCA’s Atrium was turned into a movie theater. In cooperation with Enjoy Jazz, we presented three episodes of Ken Burns’ award-winning documentary *Jazz: A History of America’s Music*. Each episode was introduced by the sociologist and musicologist Dr. Christian Broecking, who also taught a corresponding class in the MAS.

The first episode, “Our Language,” took the audience back to the “roaring twenties” when jazz, after its initial decades, was everywhere in America. The audience met Bessie Smith, whose songs eased the life for millions of black Americans and helped black entrepreneurs create a new recording industry around the blues; Bix Beiderbecke, the first great white jazz star, who was inspired by Louis Armstrong; and two brilliant sons of Jewish immigrants, Benny Goodman

and Artie Shaw, for whom jazz offered an escape from the ghetto and a chance to achieve their dreams. In New York, Duke Ellington performed in Harlem's most celebrated nightspot, the whites-only Cotton Club, and then got the break of a lifetime when radio carried his music into homes across the country. And in Chicago, Louis Armstrong started to chart the future of jazz in a series of small group recordings that culminated in his masterpiece, *West End Blues*.

The next episode, "Dedicated to Chaos," started out in Europe, where musicians like the Gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt continued to play despite a Nazi ban, and "Swingkids" defied the "Third Reich." In America, jazz became the embodiment of democracy, as bandleaders like Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw enlisted and took their swing to the troops overseas. Black Americans, however, continued to be segregated at home and in uniform and fighting for liberties their own country denied them, as authorities padlocked the Savoy Ballroom to keep servicemen off its integrated dance floor. Yet jazz musicians answered the call. Duke Ellington premiered the tone portrait *Black, Brown and Beige* as a benefit for war relief. But underground and after-hours, jazz was changing. In a Harlem club called Minton's Playhouse, a small band of young musicians, led by the trumpet virtuoso Dizzy Gillespie and the brilliant saxophonist Charlie Parker, discovered a new way of playing — fast, intricate, exhilarating, and sometimes chaotic. A wartime recording ban kept their music off the airwaves, but soon after the atom bomb forced Japan's surrender, Parker and Gillespie entered the studio to create an explosion of their own. The tune was called *KoKo*, the sound was soon to be called "bebop," and once Americans heard it, jazz never was the same.

The final episode, "The Adventure," commenced tracing the changes in U.S. postwar society, as families were moving to the suburbs and watching television became the national pastime. In jazz, old stars like Billie Holiday and Lester Young burned out, but two greats remained: In 1956, the first year Elvis topped the charts, Duke Ellington's performance at the Newport Jazz Festival became his best-selling record ever. The next year, Louis Armstrong made headlines when he condemned the government's failure to stand up to racism in Little Rock, Arkansas. Meanwhile, new virtuosos pushed the limits of bebop: saxophone colossus Sonny Rollins; jazz diva Sarah Vaughan; and the drummer Art Blakey. But the leading light of the era was Miles Davis — a catalyst who constantly formed new groups to showcase different facets of his stark, introspective sound; a popularizer whose lush recordings with arranger Gil Evans expanded the jazz audience; and a cultural icon whose tough-guy charisma came to define what was hip. As the turbulent Sixties arrived, two saxophonists took jazz into uncharted terrain. John Coltrane exploded the pop tune "My Favorite Things" into a kaleidoscope of freewheeling sound, while Ornette Coleman challenged all conventions with a sound he called "free jazz." Once again, the music seemed headed for new adventures, but now, for the first time, even musicians were starting to ask, *Is it still jazz?*

After the third week, many in the HCA audience were certainly curious about the answer to this question and were looking forward to the HCA continuing its cooperation with Enjoy Jazz in the academic year 2012-13.

EXHIBITION: "COLD WAR POLITICS: MELVIN LASKY: NEW YORK, BERLIN, LONDON."



Once more, the entrance way of the HCA and the atrium served as an exhibition space. From March 22 to April 26, an exhibition told the life story of Melvin Lasky, one of the preeminent personas of the cultural Cold War. Few American journalists were as well known in Western Europe as the extremely well-read and well-connected Lasky. And few were as controversial. Born in New York in 1920 and raised in the Bronx, the son of Polish Jews was an ardent Trotskyist who turned into a fervent anti-communist and "culture warrior" after 1945. Lasky's biography impressively reflects the big ideological disputes of the twentieth century.

Curated by Maren Roth and Charlotte Lerg, both of the Lasky Center for Transatlantic Studies at the University of Munich, the exhibit recounted Lasky's life, a "tale of three cities":

New York – Berlin – London. Its first part documented Lasky's early years in New York, his education at City College, the University of Michigan, and Columbia University and his work for the *New Leader* in New York, where he was editor from 1942–1943. After serving in World War II as a combat historian for the 7th Army, Lasky remained in Berlin, where he worked for American military governor Lucius D. Clay. Soon after, Lasky received Marshall Plan funding to create the German-language journal *Der Monat*, one of the most influential monthlies of the young Federal Republic, appealing to socially progressive but anti-communist intellectuals. Contributors included, among others, George Orwell, Hannah Arendt, Thomas Mann, Heinrich Böll, Max Frisch, T. S. Eliot, Saul Bellow, and Richard Löwenthal. The exhibition impressively detailed Lasky's extensive networks, which he built and maintained as the editor of *Der Monat* and as the founder of the Congress for Cultural Freedom (CCF) at a 1950 conference in West Berlin, both partially financed by the CIA. In 1953, Lasky also became editor of the *Encounter*, in many respects a British version of the *Monat*. He moved to London in the late 1950s and remained a sharp intellectual and a busy networker until the end of the Cold War, when he returned to Berlin for good. The numerous visitors of this exhibition on "cold war politics" certainly left with new insights on the cultural aspects of the Cold War.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2012 AT THE HCA

With the U.S. presidential elections coming up in November 2012, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies put on a series of events for a comprehensive look at the issues of the campaign and the election itself.

Panel Discussion

The HCA's analysis of the presidential campaign landscape began on July 24 with a panel discussion on the topic "U.S. Elections 2012 – What Role Will Religion Play?" The participants of the discussion were two visiting scholars at the HCA, Professor Kirsten Fischer from the University of Minnesota, and Professor Charles Postel, from San Francisco State University, as well as Daniel Silliman, assistant professor at the HCA, and Bryce Taylor, a student of the MAS Class of 2013 and a Mormon. The event was moderated by Professor Jan Stievermann, who holds the chair for History of Christianity in the USA at the HCA and at the Faculty of Theology. The participants discussed the vexed issue of the role of religion in November's presidential elections. They explained to the highly engaged audience that the rhetoric of American elections seems very much shaped by religious issues. However, how significant will religion really be? A good deal of the discussion dealt with the religious affiliation of the presidential candidates and the historical significance of religion for the American political landscape. The Republicans, for example, tried to give their party an ecumenical appearance during the campaign. Republican leaders repeatedly stressed the Judeo-Christian world view of their party, which encompasses all groups of both monotheistic religions. Mitt Romney, who is a Mormon, represents this image of the conservative party. The Democrats, on the other hand, stand for religious tolerance and open-mindedness. After all, President Obama publically endorsed equality for homosexual couples – which cost him and his party the support of many religiously active voters. Professor Postel, an expert on American populist movements, emphasized that Republican "Christian nationalism" is not to be underestimated, as it defines itself in contrast to Islamic groups. The participants of the panel agreed that the goal of the Republicans was not so much to convince voters of Romney's qualities, but rather to ensure that Obama does not win a second term. Professor Postel explained further that this was attempted by creating fear of a president called Barack Hussein Obama: A president who is a "secret Muslim," a "black immigrant," who did not grow up in America, who has Muslim ancestors and who is allegedly secretly appeasing the radical Islamic archenemy. Despite the discussion's focus on the relation between religion and the presidential campaign, the participants made it clear that other factors such as ethnic background, race, and gender had a big impact on voters' decision on Election Day. The panelists also explained the direct link between religion and age. The younger the voters, the less religiously active they are. Additionally, increasingly liberal young people are starting to leave their church communities. The debate also showed that ethnic minorities tend to vote for the Democrats. It cannot be denied that the religious affiliation of the candidates is of great public interest. The presidential candidates are downright "tested" by the media. John Kerry, for instance failed to convince the press and the voters in 2004 that he was still a good Catholic despite being pro-choice. Bryce Taylor was convinced that an atheist can-



HCA experts discuss the role of religion in the 2012 presidential election (l. to r.): Bryce Taylor, Daniel Silliman, Prof. Jan Stievermann, Prof. Kirsten Fischer, and Prof. Charles Postel

didate would not stand a chance in American presidential elections due to the immense importance of religion in the public's eye. Despite the fact that the campaigns are religiously charged, the experts agreed that the coming election will be decided mainly on economic issues – and the candidates will have to lay open their tax returns at least as much as their church affiliation. After the panel discussion the participants answered the numerous questions of the audience, which led to a lively debate on values and morals and their connection to religion in the United States.

Book Launch: The American Presidency

The HCA's series on the presidential elections continued when students returned for winter semester. On October 16, the HCA celebrated the publication of the book *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* edited by Wilfried Mausbach, Dietmar Schloss and Martin Thunert. As a special guest the HCA welcomed Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson, Deputy Director of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., one of the contributors to the volume. The book is a collection of essays stemming from the Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies in Heidelberg in 2008. They characterize the American presidency from the different perspectives of varying academic fields such as political science, history, or cultural studies. While some contributions focus on events or individual presidents, others deal with the importance of fictional presidential literature or movies such as *Air Force One*, or with presidential rhetoric. The editors of the book each introduced parts of the work and explained how the volume came together. Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson gave a short presentation on "How White is the White House? American Presidents and the Politics of Race." Taking presidents Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson and Johnson as case studies, she clarified that Abraham Lincoln, for example, indeed ended slavery but was in fact aiming at its containment rather than abolition. After introducing the book and giving examples of its variety of topics, the panel fielded questions from the audience.

Debate

In the spirit of election campaigning and presidential debates in the USA, the HCA hosted a political debate with representatives of the Republicans Abroad and the Democrats Abroad, Phil Zeni and Dennis O'Donohue, respectively, on October 23. Each participant gave an opening statement and then answered the questions posed by the moderators of the debate, Dr. Anja Schöler and Dr. Martin Thunert from the HCA. In his opening statement, the Republican participant, Phil Zeni, explained why, in his eyes, President Obama did not deserve a second term in office: A still rather anemic economy and high unemployment rate were his main concerns. He further made the case that the Republican candidate Mitt Romney wanted to give Americans government support without making them dependent. In contrast, Dennis O'Donohue stressed that today's Republican Party was comprised of extremists, who "wage war on women" as they categorically oppose abortion and restrict other reproductive rights, which especially young women claim for themselves. Mr. O'Donohue went on to say that cooperation between the parties was necessary and Mr. Obama was willing to collaborate but his attempts were being blocked by the Republicans. The first question by the moderators was "How will your candidate reduce national debt?" Mr. Zeni answered that Mitt Romney would check all programs and diminish federal spending wherever possible. He would also reduce the unemployment rate as employees are able to pay taxes, which would help the economy. Mr. Zeni accused President Obama of inflating the size of the government and driving its costs up. Mr. O'Donohue, on the other hand, argued that Obama was ending both extremely costly wars and had already reduced the deficit. Asked for their view on the Affordable Care Act, Mr. Zeni responded that, while healthcare was an important issue, people generally felt that government control as exercised in "Obamacare" was undesirable. He noted that Romney would make healthcare a state issue so that states could ensure individually that their chronically ill and poor were insured. Mr. O'Donohue contradicted his opponent and explained that the Affordable Care Act put restrictions on insurance companies, not on citizens. He elucidated that before Obamacare, it was possible for insurers to cancel coverage because of an illness. Obamacare made this illegal and thus protected American citizens. Mr. Zeni and Mr. O'Donohue answered further questions on energy independence and foreign policy in the spirit of their respective parties before the floor was opened for debate and questions from the audience. Predictably, a fairly heated discussion ensued among guests and participants alike.

Panel Discussion

With the presidential elections just around the corner, the HCA held another panel discussion on October 30, this time on the topic: "Countdown für Obama – Die USA vor den Präsidentschaftswahlen." Professor Berg, Dr. Thunert, and Dr. Endler were the HCA specialists this time. This event's special feature was a Skype connection to three other specialists, one in Washington, D.C., one in Iowa, and one in California, who were interviewed about the current events of the presidential campaign. Dr. Thunert gave a short introduction explaining the electoral system of the U.S. and the importance of the so-called swing states. All states, except for Nebraska and Maine, have the winner-takes-all system, meaning that the entire state goes to the



Representatives of the Democrats and the Republicans Abroad debate at the HCA: Dennis O'Donohue (l.) and Phil Zeni (r.)

candidate with the majority of the votes. Each state has electors, the number of which depends on the population size of the state. These electors form the Electoral College. As soon as one candidate has won 270 votes of the Electoral College, he is president-elect. In the improbable but technically possible case that both candidates gain exactly 269 votes, the House of Representatives selects the president but the Senate elects the vice president. In this hypothetical scenario, it would have been possible for Mitt Romney to become president while Joe Biden had stayed on as vice president, since Republicans were bound to keep control of the House whereas Democrats were likely to continue dominating the Senate. After this introduction Professor Berg posted a few questions to the first Skype participant, Dr. Markus Pindur, correspondent of "Deutschlandfunk" in Washington D.C. Professor Berg asked Dr. Pindur for his opinion on the fairness of the upcoming election in the light of "election reforms" in some Republican states designed to keep young voters, Hispanics, and blacks from casting their ballots. Dr. Pindur confirmed that there have been debates on constraining early voting in Florida, for instance. A "compromise" has been struck: The last Sunday before the election on November 6, early voting will not be possible. This would affect "Souls to the Polls," black church groups who vote together on Sunday after worshipping. African Americans traditionally vote Democratic. Dr. Endler interviewed the second guest via Skype, HCA Ph.D. candidate Styles Sass, who was located in the swing state of Iowa. Mr. Sass explained that the impact of the ongoing hurricane Sandy would be hard to predict. However, Mitt Romney's campaign might lose momentum while Obama has had the opportunity to exhibit leadership qualities in trying times. President Obama has already been praised for his reaction to the critical situation. After President Bush's poor handling of hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, expectations are high that Obama will rise to the occasion. In the third interview, Dr. Thunert spoke to Professor Andrea Römmele, who is currently based in California. She explained that, as California is not a swing state, presidential political campaigning has all but seized. Professor Römmele commented on the role of the media in the election. She criticized the TV debates' focus on who said what instead of discussing actual content. Also, she pointed out the lack of fact-checking on the side of the media, especially for the TV debates, claiming that the impressions the audience had after the debate stuck, regardless whether the politicians had told the truth or not. In their concluding remarks, the HCA specialists agreed that foreign

policy will play a minor role in the election, that the economy will be the key topic and that the race was too close to call.

Election Analysis

On the day after the U.S. presidential elections, November 7, the HCA hosted a panel discussion analyzing the outcome of the debate. The HCA's own specialists, Dr. Mausbach, Dr. Thunert, and Dr. Endler were joined by Dr. Robert Gerald Livingston, founding director of the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies in Washington, D.C. The panel explained why this particular election was unique and assessed the constituency and the challenges the Obama administration will face. This year's election was special for several reasons. The amount of money spent in the campaign was astronomical on both sides. Another new feature was the professional use of personal data in voter targeting, for instance via social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The candidates' wives were both very active in campaigning and are both popular. Never before have the media checked facts so meticulously. In the analysis of the constituency of both parties it was evident that Democrats and Republicans targeted very different groups: Mitt Romney was mainly the candidate of choice for whites, elderly people, and men. Mostly his voters came from the suburbs. He also did very well with members of the U.S. military. Barack Obama was elected by 18 to 40 year-olds, women, Hispanics, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Jews. The panel agreed that the most important factor for Obama's victory was demographics. The Democrats have adjusted to the growth of minorities in the American population, while the Republicans are now predominantly a party for white men. Of course, many factors contributed to Obama's winning the election: Obama's fight against terrorism and the death of Bin Laden were popular, and his winding-down of both wars the U.S. is currently involved in also contributed to this popularity. While voters were generally not content with the economic situation, there appears to be a general acceptance that the current economic crisis was caused by George W. Bush. The experts outlined the future challenges President Obama is facing after his

Analyzing the outcome of the 2012 presidential elections (l. to r.): Tobias Endler, Wilfried Mausbach, Gerald Livingstone, Martin Thunert.



election victory: The financial cliff is one of the most pressing issues which needs to be addressed by the reelected president. As the Republican majority in Congress will make negotiation and cooperation a necessity, some of the experts see potential for political gridlock. The economy, tax reform and immigration are further pressing matters. Concerning foreign policy, Obama will have to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, find the best way to constructively deal with the rise of China, handle Iran's nuclear power aspirations, and push for more progress in Russia's nuclear arms reductions. After the panel discussion, the experts were open to questions from their audience.

MEDIA COVERAGE

During the past year, reports on the HCA, its faculty and staff and its activities have appeared in the following media:

Blickpunkt Heidelberg, BR Fernsehen, BR 2 Radio, BR-alpha, Carta Blog, dw-world.de, Deutschlandfunk, Deutschlandradio Kultur, europejazz.net, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, HR 2 Kultur, Jazz Beyond Jazz Blog, Jazzpodium, Jazzthing.de, Mannheimer Morgen, MDR Fernsehen, NPR, politico.com, Radio M94,5, Radio Mephisto 97,6, Reuters Blog, Rhein Neckar Zeitung, Die Rheinpfalz, Stadtzeitung Augsburg, Süddeutsche Zeitung, SWR 2, UNISPIEGEL, Voice of America, WDR 5 Radio, Wirtschaftswoche online.



HCA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ferdinand Schöningh

„ENTRÜSTET EUCH!“

Nuklearkrise,
NATO-Doppelbeschluss und
Friedensbewegung

Herausgegeben von
Christoph Becker-Schaum,
Philipp Gassert, Martin Klimke,
Wilfried Mausbach und
Marianne Zepp

unter Mitarbeit von Laura Stapano



2012. 379 Seiten, 42 s/w Abb., Festeinband
€ 29,90
ISBN 978-3-506-77385-2

Unter dem Motto „Nein zur Nachrüstung“ kamen im Herbst 1983 in Deutschland mehr als eine Million Menschen zusammen, um gegen die Umsetzung des NATO-Doppelbeschlusses und die damit einhergehende Stationierung von Cruise Missiles und Pershing II-Raketen in der Bundesrepublik zu demonstrieren. Menschenketten, Sitzblockaden und Großdemonstrationen bestimmten die Pressbilder jener Tage. Diese Anfang der 1980er Jahre einsetzende Kontroverse um die »Nachrüstung«, die in eine öffentliche Auseinandersetzung zwischen dem politischen Establishment und der Friedensbewegung mündete, beherrschte wie kein anderes Thema die politische und gesellschaftliche Debatte dieser Zeit.

Das Kompendium »Entrüstet Euch!« zeichnet die Phasen dieser Entwicklung nach, stellt die Positionen beider Lager vor, porträtiert einzelne Protagonisten und wirft die Frage auf, welche Folgen die Kontroverse für die bundesdeutsche Gesellschaft und für das Ende des Kalten Krieges hatte. Ein Buch für zeithistorisch Interessierte und alle, die damals dabei waren!

Website zum Buch mit weiterführender Literatur, Quellentexten und Fotogalerie unter:
www.nuklearkrise.org

Herausgegeben von Dr. Christoph Becker-Schaum (Archiv Grünes Gedächtnis), Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert (Universität Augsburg), Prof. Dr. Martin Klimke (New York University Abu Dhabi), Dr. Wilfried Mausbach (Heidelberg Center for American Studies), Dr. Marianne Zepp (Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung).

US public intellectuals after 9/11

Tobias Endler

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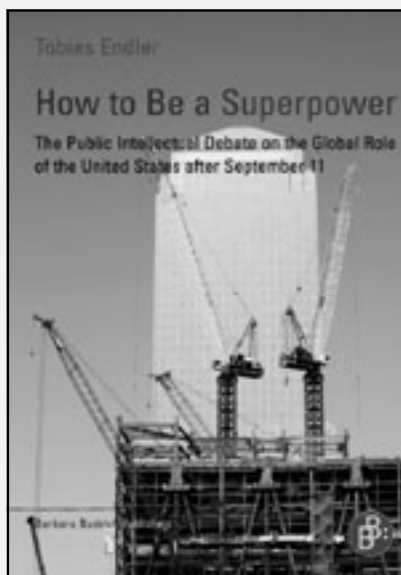
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2012. 280 pp. Pb.

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US\$45.95, 26.95 GBP

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How to Be a Superpower focuses on the role and self-perception of public intellectuals in 21st-century America, drawing on a series of interviews conducted with some of the nation's leading thinkers such as Noam Chomsky, Francis Fukuyama, Anne-Marie Slaughter, and Michael Walzer. Through these fascinating interviews, Tobias Endler illustrates how intellectuals inspire, influence, and participate in the nation's public discourse and opinion-shaping process.

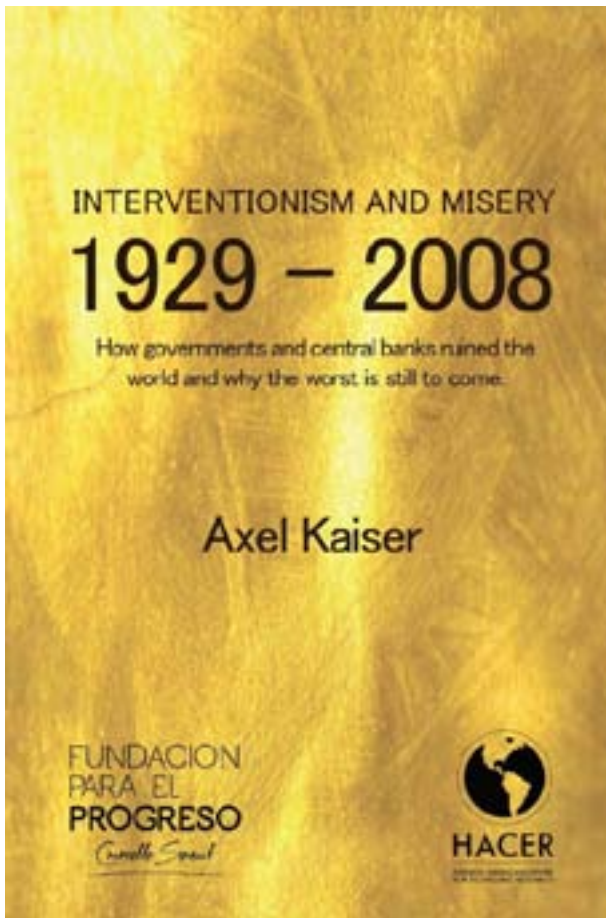
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Axel Kaiser Interventionism and Misery: 1929-2008

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2012, 231 pages, US\$25.00, ISBN: 978-956-9225-00-0

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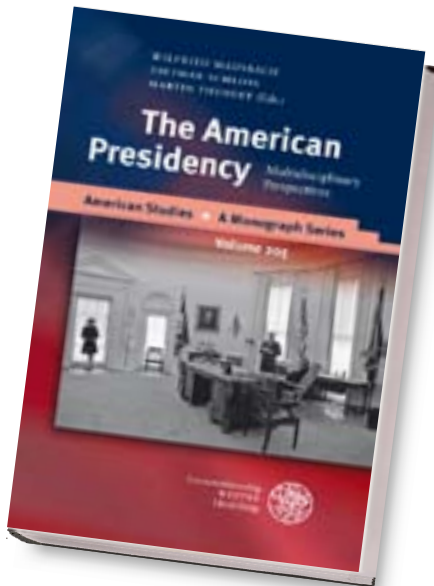
Ralph Benko, Columnist FORBES Magazine

The Author: Axel Kaiser



Axel Kaiser is a lawyer and a financial columnist with two Master's degrees from the University of Heidelberg, Germany where he currently pursues his doctoral studies. He has authored three books and won several prizes both internationally and in his home country Chile where he has been distinguished as one of the most successful and influential intellectuals of his generation. In 2012 he became Executive Director of the Fundación para el Progreso "Jean Gustave Courcelle-Seneuil" in Chile's Capital, Santiago.

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WILFRIED MAUSBACH
DIETMAR SCHLOSS
MARTIN THUNERT (Eds.)

The American Presidency Multidisciplinary Perspectives

2012. 390 pages.
(*American Studies – A Monograph Series*,
volume 205)
Hardcover € 64,–
ISBN 978-3-8253-5737-5

Understanding the presidency of the United States requires taking seriously the role that individuals play in history, but at the same time also taking seriously the realization that individual presidents are bound by legal and institutional structures as well as by cultural and economic forces often beyond their control. This is why the task of this book is to characterize the modern American presidency from a variety of academic disciplines such as history, political science and cultural studies as well as from dif-

ferent theoretical approaches. The essays collected in this volume grew out of conference papers held at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), which was held in Heidelberg between May 15 and 18, 2008. Many essays are deliberately interpretive, some offer assessments of individual presidents and of particular events, others are more contextual and focus on presidential performance, on presidential rhetoric or on representations of the presidency in fiction, film and drama.

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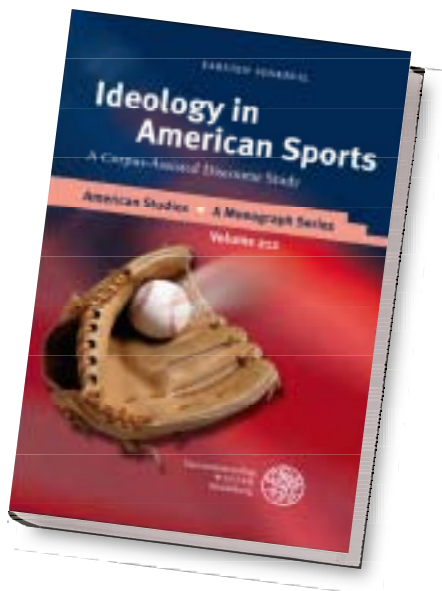
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KARSTEN SENKBEIL

Ideology in American Sports

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2011. X, 306 Seiten, 16 Abbildungen.
(*American Studies – A Monograph Series*,
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Geb. € 40,—
ISBN 978-3-8253-5933-1

Sport competitions belong to the most prominent mass media events in the USA today. To understand the cultural impact that sports have on the American collective consciousness, one must be aware of the overt and covert ideological assumptions that surface in the media discourse around these sport events.

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lenged and re-negotiated consensus equilibrium in the public discussion around the Americans' 'favorite pastimes'.

Core ideologies from American history define the media's interpretations of sports and are therefore central topics in this book: capitalism and rural nostalgia, patriotism and militarism, family values, rugged individualism, and remnants of the frontier mythology. Hence, understanding American sports discourse means understanding the American psyche in a period of challenges and changes.

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