



Heidelberg Center  
for American Studies

## Annual Report 2008/09

### Special Feature:

Rashida K. Braggs:

*"Manuel de Saint-Germain-des-Prés: Guide Book to African  
American Freedoms"*



Ruprecht-Karls-Universität  
Heidelberg, est. 1386



**Annual Report 2008/09**

# Editorial

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## Rector's Welcome

Dear Reader,

As the Ruperto Carola braces itself for the challenges of the twenty-first century, the university continues to foster its international bonds. The ties that bind us to the United States of America have been growing steadily over the last two centuries and will, if anything, become even more important in the years ahead. Academic collaboration and exchange involving professors, researchers, and students testify to the strong relationship between the Universität Heidelberg and the United States. This close relationship is also evident in the generous moral and financial backing from American graduates and friends. In this very spirit, we recently launched our fundraising campaign "Dem Lebendigen Geist," through which we hope to win American support for the modernization of the "Neue Universität." I am proud to say that the Heidelberg Center for American Studies has played an important part in getting this campaign off the ground.

The HCA is uniquely qualified to assist the Ruperto Carola in building and sustaining bridges across the Atlantic. Over the past five years, it has become one of the leading centers for American Studies in Europe, an international beacon for research, higher education, and public dialogue about the United States. Its Master- and Ph.D. programs continue to attract students from America and all over the world. With the establishment of two new chairs in American geography and theology, the HCA will expand its teaching activities and also offer a B.A. in North American Studies, which is scheduled to commence in the winter semester of 2010/11. All this will help the HCA to fulfill its mission of imparting in-depth knowledge about U.S. history, politics, culture, and society to students from all over the world and a wider public in Germany. I congratulate the HCA on its impressive growth and remarkable achievements, which are amply evident in its sixth Annual Report.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernhard Eitel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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



## Preface

Dear Friends and Benefactors, Colleagues and Students,

It is a great privilege and pleasure to present the sixth Annual Report of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. In 2008/09, the HCA took a decisive leap forward. Faculty, students and staff can therefore look back with a feeling of great accomplishment.

October 20, 2009, was an especially important day for the HCA. We celebrated both the graduation of the MAS Class of 2009 in the Alte Aula of the University and the dedication of our new academic facilities – only hours after the craftsmen had left the construction site. The HCA added a new glass-covered atrium, a new lecture hall with galleries and a new seminar room to its splendid home, the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais. In a moving ceremony our generous benefactors, Honorary Senators Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn, presented this modern and elegant building to the public.

At the HCA, the America-related research of six faculties and ten disciplines converges. With the determined support of the Rector of the University of Heidelberg, Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Bernhard Eitel, the HCA was able to further institutionalize its multi disciplinary mission and intensify its co-operation with several disciplines.

Two new professorships were granted by the state of Baden-Württemberg, one in the history of American religions and churches, especially the history of Christianity in the U.S., the other in the human geography of North America. Starting in the winter term 2010/11, the two new professors will take up their joint appointments at the HCA and the Faculty of Theology and the Department of Geography, respectively. We are finalizing negotiations with the Center for European Historical and Cultural Studies regarding a joint appointment of the Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History (Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg). The HCA has also initiated negotiations with the Faculty of Modern Languages about a similar arrangement for the chair in American literature (Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt). Meanwhile, a joint appointment of Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss has strengthened our long-standing co-operation with the English Department. We are planning to establish tighter bonds with the Institute for Political Science as well.

We are proud to inform you that our newly restructured Master's program was successfully accredited. The now three-semester program enables students to develop a more in-depth academic profile

and allows them the time to conduct more intensive research on their M.A. theses. The HCA will also introduce a multidisciplinary B.A. program in American Studies, open to up to 25 students, in the fall semester 2010.

We continue to be very productive in our research activities. Over the last year, the HCA has been involved in and has hosted a number of cutting-edge interdisciplinary workshops and conferences on topics ranging from transatlantic protest movements and African-American history to the body and image of Arnold Schwarzenegger. Two volumes edited by members of the HCA faculty – “State and Market in a Globalized World: Transatlantic Perspectives” and “Was Amerika ausmacht: Multidisziplinäre Perspektiven” – are now available. Finally, the research network “A Transcultural Atlantic” planted the seeds for further cooperation. A project website committed to presenting work in progress to a larger academic audience and the general public is in the making.

The following report elaborates on all of our exciting activities and accomplishments from the past year, and looks forward to continuing this success and advancement into the future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Detlef Junker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Detlef" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Junker".

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker,  
Founding Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies







**HCA**  
Heidelberg Center  
for American Studies

# 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 623-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

The HCA is a central academic facility of Heidelberg University with its financial support coming from a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP). Without the continual 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 described in 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 five Honorary Senators of Heidelberg University: Curt Engelhorn, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Rolf Kentner, Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, and Dr. Hans-Peter Wild. In addition, the HCA gratefully appreciates the donations of Ray and Elfie Carrell, Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian, Herbert A. Jung, Dr. Bernd-A. von Maltzan and the Deutsche Bank Group, Dr. Kurt

Bock and the BASF Group, Dr. Oliver Neumann and the John Deere Company, Claudia Bussmann, Dr. Martin Bussmann, and the Ladenburg Foundation. 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. In addition to this long-term financial support, the Engelhorn family underwrote construction of the HCA's new academic facilities, which were dedicated in October 2009 (see p. 31).

The Ghaemian Foundation, which established the Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for

Scholars in 2007, decided to further support the HCA. Starting in the academic year 2009/10, the Foundation offers a Ghaemian Junior Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship at the HCA with a stipend of 40,000 EUR. The first recipient of this fellowship is Rashida Bragg, Ph.D., who comes to the HCA from Stanford University.

Thanks to the generous assistance of Deutsche Bank Group, the HCA has previously been able to offer a full-year Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship. The recipient of this fellowship, Professor Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota), stayed at the HCA from September 2008 to August 2009, working on a major piece of scholarly research and teaching two courses as part of the HCA's Master of Arts in American Studies program.

Through the financial support of a matching fund underwritten by the state of Baden-Württemberg, Heidelberg University, and private benefactors in 2007, the HCA has not only been able to fulfill its mission in general but also to continue its cooperation with the American Academy in Berlin throughout 2008 and into the spring of 2009. We are very grateful for the special financial support we received from Heidelberg University as part of this matching fund.

The European Union is currently funding an extensive research project administered by the HCA in cooperation with the universities of Zurich and Halle. The Federal Ministry of Science and Technology is supporting our project on "The Trans-cultural Atlantic". A research project "Images of America in the World after 9/11: A Data-Driven Approach to Semantic Imprints of Texts" is funded by the FRONTIER program of Heidelberg University.

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 Mannheim, 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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## HCA Board of Trustees

In November 2005, the HCA established a Board of Trustees. It consists of ten 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 Prof. Detlef Junker they are: Dr. Kurt Bock (BASF Group, Ludwigshafen), Dr. Martin Bussmann (Mannheim LLC, New York), Curt 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, Prof. 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 Rudolf Wild GmbH & Co. KG. He studied law at Heidelberg University and business administration in Mannheim, Cambridge and at the Sorbonne, Paris. He holds a doctorate from the Faculty of Law of the University of Mannheim. Dr. Wild worked at 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, giving students insights into the world of practical economics. He is also 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, in recognition of his services, named him Honorary Senator in 1996. Based on his own experience with foreign markets and other cultures, Dr. Wild has always acknowledged the importance of paying attention to and respecting cultural differences. "If I want to do business in the USA, I must be able to think like Americans," says Dr. Wild. 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**

Since 2003 Dr. Kurt Bock has been a Member of the Board of Executive Directors and Chief Financial Officer of BASF Group, responsible for Finance, Corporate Controlling, Global Procurement & Logistics, and Information Services as well as for Corporate Audit. Furthermore, his responsibilities include the North America regional division and the Catalysts operating division. He 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. After three years in research, 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 Holdings LLC, a member of Mannheim LLC. Dr. Bussmann is also active in other portfolio companies of the Mannheim Trust. He spent 15 years in the health care and chemical industries, working in different sales and marketing functions at Knoll AG, Abbott Laboratories, and at BASF Group, both 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. habil. Bernhard Eitel**

Professor 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 sediments and calcrete generations in Namibia. Prior to coming to Heidelberg, Bernhard 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 period, soil geography, geoarchaeology, and dryland areas. In October of 2007, Bernhard 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, 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, Engelhorn served as the company's CEO, transforming it from a medium-sized manufacturer of therapeutics 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 Roche. Curt Engelhorn is a patron of many projects in Germany and abroad, supporting 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 most recently the investment in an annex to the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, which was dedicated in October 2009 and provides the HCA with new academic facilities.



## **Soheyl Ghaemian**

Soheyl Ghaemian, born in Teheran, Iran, grew up in Heidelberg and studied computer science at the universities of Heidelberg and Karlsruhe. Prior to completing his studies, Ghaemian was already active in staffing projects and quickly recognized the trend toward increased flexibility in the German labor market, especially in the IT sector. In 2002, he founded his own one-man company, Reutax, which has now grown into a corporation, employing more than 200 people. Headquarters are located in Heidelberg with subsidiaries in Munich, Vienna, Zurich, Los Angeles, Wroclaw, and Prague. 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 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.



## **Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker**

Detlef Junker 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 1967. In this year, he was appointed Assistant Professor, 1974 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, 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 the two volume handbook *The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War 1945-1990*, which he edited, and his monograph *Power and Mission*, published in 2003. In 2005, Detlef Junker was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Maryland—University College Europe (UMUC) in Heidelberg. Junker was recognized for his commitment to fostering German-American dialogue and cross-cultural understanding. In 2007, Professor Junker was appointed Distinguished Senior Professor of Heidelberg University. Since 2003, he has been Founding Director of the HCA.





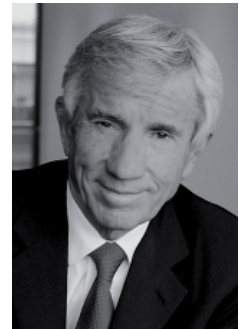
## **Rolf Kentner**

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 Society for the Promotion of the Schurman Library for American History at the History Department of Heidelberg University, and as Chairman of the Jacob Gould Schurman Foundation. Both organizations are named after 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.



## **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, Lautenschläger assumed the position of CEO, expanding the company to one of Germany's leading suppliers of financial consultation services. Since 1999, he has been Chairman of the Supervisory Board of MLP Group. For many years, 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, 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.



### **Dr. Bernd-A. von Maltzan**

Dr. Bernd von Maltzan is 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, Germany. 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, including his endowment of the Bernd von Maltzan Scholarships for students of the M.A. in American Studies program.



## **HCA Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of the Heidelberg Center of 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 Prof. Dr. Hommelhoff, Rector of Heidelberg University until September 2007, and named Professor Detlef Junker the Founding Director of the HCA. Professors Winfried Brugger and Michael Welker were named Deputy Directors.

### **Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker**

(Biography see Board of Trustees, p. 15)

### **Prof. Dr. Winfried Brugger, LL.M.**

Professor Winfried Brugger, representative of the Faculty of Law, holds the Chair for Public Law and Philosophy of Law at Heidelberg University and is a fellow at the Max Weber Center for Cultural and Social Studies at Erfurt University. He is a member of the board of the German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV), a coeditor of the DAJV's quarterly Newsletter and has published numerous monographs and articles on American Law, including *Grundrechte und Verfassungsgerichtsbarkeit in den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika*, *Einführung in das öffentliche Recht der USA*, and *Demokratie, Freiheit und Gleichheit. Studien zum Verfassungsrecht der USA*. Brugger has taught as a guest professor in Houston, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, and Oxford (UK).



### **Prof. Dr. 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. Welker has served as Director of the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg from 1996 to 2006. He taught at both Harvard and Princeton universities and currently is Administrative Director of the Forschungszentrum für Internationale und Interdisziplinäre Theologie (FIIT) in Heidelberg. Welker is co-editor of *The End of the World and the Ends of God. Sciences and Theology on Eschatology* (2002), the third edition of his work *Gottes Geist. Theologie des Heiligen Geistes* was published in 2005.



### **Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg**

Professor Manfred Berg represents the Faculty of Philosophy. He was appointed Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History in October 2005. From 1992 to 1997, Berg worked for the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. After completing his Habilitation in 1998 he taught at the universities of Berlin und Cologne. Berg also served as executive director of the Zentrum für USA-Studien of 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). In April 2006, Prof. Berg was awarded the David Thelen Award for the best article on American history published in a foreign language by the Organization of American Historians (OAH) for his article "Black Civil Rights and Liberal Anticommunism: The NAACP during the McCarthy Era." In spring of 2009, Manfred Berg served as the Lewis P. Jones Visiting Professor of History at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.



### **Prof. Dr. Günter Leyboldt**

Günter Leyboldt 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 Leyboldt 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* (Trier, 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* (Edinburgh UP, 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 Leyboldt joined the Board of Directors in 2009.



### **Prof. Dr. Peter Meusburger**

Professor of Geography Peter Meusburger, representative of the Faculty of Chemistry and Earth Sciences, has been teaching economic, social, and educational geography at Heidelberg University since 1983. Meusburger has been examining the educational situation of ethnic minorities in the United States. The culmination of his work in this area is his *Bildungsgeographie: Wissen und Ausbildung in der räumlichen Dimension* (1998). He also is co-editor of the *Lexikon der Geographie* (Vol. 1-4). From 2001 to 2002, Meusburger was president of the Verband der Geographen an deutschen Hochschulen (VGDH), and he served as president of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geographie (DGfG) from 2002 to 2003. In 2006 he was awarded the Franz von Hauer-Medaille, the highest award of the Austrian Geographical Society (ÖGG).



### **Prof. Dr. Manfred G. Schmidt**

Professor Manfred G. Schmidt is the Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences and Professor at the Institute for Political Science at Heidelberg University. After a long and distinguished career he returned to Heidelberg University in 2000, where he had taught before, from the University of Bremen. Professor Schmidt has published extensively in both English and German on welfare states in comparative perspective, on theories of democracy, on politics and policy in Germany. One of the most respected political scientists in Germany and beyond, Manfred Schmidt, a winner of the prestigious Leibniz Award, is a member of both the Heidelberg and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academies of Sciences.



## Foundation and Development of the HCA

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. Thus, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) was born, and its first order of business 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 conceptual design of the MAS and the initial layout for 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, Religious 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 to discuss their research and to meet peers and professors from both sides of the Atlantic.

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.

In 2005, the HCA guided the 15 students of the initial MAS Class of 2005 to the completion of their master's degrees and hosted the second Spring Academy on American History, Culture, and Politics. It also laid the groundwork for an ambitious research agenda, including a major international conference. All this came to fruition in 2006 when the European Commission decided to support the research project "European Protest Movements since the Cold War. The Rise and Fall of a (Trans-) National Civil Society and the Transformation of the Public Sphere". The project is co-developed and coordinated by HCA fellow Dr. Martin Klimke as part of its Marie Curie Program for the Promotion of Scientific Excellence. Furthermore, renowned scholars from Europe and the United States assembled at the HCA from October 5-8, 2006 to discuss the relationship of "State and Market in a Globalized World: Transatlantic Perspectives" with the U.S. Ambassador to Germany, William R. Timken, as a special guest. Also in October of 2006, the HCA celebrated the graduation of its second MAS class and proudly welcomed the first students to its new Ph.D. in American Studies program.

This substantial expansion of activities 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 world-famous historic city center, and dedicated it to the mission of the HCA. With meticulous restorations still under way, the HCA moved into its new home, now christened 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—pledged for three to five years—has 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 Junior Fellow-in-Residence program in 2007 and to add another three young scholars to its staff, thereby broadening its research and teaching capacities.

The EU-sponsored research project on protest movements convened two major international conferences in 2007, one at the University of Zurich, the other at the HCA. The center also hosted a seminal conference on "Global Dimensions of Racism in the Modern World: Comparative and Transnational Perspectives," organized by the Curt Engelhorn Chair of American History and generously supported by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation and the Schurman Association for the Promotion of American History at Heidelberg University.

In November of 2007, the HCA participated in the Rhein-Neckar metropolitan region's "Night of Arts and Sciences," attracting several hundred visitors to its exhibitions and discussions on the presidential elections in the United States.

The year 2008 was also very busy. Aside from its ongoing programs - the MAS and Ph.D. in American Studies, the Spring Academy on American History, Culture, and Politics, and the Baden-Württemberg Seminar - the HCA launched a major new research project on "The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context – Past, Present, and Future". Funding for this project has been provided by the Global Networks branch of Heidelberg University's Excellence Initiative program as well as by the Stiftung Deutsch-Amerikanische Wissenschaftsbeziehungen and the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology. In addition, the HCA acquired a grant from the FRONTIER program of Heidelberg University for a project examining "Images of America in the World after 9/11: A Data-Driven Approach to Semantic Imprints of Texts". Last but not least, the HCA supported Dr. Simon Wendt, assistant professor of American History at Heidelberg University's History Department, in his successful bid to become a research group leader in the university's Transcultural Studies program.

The highlight of the 2008 conferences and workshops at the HCA undoubtedly occurred in May, when the HCA and Heidelberg University were honored to host the 55th Annual Convention of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA).

The latter half of 2008 also saw a major overhaul of the HCA's master's program, extending the MAS from two to three semesters and submitting the redesigned program for accreditation. The new MAS was successfully accredited in December 2008.

The year 2009 opened with a record number of applications pouring in for the HCA Spring Academy. One-hundred and thirty-two applications from 28 countries testified to both the strong appeal and the global prestige of the program. Next to the Spring Academy, the HCA either hosted or support-

ed numerous scholarly workshops and international conferences throughout the year, including events in Berlin, Heidelberg, Philadelphia, and Zurich.

A 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 will have expired. In light of this reassuring news the HCA could jauntily celebrate the fifth anniversary of its founding (and the 70th birthday of its Founding Director) with a memorable jamboree inside the famous Heidelberg Castle on June 20, 2009.

To be sure, the center's vibrant growth continued unabated after the festivities. In October, the HCA not only celebrated its fifth commencement, granting degrees to its MAS Class of 2009, but it also dedicated its new academic facilities, comprising a modern yet congenial annex to its landmarked Palais.

The fall of 2009 also saw the first semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar under the exclusive

direction of the HCA. This series of lectures given by renowned American scholars, journalists, policy experts, and artists at different locations throughout the state of Baden-Württemberg, previously organized in conjunction with the American Academy in Berlin, has been exceedingly successful and will henceforth be geared even closer to regional audiences.

Finally, in late November the HCA learned that its application – supported by Heidelberg University – for the creation of 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 are allocated under a special program designed to alleviate the impact of two classes of secondary school graduates hitting German universities in one and the same year, 2012, as a consequence of educational reforms. The HCA's success in acquiring these professorships will open up whole new possibilities for the center's future development.

## Organization and Staff

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 longtime 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.

### Dr. Noah Bubenhofer

Noah Bubenhofer is coordinator of the project "Semtracks: Tracking Meaning on the Surface" at the HCA. In addition, he is a research assistant at the German Department at the University of Zürich. Noah Bubenhofer studied German, Communication and Media Studies, and Sociology at the University of Basel and the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg.



### **Tatjana Eichert**

Tatjana Eichert has been a student at Heidelberg University since 2007, majoring in History and English Literature. She joined the HCA in March 2009 as an intern. During this time she assisted in coordinating the Spring Academy and the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. Moreover, she worked in the HCA's Public Relations Office. Since September 2009, Tatjana has been working at the HCA as a student assistant and is now primarily responsible for event management.



### **Dr. Ute Forster-Schwerk**

Ute Forster-Schwerk joined the HCA as a staff member in July of 2008. She has studied Geography, Political Science, and Sociology in Vienna and Heidelberg and received her Ph.D. from Heidelberg University. Her research interests are in social geography, especially in population studies, geographies of travel, and the regional geography of the United States. She also supports Christina Larenz in accounting.



### **Dr. Jana Freihöfer**

Jana Freihöfer has coordinated the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the American Academy in Berlin and been responsible for public relations at the HCA until June of 2009. Freihöfer studied Geography, Political Science and Economics at the University of Bonn. She received her M.A. in Geography from King's College London in 2003. In April 2007, she successfully completed her Ph.D. thesis on the migration of international civil servants. In July 2009, Freihöfer left the HCA to assume new responsibilities with Heidelberg University's new Communications and Marketing Division.



### **Jens Hofmann, M.A.**

Jens Hofmann joined the HCA as a research assistant in March 2009. He studied History, Political Science and English Literature at Heidelberg University and the University of Edinburgh from 2001 to 2008. In 2009, he received an M.A. for his thesis on the political and strategic aims of the U.S. Administration during the German reunification process in 1989/90. Currently, he is working on his Ph.D. thesis titled "Subsidized Hegemony? The Problem of the Offset Treaties in U.S.-German Relations, 1960-1976."





**Iris Hahn-Santoro, M.A.**

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. After receiving her M.A., Hahn-Santoro served as a research assistant at the Arctic Studies Center at the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. She joined the HCA in August of 2009 and is responsible for the coordination of the MAS program.



**Dr. Mischa Honeck**

Mischa Honeck joined the HCA as a research associate and full staff member in April 2008. Apart from administering the Ph.D. in American Studies program, he is responsible for coordinating the Center for Interdisciplinary Research as well as the HCA’s visiting fellows program. Honeck studied History, Philosophy, and English at Portland State University and Heidelberg University, where he received his M.A. in February 2004 and completed his Ph.D. in June 2008 (“summa cum laude”).



**Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker**

See Biography “Board of Trustees” page 15.

**Christian Kempf**

Since 2006, Christian Kempf has been studying History and Religious Studies at Heidelberg University. He joined the HCA in March 2009. Christian is part of the MAS Team and responsible for the MAS Newsletter and the MAS Homepage.



**Dr. Martin Klimke**

Dr. Martin Klimke is a research fellow at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (on leave). Klimke is coordinator and scientist-in-charge of the Marie Curie project supported by the European Union on “European Protest Movements since the Cold War”. Klimke studied at the University of Göttingen, Amherst College and Heidelberg University, where he received both his M.A. and his Ph.D. in 2002 and 2005 respectively. Since 2007, Klimke has been a visiting research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. where he became a research fellow in 2009.



**Barbara Kujath, M.A.**

Barbara Kujath attended the Mount Royal College and University of Calgary, majoring in archaeology and minoring in English. In 2001, she enrolled at Heidelberg University with a major in English literature and a minor in German as a second language. In February 2007, she was awarded an M.A. In 2008, Barbara joined the HCA's Ph.D. program. Since 2009, she assists the HCA in organizing the workshops planned as part of the project "The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context".

**Matthias Kutsch**

Matthias Kutsch studies History and Political Science at Heidelberg University. He joined the HCA in July 2009. Matthias is primarily responsible for the organization of the Conference "UNESCO and the Cold War" that will take place at the HCA in March 2010.

**Christina Larenz**

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.

**Sophie Lorenz, M.A.**

Sophie Lorenz coordinates the organization of the HCA Spring Academy on American History, Culture, and Politics. She studied History, Political Science, and Public Law at Heidelberg University, graduating in 2009. Since then she has been working on her Ph.D. thesis titled "Solidarity with African-American Protest in East and West Germany during the 1960s and 1970s." In 2004, Sophie started working at the HCA as a student research assistant responsible for the organization of numerous social events. Since 2006, Sophie has been part of the Spring Academy team.



**Anne Lübbers, M.A.**

Anne Lübbers is coordinator of the MAS program. She studied Political Science, German philology, and Romance languages (Italian) at Heidelberg University where, in the spring of 2006, she received her M.A. Since then she has been working on her Ph.D. thesis. Since August of 2003, she has been working as a student academic assistant for the HCA where she was responsible for organizing the Spring Academy and the Baden-Württemberg-Seminar of the American Academy in Berlin. Since October of 2007, she has been working as the MAS coordinator.

**Elena Matveeva, M.A.**

Elena Matveeva is responsible for the HCA's publications as well as for international communications. She studied at Herzen University in St. Petersburg, Russia, majoring in English, German, and Pedagogics. Since the summer of 2005, Elena Matveeva has been a Ph.D. candidate at the English Department of Heidelberg University working on her thesis "Going East: American Journalists and the Soviet Experiment, 1921-1934." She has been working as a research assistant at the HCA since 2004. Elena was a coordinator of the Spring Academy until September of 2008.

**Dr. Wilfried Mausbach**

Wilfried Mausbach is the Executive Director of the HCA. Prior to assuming that position in 2005, he was a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., and has held assistant professorships in history at both the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin and Heidelberg University. Wilfried Mausbach holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cologne where he studied History, Political Science, and Philosophy.

**Anja Milde, M.A.**

Anja Milde joined the HCA in 2007. She has been working as a public relations assistant and a tutor for American history. Milde received her B.A. from the University of Erfurt in 2003, where she studied Linguistics and Communication Science. Before graduating from the MAS program in 2008, she spent a year at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where she majored in American Studies. She is currently spending several months in the United States conducting archival research for her Ph.D. project on the linkages between the U.S. civil and gay rights movements.



### **Cristina Stanca-Mustea, M.A.**

Cristina Stanca-Mustea received her B.A. in Romanian and American Studies from the University of Bucharest in 2005. She was the recipient of the DAAD Fellowship as part of the STIBET program and received her M.A. in American Studies from Heidelberg University in 2006. Since then, she has been part of the HCA's Ph.D. program working on her thesis "Carl Laemmle – A Transatlantic Mediator." Stanca-Mustea joined the HCA staff in October of 2009.



### **Claudia Müller, M.A.**

Claudia Müller graduated from Heidelberg University, where she majored in History, English, Philosophy, and German. She is currently writing her Ph.D. thesis entitled "The Staging of Remembering and Narrating in Günter Grass' *Die Blechtrommel* and Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*". From 2001 to 2004, she was a research assistant at the Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History. Since 2005, she worked in the HCA's administrative office until she left the institute to move to the United States in 2009.



### **Dr. Anja Schüller**

Anja Schüller is a historian who studied at the University of Münster and the University of Georgia, Athens, and graduated with an M.A. in Modern History from the John F. Kennedy-Institute of the Free University in Berlin. After graduate work at the University of Minnesota, she received her Dr. phil. in History from the Free University of Berlin with a thesis on women social reformers in the United States and Germany. Schüller joined the HCA in 2008 teaching in the MAS and Ph.D. programs. Since the summer of 2009, she is also responsible for the coordination of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the HCA as well as for public relations.



### **Michael Tröger, Dipl.-Soz.**

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.



**Dr. habil. Martin Thunert**

Martin Thunert is a university lecturer and senior research fellow at the HCA. He teaches the MAS course in political science as well as the interdisciplinary seminar and is coordinator of the lecture series “Typically American”. Thunert studied Political Science, English and Philosophy at the universities of Frankfurt, Tübingen, and Glasgow. He received his Dr. phil. in Political Science from the University of Augsburg and his post-doctoral degree (Habilitation) at Hamburg University.



**Holly Uhl, M.A.**

Holly Uhl has assisted in the coordination of the Ph.D. program. She studied at Heidelberg University where she received her master’s degree in Political Science and History in 2008. She also spent a year studying Latin American Studies at the Pontificia Universidad Católica in Santiago, Chile. Holly Uhl began working for the HCA in February of 2004 as a translator. Since 2006, she had been partly responsible for the administration of the Ph.D. program until she left Germany in the fall of 2009 to return to her home country.



**Dr. Alexander Vazansky**

Alexander Vazansky has served as the MAS Course Registrar until August of 2009. He has studied history and American literature at Heidelberg University and at Miami University, Ohio. Alexander Vazansky received his M.A. from Miami University. He also spent time working as a teaching assistant for the Curt Engelhorn Chair of American History. In the summer of 2009, he successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis: “An Army in Crisis: Social Conflicts in the United States Army, Europe and 7th Army, 1968-1975.” Alexander Vazansky left the HCA for Lincoln, Nebraska, where he now teaches German and American History at the University of Nebraska.



**Rebekka Weinel, M.A.**

Rebekka Weinel joined the HCA in the fall of 2003. She has been in charge of fundraising and the HCA alumni network. She is also administrative coordinator of the project “European Protest Movements”. She received her M.A. in American History in 2006. Since 2007, she has been working on her Ph.D. thesis. In September of 2008, Weinel became part of the Spring Academy Team. She left the HCA in April 2009 to work as a research associate at the University of Augsburg and returned to Heidelberg University in October of the same year as a research associate in quality management.



## HCA Visiting Professors

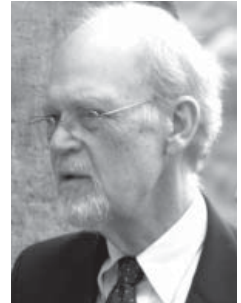
### **Rashida K. Braggs, Ph.D.**

Rashida Braggs is the first recipient of the Ghaemian Junior Scholarship-in-Residence. She holds a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from Northwestern University, and was also awarded an M.S. in Mass Communications from Boston University and a B.A. in English and Theater Studies from Yale University. Rashida joined the HCA from Stanford University, where she was a post-doctoral fellow. During the winter term 2009/10 she teaches an MAS course titled "From Blues to Rock: Representing Music in African American Literature".



### **Prof. Robert W. Cherny**

Professor Robert Cherny has served on the history faculty of San Francisco State University since 1971. His courses deal especially with U.S. history between 1865 and 1945, political parties, U.S. labor, the Trans-Mississippi West, and Californian history. His Ph.D. is from Columbia University. Prof. Cherny spent the summer term of 2009 as a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the HCA, teaching an interdisciplinary seminar together with Prof. Dietmar Schloss titled "Work and Leisure in America: History, Literature, and Culture, 1870-1914" as well as presenting a workshop at the Spring Academy 2009.



### **Prof. Kirsten Fischer, Ph.D.**

Kirsten Fischer, associate professor of history at the University of Minnesota, was the second Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence. She spent the academic year 2008/09 at the HCA. Prof. Fischer taught an MAS seminar titled "Religion and the Founding of the United States: Contests Then and Now over the Place of Religion in American Politics" and took part in the HCA Spring Academy.



## HCA Affiliates

### **Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert**

Philipp Gassert was Managing Director of the HCA until 2005. Gassert studied History, Economics, German Philology, and Public Law at Heidelberg University, the University of Angers (France), and at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He received his Ph.D. from Heidelberg University in 1996 and his Habilitation from Heidelberg in 2004. In 2008, he served as Deputy Director of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. In 2009, Gassert assumed a chair at the University of Augsburg where he teaches European and Transatlantic History.



### **Prof. Jeannette Eileen Jones, Ph.D.**

Jeannette Eileen Jones from the University Nebraska-Lincoln was the first Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence at the HCA during the 2007/08 academic year. She earned her Master's and Doctoral degrees in History from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She joined the faculty of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2004 and has recently been promoted to Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies (African American and African Studies). Jeannette returned to the HCA for the Spring Academy 2009, directing a workshop and taking active part in discussions throughout the conference.



## The Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais: History and Architecture of Our Flourishing Home



The Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais on Hauptstraße 120.

The home of the HCA is a beautiful old Bürgerpalais (town house), and one with a long history. The first known structure that stood at the location now occupied by the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais can be traced back to 1564.

Afflicted by fire on several occasions in the past, the eastern half of this four-story building was severely damaged in 1689 during the Palatinate War of Succession. Only four years later, the entire structure was apparently crippled even further as a consequence of the war.

In 1699, the “Haus Neukirch”, as the Curt and

Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais came to be called, was purchased by Burkhard Neukirch. Having already lived in parts of the old building for some years, he started to build a new house, using the foundation of the former building.

The structure of the palais, especially the fourth floor, was subjected to manifold rebuildings during the following decades, and the current structure was built at the beginning of the eighteenth century. This makes the home of the HCA only around 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 the next ten years.

The HCA’s location is ideal for students and professors alike. The Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais is within short walking distance of the University Library, the Mensa, the New University, the Old University, and many important university departments. Here on Hauptstraße, just a step away from University Square, student life thrives.

The Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais is an architectural gem. Particularly noteworthy is decorative stucco on the walls and ceilings, which can especially be admired on the second floor. Done in the Louis-Seize style, the trim and decoration were likely added at the end of the eighteenth century. The extensive restoration of the salons on the second floor, the so-called Bel Etage, revealed carvings long lost to coats of paint. Lions’ heads, musical instruments, roses and women’s faces were literally coming out of the ceiling. The rooms of the



Bel Etage are used for conferences and lectures. Thanks to the magnanimity of the Engelhorn family, a modern annex to the historic building was envisioned from the very start in the interior courtyard separating the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais from the student cafeteria and main university library. Its completion, however, has been delayed due to construction work on surrounding buildings. Yet, finally, on October 20, 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.



Rector Eitel and Honorary Senator Heidemarie Engelhorn enjoying our new academic facilities

In their greetings both the mayor and rector congratulated the HCA on an addition that congenially conjoins state of the art architecture with a historic landmark. They emphasized the growing role of the HCA as a center for research and higher education that brings to Heidelberg students and scientists from all over the world. Honorary Senator Curt Engelhorn, who then took the floor,

underlined the importance of German-American relations. In his view, the HCA plays a significant role in building bridges across the Atlantic by furthering a nuanced understanding of the United States through teaching, research, public lectures, and publications. Moreover, students at the HCA, coming to Heidelberg from many different countries, are given the unique opportunity to not only acquire inside knowledge about American politics, economics, culture and society from an outside perspective, but also to share their own cultural and educational experiences with their peers.



Prof. Detlef Junker and Honorary Senator Curt Engelhorn with a symbolic key to the new annex

Curt Engelhorn then symbolically handed the keys to the new building to HCA Founding Director Detlef Junker, who thanked both Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn for their generous support of the HCA. A red ribbon was cut by Senator Engelhorn and Professor Junker, thus officially inaugurating the new facilities. Subsequently, speakers and guests could mingle and enjoy some wine and food while having a closer look at the newly minted premises.

The annex comprises a new lecture room, an elevator, a kitchen equipped for event catering, and additional restrooms, including one accessible for people with disabilities. The most spectacular fea-

ture of the new building, however, is a 360-square-meter, glass-covered atrium. By a stroke of genius, Klaus-Dieter Freund, legal counsel to the Engelhorn family, and architect Horst Müller decided to do away with the originally planned flight of stairs and instead install a corkscrew staircase in the northwestern corner of the atrium, thus making the entire internal space available for use as an auditorium, exhibition room or even concert hall. Both the new seminar room and the atrium are

outfitted with cutting edge media and technology. Altogether, the annex effectively turns the HCA into a small convention center and opens up new vistas for the future.



View of the new glass atrium





**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 increasing demand in academia, the public sector, and the business community.

The HCA provides interdisciplinary academic and cultural teaching on the United States for post graduate students from around the world.

Currently, the HCA offers the Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) program as well as a three year Ph.D. in American Studies program (see p. 72). Beginning with the winter term 2010/11, the HCA will complete its educational portfolio with a B.A. in North American Studies.

## The Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS)

The Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) is an exclusive interdisciplinary program taught in English and 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 program provides training in academic and practical skills tailored to meet the needs of future leaders in a transatlantic and global environment.

The HCA admits up to 30 students to the MAS annually. To date, five graduating classes totaling 83 students have earned the MAS. These 83 students came from 32 countries on five continents. Admission is competitive and depends on the quality and academic merits of the candidates. Most candidates will have studied law, humanities, or social sciences at the undergraduate or graduate level.

The MAS begins in October each year and is directed towards students who have already completed a four-year undergraduate studies program. The tuition fees for the MAS program are 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 limited to a selection of disciplines and topics to give the participating students both a sound scholarly grounding and opportunities for the professional application of what they have learned.

The academic year 2008/09 was the last year of the MAS as a one-year program. The winter semester (October to early February) began with a one-week introduction followed by a weekly curriculum of six lectures, three tutorials, one interdisciplinary colloquium, and two additional courses. Students chose three courses to take oral exams and write final term papers, but participation in all six courses was mandatory. The Berlin excursion took place in early April. During the summer semester (April to mid-July), students attended a weekly interdisciplinary seminar, one tutorial, and one colloquium. At the end of June they presented their thesis outlines. After the end of the semester students wrote and finished their M.A. thesis that was to be handed in by August 31. The graduation ceremony took place on October 20, 2009.

Beginning with the winter semester 2009/10, the program now spans three semesters. This will give students the opportunity to dedicate more time to research their M.A. thesis. The winter semester will begin with a one-week introduction followed by a weekly curriculum of four lectures, two tutorials, one interdisciplinary colloquium, one methodology seminar, and one academic writing course. The summer semester, starting in April, will consist of three lectures, three tutorials, three interdisciplinary seminars, one presentation skills course and the continuation of the methodology and writing courses. The Berlin excursion will take place in June. The third and final semester will be reserved for writing the M.A. thesis that has to be

handed in by January 31, 2011. The graduation ceremony will take place in early April 2011.

Below you will find information on the MAS program of 2008/09, including course outlines of the classes offered, portraits of the teaching staff, and short biographies of the students as well as an outlook onto the academic year 2009/10.

For more information please visit the MAS website at [www.mas.uni-hd.de](http://www.mas.uni-hd.de).

## HCA Teaching Staff

### **Millie Baker, M.A.**

Media and presentation skills (MAS and Ph.D.)

Millie Baker studied English and German philology and received her Master of Arts degree from the University of Heidelberg. She is currently working on her Ph.D. thesis "Englishness and the Empiricist Tradition in Contemporary Fiction" at Royal Holloway, University of London. Millie creates and presents seminars in academic communication skills for the HCA MAS and Ph.D. students.

### **Rashida K. Braggs, Ph.D.**

American Culture (MAS)

Rashida Braggs is this year's Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence. During the winter semester 2009/10, Rashida Braggs teaches the MAS course "From Blues to Rock: Representing Music in African American Literature." Biography: See HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 120.



**Prof. Manfred Berg**

History (MAS and Ph.D.)

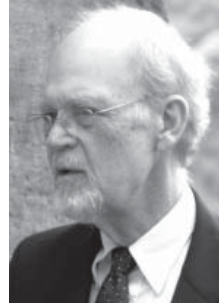
Professor Manfred Berg taught the course “Reluctant Empire? U.S. Foreign Relations in the 20th Century” and chaired the Ph.D.-Colloquium in the winter semester 2008/09. Biography: See Board of Directors, p. 18.



**Prof. Robert Cherny**

History (MAS/Spring Academy)

Prof. Cherny spent the summer term of 2009 at the HCA teaching a seminar together with Prof. Dietmar Schloss titled “Work and Leisure in America: History, Literature, and Culture, 1870-1914” as well as presenting a workshop at the Spring Academy 2009. Biography see HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 122.



**Dr. John Deni**

Political Science (MAS)

Dr. John Deni completed his undergraduate degree in history and international relations at the College of William & Mary in 1992, a Master of Arts degree in U.S. foreign policy at American University in Washington, D.C. in 1994, and a doctoral degree in international affairs at George Washington University in 2005. Before coming to Germany, Dr. Deni spent seven years in Washington, D.C. as a consultant specializing in national security issues for the U.S. Departments of Defense, Energy, and State. He is the author of the book *Alliance Management and Maintenance: Restructuring NATO for the 21st Century*. Since 2006 Dr. Deni has been an adjunct lecturer at Heidelberg University’s Institute for Political Science. During the winter semester of 2009/10, he is teaching an MAS course on U.S. Foreign Policy.



**Prof. Kirsten Fischer, Ph.D**

Religious Studies, History (MAS)

Professor Kirsten Fischer taught the course “Religion and the Founding of the United States: Contests Then and Now over the Place of Religion in American Politics” during the winter semester 2008/09, and took part in the Spring Academy 2009. Biography see HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 123.



### **Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung**

Cultural Studies (MAS/Spring Academy)

Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung is Senior Lecturer in the English Department of Heidelberg University. Her research focuses on ethnic literatures and film in English as well as performance theories and practices. She has developed, taught, and published on international e-learning cooperation with universities in numerous countries. She is founding co-editor of the journal *Atlantic Studies* and president of MESEA, the Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas. Dr. Fischer-Hornung teaches the MAS course "Methodology I: Introduction to American Studies" as well as annually takes part in the HCA Spring Academy conference.



### **Dr. Jana Freihöfer**

Interdisciplinary Seminar (MAS)

Dr. Jana Freihöfer co-taught the interdisciplinary seminar "Domestic and International Perceptions of the United States" in the summer semester of 2009. Biography see HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p.124.



### **PD Dr. Marcus Gräser**

History (MAS)

Marcus Gräser is currently substituting in the Chair for American History at the University of Heidelberg and is teaching "Major Problems in American History: 1860-1945" for the MAS during the winter semester 2009/10. He studied History, Sociology and Political Science in Frankfurt. From 1996 to 2009 he served as research associate and Habilitationsstipendiat at the Center for North American Studies at the University of Frankfurt. In 1996/97, 1998 and 2006/07 he was a visiting scholar at the Department of History at the University of Chicago. He recently published his second book, which is a comparative history of welfare state building in the U.S. and in Germany, 1880-1940. In 2008, he has won the David Thelen Award of the Organization of American Historians for his article "World History in a Nation-State", published by the *Historische Zeitschrift*.



**Walther Kraft, M.A.**

International Business Cultures (MAS)

Walther Kraft taught the course “International Business Cultures” during the winter semester 2008/09. He studied Philosophy, Literature, Political Sciences and Musical Sciences in Frankfurt am Main. He has worked for more than 30 years in the communications business: as head of marketing at SAT.1, Germany’s second biggest private TV network, as well as in some worldwide networks for marketing communications such as Ogilvy & Mather, EuroRSCG and Leo Burnett. Since the spring of 2000, he has been continuously teaching European Media Marketing and Global Below-The-Line Marketing as a visiting lecturer at the Johnson Graduate School of Management of Cornell University in Ithaca/ New York.

**Dr. Steven Less**

Law (MAS)

Dr. Less is a senior research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg, where he is also employed as the managing editor of the MPI’s semi-annual bibliography of public international law. A member of the New Jersey and New York bar associations, Less worked for a general practice law firm before coming to Heidelberg on a DAAD grant. Beginning in 1999, he has offered a three-semester introduction to Anglo-American law and legal terminology, covering American constitutional law, at the University of Heidelberg. For the MAS Dr. Less taught the course “Introduction to American Constitutional Law” during the winter semester 2008/09.

**Dr. Wilfried Mausbach**

History and Interdisciplinary Colloquium (MAS)

Dr. Wilfried Mausbach directed the interdisciplinary colloquiums both during the winter and summer semester 2008/2009. Biography: See HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 127.





### **Dr. Steffen Sigmund**

Sociology and Interdisciplinary Colloquium (MAS)

Dr. Steffen Sigmund studied sociology, political science, history, and economics at the University of Heidelberg. From 1991 to 2001, he served as assistant professor at the Department of Social Science of the Humboldt University in Berlin and was the Managing Editor of the *Berliner Journal of Sociology*. Since 2001, he is the Academic Director of the Institute of Sociology at the University of Heidelberg. Dr. Sigmund has published and edited numerous books and articles on different aspects of modern and classical sociological theory, *Civil Society*, and the role and function of Foundations in modern societies. During the summer semester of 2010 Dr. Sigmund will be teaching an MAS interdisciplinary seminar "Musicology, Sociology & Economics."



### **Prof. Dietmar Schloss**

Literaturer (MAS, Ph.D.)

Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss teaches American literature and culture at the English Department of the University of Heidelberg. He holds degrees in English and German Philology from the University of Heidelberg (Habilitation) and Northwestern University, Evanston (M.A., Ph.D.). 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- and nineteenth-century literature and culture. For the MAS class of 2009 he taught the course "Visions of America: Nineteenth Century" and the interdisciplinary seminar "Work and Leisure in America: History, Literature, and Culture, 1870-1914". For the new MAS he is teaching the course "Visions of America: Colonial Period and Early Republic".



### **Dr. Anja Schöler**

Academic Writing (MAS and Ph.D.)

Anja Schöler taught the course "Methodology II: Academic Writing" both for the MAS and Ph.D. students during the winter and summer semesters 2008/09. She teaches the courses "Problems in Academic Writing I" and "Problems in Academic Writing II" during the winter semester of 2009/10. Biography: See HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 128.



### **Dr. habil. Martin Thunert**

Political Science (MAS and Interdisciplinary Seminar)

PD Dr. Martin Thunert taught the course "Government and Politics of the United States" during the winter semester of 2008/09 and the interdisciplinary seminar "Domestic and International Perceptions of the United States" during the summer semester of 2009. He will be teaching the class "Modern Classics of (North) American Social, Political and Economic Thought" during the summer term of 2010. Biography: See HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows, p. 129.



### **Dr. Alexander Vazansky**

Methodology (MAS)

Alexander Vazansky studied History and American Literature at the Universities of Heidelberg and Miami University, Ohio. He received his Master of Arts from Miami University. He worked as a TA for the Curt-Engelhorn-Chair of American History. Furthermore, he was a Lecturer for German as a Foreign Language at the University of Heidelberg and Yale University. He finished his dissertation entitled "An Army in Crisis: Social Conflicts in the United States Army, Europe and 7th Army, 1968-1975" in April 2009. Alexander Vazansky taught the Methodology I course for the MAS.



## **MAS Course Outline**

### **Winter Semester 2008/09**

During the winter semester 2008/09, six lectures were offered as well as a methodology class and an interdisciplinary colloquium.

#### **Business/Economics**

"International Business Cultures"

Lecturer: Walther Kraft, M.A.

Tutor: Karsten Senkbeil, M.A.

The International Business Culture course intends to increase student's awareness of various business cultures all over the world. Special emphasis is put on the knowledge of differences between the cultural implications of American business

life and the business cultures of other countries in which American corporations and companies are active. The objectives of the class are to define the influences on a nation's business culture, to find out how much business relations depend on basic cultural conditions in regions and nations, to explain how these conditions bias or affect business relations, to describe how cultural conditions influence corporate cultures, business activities and consumer behavior all over the world, and to introduce into culture-related business skills in corporate communication, marketing communication, public relations, human resources management and sales. The accompanying tutorial was

conducted by Karsten Senkbeil. In this tutorial, students majoring in IBC put the insight they gathered in the lecture into a broader perspective of trends in philosophy and culture theory. Among others, texts by Adam Smith, Karl Marx, Alexis de Tocqueville, Theodor W. Adorno, Stuart Hall, and Homi Bhabha were scrutinized to contextualize today's business cultures in a history of ideas of the concepts 'culture', 'business' and 'intercultural communication'. The tutorial sessions were organized in a workshop format, with presentations by small groups of students and lively group discussions. Thus, students were encouraged to bridge the gap between academic theories and the real-life world of business by combining their knowledge from both spheres into a differentiated understanding of international business cultures. The students presented ideas for their own research papers and acquired constructive feedback from their classmates. Three students chose to write their M.A. thesis in the field of Business Cultures: Yulia Egorova wrote about "The Ways and Outcomes of Interaction and Cooperation between the Environmental Movement and the Car Industry in the USA", Rafal Milerski explored "The American Approach to International Human Resource Management: Facing the Challenge of Cultural Diversity", and Fei Ye investigated "Riding Out a Communication Storm: Analysis on Communication Strategies in Corporate Crisis Management".

## History

"Reluctant Empire? - U.S. Foreign Relations in the 20th Century"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg

Tutor: Anja Milde, M.A.

On the eve of the 20th century the United States emerged as a major player in world politics. A century later, America prides itself of being the sole remaining superpower. Curiously, Americans

continue to debate whether the U.S. actually is or should be an empire. And if so, what kind of empire? A traditional empire driven by the quest for power and domination? A liberal empire committed to spreading freedom and democracy? An informal empire predicated on economic penetration and cultural attraction? Has the United States actively sought world hegemony or has it only reluctantly taken up the burdens of empire?

This lecture course provided an overview of America's rise to world power in the 20th century. In addition to providing an outline of major developments and events, it discussed the traditions, ideologies, and key interests that have shaped America's interactions with the rest of the world. It also introduced students to the most important historiographical approaches in interpreting U.S. foreign relations.

The tutorial delved deeper into the respective topics presented in the lecture by reading and discussing relevant essays and primary sources. The students had the opportunity to engage in lively discussions and share their opinions. Moreover, the tutorial served as a forum to talk about term paper issues, exam preparation concerns, and raised questions beyond the scope of the regular syllabus. Readings and discussions about the Cold War were exemplified by a screening of the Robert McNamara documentary, "The Fog of War." Three students dedicated their M.A. thesis to the field of US foreign relations: Ngoc T. D. Dao wrote about "Moving on to a Common Ground. Vietnam-U.S. Normalization of Relations, 1990-1997", Marianne Fleurimont looked at "Democracy in Postwar Japan", and Joseph Zane analyzed "U.S. Policy toward Afghanistan, 1989-1994: Six Assumptions and Their Flaws".

## Law

“Introduction to American Constitutional Law”

Lecturer: Dr. Steven Less

Tutor: John Henry Dingfelder Stone, LL.M.

Dr. Steven Less’s lecture provides a broad introduction to both the overarching themes dictating the development of American constitutional jurisprudence, as well as to the specific constitutional doctrines and cases that have fueled that development. As such, the lectures themselves not only focus on the fundamental issues influencing constitutional law, but also seek to illustrate and explain these issues through the detailed examination of particular US Supreme Court cases. Dr. Less uses the discussion of these cases in class to stimulate the participation of the students, effectively requiring them to help teach each other, as well as themselves, the hidden intricacies inherent in these landmark cases. In this manner, the essential constitutional law principles are dissected and analyzed: federal court jurisdiction and judicial review, separation of powers and the limitations on executive power, methods of constitutional interpretation, federalism and limitations on state power, the commerce clause and the limits of legislative power, substantive due process, general constitutional rights and liberties, as well as the specific freedoms of religion and speech.

The Introduction to American Constitutional Law tutorial was led by John Dingfelder Stone and attended by four students (Stephanie Johnson, Balazs Kantor, Carrie Khou, and Rafal Milerski). The tutorial revolved around the detailed discussion of the US Supreme Court cases presented in the lecture. Owing to the intimate size of the tutorial, student participation was not just an essential part of the tutorial experience, but rather the defining element of the tutorial sessions: the students themselves were called upon individually to

introduce each case to their co-students before participating in an open discussion as to the case’s meaning and importance to American constitutional law. These debates were moderated by the tutor in order to achieve a well-rounded discussion of each case. As such, the tutorial provided a forum and atmosphere within which the students were comfortable comparing their own thoughts and opinions on each case against those held by their fellow students, while simultaneously offering an opportunity to address any questions arising from the lectures to the tutor.

## Literature

“Visions of America: Nineteenth Century”

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

Tutor: Raluca-Lucia Cimpan, M.A.

Even before it became an independent state, the United States has been more than a spatially defined entity. From its inception and into the present it has fascinated and also bewildered those who have attempted to conceptualize its essence. Visions of America have been shaped and fashioned in close connection with the process of geographical and economic expansion, which has characterized the development of the colonies and then of the nation state. This lecture, which is part of a three semester course, will trace the various theories and concepts about America and the United States, from the seventeenth century to the early twentieth century. Whether they are ideologically biased, in the Marxist sense of the word, or reflections of imperialism, or representations of an a-temporal humanism, these “visions” continue to shape people’s perception of what is American.

The texts which were discussed throughout the semester are the following: James Fenimore Cooper’s *The Pioneers* (1823), Ralph Waldo Emerson’s *The American Scholar* (1837) and *Self-Reliance*

(1841), Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), Frederick Douglass's *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (1845), Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1861/62), William Dean Howells's *The Rise of Silas Lapham* (1885), and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (1925).

The tutorial has helped further the discussion of the concepts introduced in the lecture and given the students the opportunity to engage in lively debates and to present their semester paper topics and thus benefit from their peers' input.

## Methodology I

Lecturer: Dr. Alexander Vazansky

Since the central goal of the methodology class remains the same every year, changes to the curriculum were minor. During the winter semester the methodology class provided students with an intense learning experience. The course met twice a week and students were required to read two to three essays in preparation for the different sessions. Methodology differs from other classes offered in the program during the winter semester 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. What issues and questions inform the development of and the current debates in this field? What are the methods and skills students need to employ? During the course of the semester students read and analyzed not only articles on the origin, history, theory, and methods of American Studies, but also texts on the problems of academic writing.

From its inception in the mid-twentieth century American Studies has been a very introspective discipline. In order to discover "What's American

about America?", as the title to John Kouwenhoven famous 1956 essay implies, the field was conceived as an interdisciplinary effort that combined disciplines such as history, literature, and sociology to analyze and describe American culture. Because of its interdisciplinary nature American Studies scholars struggled with the question whether American Studies could or should develop its own original methodology. From Henry Nash Smith's "Can American Studies Develop a Method," to Gene Wise's "Paradigm Dramas in American Studies: A Cultural and Institutional History of the Movement," scholars debated theories and methods underlying the discipline.

These debates gained even more facets when Women's and Gender Studies, as well as Minority Studies challenged previous assumptions about a coherent and unified American culture. Articles such as Nina Baym's "Melodramas of Beset Manhood: How Theories of American Fiction Exclude Women Authors" or Linda K. Kerber's "Diversity and the Transformation of American Studies" added new perspectives and approaches to the field. Collections such as Donald E. Pease's and Robyn Wiegman's "The Futures of American Studies" written over half a century after its beginnings show 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. Therefore one of the more recent trends in the scholarship has been calls for inter- or transnationalizing the field.

The question over coherence versus diversity provided the guiding framework of most of the discussions. These readings and discussions in the Methodology course provided students with an introduction into the field and suggested perspec-

tives and questions they needed to consider when conducting their own research.

Next to the more theoretical discussions on the development of the field the course was also concerned with more practical aspects of academic writing. Students were made aware of the choices they needed to make in writing their own texts. Who were they addressing? What did they want to convey? What stylistic and vocabulary choices did they need to make? Several sessions were devoted discussing and reviewing the students' own writing. The class read excerpts from their colleagues' essays correcting mistakes and suggesting how the writing could be improved. For the student being reviewed this was of course often a painful but ultimately beneficial process.

## **Methodology II**

Academic Writing

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schüler

This course offered students practice in conceptualizing and writing their term papers (and eventually their M.A. thesis) as well as in evaluating several types of English texts. Following the "process approach," students explored the process of planning, drafting, editing, and proofreading their texts. They were expected to share their writings as well as their opinion of the writings of others, students and non-students. The format of the seminar consisted of individual work as well as both whole-class and small-group discussions. At the end of the semester, students were ready to start conceptualizing, researching and drafting their M.A. theses. They also participated in a peer review workshop to help them evaluate their writing. Students exchanged drafts of term papers and considered the topics, the theses, structure, paragraph construction, evidence, and sentences and practice how to comment constructively on the writing of others.

## **Political Science**

"Government and Politics of the United States"

Lecturer: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert

Tutor: Dr. Florian Pressler

This course dealt with American politics and government in a way that went beyond the basics, but without ignoring the basics. The first goal was to introduce students to the fundamental principles of American politics and government. The second goal was to help students discern the logic or rationale embedded in the complex array of American political institutions and practices we can observe today. As a third goal the course introduced students to different theoretical approaches to the study of American politics - especially "new institutionalism", "rational choice" and "elite theory".

We started by briefly exploring the foundations of American government in the Constitution and the country's unique cultural traditions. We then looked at the diverse and changing American electorate, analyzed the role of parties, interest groups, lobbyist, consultants and the media and the way in which average citizens participate in the political process. Thereafter, we explored the different institutions that make up the government in Washington, D.C.: the Congress, the president, the bureaucracy, and the courts. In the forth segment of the course we looked at policy-making in the two key areas: economic and social policy as well as foreign and defence policy. Finally, we evaluated the state of American democracy and governance based on original data from the research project "Bertelsmann Reform Index." This course was taught as a lecture class with opportunities for questions and answer at the end of each session.

The course was supported by a tutorial in which the students had the chance to discuss specific issues of American politics in more detail. The tutorial

also prepared students for their oral examinations and offered support with the preparation of term papers. Due to this year's presidential elections, a specific focus was placed on the American presidency and the electoral system.

Five students decided to write their M.A. thesis in Political Science: Jordan Dubin with "Marijuana Manace. The History of Marijuana Prohibition and an Examination of the Arguments For and Against the Legalization of Marijuana in the USA", Nastasja Gerlach with "Friendship at Any Prize? The US-India Nuclear Deal in the Light of International Rights", Balazs Kantor with "President Reagan's Judicial Legacy: The Politics of Judicial Selection and the Limits of the Constitutional Counterrevolution", Melanie Lewis with "California Dreamin': The Fight for Gay Rights in California as Part of the National Struggle for Equality in America", and Ruhuan Wang with "From Sticks to Carrots: The Evolution of the Clinton's Administration's China Policy".

### **Religious Studies**

"Religion and the Founding of the United States: Contests Then and Now over the Place of Religion in American Politics"

Lecturer: Prof. Kirsten Fischer, Ph.D.

A heated debate rages in the U.S. today about the proper role of religion in American politics. In arguing about the appropriate relationship of church and state, contenders on all sides frequently support their claims with references to the framers of the U.S. Constitution. Some see these men as devout Christians intent on establishing a Christian nation, while others view them as secularists focused on separating church and state. All sides use direct quotes to make their case. Who is right?

This lecture course had a two-part plan. The first objective was to examine how leading political

figures wrote about religion during and after the framing of the U.S. Constitution. Lectures and class discussions focused on how Jefferson, Franklin, Madison, Paine, Washington, and John Adams wrote about religion, faith, and religion in politics. We discussed the place of religion in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. We also examined the larger 18th-century context, taking account of the perspectives of moderate and radical deists, liberal Christians, and evangelical Protestants. The point was to gain familiarity with the historical sources and with the broad range of 18th-century positions.

The second objective was to delve into more recent debates, both scholarly and non-academic, over church-state relations and the Constitution's first amendment. We examined opposing scholarly arguments about religious establishments, the "wall of separation" between church and state, and the framers' "original intent" for the Constitution's First Amendment. Lecture topics included the rise of the Religious Right in the 20th century and its efforts to integrate religion and politics. We investigated the modern-day claims of scholars, non-academics, and a Supreme Court justice weighing in on the debate over church-state relations, and we analyzed the relationship between religious beliefs, political convictions, and histories of religion.

In the tutorial (also conducted by Prof. Fischer) we discussed historical research and interpretation more broadly: what are the links between religious beliefs, political convictions, and histories of religion? Students learned how to identify and analyze the politicization of American religious history. The course encouraged students to examine the sources and tenets of their own normative assumptions regarding the proper role of religion in a democratic society. This made for lively, sometimes contentious discussion. These are controversial questions in the United States and

around the world, and this course was intended to help students develop, clarify, and hone their respective positions on the role religion should play in public debates and political policies. The point is to be able to recognize and defuse polemic in favor of an informed, nuanced, and thoughtful debate regarding these important issues. The diversity of students' views made this an intellectually challenging course that the instructor found deeply rewarding. Ten students wrote research papers on a wide range of related topics.

### **MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium**

Directed by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

The MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium started off early this academic year with a semester opening on October 1, 2008, hosted jointly by the HCA, Heidelberg University's Law Department, and the German-American Lawyers Association featuring Professor David B. Oppenheimer (Golden Gate University Law School, San Francisco) who explained how affirmative action in the U.S. was really working. Next Dorothea Fischer-Hornung from Heidelberg University's English Department provided the students with an overview of the historical development of the field of American Studies as it has progressed from the notion of American Exceptionalism and the first American Studies programs in the 1930s to the New Criticism of the 1950s and on to more recent postmodern approaches that particularly privilege ethnic and minority studies.

Week 3 saw Katja Gelinsky, a journalist reporting from Washington, D.C., for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, delivering the commencement address for the MAS Class of 2008. "Obama v. McCain: A Historic Decision?" was the question that Gelinsky pondered in great detail, still reserving her judgment, however, on the pre-

sumable outcome of the presidential elections. The elections were, to be sure, a recurring theme throughout the winter semester. Weeks 4 and 5 featured speakers from the Republicans Abroad (Stefan Prystawik) and Democrats Abroad (John McQueen) who outlined the platforms of the two major American parties and did their best to answer probing questions from our MAS students. Three weeks later, political scientist Michael Pfau (University of San Diego/ Hamburg University) analyzed election results in California, not only as far as they pertained to the President and the Congress but also with regard to the 12 propositions that were put to voters on the California ballot. In-between there were two particularly unique items on the program.

On November 6, MAS students took the short train ride to Mannheim to join students in the local university's Graduate Program "Globalization and Cultural Studies" for a presentation by Heide Fehrenbach (Presidential Research Professor, Northern Illinois University, and Haniel Fellow of the American Academy in Berlin) concerned with attempts to arrive at a transnational history of "race." In her truly comparative talk, Professor Fehrenbach looked at the post-World War II period, deriving her examples from the U.S., Germany, and Europe. The following week, Hans von Sponeck, former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and former UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq, visited the HCA to talk about "Iraq – Past, Present, Future," drawing on his inside knowledge of the sanctions regime prior to the war of 2003. Not mincing matters, von Sponeck initiated a lively discussion that everyone found to be both absorbing and rewarding.

On November 27, immediately before HCA faculty, staff, and students sat down for our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner, it was time to reflect on the perils to our affluence. David Abraham, Research



Fellow, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and formerly with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, spoke about "The Current Financial Crisis in the U.S. and the Role of the Federal Reserve." Moderated by longtime HCA benefactor Bernd-A. von Maltzan (Deutsche Bank Group, Frankfurt), the event disentangled the convoluted mechanisms and business practices that nearly plunged the world financial system into ruin.

Completing the schedule before the Christmas break, Leora Auslander (Professor of History, University of Chicago, and Berthold Leibinger Fellow, American Academy in Berlin), provided a fascinating glimpse into the relationship of "Politics and Material Culture in Colonial and Revolutionary America." Professor Auslander illustrated the importance that homespun products acquired as a shared aesthetic style and social practice in connecting people during the revolutionary era. As key consumers and producers, women thus assumed a crucial role for the cultural revolution that went along with and was part of the political revolution.

After the turn of the year, there were two more presentations. Ulrike Gerhard (Department of Geography, Heidelberg University/ Justus-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg) employed Washington, D.C., as a case study in order to elucidate urban development in political metropolises. Pablo Dominguez (Transcultural Studies Research Group, Heidelberg University) introduced MAS students to his research on "German Nationalism, Gender, and American Popular Culture." Dominguez utilized Hollywood films and jazz music as two fields of analysis to show how, during the first half of the twentieth century, star images became both gendered and nationalized. Stressing the importance of music for German national identity, Dominguez showed, inter alia, how jazz was dis-

cursively constructed as "the other" in Germany in order to stabilize the latter's national identity. The winter semester's Interdisciplinary Colloquium was rounded off by a visit to the Reutax Corp., a magnanimous benefactor of the HCA that develops innovative services and solutions to provide its clients with the tools and knowledge needed to release and secure innovations.

## **Summer Semester 2009**

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

### **Interdisciplinary Seminar I**

"Domestic and international perceptions of the United States: political, social, economic and spatial perspectives"

Lecturer: Dr. Jana Freihöfer (Geography)

Lecturer: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert (Political Science)

Since its founding more than 300 years ago, the United States of America has gained global pre-eminence in terms of political, military and economic power as well as cultural influence. Not surprisingly, no other nation has (had) such a powerful impact on the imagination of people throughout the world. This seminar aimed to analyze how the United States – its space and regions, its society, culture and economy, as well as its politics and foreign policy – have been perceived both from a domestic and from an international perspective. Applying approaches from political and social science, geography and cultural studies, this interdisciplinary seminar focused on the evolution of images of the USA over time and space.

## Interdisciplinary Seminar II

“Modernizing the United States  
History, Literature, and Culture, 1865 – 1914”  
Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss (Literature)  
Lecturer: Prof. Robert Cherny (History)

This interdisciplinary course, team-taught by an historian and a literary scholar, focused on the period when the United States developed rapidly into a modern industrial urban society. We wanted to understand different aspects of the process of modernization and see its impact on contemporary thinking about American culture and civilization.

The course was divided into four sections: I) Industrialism, Capitalism, and Entrepreneurship; II) Labor and Related Phenomena; III) Politics and the State; and IV) Wealth, Leisure, Culture. While we used relevant sections of Carol Berkin’s and Robert W. Cherny’s textbook *Making America: A History of the United States*. (5th ed., 2008) as our background reading, it was our ambition to study the period through a close consideration of contemporary documents, pamphlets and sociological treatises as well as literary works. We read texts by Theodore Dreiser, Upton Sinclair, Henry James, William Graham Sumner, Jacob Riis, Frank Roney, W.E.B. DuBois, Jane Addams, Frances Willard, Andrew Carnegie, Upton Sinclair, and Thorstein Veblen.

Questions concerning concepts of work and leisure framed our discussions throughout the course. What happened to the American work ethic in the reformist discourses on industrial labor? How can one explain the new appreciation of wealth and leisure in the literary texts of the period? In which ways, and to what extent did these different discourses draw on new (or newly revived) concepts of human self-fulfillment? What was the place of culture in the debates about work and leisure? Several excellent seminar papers and MA theses emerged from this course.

## Methodology

Lecturer: Dr. Alexander Vazansky

This class offered students practice in writing several types of texts and evaluating the writing of others. It employed the „process approach,“ used widely and successfully for a number of years in college writing courses in the United States, Britain, and other English speaking countries. The basic concept of this approach is that good writers go through a number of processes while composing a text before they produce their final product. The main underlying principles of this approach and this class are that writing is a recursive process, that it helps to share one’s writing with others and that a good writer is critical of his or her work.

In class, students went through the process of planning, drafting, editing, and proofreading. The format of the seminar consisted of individual work as well as whole-class and small-group discussions. In particular, work for this class revolved around conceptualizing, researching and drafting the M.A. thesis. Grammar problems and writing style were also addressed. Students shared their writings as well as their opinion of the writings of others, students and non-students and were encouraged to discuss any questions related to the academic writing process in class.

At the end of the semester, all students participated in a number of peer review sessions that helped them to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others. This did not only improve individual drafts, but also enabled students to comment constructively on the writing of others, an indispensable but often underdeveloped skill for an academic career.

## **MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium**

Directed by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

As usual, the major focus of the Interdisciplinary Colloquium during the summer term was the presentation of the students' thesis outline, which took place on June 26 and 29. This was bookended, however, by a number of top-notch guest speakers throughout the spring and summer. Returning to the theme of current politics that had been so prominent during the winter term, Mark Weiner (Professor of Law, and Sidney I. Reidman Scholar, Rutgers University) provided his estimation of "The Supreme Court under President Obama," delineating the presently most controversial issues of constitutional law and interpretation in American jurisprudence and considering how those issues might be resolved with the appointment of new Supreme Court justices under a Democratic administration.

Two weeks later, Edward J. Eberle (Roger Williams University, Bristol/USA) discussed another hot topic of current American politics, namely "Guantanamo Bay and the U.S. Supreme Court." Equally apposite to an assessment of the political landscape in the U.S. after Barack Obama's success at the polls were Robert W. Cherny's (Professor of History, San Francisco State University, and Fulbright Visiting Professor, HCA) analysis of "The 2008 Election in Historical Context," as well as William Funk's (Robert E. Jones professor of , Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland) appraisal of "The Obama Administration and Climate Change." Bridging current affairs and history, journalist Michael Dobbs (The Washington Post, and Bosch Public Policy Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin) sought to provide some "Lessons of the Cuban Missile Crisis for President Obama." For this talk, held at the Bosch Foundation in Stuttgart, MAS students undertook a trip to the capital of

the state of Baden-Württemberg. Back in Heidelberg, this semester's Interdisciplinary Colloquium was completed by three more first-rate presentations.

On May 14, Harvey C. Mansfield (William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Government, Harvard University, and John Kluge Distinguished Visitor, American Academy in Berlin) provided his piece of advice on "How to Understand Politics: Pay Attention to Thumos." On June 18, Michael Hochgeschwender (Professor of North American Cultural History, Empirical Cultural Research, and Cultural Anthropology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München) painstakingly dissected "Religious Fundamentalism and Neo-Fundamentalism in Twentieth-Century America." Finally, on July 3 – and as part of the symposium "Modernization and Intellectual Authority in U.S. Literary Culture, 1750-1900 – John Guillory (Professor of English, New York University) spoke on "The Internal Exile of Literature: The Location of Literary Culture in the Anglo-American University of the Nineteenth Century."

## **Outlook on the MAS Course Outline 2009/10**

### **American Culture**

"From Blues to Rock: Representing Music in African American Literature"

Lecturer: Rashida Braggs, Ph.D.

In this course, students will explore the incorporation of music in African American literature and investigate music's ability to represent and critique African American culture. This course prompts several questions, including the following: What is "black music"? What role does music play in creating an African American aesthetic? Does music help African American culture assimilate into the American mainstream? To address these questions, students will listen to musical

examples from spirituals/gospel, blues, jazz and rock. Texts will cover a range of literary forms, such as poetry, short stories, novels, and critical nonfictional essays. Authors featured in the course include Langston Hughes, James Baldwin, Angela Davis, Alice Walker and more. Students will analyze key issues such as assimilation, authenticity, and music as protest.

The format of this course consists of a combination of lectures, small group discussions, class-wide discussions, presentations, and oral/written exercises. To facilitate this range of activities and more thorough discussion, the regular course period will be immediately followed by the tutorial, and both will be taught by Dr. Braggs. In both sessions, students will be expected to investigate the integration of literature and music at an in-depth level and to share their insights and critiques on the material.

### **History**

“Major Problems in American History: 1860-1945”

Lecturer: PD Dr. Marcus Gräser

Tutor: Anthony Santoro, M.A.

This lecture will provide an overview of American history from 1860 to 1945. In these decades the United States underwent a series of dramatic political, social and international changes. In addition to bringing into focus an outline of important events and developments (Civil War, Reconstruction, Progressivism, Imperialism, Depression, New Deal and Second World War), the lecture will explore the history of distinct regions and geographical places (The West, The Rise of the Cities) as well as major aspects of social and economic history (Capital and Labor, the Place of Women in American Society, the Situation of Ethnic Minorities).

The lecture will also introduce students to some of the most recent historiographical approaches in interpreting American history.

### **Literature**

“Visions of America: Colonial Period and Early Republic”

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

Tutor: Maria Diaconu, M.A.

America has never been just a geographical place; rather, it has also always been a focal point of vision and dream. This is the first part of a three-semester lecture course examining the changing conceptions of America from the seventeenth century to the present. Based on close readings of selected literary and expository texts, the lectures will try to assess the social, political, and cultural roles of the various idealistic conceptions of America and the United States. Critics have given different reasons for the persistence of these idealisms: Some consider them as ideologies (in the Marxist sense) masking self-interested economic practices. Others perceive them as instruments of modern nationalism. As these visions draw their readers into an imaginary identification with the nation state, they perform ‘cultural work’. Still others view these idealistic visions as the outgrowth of a deep human need.

In this semester we will discuss the ‘visions’ of the Colonial Period and the Founding Era. We will study texts by Christopher Columbus, John Smith, William Bradford, John Winthrop (*A Model of Christian Charity*), Thomas Morton, Mary Rowlandson, J.Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, Benjamin Franklin (*The Autobiography*), John Adams, Thomas Jefferson (*The Declaration of Independence*), James Madison (*Federalist No. 10*), Hannah Webster Foster (*The Coquette*), and Charles Brockden Brown (*Arthur Mervyn*).

## **Political Science**

“US Foreign Policy”

Lecturer: Dr. John Deni

Tutor: David Rösch, M.A.

This course will offer students an overview of U.S. foreign policy that focuses, but not exclusively so, on the post-World War II period. The subject matter will be covered in three parts. First, students will examine the theoretical and historical underpinnings of American foreign policy. During the second part of the course, students will learn about the American foreign policy-making process and the major internal and external players in that process. The third and final part of the course will focus on the content of U.S. foreign policy with particular attention paid to major international issues facing the United States today. For the most part, the focus will be on what has been and what is in U.S. foreign policy, rather than what American policy ought to be.

## **Methodology I**

“Introduction to American Studies”

Lecturer: Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung

The methodology course differs from the other courses offered in the MAS program during the winter semester 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. What issues and questions informed the development of and the current debates in this field? What are the methods and skills students need to employ? During the course of the semester students read and analyze articles on the origin, history, theory, and methods of American Studies.

## **Methodology II**

“Problems in Academic Writing”

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schüler

This course offers students practice in writing and evaluating several types of English texts. In particular, it will be dedicated to the process of academic writing, including planning, drafting, editing, and proofreading your class papers and eventually your M.A. thesis. The format of the seminar consists of both whole-class and small-group discussions. I will expect you to share your writings as well as your opinion of the writings of others, students and non-students. At the end of the semester, you should be ready to start conceptualizing, researching and drafting your M.A. thesis. Students are welcome to discuss any questions related to the academic writing process in class.

## **MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium**

Lecturer: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

For the Class of 2011, the Interdisciplinary Colloquium will yet again start off with a first-rate speaker, namely Philip Zelikow, the White Burkett Miller Professor of History at the University of Virginia and formerly on active service as a member of President George H. W. Bush’s national security council, as a counselor to the U.S. Department of State, and as the Executive Director of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. Professor Zelikow will share his assessment of “America and the World in a Time of Transition.”

Next, Hope M. Harrison (Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University) will deliver a timely commencement speech at the graduation ceremony of the MAS Class of 2009 on the United States and the fall of the Berlin Wall twenty years hence. Returning to the normal schedule, Michael Lenz (Assistant Professor of His-

tory, Heidelberg University) will revisit American fears and foreign policy during the Early Republic. Nastasja Gerlach, a graduate of the MAS Class of 2009, will introduce her successors to her M.A. thesis on the U.S.-India nuclear deal. In another cooperation with Heidelberg University's Law Department and the German-American Lawyers Association, Daniel Halberstam (Eric Stein Collegiate Professor of Law, University of Michigan) will address "The Constitutional Challenge: Authority and Conflict in Europe and America."

Kathleen R. Donohue (Professor of History, Central Michigan University) will talk about U.S. information policy in the Cold War years, while Gordon Hutner (Professor of English, University of Illinois) will consider "Prestige and Contemporary American Realism." On December 3, Edward E. Curtis IV (Millenium Chair of the Liberal Arts and Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis) will explain "Why Muslims Matter to U.S. History."

Shortly thereafter, Warren R. Hofstra (Professor of History, Shenandoah University) will take a fresh look at "The Eighteenth-Century American Frontier in Retrospect and Prospect." In January 2010, Jane Feuer (Professor of English, University of Pittsburgh) will analyze the American comedy drama series *Gilmore Girls* and *Northern Exposure* with particular attention to their representation of a particular form of democratic deliberation, namely the town meeting, and Jan Stievermann (Professor of American Studies, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen) will address "Millennialism in American Religion and Culture."

Last but not least, General Carter F. Ham, Commanding General, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, has held out the prospect of discussing current U.S. military affairs with our students.

## MAS Class of 2009

### **Sarah Alexander**

(United Kingdom)

Sarah was born in London in 1984 and has spent most of her life in the South East of the United Kingdom. She spent a year at Purdue University in the U.S. as a part of her undergraduate studies and received a B.A. in American Studies (History) from the University of Kent in Canterbury. In Heidelberg she chose Political Science, Literature and Religion as her major and wrote her M.A thesis on "Emma Hale Smith: Early Mormon Polygamy and Their Portrayal in Contemporary Academia".



### **Thi Diem Ngoc Dao**

(Vietnam)

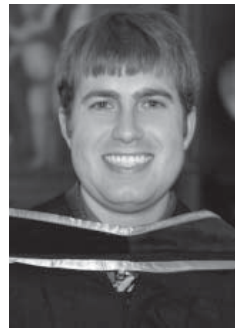
Born in 1984, Thi Diem Ngoc graduated from the College of Foreign Languages, Vietnam National University, with a B.A. degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) in 2006. To broaden her horizon, she chose History, International Business Culture and Political Science as her major. With her M.A. thesis about "Moving on to a Common Ground: Vietnam-U.S. Normalization of Relations, 1990-1997" she qualified for the HCA Ph.D. program where she is now pursuing her Ph.D. in history.



### **Jordan Dubin**

(USA)

Jordan was born in Arizona in 1985. He grew up in the Phoenix metropolitan area. After graduating from high school, he attended the University of Arizona in Tucson and graduated in May of 2008 with a B.S. in Psychology and a minor in Philosophy. In Heidelberg he chose History, International Business Culture and Political Science as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "Marijuana Menace: The History of Marijuana Prohibition and an Examination of the Arguments For and Against the Legalization of Marijuana in the USA".



## **Yulia Egorova**

(Russia)

Yulia was born, grew up, and went to school in Yaroslavl, Russia. She graduated from high school in 2003 with a silver medal and entered two Universities: Yaroslavl State Teacher Training University, with majors in English, German and Education, and the International University of Business and New Technologies with a Finance major. She finished both universities in 2008 with specialist diplomas and honors. Yulia gained job experience during her part-time summer work with the charitable organization Cross-Cultural Solutions where she worked as a translator. In Heidelberg she chose History, International Business Culture and Religion as her majors. She wrote her M.A. thesis on "The Ways and Outcomes of Interaction and Cooperation between the Environmental Movement and the Car Industry in the USA".



## **Marianne Fleurimont**

(USA)

Marianne was born in 1981 in Shanghai/ China, grew up in Ithaca/ New York and studied Architecture, History, French and International Communications Management. Marianne spent seven years in Europe, first in Strasbourg and then in Neckarsteinach. In 2008 she completed a six-month internship at Lufthansa Cargo's marketing communications department at the Frankfurt Airport. In Heidelberg she took History, Literature and Religion as her majors. As a topic for her M.A. thesis she chose "Democracy in Postwar Japan: Reform, Rightists, and the Yakuza". After the MAS, Marianna decided to stay in Germany and is now doing an internship in Munich.



## **Nastasja Gerlach**

(Germany)

Nastasja was born in Limburg/ Lahn in 1985, from where she moved to Bruchsal to pursue a B.A. in International Communication Management. Before she came to the MAS Class of 2009, Nastasja spent five months as an exchange student in Singapore at the Nanyang Technological University and worked for the Heidelberg software company zetVisions AG. To broaden her horizon, she took History, Political Science and Religion as her majors. She wrote her M.A. thesis on "Friendship at Any Prize? The US-India Nuclear Deal in the Light of International Relations". Graduating second in her class, Nastasja delivered the salutatory address at the commencement ceremony. She is now doing an internship at SAP.





## **Balazs Kantor**

(Hungary)

Balazs was born in 1983, and studied at Trinity College in Hartford, CT, and at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest where he finished a dual M.A. in English and American Studies in 2008. Before joining the MAS, he worked as an English teacher and an intern/lecturer at the University of Budapest. In Heidelberg he majored in Political Science, Religion and Law, writing his M.A. thesis on "President Reagan's Judicial Legacy: The Politics of Judicial Selection and the Limits of the Constitutional Counterrevolution".



## **Carrie Khou**

(Germany)

Carrie was born in Hamburg in 1983 and received her B.A. in American and British Studies from the University of Mannheim in 2006. Afterwards she continued her education abroad at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, where she studied Media Studies, Spanish and American Studies. Back in Germany she gained job experience at BASF SE and ABB AG before joining the American Studies program at the HCA. She majored in Law, Literature and Religion and wrote her M.A. thesis on "Carol Kennicott: The New Woman on Main Street. The Art of Being Unconventional".



## **Melanie Lewis**

(Germany/USA)

Born to a German mother and an American father in the U.S. state of Georgia in 1986, Melanie was raised in a small town in southwest Germany. In 2000, she returned with her family to the United States where she lived and studied in Arizona. She received her B.A. in British and American Literature from the University of Arizona in 2008. After years of living in the States, Melanie has returned to Germany to join the HCA. She chose International Business Culture, Literature and Political Science, and wrote her thesis on "California Dreamin': The Fight for Gay Rights in California as Part of the National Struggle for Equality in America".



## **Mahshid Mayar**

(Iran)

Mahshid was born in Shemiran, Iran, in 1982. She received her B.A. in English language and literature at the University of Tehran. Then, she moved on to an M.A. in the same field, and switched to a two-year program as soon as the American studies started at Tehran university. Thus, the MAS is her second degree in American studies. In Heidelberg she chose History, Literature and Religion as her majors and graduated with an M.A. thesis on "An American Breakfast: A Smaller World in the 1890s".



## **Rafal Milerski**

(Poland)

Rafal was born in Warsaw in 1982 and received his Philosophy Bachelor at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., in 2008. Before joining the MAS he was an intern at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of America, and completed a diplomatic protocol training at the Polish Institute of International Affairs. At the HCA, Rafal chose History, International Business Culture and Law as his majors and wrote his M.A thesis on "The American Approach to International Human Resource Management: Facing the Challenge of Cultural Diversity".



## **Anne-Kathrin Franciska Pusch**

(Germany)

Anne was born in Bendorf, Germany, in 1983. She received her B.A. in British and American Studies (major) and Sociology (minor) from the University of Constance in 2007. During her studies, she spent one year abroad at the University of Richmond, Virginia, to study English and Anthropology; in addition, she took classes in Spanish, History and Sociology. She also worked part-time for the Institute of Modern Languages where she was an instructor for German as a Foreign Language. In 2008, Anne started working for a German Lifestyle magazine in Essen as a journalist. In Heidelberg she chose International Business Culture, Political Science and Literature as her majors, writing her M.A. thesis on "Challenging the Human/Animal Divide: A Study of Canine Companions in Paul Auster's *Timbuktu* and David Wroblewski's *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*".



## **Zeynep Selen Saydam**

(Turkey)

Selen was born in 1986 in Ankara, Turkey, and graduated in 2008 from the University of Ankara as the most successful student in the Western Language and Literature department. She was also second best in the Art and Science Faculty. She holds a B.A. in American Culture and Literature. During her studies in Ankara, she worked as a translator for English and Turkish documents as well as a Student Assistant for the American Studies Association of Turkey. In Heidelberg she majored in History, Literature and Religion and wrote her M.A. thesis on "Exposition of Fragmented Selves in Paul Auster: Psychoanalytic Readings of Man in the Dark and City of Glass".



## **Erhan Simsek**

(Turkey)

Erhan was born in Ankara, Turkey, in 1986. He received his B.A. in English Language Teaching from Middle East Technical University with a minor degree in European Studies from the department of International Relations. Before coming to the MAS, Erhan acted as the president of METU Book Club and worked as an English tutor. In the MAS program he chose Literature, Political Science and History as his majors and wrote his M.A. thesis on "The Question of Social Mobility: Businessmen in the American Novel from the Civil War to the Great Depression". After the MAS, Erhan decided to stay in Germany and is currently studying at the JFK Institute of the Free University in Berlin.



## **Silvia Toma**

(Romania)

Silvia was born 1986 in Resita, Romania, and grew up speaking Romanian and German. She studied German Language and Culture in Bucharest, with a minor in English. During her study, Silvia worked as a translator and an interpreter, which is the job she enjoyed most. She also worked as a journalist at the newspaper of the German minority in Romania. To broaden her horizon she chose International Business Culture, Literature and Religion as her majors. She decided to write her M.A. thesis on "Nicholaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf and the Pennsylvanian Peace Business". Silvia is currently doing a second master's degree at the University Institute Sophia near Florence.



## **Ruhan Wang**

(China)

Ruhan was born in 1986 in Sichuan, China. In July of 2008 Ruhuan graduated from Peking University in Beijing, where she specialized in German in her freshman year and English in the remaining three years. She participated in an exchange program at Bryn-Mawr (Maryland) and had an internship at DaimlerChrysler Northeast Asia Ltd. In Heidelberg she focused mainly on International Business Culture, Political Science and History, writing her M.A. thesis on "From Sticks to Carrots: The Evolution of the Clinton Administration's China Policy". She graduated as one of the best in her class.



## **Fei Ye**

(China)

Fei was born in China in 1986. She studied at the China Foreign Affairs University and graduated in 2007 with a B.A. in English and International Studies. Before joining the MAS, she held several internships in a news agency and in corporations and non-governmental organizations. Besides, Fei also worked as a part-time interpreter and translator between Chinese and English. To broaden her horizon she took History, Political Science and International Business Culture as her majors in the MAS. As a topic for her M.A. thesis she chose "Riding Out a Communication Storm: Analysis on Communication Strategies in Corporate Crisis Management". She also graduated as one of the best in her class.



## **Joseph Zane**

(USA)

Joseph was born and lived the first 18 years of his life in Rochester, Michigan, north of Detroit. For his undergraduate degree, he went to Annapolis, MD, to attend the US Naval Academy and in 2007 completed his Bachelors of Science in Mathematics. At the same time, Joseph received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. In Heidelberg he chose History, Political Science and Religion as his majors, writing his M.A thesis on "US Policy Toward Afghanistan, 1989-1994: Six Assumptions and Their Flaws". Joe graduated at the top of his class.



## **Outlook on the MAS Class of 2011**

### **Hasan Adwan (Palestine)**

Hasan was born in Gaza City, Palestine, in 1985. He started his education at United Nations schools in Beit Hanoun in Northern Gaza before he went to Red Cross Nordic United World College in Norway, where he received the International Baccalaureate. Following the IB, he became a Davis-UWC scholar in the United States at Westminster College in Missouri where he graduated with a B.A., double majoring in Political Science and History. He participated in and organized many political debates. He enjoys writing, especially political journalism.

### **Redona Boriçi (Albania)**

Redona was born in Shkoder, Albania, in 1988. She has just graduated with a B.A. degree in British and American Language and Culture. She has worked for several years as a volunteer English teacher and translator. Coming to Germany is her first experience abroad and she is looking forward to meeting new people from all around the world.

### **Lidia Beatrice Butacu (Romania)**

Lidia was born in Bacau, Romania, in 1987. She studied journalism in Bucharest and also worked at the Romanian Broadcasting Corporation as a junior editor. Lidia is very excited that she is going to study in Heidelberg and that she is going to get a new perspective of American culture.

### **Elena-Laura Caprioara (Romania)**

Elena-Laura was born in 1982 in Piatra Neamt, Romania, and holds a High School diploma in Foreign Languages, main subject English and a Bachelor Degree in Political Science from the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Political Sciences, at the "Al. I. Cuza" University, Iasi, Romania. While studying at the Department of Political Science, she had the opportunity to actively participate in

various national political and cultural projects. In June 2008, she obtained her master's degree in Human Resources, with a thesis on the impact of motivation on people performances.

### **Kimberly Chadwick (USA)**

Kimberly was born in Southern California in 1987 and has lived in the immediate area of Los Angeles County, California, her entire life. Her high school courses exposed her to European cultures for the first time and provided her with an opportunity to travel to Europe in the summer of 2004. Kimberly is a recent graduate of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona holding a B.A. in Liberal Studies. Throughout her undergraduate studies, Kimberly has held a high interest in American societal concerns.

### **Yung-Han Chiang (Taiwan (ROC))**

Yung-Han was born in Taipei in 1985 and has spent most of her life on the beautiful island of Taiwan. She has a B.A. in Diplomacy from National Chengchi University and is currently completing a M.A. degree in Development Studies at the same university. This MAS program in Heidelberg will be her second master's degree.

### **James Ferrell (USA)**

James was born in Roanoke, Virginia, in 1984. He lived in North Carolina and Florida most of his life. He has a bachelors degree in Political Science and Social Sciences from Florida State University. He also received a Masters in Applied American Politics and Policy in May 2009. He interned in Florida's 2009 regular legislative session with a lobbyist group representing Florida's public schools.

### **Elif Huntürk (Turkey)**

Elif was born in Izmir in 1988. She moved to Istanbul for her university education and received her B.A from the Bogaziçi University Western Language and Literature Department. She is currently

studying for the American Studies Certificate Program at the same university. She has attended several Model United Nations simulations in different countries. She really likes to experience new cultures. Apart from that, her biggest interest is Ottoman music, ethnic musics and photography.

### **Cen Jiang (China)**

Cen was born in Shanghai in 1987, and received her B.A. in English language and literature from the University of Fudan in 2009. She was an exchange student at Yale University in 2008, where she studied Math and Art History. In her free time she is interested in fine arts, music, drama, acting, travelling, reading and sports.

### **Axel Phillip Kaiser Barents von Hohenhagen (Chile)**

Axel was born in Santiago de Chile in 1981. He is a lawyer with master's degree in International Law from the University of Heidelberg. 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 a lecturer 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".

### **Ana Maric (Bosnia-Herzegovina / Germany)**

Ana Maric was born in 1985 in Bosnia-Herzegovina. After the civil war between the Balkan states broke out in 1992, her family decided to leave for Germany where she spent the majority of her childhood. She pursued her B.A. in History and Political Science at the Eberhard Karls University in Tübingen. During her studies she discovered her growing interest in American culture and politics.

### **Xianzhi Meng (China)**

Xianzhi was born in Shandong, which is known as the hometown for Confucius, and spent most of her adult life there. She got her master's degree

from Sun Yat-sen University in 2009, majoring in English Language and Literature. Her second major was Japanese.

### **Zhenni Pan (China)**

Zhenni was born in 1987 in Shanghai, China. She got her B.A. in English at East China Normal University in Shanghai this June. Her second major was German. In her spare time, she taught Mandarin in a language training academy; her students were mainly from Europe.

### **Nanda Kishore Pinpati Sudhakar (India)**

Kishore was born in Bangalore, India. After graduating with an engineering degree in Computer Science from Bangalore University in 1994, Kishore went on to pursue his graduate studies in International Business at an American University in Germany. Kishore has worked in management of American and European software companies for more than 12 years.

### **Styles Sass (USA)**

Styles Sass was born and raised in North Dakota and later attended the University of Iowa, where he received his B.A. in English. He completed his last semester on a study abroad program in Donostia / San Sebastian in the Spanish Basque Country and remained there for two more years, working as an English teacher. Later he moved to Germany, to pursue a career in writing and, after a series of grants, eventually settled in Stuttgart.

### **Thi Hai Ly Tran (Vietnam)**

Thi Hai Ly, born in 1984, graduated from the College of Foreign Languages at Vietnam National University with a B.A. degree in English Language Teaching in 2006. After working as a lecturer of English at the Vietnam University of Social Sciences and Humanities for one year, she moved to the Banking Academy of Vietnam and has been teaching there until now.

### **Ana Cecilia Velázquez-Rodríguez (Mexico)**

Ana was born, grew up, and went to school in Guadalajara, Mexico. She graduated from the University of Guadalajara with a major in Political Science and Government. She is interested in Political Science and Culture and she has been studying the relationship between the media and society. She wrote a thesis on "The Construction of the Political Culture: Theoretical Research of the Contribution of Mass Media in the Construction of Identity and Political Culture".

### **Scott Werner (USA)**

Scott completed his B.A. in German Language and Literature at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, in 2007. He minored in teaching and is a state licensed German teacher. After finishing his enlistment in the Army reserves, he went to Germany to complete a six-month internship at the Goethe Institute Mannheim-Heidelberg. He then decided to stay and has been teaching English as a foreign language at Berlitz for nearly two years.

### **Oksana Yeshyorkina (Turkmenistan)**

Oksana was born and raised in the small town Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan. She graduated from high school in 2002 and then spent a year as an exchange student at an American high school in Naperville, Illinois. In June 2009, she graduated from the American University of Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, with a B.A. in American Studies and a minor in International Public Law. While studying and living in Bishkek, she gained valuable experience teaching English and lecturing on various topics in the field of American Studies.

### **He Zhang (China)**

He Zhang was born in Jiangxi/China in 1983 and studied at China Foreign Affairs University, where he finished his L.L.B in Diplomacy in 2007. He

received a B.A. in English in 2005. Before joining the MAS, he worked for the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympia (BOCOG), and served as an interpreter for different organizations like the Foreign Aid Department of the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council, the Confucius Institute Headquarters, the Beijing Chinese Language and Culture College and the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse. Among his interests are public speaking and broadcasting.

## MAS Social Activities: TGIF and other Gatherings

The tradition of the TGIF, “Thank God It’s Friday,” has become a fixed date on the HCA’s social calendar. Students and staff meet one Friday every month for food, drinks, and conversation.

The first social gathering of the MAS class 2009 took place in the Bel Etage of the HCA after the lecture by Prof. Oppenheimer, which was part of the orientation week. Guests were treated to the traditional German “Zwiebelkuchen und Neuer Wein” (onion pie and new wine) which made for a lively start into the new semester.

On October 31, the TGIF turned into a Halloween party. The conference room on the third floor of the HCA was decorated accordingly; students wore costumes and brought frighteningly decorated (but delicious) cupcakes, jello shots, pumpkin pie, cheesecake, and other mouth-watering delicacies. It has also become a tradition that professors host some TGIFs at their homes. Accordingly Prof. Schloss and his wife were gracious enough to host the Christmas TGIF, once again providing their guests with excellent food and entertainment. For the fourth year in a row, Prof. Berg and his wife Dr. Schüler invited students and staff to their house for the first TGIF of the New Year. As always, guests were treated with “hot food and cold beer”.

The final TGIF of the winter semester took place at the HCA once again. After the exams and all the hard work and dedicated study sessions of the winter semester, the students decided to have a pizza party and simply enjoy a good time together.

While the TGIF is the most regular social gathering at the HCA, it is not the only one. On November 27, 2008, the HCA had its sixth Thanksgiving

dinner. As an institution devoted to the study of the United States with a large number of American students and staffers, the observance of American holidays has become part of the HCA’s traditions. The dinner, once again took place at the restaurant “Die Backmulde,” offering the essential holiday fair of turkey, mashed and sweet potatoes, stuffing and assorted vegetables. The warm atmosphere and the delicious food brought students, faculty, and staffers closer together.

Due to the intensive studies and the writing of the M.A. thesis, the TGIF was on hiatus during the summer semester. However, after the classes had ended in July, students organized a Farewell Barbeque Party on the Neckarwiese. Looking back on the past year and amazed at how fast it had gone by, the students and the MAS team enjoyed a great summer evening.

Social events like these form an integral part of the HCA’s agenda. The close interaction between students, staff and teachers deepens their ties to the HCA and helps to create a sense of community that hopefully outlasts their stay at this institution.

### MAS Berlin Excursion

Three days after having finished the first semester and its assignments, everybody deserves a real break, away from books and articles, and into images and words. This opportunity came with an early morning train to Berlin. Almost a score of early birds from the HCA, students and two staff members, meet at the Hauptbahnhof to take the train to Germany’s capital. After nearly six hours, it is time to get off and take a tour of Berlin, experiencing how history is linked to the future in a



city divided and reunited over the past six decades. The tour guide introduces Berlin as a 'drive-through museum,' where every park, every square, every monument and every piece of the wall bears witness to history. Museums and monuments, modern architecture and governmental buildings are introduced and students start to make plans for their time in the city, from East to West.

March 24 starts cloudy, yet colorful: the Deutsche Guggenheim offers an exhibition called "Picturing America". The guided tour informs students about techniques used and ideas expressed in the paintings which, at the first, second and third look, resemble enlarged photos. After the lunch break, real photos of John F. Kennedy, his family and his visit to Berlin invite the MAS group into the Kennedy Museum near the Brandenburg Gate. They are presented with a film on the few hours Kennedy spent in Berlin in 1963, photos of his family, his life and his election campaign. The next event takes place at the Bundestag. Another guided tour points out the significance of democratic institutions for running a country and connecting it to the world around it. The Reichstag building itself has the scars of history, even if it is rebuilt in an amazing combination of old and new. The rest of the day is for the students to explore the city on their own.

The third day is finally sunny and welcoming. The S-Bahn takes the group to the Free University where Prof. Michaela Hampf introduces the group to the JFK Institute. Its history and contributions to the field of American studies have made it a significant and dynamic part of the German academic scene. The library tour which follows the introduction displays hundreds of thousands of books and documents relating to North American studies. Afterwards students disperse to have lunch, visit the botanical garden or take photos

by the riverside. Everyone meets at the American Embassy by the Brandenburg Gate at 2 p.m. The chief diplomat at the embassy, Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Jay Anaria, welcomes the MAS group on the first floor, where he introduces the unique building and its function as a transatlantic gate. His speech is followed by an engaging question and answer period. Leaving the embassy, students are free to visit places they picked out on the first day tour. Dozens of museums, parks, cathedrals, restaurants and cafes beckon. Public transport helps the students get to the sites easily and comfortably.



MAS Students visiting the American Academy in Berlin

March 26 offers more time for exploring the city. At the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the group is introduced to the 20th century history of Berlin. Although often disturbing, the exhibits show the reality of life in the divided city. After visiting the museum, one might wonder how this division could have been replaced so quickly by such a strong reunification. Photos of Berlin's streets and squares are now taken through a historically-informed lens. The final point on the agenda of the HCA is attending a speech at the American Academy Berlin that evening. Located on beautiful Wannsee lake, the building hosts a number of distinguished American scholars and welcomes students eager to see how history repeats itself. Dr. Susan Pederson gives a lecture on the Iraq experience of the British in the 1930s, "Getting out of Iraq (in 1932)". Her speech is followed by a question and answer session and the students get

to visit the library and learn about the history of the institution and its activities.

On the next day, it is time to say goodbye to Berlin. After visiting a few more sites of interest, everybody gets ready to return to a more serene southern university town, having experienced the

dynamics of the German capital. The MAS group departs at 4 p.m. from Berlin Hauptbahnhof, reflecting on the days spent together in these exciting surroundings, and gets to Heidelberg a little after 10 p.m. With a host of new insights, students are ready for the summer semester.

## MAS Commencement 2009



The graduates of the MAS Class of 2009 in the „Alte Aula“ of the University. Back (l. to r.): Nastasja Gerlach, Anne-Kathrin Franciska Pusch, Jordan Dubin, Yulia Egorova, Rafal Milerski, Fei Ye, Erhan Simsek, Melanie Lewis, Ruhuan Wang. Front (l. to r.): Thi Diem Ngoc Dao, Marianne Fleurimont, Silvia Toma, Carrie Khou, Zeynep Selen Saydam, Sarah Alexander. Not present at the commencement ceremony: Balazs Kantor, Mahshid Mayar, Joseph Zane.

On October 20, the HCA celebrated the commencement of the MAS Class of 2009 in the university's Old Lecture Hall. Of the 18 graduates from the United Kingdom, Vietnam, the United States of America, Russia, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Poland, Turkey, Romania and China, 15 were present to receive their diplomas. The HCA continued its tradition of wearing formal academic attire for the occasion. Graduates as well as HCA faculty and staff members wore traditional gowns and hoods for the ceremony.

The graduates were welcomed and congratulated by Professor Dr. rer. nat. habil Bernhard Eitel, Rector of the Ruprecht Karls University Heidelberg, Professor Dr. Heinz-Dietrich Löwe, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Heidelberg, and Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker, director of the HCA. Professor Hope M. Harrison, George Washington University, delivered the keynote speech. Nastasja Gerlach, the salutatorian, spoke on behalf of the graduating class, filling in for class valedictorian Joseph Zane who was on military duty.

Rector Eitel congratulated the students and wished them all the best for their future. He also welcomed the students of the Class 2011. Rector Eitel stressed the selective, international character of the MAS program, touting this as proof of the highly successful global standing of Heidelberg University. He proceeded to list the successes of the HCA since its foundation in 2004. The HCA embodies interdisciplinarity at its best. It brings together ten disciplines from six different faculties at Heidelberg University. Multidisciplinarity is featured in all of the HCA's activities, from teaching and research to conferences and public lectures. He also thanked the benefactors that made it possible for many of the graduates to participate in the program by funding scholarships. He concluded his remarks by asking the graduates to stay in touch and to build international bridges with their knowledge and education. Professor Dr. Heinz-Dietrich Löwe congratulated the MAS graduates warmly and emphasized the importance of multicultural abilities and understanding in today's world.

Professor Junker also congratulated the Class of 2009 and once more pointed out the fact that the MAS program attracts students from all over the world. He also introduced the MAS class of 2011 and welcomed the six students who had joined the Ph.D. in American Studies program. There is not going to be an MAS class of 2010 because the two-semester course "Master of American Studies" was extended to three semesters. "This allows students to fully concentrate on writing their master's theses during their third semester," said Professor Junker. The class of 2011 consists of 19 students from 13 different countries. This was something the HCA is very proud of, added Professor Junker, who then introduced the keynote speaker, Prof. Hope Harrison.

Professor Hope M. Harrison, who teaches History and International Affairs at George Washington University received her bachelor degree from Harvard University and her master and doctoral degrees from Columbia University. She was awarded a number of prestigious research fellowships, among others at the American Academy in Berlin and the Norwegian Nobel Institute. Professor Harrison is currently spending a year as a Fulbright senior research fellow at the Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung in Berlin.



Prof. Hope M. Harrison

In her speech "Expect the Unexpected" Hope M. Harrison spoke about the fall of the Berlin Wall and its history from a scholarly point of view as well as about her personal experiences in Berlin twenty years ago. She pointed out that at the time it had become more or less obvious that the wall would fall sooner or later, yet it was widely assumed that this would not happen so soon. Nobody had expected this, and this was also Professor Harrison's message for the graduates: "Expect the Unexpected".

Following the keynote address, the Class of 2009 received their diplomas. Joseph Zane, from the United States, graduated as the class valedictorian, though his military duties prevented him from being available to deliver the valedictory address.

In her thoughtful salutatory address, Natasja Gerlach recounted her memories of the time the Class of 2009 spent in Heidelberg and at the HCA. The text of the speech is printed below.

After the ceremony, the graduates and their families and friends were invited to a reception in the new academic facilities of the HCA, which were officially dedicated on this occasion.



Rector Eitel and Prof. Junker awarding MAS diplomas

### **MAS Commencement 2009 Salutatorian Address Delivered by Natasja Gerlach**

Dear Prof. Dr. Eitel, Prof. Dr. Löwe, Prof. Dr. Junker, Mayor Gerner, Honorary Senators Engelhorn, dear Prof. Harrison, dear MAS Class of 2009, dear MAS Class of 2011, dear family and friends, dear ladies and gentlemen,

It really is an honor for me to stand here today and speak for the MAS class of 2009. Last year, our class was sitting right there where the MAS class of 2011 is sitting now: 19 young people from eleven different countries. We had come to join the HCA with very different cultural backgrounds and very different educational experiences and academic interests. Thus, we are teachers and translators, we are historians and mathematicians, we are cultural studies and literature experts and communication managers -we even got a psychologist among us. And today is the great day when we can proudly call ourselves: Master of American Studies.

A year ago, when we were sitting where you guys are sitting now, we did not really know what to expect from the time to come. Classes had just started and we could barely remember each other's names. At that point, we didn't even know that the United States of America would elect an African-American president. If I remember correctly, last year's guest speaker Katja Gelinski did not even

dare to prognosticize the election outcome. Today, we are here to celebrate our Master's degree; and Barack Obama, the first Black American President, has just been granted the Nobel Peace Prize. I believe we can say: things went well for us.

Looking back at the year we have spent together, we can probably all agree that it was a work-intense, sometimes also turbulent year, during which we have learned a lot. We can be very proud of ourselves to have managed the tough schedule of our first semester – especially the occasionally never-ending Thursdays. Remember? - From time to time, the HCA compensated us with their famous TGIF parties, when we celebrated that “Thank God! It's Friday!!!” and when we could all come together and forget the busy side of student life. We got over our oral exams, handed in three research papers and headed directly towards thesis writing.

As I said: the last year was work-intense. But it was also turbulent because our different backgrounds guaranteed that we didn't always share the same opinion. We should be grateful that HCA provided the room for discussion and disagreements because disagreeing is important. I believe that disagreements make us reflect – not

only on the viewpoints of others but on our very own viewpoints and attitudes as well. In fact, disagreements can be very inspiring— given that they are properly handled; speaking for myself, this is what I have learned at the HCA. And I think that handling disagreements properly is exactly what we have achieved together; we -as a class- have established dialogue, that enabled us to learn from each other. In this sense, I think that we experienced one of the year’s highlights in Kirsten Fischer’s religious studies class that dealt with the role of religion in modern day America and its roots. Kirsten showed how to talk without prejudices on such a sensitive topic as religion; she pulled us down to earth when it was necessary but she would also let us discuss when it was necessary.

We have learned to listen, with respect and tolerance. And these two values -respect and tolerance- are values that should not be underestimated. In fact, I think they are assets that are invaluable - especially in today’s world that is becoming more and more interconnected, where cultures meet and also clash; and in a world in which people forget way too often what respect and tolerance really mean. I can truly say that we have learned to face cultural differences and to deal with them. We have transcended cultural boundaries.

And do you know what is really interesting about this? Barack Obama received the Nobel Peace Prize for exactly that, namely (and I am quoting the Nobel Committee here) “for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples.” Furthermore, the committee has pointed out that “Obama has as President created a new climate in international politics. Multilateral diplomacy has regained a central position, with emphasis on the role that the

United Nations and other international institutions can play.” Isn’t that the implementation of what we have learned here?

To return from world politics to the HCA, I would like to acknowledge that we have not been alone during the last year. I have mentioned Prof. Kirsten Fischer already. But I would also like to thank all the professors and teachers that accompanied us throughout the last year: Prof. Dr. Junker, Dr. Manfred Berg, Dr. Robert Czerny, Dr. Kirsten Fischer, Dr. Jana Freihöfer, Mr. Walther Kraft, Dr. Steven Less, Dr. Dietmar Schloss, Dr. Anja Schüler, Dr. Martin Thunert, and Mr. Alexander Vazansky.



Nastasja Gerlach and her MAS peers

I would also like to thank a few people who made the past year at the HCA a special year for us all:

I would like to thank Sarah Alexander from the UK, whose knowledge of Mormonism is just incredible. I would like to thank Gemma Dao from Vietnam, who will represent our class in the new batch of PhD students at the HCA. I would like to thank Jordan Dubin from the US, who would always keep us up-to-date on recent American affairs and who probably chose the most “practically-oriented” thesis topic. I would like to thank Yulia Egorova from Russia, who was always ready to become enthusiastic about new topics. I would like to thank Marianne Fleurimont from the US, who

dared to analyze from unorthodox viewpoints and has not rarely opened eyes and minds because of that. I would like to thank Stephanie Johnson from the US, who has been our youngster with special interest in feminism. I would like to thank Blaise Kantor from Hungary/Canada, whose profound knowledge of American legal history often left us astonished. I would like to thank Carrie Khou from Germany, who always managed to convey her ideas to the point. I would like to thank Melanie Lewis, who is at home both in the US and in Germany. She actually saved our lives with her yummy American cupcakes after a long day of thesis presentations.

I would like to thank Mahshid Mayar from Iran, who dared to surpass the boundaries of time and space – not only for her thesis. I would like to thank Rafal Milerski from Poland, who enriched our discussions by his all-time readiness to philosophize. I would like to thank Anne-Franciska Pusch from Germany, who enlightened us on the friendship between human beings and animals. I would like to thank Selen Seydam from Turkey, who reminded us of the very many achievements of great women.

I would like to thank Erhan Simsek from Turkey, who discovered the secrets behind the success of American businessmen. I would like to thank Silvia Toma from Romania, who always had a positive word for us and whose birthday we are celebrating today, too. I would like to thank Mandy Wang from China, who never lost her smile, even in the most stressful situations. I would like to thank Fei Ye from China, who would attract her audience's attention even though being the last presenter of the day. And I would like to thank Joe Zane, who was our walking dictionary and encyclopedia at the same time and who has hopefully spent a wonderful honeymoon with his wife Heather.

Each of you has made our class and our learning experience at the HCA unique. Congratulations to us all!

Last, but not least, I would like to thank the HCA for organizing this wonderful commencement ceremony for us. Special thanks go to Anne Lübbers and her many helping hands.

I wish you, the MAS class of 2011, that your time in Heidelberg will be as fulfilled as ours. The experiences you will make at the HCA are not only characterized by first-class education, they will also depend on what you make out of it. So I wish you lots of fun and good luck!

Thank you.



**A Center for Inter-  
disciplinary 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 as well as its visiting researchers, the HCA hosts and organizes international conferences, symposia, workshops, and seminars.**

## Ph.D. in American Studies

Launched in October 2006, the Ph.D. in American Studies program continues to attract talented young people from around the world. Currently 18 students from 7 different countries are enrolled in the program, working on projects that bring various perspectives from cultural studies, political science, history, literature, linguistics, and film into a fruitful dialogue.

The 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 it 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, a candidate needs to fulfill not only the general entrance requirements, but he or she also must 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 is able to 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 the applicant's academic qualifications but also evaluate the proposed dissertation project.

In October 2008, six students from three countries joined the Ph.D. in American Studies as the class of 2012, raising the total of all students to 18. Simultaneously, the class of 2006 is approaching graduation, making them the first students to successfully complete the program. A great number of Ph.D. students are alumni of the MAS program and several have acted as teaching assistants for the MAS 2006/07 and the MAS 2007/08.



## **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 entire 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**

(Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss, Dr. Mischa Honeck, PD Dr. Martin Thunert)

This course is designed to acquaint Ph.D. students with key concepts and debates in the four subject areas that make up the core of American Studies at the HCA: literature, cultural studies, history, and political science. It 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 to be discussed are F.O. Matthiessen, Sacvan Bercovitch, Judith Butler, Toni Morrison, Paul Gilroy, Peter Novick, Lynne Cheney, Thomas Bender, Louis Hartz, Rogers Smith, and Richard Rorty. The course addresses issues such as deconstruction, imagined communities, gender, performance, postcolonialism, historical objectivity, memory, globalization, international relations, liberalism, and communitarianism.

## **Academic Writing**

(Dr. Anja Schüller)

A successful doctorate depends on good research ideas and hard work, but also on careful planning, drafting, writing, revising, improving, and finishing your text. This class focuses on the academic

writing process. This includes managing audience expectations, planning a sequence of chapters, organizing chapters and papers, writing in a clear professional style and effective referencing. 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. The HCA also supports a more informal writer's group for second and third year Ph.D. students.

## **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 own 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 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.

For this purpose, 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

### Ph.D. Colloquium

Jointly organized by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History, and the English Department of Heidelberg University, the Ph.D. Colloquium offers Ph.D. candidates and visiting scholars the opportunity to present and discuss their research projects in an interdisciplinary setting. Participants are expected to engage in scholarly debate and give informed advice to presenters from various disciplines in the field of American Studies. The Ph.D. colloquium takes place on a weekly basis during the winter term and convenes in the summer term for an extended two-day session at the Schulungszentrum Ritschweier, a small Odenwald retreat outside of Weinheim.

The Ph.D. colloquium in the winter semester of 2008/2009 opened with a talk by Professor Manfred Berg (Historisches Seminar), who gave an outline of his new book project "Reflections on the History of Lynching in America." Philipp Trein (Historisches Seminar) investigated "Responses to and Repercussions of the Civil Rights Cases of 1883." Melanie Gish, Juste Simelyte, Maria Andrei, Raluca Cimpean and Barbara Kujath, all students of the HCA Ph.D. in American Studies program, presented their latest research to the HCA community. Andreas Riffel (Historisches Seminar) talked about "'Greasers' and 'Gringos': Stereotypes in the Age of the Mexican-American War." Michael Lenz (Historisches Seminar) made a case for "Arma sunt necessaria: Researching Early American Gun Culture." Michael Friedrich explored "U.S. and Japanese War Crimes in the Second World War," and Sophie Lorenz (HCA/Historisches Seminar) shared her ideas on "Black Power, Student Protest, and the Black Panther Solidarity Movement in West Germany." The winter semester colloquium also featured two interesting presentations by visiting

professors. Adam Fairclough (Leiden University) gave a talk on "Too many guns, too many Communists, too much time: Why Revisionist Histories of the Civil Rights Movement Miss the Point." Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota/HCA) provided a sample of her current research project titled "Age of Reason? Radical Deism in the Early American Republic." On January 20, the Ph.D. colloquium convened for a special session to witness the live-coverage the Presidential Inauguration of Barak Obama.



Participants of the Ph.D. colloquium in Ritschweier

The Ph.D. colloquium reassembled in the summer semester for a two-day session at the Schulungszentrum Ritschweier (May 22-23). In a pleasant and inspiring atmosphere, Anthony Santoro, Sebastian Emling, Christian Maul, Elena Matveeva, Cristina Stanca-Mustea, Yuyun Chen, Iris Santoro, Jiawei Mao and Mohamed Metawe presented and discussed their projects with members of the HCA academic community.

## Ph.D. Candidates

### Raluca-Lucia Cimpean (Romania)

Class of 2009 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg

Born in 1981 in Blaj, Romania, Raluca-Lucia Cimpean studied English and Romanian at Babes-Bolyai University, where she earned her B.A. in 2004 and an M.A. in American Studies in 2005. In 2006, she received an M.A. in American Studies at the University of Heidelberg. In 2007 and 2008 Raluca was the literature teaching assistant for Prof. Dietmar Schloss. From September through November, 2009, Raluca did an internship at the Embassy of Romania in Washington, D.C.



Raluca's Ph.D. project is entitled "John F. Kennedy through the Looking Glass: Docudramatic Representations of the Kennedy Image." John F. Kennedy is said to have been the first American politician to have fully grasped and used the television's potential for politics and the first American President of the television age. His family background has made him aware of the tremendous influence moving pictures may exercise on public memory and behavior, whether used for pragmatic or artistic purposes. Given the advantageous relationship he has enjoyed with the camera and the privileged place of cinema in the American entertainment industry, it comes as no surprise that the American public's interest in John F. Kennedy's life, career and tragic death has manifested itself to some extent in this popular culture medium.

Raluca's dissertation traces John F. Kennedy's posthumous relationship with moving pictures, namely the way in which the Kennedy image has reflected in a popular film genre: docudrama. To achieve this goal the dissertation provides a definition of docudrama, a description of the Kennedy image, and an analysis of the interaction between a cinematic code and a cultural construct, respectively. The set of docudramas concerned with the Kennedy image consists of the following: *PT 109* (1963), *Executive Action* (1973), *The Missiles of October* (1974), *Kennedy* (1983), *JFK* (1991), *In the Line of Fire* (1993), *The Rat Pack* (1998), *Interview with the Assassin* (2002), *Thirteen Days* (2003), and *Path to War* (2003).

Primary supervisor: Professor Dr. Manfred Berg

## **Maria Diaconu (Romania)**

Class of 2011 / Heidemarie Engelhorn Ph.D. Scholarship

Maria Diaconu received her B.A. from the University of Bucharest, Romania, in 2004. She majored in English and minored in American Studies, focusing on American literature with a B.A. thesis about the Beat Generation writers and the American avant-garde in art and music. After completing her studies in Bucharest, she decided to continue her education in Heidelberg and was awarded a full scholarship by the HCA. In 2005, she received her M.A. in American Studies with a thesis entitled "Narrating Memory: A comparative study of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*". She presented the paper "Andrei Codrescu's New Identity for the New World" at the 2006 RAAS-Fulbright Conference in Bucharest. She has also been employed as a copywriter with an advertising agency. In June 2009, she gave a talk about her dissertation project at the annual conference of the French Association for American Studies in Besancon. She has published an extensive article on the subject of literature after September 11, in the September 2009 issue of a prestigious Romanian cultural newspaper.



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

## **Raymond Eberling (USA)**

Class of 2010

Ray Eberling was born in 1948 in Suffern, New York and is a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel who spent the majority of his career as a navigator. He has also done tours of duty at the Pentagon, Headquarters, U.S. Special Operations Command and Headquarters, United States Air Forces Europe. Ray has a B.A. in Education from the University of Florida, a B.A. in Creative Writing from Eckerd College, (St. Petersburg, Florida), and an M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. In 2006, he received his M.A. in American Studies at Heidelberg University, where his thesis dealt with the religious right in the U.S. military. The working title of his dissertation is "Come on Down! The Selling of the Florida Dream, 1945-1965", and deals with the promotional efforts by the state during its explosive population growth in the immediate post-World War II period. Ray is also an adjunct instructor in American Studies at Eckerd College, Florida. In April of 2008, he presented his dissertation topic at the HCA's annual Spring Academy. Eberling is a member of the Southern Historical Association, the Florida Historical Society, and the Florida Humanities Council.

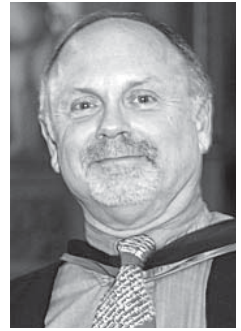
Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg

## **Melanie Gish (Germany)**

Class of 2011 / Curt Engelhorn Ph.D. Scholarship

Melanie Gish was born in 1976 in Sinsheim, Germany, and graduated from the University of Mannheim with a B.A. in German and Geography in 2003. From 2003 to 2004, she received a scholarship to participate in the exchange program of the University of Mannheim with the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario/Canada. At Waterloo, Gish worked as a research assistant in the linguistics department. She graduated from UW with an M.A. in German in 2004. In 2007, Melanie received the HCA Director's Fellowship to participate in the MAS program. Prior to joining the HCA as a member of the Class of 2008, she lived in Colorado and worked at the Denver Public Library as a cultural program coordinator. Gish is enrolled in the Ph.D. Class of 2011 and the working title of her dissertation is: "A Green Gap? Conservative Skeptics, Evangelical Environmentalists, and the Dilemma of Global Climate Change."

Melanie Gish's Ph.D. project is concerned with the evangelical environmental –or creation care– movement in the contemporary United States. The



overarching goal of her thesis is an investigation of the organizational and programmatic foundations of this movement, as well as its socio-political and cultural contextualization. The purpose of this endeavor is twofold. On the one hand, mapping the contours and the relative strength of evangelical environmentalism (and its opposition) should enable her to evaluate the political and social impact of organized creation care. By situating creation care in its socio-political and cultural context, on the other hand, this project also attempts to understand what 'shade of green' creation care is, and to determine what kind of space evangelical environmentalists occupy within politically and culturally polarized America.

Primary Supervisor: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert

### **Iris Hahn-Santoro (Germany)**

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 served as a research assistant at the Arctic Studies Center at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. There she researched, wrote, and lectured on the Kensington Runestone and the question of its authenticity. She recently decided to rename her dissertation "Aloha: Sociolinguistic Motivations for Reviving American Indian Languages," in order to reflect the wider scope the project has taken to include the several languages undergoing a distinct and successful revival movement.



Iris spent several months in the United States last year and presented her findings and progress during the HCA's Ph.D. colloquium in May 2009. This was also the unveiling of her new title and the presentation of the changed scope of her work. Of note, Navajo will be one of the main languages studied. At present, Iris is developing the necessary questionnaires for the Native speakers in order to assess the sociolinguistic factors and triggers at work when it comes to the Navajos' attitude towards their language and historical heritage. The questionnaire will function as a master and can be used with slight adjustments for the remaining languages to be examined. Likely candidates for study are Lakota, Creek and Mi'qmaq.

Primary supervisor: Professor Dr. Joern Albrecht

## Barbara Kujath (Canada)

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 the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg. She earned an M.A. in English Philology in 2007. She worked as an assistant lecturer at the Anglistisches Seminar at Heidelberg University from 2007 until 2009. She is currently working at the HCA in the area of workshop organization.



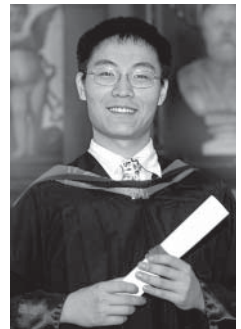
Barbara's Ph.D. project is entitled "The Emergence of a New Concern with and Understanding of Violence in American Culture of the 1960s and 1970s". The 1960s and 70s in America were decades of change on many levels and saw the advent of scientific and cultural discourse on the subject of violence. Barbara's 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

## Jiawei Mao (China)

Class of 2010 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg

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. During his undergraduate studies, Mao was actively engaged in various academic contests involving English public speaking and international relations. 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 recently published by the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press in Beijing, China.



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 one 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 principle, pattern, 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 archive research at various Chinese institutions. Mao is right now on a research trip to Washington, D.C., during which he will work with the Peterson Institute of International Economics and the U.S.-China Business Council to further his research. He has also planned interviews with top officials at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

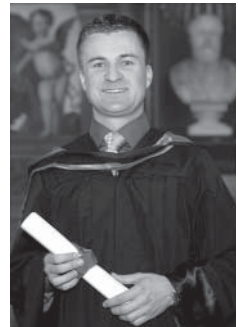
Having presented his project at HCA's annual Ph.D. Colloquium in Oberflockenbach and Weinheim in 2008 and 2009 respectively, Mao also presented part of his work at this year's World Trade Organization Public Forum in Geneva and was critically well received.

Primary supervisor: Professor Dr. Detlef Junker

### **Christian Maul (Germany)**

Class of 2010 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg

Christian Maul studied English and German literature and linguistics at Heidelberg University and at San Francisco State University. He graduated in April of 2006 and subsequently pursued a Master's degree in American Studies at the HCA. He has worked as a teaching assistant at the English Department of Heidelberg University and as a trainer for Business English, and has produced various drama and musical theater projects with the drama group of the English Department.





Maul's thesis, "From Self-Culture to Militancy, From Conscience to Intervention – Henry David Thoreau as a Prototypical Bridger Between Liberalism and Communitarianism," seeks to shed new light on Henry David Thoreau's concept of individualism. While many of Thoreau's critics have reproached him for his escapism and isolationism, Maul's project aims to illustrate that Thoreau's spiritual and intellectual autonomy prepared him for his existence as a social critic. After periods of detachment from his society and reassessment of ultimate American values during which he discovers his social and cultural embeddedness, he returns to the social and political arenas to utter his criticism. Thus, Thoreau becomes a prominent representative of community-oriented, democratic individuality and anticipates communitarian thinking. During the last academic year, Maul has been developing a model for the interpretation of the relationship between the individual and society by tracing fundamental characteristics of an American self that interacts with the social forces surrounding it. He presented his project at the HCA's Spring Academy and at the International Ph.D. Colloquium at Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg (Netherlands). In May, Maul participated in the international symposium "Thoreauvian Modernities" at the Université de Lyon. He is currently preparing to submit his dissertation.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dieter Schulz

### **Mohamed Metawe (Egypt)**

Class of 2011

Mohamed Metawe, born in 1979 in Dametta, Egypt, is an assistant lecturer at Cairo University at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science. He received his M.A. in Political Science and International Relations from Cairo University in 2005. He wrote his thesis on the effects of the Eastern enlargement of the EU on the European security and defense policy. After receiving his M.A., Metawe worked for the National Democratic Party (the ruling party in Egypt) for two years and was an instructor at Cairo University. On several occasions, Metawe attended conferences in the U.S., France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, and Lebanon.

His Ph.D. dissertation is entitled "Middle East Issues in Transatlantic Relations: 2003-2009." The key question of the thesis is why European and American policies toward Middle Eastern issues converge and diverge despite their agreement on common goals. The thesis has two main arguments: the first argument is that transatlantic differences concerning the Middle East manifest themselves in details but not in the grand design of policies. The second



argument contends that transatlantic convergences regarding the Middle East make the policies of the transatlantic partners more coherent.

The thesis seeks to explain the reasons for the divergences and convergences in American and European policies regarding the Middle East. This is to be done, firstly, through reviewing some of the theoretical perspectives that have been employed to analyze and explain the differences and agreements between the transatlantic partners. Secondly, the thesis will explore the points of convergence and divergence in the American and European strategies and priorities toward the Middle East. By focusing on a small number of case studies, e.g. Iraq, Iran, and the Middle East peace process (Palestinian-Israeli peace process) the thesis seeks to analyze the Middle East point of view regarding transatlantic convergences and divergences.

Mohamed has worked on his thesis for the last year. He drafted two chapters; the first concerned with the theoretical framework and the second dealing with the strategies of the United States and Europe towards the Middle East. He also conducted interviews with experts [academics, politicians, diplomats, and journalists] in Egypt to explore their points of view with respect to the transatlantic policies in the Middle East.

Primary supervisor: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert

### **Julia Kristina Merkel (Germany)**

Class of 2012 / Curt Engelhorn Ph.D. Scholarship

Julia Kristina Merkel 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 has been awarded a DAAD internship scholarship and has been nominated for the best M.A thesis of the American Studies Department at Frankfurt University. In October 2009 Julia joined the HCA Ph.D. program, receiving the Curt-Engelhorn Stipendium. Her Ph.D. proposal focuses on "Dixie First, America Second: Prevailing Southern Literary Tradition in the 21st Century." Testing the hypothesis that William Faulkner's work and a Southern Agrarian picture of the South as a region still serve as a "master narrative" for today's authors such as Barry Hannah, Cynthia Shearer, Harry Crews, or Dorothy Allison the project contests the notion that after the Old and New South there has arisen a Nu South with vanishing regional identity and a literature void of its famous sense of place.



Taking a closer look at contemporary choices of motif, narrative structures,

and depiction of gender roles, war, and personal crisis the project attempts to evaluate to what extent these are simultaneously expression and constitutive element of the South's cultural identity. If it proves valid that literature can be assigned a role of reinforcement in this context, this could lead to a continuous perpetuation of traditional subjects and structures and a perpetual strengthening of identity and its competing definitions of the region and at the same time the reinforcement of a certain version. Longing for the bygone and a supposedly better past while rewriting it contemporary Southern literature works on the myth of a perpetuation of a past that might have never existed.

The courses of action in the examined works are characterized by an inherent defeatism. Southern Gothic and its bleak settings, symbols, and cast are satirized as a first means of re-negotiating the binding relationship with the literary ancestry. Still they are addressed time and time again. This could be read as subtle processes of emancipation, which will be defined in form and content in the dissertation. The research hopefully will provide a basis for a prognosis where Southern literature of the next generation may head.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

### **Anja Milde (Germany)**

Class of 2011 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the BASF Group

Anja Milde received her B.A. from the University of Erfurt in 2003, where she studied linguistics and communication science. Since the fall of 2003, she has been a student at Heidelberg University, majoring in history and art history. Before joining the MAS program in 2007, she spent a year at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where she majored in American Studies. Since the fall of 2008, Anja has been working at the HCA as public relations assistant and tutor for American history.

Anja's Ph.D. project is tentatively entitled "Pansies, Dykes, and Panthers: The Complexity of Coalition Politics in the African American and Gay Civil Rights Movements." Her research focuses on the history of the intersection of both movements, which is not well documented today. It has not been assigned a proper role either in the histories of the two movements or in the histories of social movements in general. Historiography's neglect of a phenomenon which is an essential element of the struggle for equal rights needs to be investigated in terms of prioritizing of scholars studying the history of social movement coalitions.



Controversial matters, outwardly trivial occurrences, which do not easily fit into master narratives and are complicated to explain, sometimes are not regarded in their genuine importance by historians, or are even forgotten. The history of coalition building in the Civil Rights Movement and the struggle for gay and lesbian liberation is such a contested narrative, which is now in the process of being rediscovered.

To best understand the history of the intersectionality of the Civil Rights and the Gay Rights Movements in its different aspects, Anja seeks to incorporate it into social movement analysis as well as into the larger context of equal rights activism. Taking such a viewpoint, and by respecting the oral records produced by activists, their story does not appear as a trivial occurrence anymore, but as a central element of social movement historiography.

Anja is currently undertaking an extensive research trip in the United States, which entails archival research and numerous interviews, including civil and gay rights activists, politicians, government officials, professors, and pastors. In addition to the BASF scholarship, Anja's research is supported by a fellowship from the German Historical Institute and a grant from the Ghaemian Travel Fund.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg

### **Hannes Nagl (Germany)**

Class of 2012

Hannes Nagl attended Heidelberg University where he majored in English and Political Science, with a M.A thesis focusing on "Spaces of Decivilization: The Phenomenon of Violence in Contemporary American Novels." Since October 2006 Hannes holds a student assistant position at the English Department of Heidelberg University. He has also worked as a freelancer for different publishing houses and *Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung* in Heidelberg. In October 2009 Hannes joined the HCA Ph.D. program.



In his thesis, "'Spaces of Decivilization': Norbert Elias' Theory of Civilization and the Phenomenon of Violence in Contemporary American Fiction", Nagl will analyze different contemporary American novels which are notorious for their depictions of violence. By doing so, 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. In order to do so, Nagl will draw on rather uncommon theoretical sources: Besides more recent sociological research on violence, he will use Norbert Elias' 'theory of civilization' as a theoretical background for the interpretations of the novels. Although Elias' theory is rather uncommon for literary studies and has been applied only rarely to an American context, his approach of modernization and modern society as well as his writings on the sociology of modern sport are considered as a promising and a fruitful theoretical model for analyzing both the 'sociological' and aesthetical aspects of contemporary novels of violence. 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

### **Thi Diem Ngoc Dao (Vietnam)**

Class of 2012/ Heidemarie Engelhorn Ph.D. Scholarship

Born in 1984, Thi Diem Ngoc graduated from the College of Foreign Languages, Vietnam National University, with a B.A. degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) in 2006. To broaden her horizon, 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 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 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 factor contributing to normalized relations in the 1990s. Thi Diem draws on the following points in her research: 1) the significance of 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, 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

### **Anthony Santoro (USA)**

Class of 2009 / HCA’s Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the BASF Group

Anthony Santoro was born in Newport News, Virginia, in 1978, and received his B.A. in 1999 from the University of Virginia, where he double majored in English and history. He was a member of the first MAS Class of 2005, where he wrote his M.A. thesis on the prophetic elements of Nat Turner’s rebellion. The recipient of the 2005 HCA Book Prize, Santoro’s M.A. thesis formed the basis for his 2008 article, “The Prophet in His Own Words: Nat Turner’s Biblical Construction,” which appeared in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*.



Santoro’s dissertation, entitled *Exile or Embrace: The Religious Discourse on the Death Penalty in the Contemporary Era*, explores constructions of exile and embrace in religious contestations over capital punishment. Challenging the idea that either the popular conception of the monstrous “other” or of the scapegoat is capable of explaining and accounting for the continued symbolic power and relevance of capital punishment in the United States, this dissertation argues instead for the exile. Though the exile bears signs of the scapegoat, and though the exile exists in the discourse as a kind of other, the dissertation demonstrates that both the abolitionist and retentionist discourses argue that in order for the death penalty to retain legitimacy, even in a highly retributivist atmosphere, those executed cannot be not like us. They must, in other words, be more like us than not. By detailing the implications

of this reliance on recognizability, the dissertation explores the ways in which the religious discourse deals with problems of moral and procedural certainty, of communication within the denominational traditions, and of participation as religious organizations within the pluralist state. Finally, the dissertation deals with the concept of embrace as it arises in the various discourses, showing that it is properly understood not as a binary opposite of exile, but as a successor to exile, and the reasons for and implications of this recognition.

Primary Supervisor: Professor Dr. Manfred Berg

### **Marleen Schulte (Germany)**

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. Marleen 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), which saw 40 students and a dozen professors embarking on a spring term in Maine. 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. At NELP Marleen also had the opportunity to meet one of the authors whose works are the subject of her dissertation.

In 2009 Marleen started her doctoral studies at the HCA. Her 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. In her work 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

### **Karsten Senkbeil (Germany)**

Class of 2009 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg

Karsten Senkbeil, born in 1981, studied at the University of Osnabrück, Germany, and the City College of New York, New York City. He received his M.A. degree at the University of Osnabrück in 2006, his majors being English/American studies and physics.

Since October 2006, Senkbeil has been enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the HCA. He has just finished writing his dissertation entitled "The Language of American Sport – A Corpus-Assisted Discourse Study", which analyzes the discourse of American sport journalism to extract and interpret the dominant ideological patterns of Americans' favorite pastime. The methodological approach of this project is an innovative linking of quantitative linguistic research, based on a large text corpus, with qualitative methods of discourse analysis to embed the linguistic findings in a cultural studies context. For his doctoral research travels, Senkbeil received scholarships from the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg, the John-F.-Kennedy-Institute in Berlin, and the Ghaemian Travel Fund. Furthermore, Senkbeil is a fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and researched at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan, adding a trans-pacific perspective to his project. In 2009, he presented his research results at the biannual conference of the American Studies Association (southern chapter) in Fairfax, VA, and at the American Studies conference of the Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. Senkbeil has published a book entitled *Sport in Journalism and Fiction in the United States Today* (2007), and contributed a chapter called "Baseball and American Exceptionalism" to the forthcoming book *The United States and the World: From Imitation to Challenge* (2009).

Primary supervisor: Professor Dr. Marianne Hundt

### **Juste Šimelyte (Lithuania)**

Class of 2011 / HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg

Juste Šimelyte was born in Kaišiadorys, Lithuania, in 1983. She studied law at the University of Vilnius where she specialized in commercial law. In 2007, she received her master's degree in law. In Lithuania, Šimelyte also worked as a legal consultant in the Vilnius University Law Clinic, where she offered pro bono legal advice. In October of 2007, Šimelyte began her studies at the





HCA, majoring in law, political science and international business cultures. In 2008, she received her M.A. in American Studies with a thesis entitled "Cultural Globalization: 'Made in the USA' or 'Made in Europe'?"

The working title of Šimelyte's dissertation is "Americanization and Europeanization: Two Faces of Cultural Globalization in Latvia and Lithuania." Her dissertation examines to what extent Latvia and Lithuania have undergone the process of cultural globalization. Specifically, it analyzes cultural changes in Latvia and Lithuania after these two countries had regained their independence and became open for Western cultural influences. In 2009 Juste Šimelyte accomplished two research trips to Lithuania and Latvia where she collected materials regarding her thesis.

Primary supervisor: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert

### **Cristina Stanca-Mustea (Romania)**

Class of 2009/ HCA's Ph.D. in American Studies Scholarship supported by the BASF Group

Cristina Stanca-Mustea was born in Bucharest, Romania, in 1982. She received her B.A. in Romanian and American Studies from the University of Bucharest in 2005. Stanca-Mustea was the recipient of the DAAD Fellowship as part of the STIBET program and received her M.A. in American Studies from Heidelberg University in 2006. She majored in literature, religious studies, and law. Her thesis was entitled "Carl Laemmle and the Making of Hollywood".

The title of her dissertation is "Carl Laemmle – A Transatlantic Mediator." The thesis explores the ways in which the life and career of Carl Laemmle, a German immigrant of Jewish origin, changed the American and European entertainment landscape through the founding of the first major film studio in Hollywood in 1912 – Universal Pictures. Moreover, it analyzes Carl Laemmle's intensive support for saving more than 200 German Jews on the eve of World War II by paying affidavits and offering jobs at Universal Pictures.

Cristina has conducted research in Berlin, in the archives of Die Deutsche Kinemathek, and at the Library of the John-F.-Kennedy Institute. She also spent one month at the New York Public Library and the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts in New York and another month at the Center for Motion Picture Research at the Margaret Herrick Library in Hollywood, Los Angeles. Cristina found evidence of Carl Laemmle's extensive involvement in the Ger-



man and American political and cultural life and his support for German Jews living under the Nazi regime. Furthermore, she had the chance to consult rare documents of early film history, which provided a clearer insight into the beginnings of the business of motion picture. The archival research in the United States was supported by the Ghaemian Travel Fund. In 2009, Cristina participated at several national and international conferences, where she presented her research and published an article.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert

### **Stephen Urich (USA)**

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 Masters 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. His 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 ad hoc committees. Congressional tendency to delegate power has increased over recent decades and Urich's project will attempt to determine the root causes of this phenomena.

The project will also investigate the resultant political and policy effects of delegation and the burgeoning of new committees invested with authority to shape policy decisions. Additionally, this project will explore the relationship between the formulation of these committees with the results of these committees and commissions.

Primary supervisor: Dr. habil. Martin Thunert

## Stefanie Weymann (Germany)

Class of 2012

Stefanie Weymann began studying English and American Studies as well as Modern German Literature at the University of Freiburg in 2003, from where she graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts. In 2007, she continued her studies at King's College London as a student of English. Stefanie completed her Master of Arts degree in 2008 with a thesis entitled "'Words and Images Run Riot in My Head': Memory and Oblivion in Samuel Beckett's *Molloy*, *Malone Dies* and *The Unnamable*", before joining the HCA this October with a project focusing on the city in contemporary American literature with the working title: "Poetics of Absence: The City in Contemporary American Literature."



The postmodern city in literature, despite its illegibility, is still read by many as a metaphor or symbol that distinctly informs the narrative. In her dissertation project Stefanie wants to move away from the interpretation of the postmodern city as text and suggest a perspective on the city that privileges the production of urban space in literature over a mere reading of it. That way she wants to arrive at a topography of the urban imagination that elucidates the spatial practices which constitute the postmodern city in literature. This approach therefore presents the fictional city as an artistic performance: a city that is written, walked, dreamed, and yet remains imaginary. How do contemporary writers practice the postmodern city? What do their cities look like? Why are spatial practices so important for an understanding of urban space in literature? To answer these questions, this project will bring together sociological theories of urban space and the fictional cities of contemporary American writers such as Paul Auster, Don DeLillo, Toni Morrison, Thomas Pynchon and others.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

### Images of America in the World after 9/11: A Data-Driven Approach to Semantic Imprints of Texts

Texts have semantic imprints on their surfaces that can be read as indices for their pragmatic, social or cultural function. These imprints lie beyond traditional concepts of meaning and have so far neither been systematically identified nor analyzed. Using transformations in images of the U.S. since 2001 as a case study, this project will develop categories for the description of semantic imprints with a data-driven approach and integrate them into a model that allows an automatic semantic analysis of texts. In doing so, the project will explore possible applications of these models for a semantization of the internet and methodological innovations in the social sciences and cultural studies.

The project started in August 2008. Until now, the project team has been completed with a compu-

tational linguist and two student researchers and preliminary work has been done. In addition, a case study on the analysis of the U.S. Presidential Campaign 2008 has been published on a weblog (<http://semtracks.com/politicaltracker/>). The weblog and the results of the analysis were widely perceived by the press. Newspapers like *Die Zeit*, *Die Welt*, *Tages-Anzeiger* (Zürich), *Stuttgarter Nachrichten*, *Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung*, but also television (Swiss TV Tagesschau) and radio (WDR, SWR, radio eins, World Radio Switzerland etc.) reported on the semtracks political tracker (cf. <http://semtracks.com/index.php?id=Press>).

This research project is funded by the FRONTIER program of Heidelberg University. The project is coordinated by Martin Klimke (HCA), Joachim Scharloth (Freiburg/Zürich), and Noah Bubenhofer (HCA/Zürich).

### Protest, Culture, and Society: Europe and North America

Protest movements have been recognized as significant contributors to processes of political participation and transformations of culture and value systems as well as to the development of both a national and transnational civil society. This research endeavor brings together the various innovative approaches to phenomena of social change, protest and dissent which have emerged in recent years from an interdisciplinary perspective. It contextualizes social protest and cultures of dissent in Europe and North America within larger political processes and socio-cultural transformations by examining the influence of historical trajectories and the response of various segments of society, political and legal institutions on a national and international level. In doing so, this research endeavor

offers a more comprehensive, multi-dimensional and transnational view of historical and cultural change in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

The research project "European Protest Movements since the Cold War: The Rise of a (Trans)national Civil Society and the Transformation of the Public Sphere," which is coordinated by Dr. Martin Klimke within this research framework, is supported by the European Union's Marie Curie Program for the Promotion of Scientific Excellence.

Together with Berghahn Books (New York/Oxford), it has also launched a publication series entitled "Protest, Culture and Society."

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

HCA faculty member Dr. Martin Thunert is regional coordinator North America (Canada, Mexico, United States) of an ongoing international and comparative research project, which is conducted and sponsored by the Bertelsmann Foundation in Gütersloh – the Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI). The SGI project was launched in 2006/07 – at the time under the heading “Bertelsmann Reform Index” - and published its first results in the spring of 2009. *The Sustainable Governance Indicators 2009* is based on a two-year study period from 2005 to 2007. The SGI will be updated and reissued on a biennial basis.

### Project Mission and Project Description

The SGI analyze and compare the need for reform in the 30 member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as well as their ability to respond to current social and political challenges. The project is designed to create a comprehensive data pool on government-related activities in the world’s developed market democracies – among them the United States, Canada and Mexico. In addition, it uses international comparisons to provide evidence-based input for reform-related public discourse taking place in these countries.

Using qualitative and quantitative data, the SGI measure the current need for political, economic and social reform in all 30 OECD member states. At the same time, they examine to what extent the countries’ governments are able to tackle pressing problems and implement effective solutions. The SGI thus make use of a multi-dimensional approach that goes beyond the informational impact supplied by current rankings and indexes. Most indexes and rankings that assess market democracies usually limit themselves to individual

policy fields (such as economic policy, education or the environment) or to examining governmental performance based on abstract concepts such as organizational structures and procedures. Until now, there has been no index that combines both aspects - a gap that the Sustainable Governance Indicators have been explicitly designed to fill.

The SGI evaluate the extent to which OECD member states are in a position, given changing domestic and international conditions, to implement the reforms necessary for ensuring their future viability. By measuring the need for reform along with the effectiveness of initiatives that have already been implemented, the SGI want to identify the best policy solutions for promoting democracy and a market economy. SGI findings are based on quantitative data from international organizations, supplemented by evaluations provided by renowned country experts.

### Conceptual underpinnings

The SGI identify the need for reform in the 30 OECD member nations by comparing their performance in 13 policy areas (outputs and/or outcomes), a process meant to ensure political nonpartisanship. In order to assess the quality of the nations’ reform management, the SGI focus on the most important political actor - the government - by examining its organizational structures and its ability to implement policy-related strategies. At the same time, the SGI do not assume that observed political outcomes derive solely from current government efforts. They do, however, assume that national policymakers are capable of effective leadership and that their chances of success stem from the executive branch’s strategic capabilities, meaning that the more able a government is to take strategic action, the better its chances are of suc-

cessfully implementing reform - regardless of the actual reforms in question. The SGI's objective is to shed light on those strengths and weaknesses within the governance process that have resulted in each nation's current state of affairs.

### **How the SGI is structured**

The SGI comprise two indexes calculated using a total of 153 indicators. The first is the Status Index, which measures key outputs and outcomes in the political, business and social arenas. The second is the Management Index, which evaluates the government's ability to create change. Both indexes are highly correlated. The Status Index shows where the need for reform is greatest. The Management Index identifies how successful policymakers have been in implementing reforms. A key assumption is that, over the medium term, positive values in the Management Index will also lead to positive values in the Status Index.

### **The Status Index**

The Status Index summarizes each democracy's development status, meaning to what extent citizens participate in the political process and the degree to which each country guarantees basic rights and freedoms. Based on this, quantitative measurements are carried out in 13 political and economic policy areas: employment, business, taxes, budgets and finance, health, social cohesion, families, pensions, security, integration, environment, research and education. These fields have been selected since they provide key answers to four challenges currently facing all OECD member nations: economic globalization, demographic change, new security challenges and ever-scarcer resources.

### **The Management Index**

The Management Index examines government performance from two vantage points. Executive

Capacity analyzes a government's organizational structures and processes in the categories of governance capabilities, efficient use of resources, international cooperation and capacity for self-reform. The second dimension, Executive Accountability, looks at how the government interacts with external state and nonstate actors (parliament, political parties, trade associations and the media) and measures to what extent these actors positively influence the executive branch - and how.

### **Calculating the SGI**

Current political, economic and social developments in the 30 OECD member states can be quantitatively assessed through a range of data made available to the public by a number of independent institutions. The SGI use these data in the Status Index directly as part of its indicators and indirectly as background information in the three expert reports prepared for each country.

### **Country Specialists and Regional Coordinators**

In all, for SGI 2009, 90 country experts assessed, for the Status Index, the current performance in each of the 13 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, each country specialist – under the guidance of a regional coordinator provides a detailed country report. SGI 2009 country specialists for the United States were Prof. Dr. Carl-Ludwig Holtfrerich, Free University of Berlin, 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 were summarized by 7 regional coordinators and converted into 30 synopsis reports, with the regional coordinators comparing the assigned

scores among countries and regions. Finally, the results have been 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 North America (Canada, Mexico, and the United States) has been to synthesize nine expert assessments written by nine recognized country specialists—three for each country, representing at least two academic disciplines (e.g., Economics and Political Science) and two nationalities, including the subject nation. The end results were three separate country reports on the reform capacities of the United States, Canada and Mexico incorporating quantitative data interpreted through the lenses of the qualitative expert assessments. The regional coordinator himself wrote three synopsis country reports of 40 pages each.

### **Current Status and Future of the Project**

These synthesis reports along with the rankings, synopses, country reports, and individual analysis of select issues have been published by the Bertelsmann Foundation in book form and above all online in February 2009. The book "Sustainable Governance

Indicators 2009 – Policy Performance and Executive Capacity in the OECD" comprises key findings and information on SGI methodology as well as three special studies, e.g., on social justice in the OECD. All data, findings and methods of the SGI are freely available on the SGI Web site at <http://www.sgi-network.org>. Based on highly interactive functionality, it offers users easy access to every level of information. 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](http://www.sgi-network.org/index.php?page=countries_keyfindings&country=USA). The USA country report written by Martin Thunert can be downloaded at [http://www.sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI09\\_USA.pdf](http://www.sgi-network.org/pdf/SGI09_USA.pdf).

After the democracy ranking's initial release of its first edition in February 2009, it will be updated and reissued on a biannual basis. In the first half of 2010 six country specialists (two each for the U.S., Canada and Mexico) will draft their expert country reports for the study period 2008-2010 once again under the guidance of regional coordinator Martin Thunert. The publication of the second SGI edition is planned for early 2011.

### **The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany**

In 2008, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies joined a research initiative of the German Historical Institute, Washington D.C. and Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY) on "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany." Initiated by Martin Klimke (HCA/GHI Washington) and Maria Höhn (Vassar), this research proj-

ect and digital archive explores the connection between the establishment of American military bases abroad and the advancement of civil rights in the U.S. It investigates the role that African-American GIs played in carrying the demands of the civil rights movement abroad beginning with World War II.

In July 2009, this 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-Ameri-

can civil rights movement beyond the boundaries of the U.S."

As part of this research initiative, an international conference on "African American Civil Rights and Germany in the 20th Century" was organized by Maria Höhn and Martin Klimke at Vassar College from October 8-10, 2009.

For further information and the digital archive, please visit: [www.aacvr-germany.org](http://www.aacvr-germany.org)

### **The Nuclear Crisis: Transatlantic Peace Politics, Rearmament, and the Second Cold War**

Together with the History Department of the University of Augsburg, the German Historical Institute (GHI), Washington, DC, the Institute for Contemporary History (IfZ), Munich-Berlin, and the Archive Green Memory (Archiv Grünes Gedächtnis, Berlin), the HCA has initiated a research project and digital archive on "The Nuclear Crisis: Transatlantic Peace Politics, Rearmament and the Second Cold War" in 2009.

Seeking to establish a transatlantic history of the nuclear crisis of the 1980s that includes both Eastern and Western Europe, this project aims to combine these two perspectives to examine both the diplomatic, political and strategic debate surrounding NATO's dual-track decision of 1979 and the dissent and actions of the various peace movements and activists that accompanied its implementation.

Merging an "establishment" perspective with an analysis of protest cultures in a multi-layered and interactive model, the project will transcend the narrow boundaries of traditional diplomatic history by accord- ing particular attention to non-state actors, intellectual discourses and the role of cultural manifestation. This research project is co-directed by Philipp Gassert (Augsburg) and Martin Klimke (HCA/GHI Wash-

ington). Its digital archive will gather and preserve material on this important chapter of transatlan- tic history and will make it available to scholars and teachers free of charge. It will also foster the growth of a community of scholars, teachers and students who are engaged in teaching and learning about the nuclear crisis of the 1970s and 1980s.

Supported by the HCA and in cooperation with the Institute for Contemporary History (IfZ), an international conference on "Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbeweg- ung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive" was held at the Hertie School of Governance from March 26-28, 2009.

A second conference entitled "Accidental Armaged- dons: The Nuclear Crisis and the Culture of the Second Cold War, 1975-1989" organized by Eckart Conze (Mar- burg), Martin Klimke (HCA/GHI Washington), and Jer- emy Varon (The New School for Social Research, New York) will be held at the GHI Washington on November 4-6, 2010.

For further information and the digital archive, please visit: [www.nuclearcrisis.org](http://www.nuclearcrisis.org)



## The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context

This multidisciplinary and multinational research project (current members hail from the United States, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany, and Israel) explores the Transcultural Atlantic as a realm of cross-cultural interaction throughout the period of the Cold War and beyond.

More precisely, it investigates various processes of transatlantic networking and community-building in the realms of business, academia, foundations and think tanks, the media, popular culture, government, the military, and elsewhere. The project seeks to shed new light on the men and women who shaped this culture 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. It is neither to be limited to diplomatic history and political science studies dealing with alliance politics nor to cultural

studies that have long focused on the construction of national identities. Instead, the project aims at synthesizing both research areas, thus trying to arrive at a fuller understanding of processes of transatlantic community-formation since 1945. By covering a broad period of time, it will be possible to trace changes in the culture of different, sometimes competing Atlantic communities; 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 throughout the era of the Cold War, not least its unexpected end.

This project is funded by the Transatlantic Program of the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, the SDAW Foundation for German-American Academic Relations, and the Global Networks Program of Heidelberg University.

## The HCA Spring Academy

### The Conference

Since its inception in 2004, the Spring Academy has provided international Ph.D. students the opportunity to present their research projects together with other young scholars from various fields of American Studies, as well as the opportunity to attend workshops held by American visiting professors. The Spring Academy has thus succeeded in making a successful contribution to the establishment of a network of outstanding and aspiring researchers.

This year, twenty-one scholars from eleven countries took part in the Spring Academy, which was held in Heidelberg from March 30 to April 3. Throughout the week, they not only broadened

their academic horizons but also had the chance to get to know each other in a friendly and collegial atmosphere. Moreover, the Spring Academy schedule included a guided tour through the old city of Heidelberg, ending with a dinner at the historic students' tavern "Sepp'l," where traditional German food can be enjoyed.

### 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 its largest tractor-production factories in the neighboring city of Mannheim. Since 2005,

the John Deere European Headquarters have 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.

### **Report on the HCA Spring Academy 2009**

Most of the twenty-one participants of the HCA Spring Academy 2009, traveling to Heidelberg from all around the world, arrived on Sunday, March 29. Their accommodations for the week were at the Internationales Wirtschaftsforum Heidelberg (IWH), a university guesthouse. Later that evening, all participants were invited to an informal dinner at the nearby restaurant "Regie." This dinner provided the opportunity for participants to get to know each other in person, as well as a first chance to discuss their fellow scholars' research topics.

On Monday morning, March 30, participants met at the Bel Etage of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies for a welcome session. Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker, founding director of the HCA, welcomed them and wished them an interesting and productive week. Dr. Wilfried Mausbach, Managing Director of the HCA, then gave a brief overview of the history and structure of the HCA and outlined its past and on-going research projects. He wished the participants an enjoyable and successful time in Heidelberg as well, and said that he was looking forward to serving as this year's "Mr. Spring Academy."

Returning to the IWH, the conference opened with the first workshop, "What Is/ Are American Studies?" Originally, the workshop was supposed to have been held by Dr. Dorothea Fisher-Hornung, who is senior lecturer in the English Department of the University of Heidelberg and has been "Ms. Spring Academy" since 2005. Unfortunately, she was unable attend this year's Spring Academy. Luckily, however, an able substitute was at hand:

Dr. Alexander Vazansky, MAS Course Registrar and long-time teacher in the HCA's MAS program, who stepped in and led the workshop. Dr. Vazansky received his M.A. from Miami University (Ohio) and recently earned his doctorate with a dissertation entitled "An Army in Crisis: Social Conflicts in the United States Army, Europe and 7th Army, 1968-1975."



Alexander Vazansky holding this year's introduction workshop "What is/are American Studies?"

In his presentation, Dr. Vazansky first addressed the concept of American Exceptionalism and classic American values as a root of American Studies, which was followed by a brief overview of the history of American Studies. He then argued that, with the emergence of new branches of American Studies, e.g. Ethnic Studies and Gender Studies, the academic field has become highly diverse, as well as both transnational and transcultural. He concluded that American Studies today are a utopian project with shifting perspectives. The floor was then opened for a discussion on the degree to which America is necessary for American Studies and how to define America in general. Participants also debated the question of how race, class, and gender influence American Studies and the extent to which these categories remain valid .

Most participants spent the lunch break that followed at the university dining hall. Afterwards, they met again for the first panel on "Visual Culture," chaired by Dr. Mischa Honeck, who also stepped in to help fill Dr. Fischer-Hornung's absence. Dr. Honeck is the

HCA's Ph.D. Coordinator, and is a recipient of the Kade-Heideking Fellowship, awarded by the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C.

Anna Banhegyi was the first scholar to present her research project. Anna received an M.A. in American Studies from Eötvös University and another in History from the Central European University. She is currently enrolled at the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, where she is working on her dissertation, entitled "Where Marx Meets Osceola: Ideology and Mythology in the Eastern Bloc Western." Her presentation gave an overview of the themes in the Western genre and explained how the Eastern Bloc tried to distinguish themselves from their Western counterparts. Using excerpts of the movie *The Sons of Great Bear*, for example, she illustrated that the Eastern film productions were anxious to be historically accurate and often lacked a strong white hero.

The next presentation was given by Silke Hackensch, a graduate of the University of Cologne, who is currently enrolled at the Graduate School of North American Studies at the John F. Kennedy Institute in Berlin. Silke began the presentation of her dissertation, "Constructing 'Blackness': Chocolate as a Racial Signifier in Historical and Cultural Perspective," by giving an overview of the project's preliminary structure. She then moved on to focus on her chapter on the entanglement of slavery and chocolate. To convey the meaning of chocolate in popular culture, Silke showed and deconstructed several advertisements and commercials.

After a short break, the second panel of the day took place, which was again chaired by Dr. Honeck. The panel's theme was "Orient & Occident," and it opened with Amina El-Annan's presentation of her project examining "Multiple Orients: Gender, Subjectivity, and the Production of Sentiment in Literary and Cultural Imaginings of the Americas in

the Middle East and the Middle East in America." Amina is currently enrolled at the American Studies Department of Yale University. Prior to that, she graduated from the UCLA and worked at KCET.

Amina's presentation was followed by Cansu Özge Özmen, who delivered a talk on "American Travel Narratives of the Orient (1830-1870)." For Özge, the trip to Heidelberg was a homecoming, since she received her M.A. at the HCA. At present, she is enrolled at the Jacobs University of Bremen, where she is at work on her doctoral dissertation. In the evening, the participants were invited to a wine and cheese reception at the HCA. This offered the opportunity to continue the lively discussions that had followed each of the presentations, and also gave the participants the chance to continue to get to know each other better away from the discussion table.

The second day of the Spring Academy, Tuesday March 31, began with the panel on "Political Activism and Protest Coalition" chaired by "Mr. Spring Academy," Dr. Wilfried Mausbach. The first presenter was Anja Milde, who talked about "'Pansies,' 'Dikes,' and Panthers: Coalitions in the Civil and Gay Rights Movements." Anja is familiar with Heidelberg and the HCA, where she has been pursuing her doctoral studies since the fall of 2008. In her presentation, she focused on the question of how activists came to collaborate during the late 1960s. An animated debate followed the presentation, concerning, among other things, the value of interviews and oral history as historical sources.

Part two of the panel consisted of Jason Narlock's presentation of his research topic, "A Tale of Two Protests: Producing Homosexual Place, Politics, and Personhood in Suburban Orange County, California (1970-2000)." Jason graduated from the University of California, San Diego? and is currently enrolled at King's College, London, where

he is pursuing his Ph.D. in American Studies. He is examining how processes of spatial production and representation are reflected in and affected by claims to homosexual citizenship. With his presentation, Jason provided a starting point for a lively discussion on how community is built and socialization takes place, specifically in suburbia.



Jason Narlock from King's College London presenting his topic

The next panel on "'Basic' Education: Fundaments of the Civil Rights Movements," also chaired by Dr. Mausbach, opened with a presentation on "Black Power Babies: Black Panther Youth and the Freedom Struggle in the Bay Area, 1968-1972." The presenter, Susan Eckelmann, received her M.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is currently a doctoral candidate in history and American Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, where she is at work on her dissertation, entitled "Freedom's Little Lights: Children's Lives during the Black Freedom Struggle, 1954-1980." Susan depicted the daily experience of children in the civil rights movement, emphasizing that the intention of her project is to help improve the general understanding of childhood.

Clare Russell's presentation, "From Johns Island to Savannah - Rethinking the Citizenship Schools," introduced another aspect of the Civil Rights Movement. Clare is enrolled at the University of Nottingham, from which she received her M.A., and is working on her dissertation project,

"Upheaval in the 'Old South': Citizenship Schools in the South Carolina Low Country and Savannah, Georgia." Clare talked about the Highlander Folk School, an alternative educational institution, and discussed if Citizenship Schools were transformed through Highlander's educational philosophy.

After these two thought-provoking panels, Dr. Jeannette Jones held a workshop on "The Future of Black Studies in a 'Post-Racial' America." Dr. Jones received her Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she specialized in Cultural/Intellectual History and African American History. Currently an associate professor of history and ethnic studies at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Dr. Jones was the first Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence at the HCA in 2007-2008.

Using a quote on the so-called "Barack Obama Factor" and a video clip on "The Thug(s) and the Candidate: Musings on Black Masculinity," Dr. Jones stated that the election of Barack Obama provides a new possibility to approach race in the classroom. She then raised the question to what extent a supposed 'end of blackness' would mean the end of race as well, and whether we need to rethink race. In the discussion that followed, many participants drew upon their own teaching experiences.

In the evening the participants took a trip to Mannheim to visit the John Deere Factory. John Deere has not only been a long time supporter of the HCA, but has been particularly supportive of the Spring Academy, to which it has generously contributed since 2005. The participants were heartily welcomed by the Manager of Public Relations, Dr. Oliver Neumann, who then introduced the company and its history. During the guided tour through the factory, everybody had the opportunity to observe how John Deere tractors are produced. The visit came to an end at the visitor center, where a small reception awaited the participants.

The sessions on Wednesday, April 1, began with a panel chaired by Dr. Mausbach dealing with the topic "Politics and Avant-Garde In Late Twentieth-Century America." The first presenter was Katrien Bollen, who received her M.A. from the Catholic University of Leuven and is pursuing her doctoral studies at Ghent University. In the presentation of her dissertation, "Underground or Six Feet Under? New York Downtown Writing and the Avant-Garde(s) (1974-2001)," she focused on the chapter "Terrorists on the Brooklyn Bridge - A Case Study of The Unbearables (1994-2001)," Katrien discussed a poetic group known as the Unbearables and their annual Brooklyn Bridge readings. Assessing these events as a form of 'poetic terrorism,' she concluded that this group resembles a postmodern simulation of an avant-garde. Katrien aroused a great deal of interest in her project and received a lot of positive feedback.

The second presenter of the day was Maciej Turek from Jagiellonian University in Krakow. In his presentation on "The Modern Method of Running Mates' Selection and Its Impact on Vice Presidential Performance (1976-2009)," Maciej argued that the growing status of the American vice presidency in recent decades is due to an altered, more strategically minded selection process. It was difficult to end the lively discussion that followed, in which many helpful suggestions were given.

After a short coffee break, the next panel was opened by the chair, Prof. Robert Cherny, then Senior Fulbright Lecturer at the HCA. Prof. Cherny has been part of the history faculty of San Francisco State University since 1971. He has also held a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, has been a Distinguished Fulbright Lecturer at Moscow State University, and a visiting scholar at the University of Melbourne, as well as president of H-Net and the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era.

The panel he chaired was entitled "Nativism v. Immigration and Acculturation," and began with Utku Sezgin's presentation on "Remaking Nationhood: Assimilation and Citizenship among College-Educated Second Generation Immigrants in New York and Berlin," in which he focused on Turks in Berlin and Dominicans in New York. Utku received a Master's degree from the Catholic University of Leuven and another in American Studies from the University of Antwerp. He is currently enrolled at the City University of New York, where he is working on his dissertation.

Afterwards, Laura Lopez-Sanders gave her presentation, "Is Brown the New Black? Immigrant Incorporation in the Contemporary US South." Laura graduated from Harvard University with an Ed.M. in international education policy and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Stanford University. In her dissertation, she analyzes the influence of Latino immigrant incorporation on racial and ethnic relations in regions that are not traditional immigrant destinations.

The last presenter in this panel was Brenda Frink. Brenda, who received her M.A. from San Francisco State University, is also a Ph.D. candidate at Stanford University. Her presentation on "Pioneers and Patriots: Race, Gender, and the Construction of Citizenship in California, 1875-1915" focused on patriotic clubs in California.

Wednesday afternoon is traditionally reserved for a group excursion. The participants met at the Heidelberg Bergbahn station, one of the oldest funiculars in Germany, which took them to the top of the "Königsstuhl." At the top of this mountain, they enjoyed the warm and sunny weather as well as a breathtaking panoramic view of Heidelberg. Moreover, every participant received a little gift, the "Studentenkuss," a traditional Heidelberg confection. A short hike led the group to the world-

famous Heidelberg Castle, where they were welcomed by "Fanny Becker," a historical character guiding a tour of the castle and the city. The evening ended with a dinner at the historical student tavern "Sepp'l," where the participants enjoyed traditional regional German cuisine.

Thursday, April 2, began with the panel on "(De) Constructions of Nature." It was chaired by Dr. Jana Freihöfer. Dr. Freihöfer handled the HCA's public relations and coordinated the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the American Academy in Berlin from June 2007 until 2009. Susanne Leikam gave the day's first presentation. Susanne graduated with an M.A. from the University of Regensburg, where she is currently enrolled as a Ph.D. candidate. Her presentation, "'Mirrors of Horror': Natural Disaster Photography," dealt with visual culture and its crucial impact on identity, which is part of her dissertation on "Representing and Remembering American Natural Disasters, 1886-1906."

Robin O'Sullivan was next to give her presentation on "Compost and Consumption: Organic Farming, Food, and Fashion in American Culture." Robin emphasized the interdisciplinary character of her dissertation and linked the organic movement to other social movements. Robin graduated from the University of Southern Maine and is now working on her dissertation at the American Studies Department of the University of Texas.

The second panel was chaired by Dr. Honeck and focused on "Exploring New Territories." The first presenter was Carmen Gomez-Galisteo, who presented on "William Bradford, Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca and Eyewitness Credibility in the 16th and 17th Century." Carmen, a Ph.D. candidate at the Universidad de Alcalá, focused on the question of why Bradford has come to be known as a historian while de Vaca's significance has been more in the literary field.

Next up was Mary Zundo who presented her dissertation topic "Mapping Destiny: Cartography and 19th Century American Art of the Frontier." A Ph.D. candidate at the Department for Art History of the University of Illinois, Mary presented several paintings and postcards and explained the links between cartography and art. Mary also emphasized that cartography is a political act, which led to a discussion on the impact of maps on ideology.

After an introduction by Dr. Mausbach, Prof. Robert Cherny held his workshop on "Politics and Society in the American West." The opening question was what scholars themselves think about the American West. Prof. Cherny introduced different approaches to this question, giving an overview from Frederick Jackson Turner's time, when the West was defined as the moving area of the frontier, to the present, when historians tend to understand the West as a certain geographic location. Prof. Cherny then went on to examine different factors that delineate the border between East and West, such as aridity, population, the Mormon Church, dispersion of ethnic groups, federally owned land and women's suffrage.

With all of the exceptional discussions and panels throughout the week, it came as a surprise to many to find that the final day of the Spring Academy, Friday, April 3, had arrived. Dr. Alexander Vazansky chaired the first panel, which dealt with "Intellectual Designs." The panel opened with a presentation on "Saul Bellow – Beyond the Community," given by Mihaela Roxana Mihele. Mihaela graduated from Babes-Bolyai University, where she is now a Ph.D. candidate. In her presentation, she analyzed both Bellow's fiction and a series of elements prevalent in American Jewish literature. From this analysis, she drew the conclusion that Saul Bellow is an example of a Jewish writer who used his work to claim America as his home.

The next speaker was Christian Maul, who introduced his research topic, "Henry David Thoreau's Concept of Individualism in the Light of Communitarian Theory." Christian earned his M.A. from the Heidelberg Center for American Studies and is currently a member of the HCA's Ph.D. program. Christian presented different scholarly interpretations of Thoreau's work before turning to focus on his concept of individualism and the debate between liberalists and communitarians. Christian concluded that Thoreau's concept of individualism was not exclusive, but was rather of an associative nature.



The conference offers an international and multicultural forum for comprehensive and productive debate

The last panel of the 2009 Spring Academy, chaired by PD Dr. Martin Thunert, considered "American Conservatism Since 1945." Dr. Thunert was a visiting associate professor of political science at the University of Michigan and worked as a senior research associate at the Center for North American Studies at Goethe University in Frankfurt. He is presently a lecturer at Heidelberg University and senior research fellow for political science at the HCA.

The first scholar to present in this panel was Hilde Løvdal who graduated from and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Oslo. Introducing her dissertation, entitled "Defending Faith and Family: A Qualitative Historical Analysis of Focus on the Family's Message and Appeal to American Evangelicals," Hilde first gave a brief overview of post-WW2 Evangelical America, arguing that

Evangelicals are simultaneously mainstream and sub-/countercultural. She went on to introduce the main questions she seeks to answer via her research, namely, what are the traditional family values promoted by Focus on the Family and what makes Focus on the Family relevant to people.

The last presenter at the Spring Academy 2009 was Bernd Volkert. Bernd graduated from the Free University of Berlin, where he is now a Ph.D. candidate. His dissertation is entitled "Distant Relatives: American Neoconservatives and their Relationship to German Intellectuals." Bernd explained the structure of his dissertation, which looks at the history of neo-conservatives, their experiences during the sixties, and the reactions of German intellectuals to the American neo-conservative school. Bernd's approach seeks to examine the different political nature of contemporaries in Germany and in the U.S.

After the coffee break, Prof. Kirsten Fischer held her workshop on "Kidnapping the Founding Fathers: Arguments over the First Amendment and the Proper Place of Religion in American Politics." Prof. Fischer is an associate professor of history at the University of Minnesota. Prior to that she taught at the University of South Florida. Prof. Fischer was the 2008-2009 Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence at the HCA.

For her workshop, Prof. Fischer chose the example of David Barton, a prominent opponent of the separation of church and state. Barton recently used highly selective statements of the framers in order to present them as devout Christians. In discussing Barton's book, Prof. Fischer showed a video clip from Chris Rodda, Senior Research Director for the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, criticizing David Barton's handling of historical sources. With this example, Kirsten provided a perfect starting point for her workshop, which dealt

with questions such as how being a devout Christian and believing in a Christian nation are linked and whether academics have a political responsibility in addressing the question. The participants engaged the question in light of their teaching experiences, which spurred a thought provoking debate.

To close this enriching week, the workshop was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Mausbach, focusing on the question "How to Explain America Abroad: Experiences of Teaching American Studies Abroad." In this discussion Robert Cherny, Kirsten Fischer, Wilfried Mausbach, Martin Thunert and Alexander Vazansky debated this question with the participants. With that, the 2009 Spring Academy officially came to a close. This was, however, the close only of the official, academic portion of the week. Afterwards, participants and contributors were invited to enjoy a farewell dinner at the IWH, which gave everybody a last opportunity to talk about the presentations,

give some advice or make useful remarks and, of course, exchange e-mail addresses and phone numbers. The pleasantly warm weather enabled everyone to enjoy the evening outside, an almost perfect ending to an exceptional week.

As in previous years, the Spring Academy 2009 was successful in bringing together outstanding scholars from many different nations and giving them the opportunity to meet and exchange thoughts and ideas. In addition to celebrating its sixth anniversary, the Spring Academy thus has achieved its goal to provide a transnational forum for young researchers from all over the world. This would be impossible, however, without the commitment of the contributors, the HCA staff and, of course, the enthusiastic involvement of the participants themselves. We therefore would like to thank all contributors, participants and the HCA staff for supporting and assisting the conference not only this year, but over its lifetime.



Participants, organizers, and contributors of the HCA Spring Academy 2009.

Back (l. to r.): Utku Sezgin, Jason Narlock, Christian Maul, Katrien Bollen, Silke Hackenesch, Carmen Gomez-Galisteo, Maciej Turek, Brenda Frink, Alexander Vazansky, Mischa Honeck, Bernd Volkert; second row (l. to r.): Cansu Özge Özmen, Susanne Leikam, Anja Milde, Mihaela Roxana Mihele, Hilde Lovdal, Mary Zundo, Anna Banhegyi, Kirsten Fischer, Rebekka Weinel; front (l. to r.): Susan Eckelmann, Jeannette Eileen Jones, Sophie Lorenz, Laura Lopez-Sanders, Robin O'Sullivan, Amina El-Annan, Clare Russell, Tatjana Eichert.



## Conferences

### **1968 in Japan, Germany and the USA: Political Protest and Cultural Change March 4-6, 2009 at the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB)**

Considered by many historians to mark the first global revolution of the twentieth century, the year 1968 represents a central node in the period of protest spanning the 1960s and early 1970s. Worldwide, and particularly in the industrialized states, youth-led protest movements shared similar goals advocating the breakdown of the authoritarian structures of educational systems, the overthrow of capitalist economic systems, and the end of superpower intervention in the Third World.

Whether viewed from transnational or national perspectives, the Japanese and West German postwar experiences inevitably invite comparison along numerous lines. Following defeat in the Second World War, both Germany and Japan experienced Allied occupation, rehabilitation (for the strategic pursuit of America's global Cold War aims in Europe and Asia), and subsequent "miracles" in their revived economies. Not only were the domestic and international politics of the two defeated powers strongly influenced by the United States, but the dramatic social and cultural changes that accompanied the postwar years in both countries also bore a distinctly American stamp. Even after official occupation ended, the global influence of American popular and youth culture deeply affected the generations coming of age in the late 1960s in West Germany and Japan.

These experiences were explored in the interdisciplinary conference "1968 in Japan, Germany and the USA: Political Protest and Cultural Change" sponsored by the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB), the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., and the Heidelberg Center for Ameri-

can Studies (HCA), which took place in Berlin from March 4-6, 2009, at the Japanese-German Center Berlin. The three-day conference marked the passing of forty-one years since the events of 1968 with eyewitness accounts from the period, as well as fourteen presentations, two films, and lively discussions.

Following the welcoming speeches of Friederike Bosse (JDZB), Philipp Gassert (GHI) and Wilfried Mausbach (HCA), Martin Klimke and Joachim Scharloth introduced the three prominent "contemporary eyewitnesses" invited to describe how they experienced 1968. In an armchair forum moderated by Klimke, they spoke first according to their age, from oldest to youngest. Ekkehart Krippendorff, a self-proclaimed "65er," described how his experience with the comparatively laid-back American university environment he encountered at Harvard (such as Professor Talcott Parson welcoming him into his office with his feet up on his desk) equipped him to challenge the relatively authoritarian German university system he then returned to. He explained how his experience and practical knowledge of American protest methods ("picketing and sandwich boards") contributed to the organization of the first student protests in Germany.

Rainer Langhans, another active figure from Berlin in the sixties, particularly known for his role in Kommune I in Berlin, focused his comments on the spiritual and inwardly focused nature of his activities during this period, which were, nevertheless, public. Langhans, who continues to lead a communal lifestyle in Munich, explained that a search for the self has always been his central focus. Trying to explain the sick feeling of living "as if half-

dead with guilt,” Langhans recounted his ongoing horror at his generation’s legacy of mass murder in the name of National Socialism. Langhans said of 1968, “our actions weren’t political – they were much more.” On the conference’s transnational approach to looking back on 1968, he remarked that activists felt not so much as if they were partaking in a transnational phenomenon, but rather as if they were a part of one big family. He then challenged historians and social scientists to come up with a means of more adequately describing the spirit of the times.



Conference participants at the Japanese-German Center Berlin

Historian and feminist Toshiko Himeoka turned eighteen in 1968. Her memories of protest in Japan began with the “Anpo” protests against the ratification of a revised U.S.-Japan Security Treaty. The deaths of two student protesters - a twenty-year-old woman at the Anpo protests and another student in demonstrations against the Vietnam War in 1967 - brought the very real danger of this form of societal challenge to her. It became even more palpable for her when she faced riot police as a participant in a woman-led protest in Kansai in 1969. Having studied in Germany, Himeoka was also able to compare the Japanese and German atmospheres in the early 1970s, observing that protest culture in Germany had a markedly more personal flavor, exemplified by the idea that “the problems of others are also mine.” Later, the women’s movement in Germany also seemed to place greater influence on lifestyle (as opposed to politics)

than it did in Japan. The conference was strongly positioned in a transnational, global framework by the theoretical approaches outlined in talks by Tim Brown and Martin Klimke. Brown linked “the global” to “the transnational,” observing that the global features characterizing the events of 1968 (their simultaneity, the timing of revolutions in the Third World) led to the development of a sense of a “global imagined community.” Within this community, transnational lines of influence falling across different terrains, or vectors, should be identified and their influences studied. The year 1968 could, in turn, be approached as having two separate parts—the “big” 1968 of global youth culture and a certain set of ideas, and the “small” 1968, focused on the form those big ideas took in individual settings. Klimke carried the idea forward, concentrating on transnational symbols and collective identity, documenting the ways in which ideas of the movement were diffused transnationally and understood differently in different places and then recontextualized, or adopted to local values and situations.

The trajectory of protest in Japan through the 1960s was elaborated upon by a number of papers and compared to protest in West Germany. It became clear that the year 1968 itself bears less emblematic weight in Japan. Claudia Derichs suggested that by 1968, postwar protest in Japan was already further advanced than in Germany, where the New Left had overthrown the old by 1957. The New Left and student movements, as well as Red Army radicals in Japan, had different origins and long-term trajectories in Japan and in West Germany, despite numerous surface parallels. Indeed, her paper sparked commentary from Japanese conference participants who emphasized that being a veteran of 1968 in Japan was considered, in comparison to Germany, to be neither a symbolic generation marker nor a point of pride or status.

Moving away from specific German-Japanese comparisons to a more Euro-American focus, Philipp Gasert analyzed how the counterculture eventually penetrated consumer culture to alter mainstream culture, while also leading to a democratization of lifestyles, revolutionizing and repositioning sexuality in the context of everyday life, and unleashing a new wave of critical thought. Kathrin Fahlenbrach took on the icons of revolution in 1968, delving into the synchronic and diachronic pathways by which these visual images transformed into icons that became uniquely embedded in the collective memories of varied cultures.

Tadahisa Izeki, Joachim Scharloth, and Yoshie Mitobe analyzed social and cultural consequences of 1968. Izeki explored the popular and revolutionary publications that influenced the postwar “baby boomers” who went on to lead the student movement. Scharloth followed with a tightly documented panorama of the ways in which 1968 led to the heightened presence of emotion and informality in daily practice, particularly in aspects of language and behavior. Mitobe approached the consequences of 1968 through a comparative analysis of abortion debates in Japan and West Germany, paying particular attention to differences in men’s and women’s participation, finding that men in Germany participated considerably less than in Japan.

Toshiko Himeoka compared the women’s movements in Japan and West Germany, elaborating on the theme of liberating women’s sexuality in Japan, as proclaimed by Mitsu Tanaka’s “Liberation from the Toilet.” The Japanese movement remained a radical fringe, in contrast to the movement in West Germany, which had more success in altering social practices. Interestingly however, the Japanese movement remained more open to mothers and children than its German counterpart. The 2004 documentary film by Chieko Yamagami and Noriko Seyama featuring veterans of the women’s movement in

Japan, *30 Years of Sisterhood*, was presented by Laura Wong, who argued that the movement must not simply be viewed as a later offshoot of left-wing protest, but as part of a separate and ongoing revolution in the construction of gender roles.

Kae Ishii discussed the role and construction of gender in the Japanese and German film industries since the 1960s, as exemplified in the work of female directors like Sachi Hamano, who, excluded from the club of male directors, came up through the genre of low-budget, short production time “pink films.” Directors like Hamano appropriated the genre and used it to show female sexuality from a female perspective, eventually gaining a diverse and loyal audience of women film lovers. Moving from the revolution in the film industry to the revolution in education, Meike Sophia Baader discussed the formation of “Kinderläden”—parent-sponsored alternative childcare centers or kindergartens—which emerged in West Germany following the 1965 education reforms. These proliferated under the influence of the 1968 generation, and later, the women’s movement. Although the first “Kinderläden” in Berlin and Frankfurt were known for their politicized anti-authoritarian stances, the character of “Kinderläden” developed and broadened as the model became more widespread in subsequent decades.

It is particularly noteworthy that Germany and Japan, which led brutal expansionist campaigns through World War II, saw particularly strong and violent left-wing terrorist groups emerge in the late 1960s, which, unlike their counterparts in the United States, took a large number of lives before their implosion and capture. Conference participants viewed Wakamatsu Kouji’s unsettling film *United Red Army* (2007), which dramatizes the Japanese Red Army’s mountain camps and eventual siege in the winter of 1971-72. Doro-

thea Hauser approached the culture of violence in Japan, Germany, and the United States from a comparative perspective in her talk on Red Army groups in Japan and West Germany; she identified parallel strains of anti-Americanism in the two terror organizations bred in former Axis powers. Jeremy Varon addressed the inadequacies of viewing the Red Army Faction in West Germany and the Weathermen in the United States from purely national perspectives, which provide only inadequate explanations of the “apocalyptic violence” of these groups. Varon argued that understanding these groups’ views of themselves as participants in a global movement is essential if one is to begin to comprehend how they came to view violence as a form of sacred action in the redemption of a falling/fallen world.

As the conference drew to a close, participants reflected on what another conference marking the fiftieth anniversary of 1968 in Japan, Germany and the United States might entail. Aspects which should receive greater emphasis next time included those of translation, terminology, sociological impact, political institutions, and culture. Further analytic research of the Japanese experience was also called for. Overall, the challenge of bringing three distinct cultures and locations together to explore a period whose legacy is still unresolved proved a significant step in generating locally specific, as well as transnationally and transculturally meaningful, portraits of 1968 in Japan, Germany, and the United States.

## **Black Diaspora and Germany Across the Centuries**

**March 19-21, 2009 at the German Historical Institute Washington, D.C.**

“Black Diaspora and Germany Across the Centuries” embarked on an ambitious task: the conference retraced six centuries of mutual perception and contact between blacks of diverse origins (from the Americas, the Caribbean, the Byzantine Empire, Asia, Africa, or Europe) and people from the German-speaking parts of Europe. Over the past several years, transnational and global historians have successfully challenged monolithic concepts of national identity by emphasizing the interconnectedness of various regional developments, no longer treating them as separate entities. One recent area of inquiry that has benefited immensely from this perspective focuses on the intersections of black and German history. But while important strides have been made for the twentieth century, Afro-German interactions of earlier periods are still comparatively underexplored. To fill this gap, the conference brought together scholars from various disciplines – history, art history, cultural studies,

and literature – to map continuities and ruptures in the long history of the African-German encounter from the Late Middle Ages to the First World War.

The conference kicked off with a panel interrogating representations of black people in art and social discourse in the Renaissance and early modern periods. Using the Calenberg Altarpiece as his point of departure, Paul Kaplan demonstrated how Africans in religious art served to enunciate a Christian universalism which was less concerned with racial identities than with stressing the inherent unity of a divinely ordained Christian society and world. Patterns of racial differentiation, however, emerged more forcefully from the eighteenth century onward. As Allison Blakely argued, Kant, Blumenbach, and other German Enlightenment intellectuals proved instrumental in cementing stereotypes of black inferiority by turning them into legitimate objects of scientific investigation. In the

first of two keynote addresses, Kate Lowe then looked at different ways of imagining, performing, and experiencing blackness in Renaissance Germany. Parallel to the conspicuous presence of blacks as court moors and servants, as Lowe pointed out, staging blackness for satirical purposes in popular comedy and carnival reflected the identity struggles of a burgeoning German middle class. In his response to Lowe, Dirk Hoerder added that the terms “moor” and “black” had no fixed meaning but carried various racial, social, and religious connotations which could change over time.

The second day started with Peter Martin addressing theoretical and methodological problems pertaining to early Afro-German history. His deliberations culminated in a call for a more nuanced terminology that would transcend the simplistic black-white dichotomy and capture a greater array of social spaces blacks occupied in German society across the centuries. Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov followed Martin, providing valuable information on migration routes as well as the social and geographical dispersion of blacks in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Germany. Presenting statistical evidence detailing that as many black migrants came from the Caribbean and North America as from Africa, Kuhlmann-Smirnov moved away from an African essentialism to espouse a more global understanding of Germany's place in the Black Diaspora. Rashid Pegah's talk on real and imagined Africans in eighteenth-century court divertissements highlighted yet another facet of early modern Afro-German interaction: as blacks started to figure more prominently in the world of courtly entertainments, deteriorating images of Africa and Asia began to supplant older notions of exoticism and increasingly tended to ascribe inferior status to dark-skinned people.

The next two panels moved ahead in time, shifting the focus to literary and scientific representa-

tions of blackness in nineteenth-century Germany. Heike Paul focused on German receptions of black writing, establishing that they rarely connoted an independent black agency, and Eva Ulrike Pirker, through a close reading of Theodor Storm, showed that the spaces where black figures were allowed to excel were circumscribed by prevalent racial stereotypes of the time. Jens Uwe-Guettel went on to investigate the racist ideas and pro-slavery attitude of the late eighteenth-century Göttingen professor Christof Meiners. Placing his writings in the context of transatlantic slavery, Guettel underscored that, even though blacks were a fringe phenomenon on German streets, Enlightenment scholars intervened vigorously in the transnational debate on the existence of different 'races,' with various leanings and results. Jeannette Jones, in her talk on Heidelberg anatomist Friedrich Tiedemann, delved further into the complexities and divergences of German Enlightenment culture and its impact on the evolution of anti-black racism. Contrary to Meiners, however, Tiedemann employed scientific methods to challenge, not bolster, dogmas of racial hierarchy, emerging as a spokesman of abolition in German academia and beyond. Also linking German discourses of blackness to transatlantic and global developments, Bradley Naranch argued that competing mid-nineteenth-century images of the Black Diaspora, which stressed either philanthropy or savagery, can only be properly understood if situated in the evolving struggle for a German national identity. In the section's concluding presentation, Frank Mehring offered a fresh appraisal of the German-American artist Winhold Reiss and his involvement in the Harlem Renaissance. Reiss's portraits of iconic African Americans, Mehring elucidated, mirrored his complex transition from a German immigrant used to seeing the world through a colonial lens to a cosmopolitan artist visualizing “the unfinished business of democracy.”

At the end of the day, Maria Diedrich delivered the second keynote speech on her new research project, which seeks to rescue the individual and collective life stories of the Black Hessians from oblivion. This community consisted of former slaves who had served in the ranks of pro-British German regiments during the Revolutionary War and their families. Faced with a relative dearth of primary sources, Diedrich made a case for “critical fabulation” (Saidiya Hartman) as a way to reconstruct the circum-Atlantic worlds through which the “Kasseler Mohren” moved, from their African homelands via the slave fields of North America to the domain of Hesse’s Landgrave Wilhelm IX.

The third and last day was set aside for two panels that addressed Germany’s place in the Black Atlantic during the long nineteenth century, both of which put a strong emphasis on black agency. Mischa Honeck revisited the European sojourn of the African-American abolitionist and churchman James W. C. Pennington, contending that his idealized depiction of mid-nineteenth-century Germany grew out of his search for an egalitarian, non-racist society. Echoes of a black cosmopolitan mobility also resonated in Stefanie Michel’s talk, which probed the opportunities and limits of two privileged Afro-German families in transit, the Jimenez family from Cuba and the Bells from Cameroon. Kendahl Radcliffe unearthed the story of the Tuskegee Institute’s cotton-production scheme in German Togoland. This effort, while catching the attention of Germans bent on developing methods of scientific agriculture in their colonies, was above all intended to propagate the Tuskegee vision of uplifting the socio-economic status of blacks by means of education. Robbie Aitken then brought the discussion back to the heart of the Hohenzollern Empire when he charted the migration stream of young Cameroonians into the German metropole. The migrants’ experience,

said Aitken, was shaped by their status as colonial subjects, as well as by imperial policies which sought to restrict and control migrants’ exposure to German society. Imperial Germany’s fascination with colonial Africa, too, was reflected in its burgeoning consumer culture. As David Ciarlo demonstrated, advertisements such as those featuring the Duala leader “King Bell” provided a powerful justification for colonial rule and fixed stereotypes of racial difference. Finally, Christian Koller shared his ideas on German perceptions of African colonial soldiers enlisted in the French Army from 1859 to the First World War. Claiming that most statements had to be read in the context of Franco-German antagonism, Koller also identified a common sentiment of white civilizational superiority that was prevalent on both sides.

In sum, the conference broke important new ground in the complex, contested, and highly volatile history of Afro-German interaction prior to the twentieth century. Rather than promulgate a linear narrative grounded in static notions of racial difference, it presented the story of Germany’s entanglement in the Black Diaspora as one of many competing strands of discourse and social practice vying for dominance across time and space. Germany’s place in the Black Atlantic might have been marginal in a geographical sense; intellectually and discursively, however, it proved significant for the formation of modern social and national identities.

In addition to very stimulating and productive exchanges, the conference also sparked a long-term multinational and multidisciplinary collaboration. Tangible fruits of this cooperative endeavor will soon be made available to a larger academic audience and the general public, including a forthcoming publication and a joint online site that presents many diverse sources on the Black Diaspora with regard to Germany.

## The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context May 15-16, 2009 at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)

On May 15 and 16, 2009, the multidisciplinary research group "The Transcultural Atlantic," with the generous support of the SDAW Foundation for German-American Academic Relations, convened for a two-day workshop at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. Committed to discussing fresh paradigms and testing new methodologies, the participants made significant progress in conceptualizing ways to research processes of community-building and identity-formation in a globalized Atlantic world.

After a short introduction by Wilfried Mausbach (HCA), the first section of this workshop entitled "Ideas and Ideologies" dealt with the history of ideas and with discourse. In his presentation Jeremi Suri (University of Wisconsin-Madison) refuted the notion that the reconstruction of West Germany after 1945 was made possible by a one-sided transfer of democratic ideals from North America to Europe. In fact, the politics of reconstruction and democratization were shaped by transnational links and feelings of mutual dependency and partnership, from local coalitions to teamwork on the quasi-state level. According to Suri, this process ended not only with the emergence of a new Germany but also of a new America whose political culture was significantly influenced by its involvement in central European politics. Martin Thunert and Mario Glanzmann (HCA) dealt in their presentation with those non-western perceptions of the West that are more generally defined by the term Occidentalism. Thunert and Glanzmann maintained that the difficulty of reducing the polemics against western values and social structures to a single defining quality lies not only in the heterogeneous nature of non-Western actors – from Russian reactionaries to Islamic terrorists –

but also in the diversity of western and non-western definitions of the West.

The second section entitled "Concepts of the West" expanded upon this complex issue by dealing with American definitions of the West. Thomas Gijswijt (Universiteit Nijmegen) used John F. Kennedy's trip to Germany in 1963 as a backdrop for his discussion of the possibilities and limitations faced by the Atlantic Alliance as a community of values during the hot phase of the Cold War. Gijswijt presented an American president who, although prepared to form close ties with both the statesmen and public of Europe, was unwilling to negotiate America's leadership position. The tension between American ideas of hegemony and transatlantic interests also served as the focal point of the presentation given by Michael Kimmage (Catholic University, Washington). While from the 1920s on left- and right-wing American intellectuals saw the United States as both the epitome and perpetuation of the West, this consensus broke down in the 1960s. According to Kimmage, this concept of the West was later defended by the conservatives against attacks from the left-wing and progressive camps, which embraced multiculturalism and postcolonialism.

William Reese (University of Wisconsin-Madison) opened the third section entitled "Thinkers and Intellectuals" with his presentation on transatlantic ties and debates over democratic education during the nineteenth century. Using the example of two important advocates of school reform, Samuel Gridley Howe and Horace Mann, Reese argued that the modernization of the American educational system was stimulated not only by an intra-American debate but also received momen-

tous impulses from Prussia, where Howe and Mann personally acted as school inspectors. While Reese exposed a complex web of transatlantic interaction before 1945, Adi Gordon (Hebrew University, Jerusalem) dealt with the relationship of Jewish intellectuals to post-war Germany. Gordon put forth the idea that in spite of the trauma of the Holocaust Jewish thinkers were quick to reintegrate themselves into the transatlantic network of intellectuals and thus significantly impacted the academic scene in the newly established Federal Republic.

Philipp Gassert (Universität Augsburg) closed the first day of the workshop with a discussion of the nuclear crisis of the early 1980s and its influence on the internal development of European and North American societies. Gassert stressed the idea that both the conflict between East and West as well as the antagonism within western society between supporters for nuclear armament and peace activists could be seen as the expression of a greater crisis threatening western democracy.

The second day of the workshop began with the fifth section on "Mobility and Networks." Jana Freihöfer and Ute Forster-Schwerk (HCA) focused on transatlantic tourism networks and raised the question whether travel experiences influence the perception of host countries on either side of the Atlantic and to what extent they create transnational identities. Methodologically, Freihöfer and Forster-Schwerk based their work on the concept of action-centered social geography, which places great emphasis on the active individual and his or her socio-cultural ability to interpret spatial structures. Heike Jöns (Loughborough University) also based her presentation on a geographically inspired network study, in that she cited the case of the academic migrant in an attempt to analyze the transatlantic exchange of knowledge after 1945. Contrary to the established concept of 'brain

drain', which holds that emigrated knowledge is equivalent to lost knowledge, Jöns advocated the use of the term 'brain circulation' according to which knowledge circulates and benefits academic communities on both sides of the Atlantic.



Dr. Jana Freihöfer presenting her project

Sebastian Harnisch (Universität Heidelberg) talked about transatlantic legal and constitutional cultures, focusing in particular on the convergences and divergences that characterize German and North American perceptions with regard to civil rights. Although European and North American states share certain fundamental beliefs as a result of their democratic orientation, Harnisch maintained that the gap characterizing the manner in which the United States and Germany define the relationship between national sovereignty, international organizations and supranational institutions is becoming more and more pronounced.

The last presentation given by Martin Klimke (German Historical Institute, Washington/HCA) shifted the focus toward a socio-political topic: the presence of African-American soldiers in West Germany after 1945 and their influence on the American Civil Rights Movement. Klimke demonstrated how Germany functioned as an important center of reference in the African-American struggle for equal rights. Due to the fact that the United States military stationed segregated units on military bases outside of the USA, the civil rights struggle



and its participants, as a consequence of their relocation to foreign ground, went on to influence political developments back home. Laura Stapano (Universität Oldenburg) then introduced the project's independent, award-winning website along with its digital archive.

The closing discussion, which took place on the afternoon of the second day, was divided into two sections. The first section entitled "Theories, Approaches, Methodologies" was dedicated to the content-based formulation and specification of the project's scope. The participants agreed that the title "Transcultural Atlantic" offers sufficient conceptual substance as well as the necessary intellectual openness to accommodate the widest possible range of endeavours toward facilitating cultural ties and processes of group-formation in the Atlantic realm. It was also generally agreed upon that the research group would not be required to commit to a particular methodological framework. Instead each subgroup of the

research project will be guaranteed a large degree of autonomy, in order to exercise their respective strengths in utilizing relevant concepts such as transnationalism, hybridity, or networking and in contributing to an interdisciplinary discourse.

The second section entitled "Institutional Collaboration" provided the necessary backdrop for discussing the ways and possibilities for consolidating the research network. General consensus was reached with regard to the desirability of organizing regular meetings in order to keep the dialogue between individual projects under the heading "Transcultural Atlantic" in the form of a multidisciplinary discussion forum ongoing. The purpose of these meetings is to form the institutional basis for further activities, including the setup of a project website, the creation of an academic exchange program, the procurement of funds, close cooperation in the promotion of young scholars and the publication of the project's results in the form of papers, monographs and essay collections.

## **Modernization and Intellectual Authority in U.S. Literary Culture, 1750-1900 July 2-5, 2009 at the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg (IWH)**

Which role did intellectuals and literati play in American society in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries? From where did they derive their legitimacy? To what extent were the conceptions of intellectual and literary authority influenced by modernization processes such as the emergence of literary professionalism, the widening of readership, and the extension of print capitalism? These and other related questions were the subject matter of the International Symposium "Modernization and Intellectual Authority in U.S. Literary Culture, 1750-1900," held at the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg from July 2 to 5. Jointly

organized by Günter Leypoldt (Anglistisches Seminar) and Dietmar Schloss (Anglistisches Seminar and HCA) and funded by the DFG, the American Embassy, and the HCA, the conference featured talks of fifteen renowned scholars from the U.S. and Germany.

The conference was opened at the German-American Institute (DAI) with a keynote address by Jonathan Arac (University of Pittsburgh), who explored the relationship between literary authority and the development of the novel. Section One was then devoted to the emergence of the intellectual

in the Early Republic with special emphasis on the impact of the print market revolution and the development of a public sphere in the eighteenth century. While Catherine O'Donnell Kaplan (Arizona State University) focused on the struggle for social relevance of the literati and clergy, Dietmar Schloss discussed ideological shifts in the conception of the literary intellectual in the works of Charles Brockden Brown.



Prof. Dietmar Schloss, Dr. Mischa Honeck, and participants of the conference

Lawrence Buell's (Harvard University) paper "Inventing the Public Intellectual" (which was read by Günter Leyboldt due to Professor Buell's illness) served as an introduction to the second section on the Romantic intellectuals. Afterwards, Clemens Spahr (University of Mainz) analyzed relations between the intellectual and the masses, while Herwig Friedl (University of Düsseldorf) discussed Emerson as a thinker "outside the field." For the second keynote address, the audience moved to the HCA. After the participants had been welcomed by Prof. Junker with a glass of champagne,

John Guillory (New York University) described the effects of the restructuring of American universities on the professionalization of literary intellectuals (in the late nineteenth century). Guillory's talk led over to Section Three, entitled "Professionalizing Literature," in which Martin Klepper (Humboldt-University Berlin), John Evelev (University of Missouri), and Michael Anesko (Penn State University) analyzed the relation between cultural processes (e.g., professionalization or commercialization) and the development of literary and intellectual authority.

The next panel, chaired by HCA's Mischa Honeck, was devoted to strategies of intellectual legitimization outside the mainstream (minorities or literary counter-cultures). Christa Buschendorf (University of Frankfurt) analyzed Frederick Douglass' "struggle for social capital" by using concepts of the French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu, whereas Isabell Klaiher (University of Tübingen) and Jan Stievertmann (University of Tübingen) focused on women intellectuals and the author Ambrose Bierce – both examples of intellectual marginality and resistance. In the final section of the conference, entitled "Problematic Alignments," problems of cultural theory were addressed by Günter Leyboldt in his paper on "Professionalism and the Specter of Feminization," and Winfried Fluck (FU Berlin), who concluded the conference with a keynote on "Superiority and Inferiority as Sources of Symbolic Capital." The talks (and additional essays on the subject) will be published in the near future.

## **Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image September 18-20, 2009 at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)**

The conference, organized by Simon Wendt (Heidelberg University), Michael Butter (Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies) and Patrick Keller (Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Berlin), and

presented in cooperation with the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, dealt with Arnold Schwarzenegger as a cultural icon reflecting central aspects of American culture and society as

well as particular characteristics of the American political system. The purpose of the conference was not to focus on biographical research, but rather to analyze Schwarzenegger as a historically, culturally and locally situated phenomenon that draws upon larger structural realities and developments. Examples of these that became obvious as a result of Schwarzenegger's election in 2003 include the body cult in the United States and the development of bodybuilding and fitness trends, the role of stars and their images in post-classical Hollywood movies and the particularities of the Californian political system.



Workshop participants at discussion

Focusing on the fertile concepts of "body" and "image" that are of interdisciplinary relevance, experts from the fields of history, political science and cultural studies engaged in a dialog that, on the one hand, expanded significantly upon the research done almost exclusively in the area of film studies on the phenomenon of Schwarzenegger and, on the other hand, focused attention on the problematic issues embodied by the figure of Arnold Schwarzenegger. The conference, which was oriented toward young German scholars, was meant to encourage communication and networking among young academics. The intended publication in English of the research results should serve moreover as a contribution to international American studies.

List of participants and talks:

Simon Wendt: "Bodybuilding, Massenmedien und der weiße männliche Körper im Amerika des 19. Und 20. Jahrhunderts: Eugen Sandow und Arnold Schwarzenegger"

Danijela Albrecht: "Visualize yourself with the body you want: Body und Image in Arnold Schwarzeneggers Bodybuilding Ratgebern"

Michaela Hampf: "What Do the First Arms Signify?: Intersektionale Perspektiven auf Pumping Iron II: The Women"

Michael Butter: "Vom bad guy zum family guy: Twins als Wendepunkt in Arnold Schwarzeneggers Karriere"

Julian Hanich: "Am Ende des Tages einmal der letzte Actionheld sein: Imaginäre Selbsterweiterung und somatische Empathie in den Filmen Arnold Schwarzeneggers"

Rüdiger Heinze: "Konformistische Rebellen und populäre Außenseiter: Arnold Schwarzeneggers Helden in *True Lies*, *Der 6. Tag*, *Eraser* und *Collateral Damage*"

Lisa Gotto: "Verkörperungen: Zur Bildpolitik Arnold Schwarzeneggers"

Patrick Keller: "Images des kalifornischen Konservatismus: Arnold Schwarzenegger und Politische Ideologie"

Martin Thunert: "Vom Governator zum Girlie-man?: Das politische Image Arnold Schwarzeneggers im Wandel"

Birte Christ: "Tu Felix Arnie Nube: Die Ehe als Machtakkumulation in den USA"

Sebastian Enskat: "Mr. Universe for President!: Die Sehnsucht nach dem makellosen Kandidaten"

Frank Sauer: "You are regulated!: Kaliforniens Grüne Wende"

The conference elicited a major response from national and international media including *Spiegel Online*, *Handelsblatt* and *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, as well as the Austrian broadcasting corporation ORF and the Swiss news agency "Presstext."

## The Decline of the West? The Fate of the Atlantic Community after the Cold War October 15-17, 2009 at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Co-sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and the History Department of the University of Pennsylvania, the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (GHI), and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA).

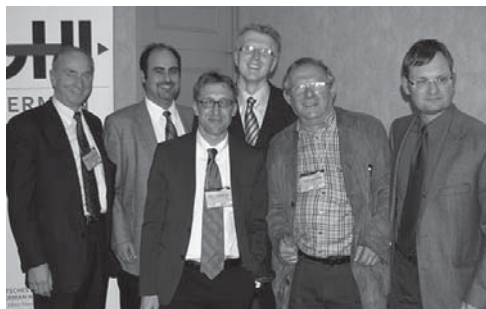
Adam Michnik (Editor in Chief, *Gazetta Wyborcza*) opened the conference with a keynote speech, "The Decline of the West Seen from Poland," in which, drawing on his own experiences in the Polish opposition to communism, he linked the concept of the West to democracy and tolerance. Although noting the problems and doubts facing the contemporary West and the United States in particular, Michnik saw no alternative to the Western model, and concluded that critiques drawing on the West's own intellectual and moral traditions, are proof of its cultural significance, and the need to defend its basic principles. "A sinful democracy," he declared, "is better than an innocent dictatorship." His perspective, at the same time knowledgeable, critical, ironic, and hopeful, set the stage for the discussions to follow.

The first full day of the conference analyzed theoretical and cultural foundations of the West in three panels and a roundtable discussion. The opening panel addressed the concept of the West, and the perception among intellectuals of a post-1968 crisis in Western civilization. Riccardo Bavaj's paper "A Cultural Crisis of the West? Liberal Intellectuals and the Challenges to 'Western Civilization' in the 1970s" explored how the student movements of the late 1960s sparked the Left-leaning intellectuals Richard Löwenthal, David Bell, and Raymond Aron to revisit earlier hypotheses about the decline of western civilization. Western culture was closely intertwined with ideals of liberty, progress and stability, and as an intellectual way to analyze

modernization and industrialization. Bavaj (University of St. Andrews, Scotland) proposed that the notion of "western decline" originated in the existential crises of rapidly transforming societies. In her contribution to the panel, "Complex Problems in a Complex World: America, Europe and the Postindustrial Challenge of 'the West' in the 1970s," Ariane Leendertz (University of Munich) concurred with Bavaj that the perceived decline of the West and emphasis on conflicts reflected a process of socio-cultural transformation since the late 1960s. Leendertz noted that the cultural differences between the United States and Europe were displaced onto the political arena, and, once the U.S. fulfilled its mission of ushering Europe into the modern industrial era, that Americans lost interest in Europe. As such, she saw the crisis of the West partially as one of the United States. In response to Bavaj and Leendertz, Thomas Maulucci (American International College) inquired whether or not the political move to the right, especially in the U.S., Britain, and West Germany in the 1980s was a means to stabilize the cultural crisis or perception thereof.

Shifting the focus from socio-cultural implications of the West, the second panel examined the West at the international level. Sandeep Gopalan's paper "The Two 'Wests': International Law in the U.S. and Europe" built upon one of the overarching themes of the conference, that multiple "Wests" exist depending on which analytical framework one employs. Gopalan (University of Reading School of Law), like Leendertz, saw a clear demarcation of these Wests between the United States and Europe, particularly in the application of international law. He noted that the two "Wests" instrumentalize international law and its applications for their respective needs, perhaps attrib-

utable to domestic constitutional cultures. Mary Sarotte (University of Southern California) used an architectural framework in her examination of changes in the post-1989 international order in her paper titled "1989 and the Architecture of Order: The Competition to lead the Post- Cold War World." She claimed that while there were various models for post- Cold War order in the aftermath of the 1989 revolutions, the rapidity of the transition favored pre-existing structures that ultimately prolonged the life of Cold War institutions such as NATO and the European Community. Noting the stark difference in Gopalan and Sarotte's arguments, William Glenn Gray (Purdue University) wondered how the continuation of Cold War institutions impaired the West, and if a combination of the American and European perspectives would create a more cooperative model.



Frank Trommler, Ron Granieri, Eric Jarosinski (all UPenn), Martin Klimke (GHI/HCA), Adam Michnik (Warsaw), Philipp Gassert (University of Augsburg)

The third panel considered how human rights discourse impacted American and Soviet societies during and after the Cold War. Elizabeth Borgwardt (Washington University) examined the genesis of the UN- adopted Nuremberg Principles, which held individual and state actors to international legal statutes, and how conservative American opposition as expressed in the Bricker Amendment attempted to block adoption of these principles. Her paper, "Politics, Culture, and the Limits of Law in Generating Human Rights Norms"

suggested that Cold War fears fed concerns about international meddling in American domestic affairs. Although the amendment ultimately failed because President Eisenhower saw it as curtailing American foreign policy, Borgwardt nonetheless illustrated the primacy of domestic politics in determining the acceptance of international legislation. Benjamin Nathans' (University of Pennsylvania) paper "Soviet Rights Talk," for its part, traced human rights discourse and practice in the Soviet Union to the "strange" emergence of Russia in the European human rights system. He used the "all people's discussion" that accompanied each successive version of the Soviet constitution in the post-Stalinist era as a lens through which to view shifting notions of rights among Soviet public and government. He concluded that, stretching forward to contemporary international legal precedents, Russia, in contrast to the United States, consistently embraces international human rights and legal decisions, rhetorically if not always in practice.

The day ended with a roundtable discussion on approaches for studying the evolving definition of the West. Lily Gardner Feldman (Johns Hopkins University, American Institute for Contemporary German Studies) discussed how German foreign relations repaired Western Realpolitik in its pursuit of reconciliation for the Nazi past and Holocaust. She outlined Germany's quadripartite model for redefining the West's international relations as exemplified through its rehabilitative foreign policy towards France, Israel, Poland and the Czech Republic. Philipp Gassert (Augsburg University), reflecting earlier papers by Leendertz and Bavaj, examined the West as an intellectual framework through the role of scholars, American Studies programs and institutions such as the Ford Foundation in the shaping of the West. He noted that the "transnational project" of American studies is a clear indicator for American sentiment. Thus, the

critical turn in American Studies in the late 1960s reflected growing anti-Americanism, just as the influx of American capital to Eastern Europe after 1989 marked a shift from the U.S. as the model for Westernization to a more multinational standard. John McCarthy (Vanderbilt University) continued the discussion about post-1989 implications on perceptions of the West. He noted that the one-time bipolar world became a multipolar one and, through that, soft power became multiculturalism. McCarthy called for the incorporation of "European Studies" into academic programs and further noted that the reconceptualization of the national "self" as European has challenged the notion of sovereignty on the continent as well as views of the United States.

The third and final day of the conference looked at cultural bonds that bridge the Atlantic divide. The first panel approached the West as experience. Stephen Brockmann's paper "The Cultural Paradox of Atlanticism" investigated popular culture as the binding element of the West that even transcends German-American political and economic disagreement. In regard to the German 1968 critique of American popular culture, Brockmann (Carnegie Mellon University) suggested considering this criticism as proof of successful German democratization. Continued enthusiasm for American values such as democracy and human rights, he concluded, could prevent a decline of the cultural West. In Dorothea Fischer-Hornung's talk "(Re) Making the East and West in Film," on American Cold War movies and their less successful remakes after the end of the Cold War, Fischer-Hornung (University of Heidelberg) argued that Hollywood utilized American anxieties about loss of individuality, domestic communism (*The Manchurian Candidate*, 1963, 2004) and internal subversion (*The Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, 1956, 1993, 2007) as vehicles to complicate East-West binaries. The remakes paid tribute to the ongoing

fear of subversion, yet shifted their focus to North-South binaries: corporatism has replaced communism and American economic interests are linked to global issues. In his comments, Frank Trommler (University of Pennsylvania) underlined that American popular culture, rather than European high culture, provided a common point of reference for Euro-American civilization: consumption. Though the discussion was marked by differing views on Americanization, Anti-Americanism, and Hollywood's overbearing tendency to conflate the United States and the West, participants agreed that American cultural exports formulated a language of performance in imagery and plot that has indeed become global.

During the second panel, John C. Torpey (CUNY Graduate Center) and Uta A. Balbier (GHI) agreed that the religious divergence between North America and Europe tends to be overstated; both continents are foundationally Christian, which provides common ground, even if differences have become more apparent of late. Torpey presented a sociological analysis of statistical data on European and American secularism in his paper "The Return of God and the Decline of 'the West.'" Both continents experienced secularization during the Cold War, yet to different degrees and with different outcomes. The emerging Cold War culture of disbelief has triggered a backlash in the United States, however, which overemphasizes the role of religion in public affairs today. Balbier's paper set a different tone with the case study "Crusading against Secularization – Billy Graham in Germany." Balbier investigated Evangelical missionary Billy Graham's appeal to German audiences in the 1950s and 1960s. Public viewings of Graham's services bridged the divide across the Atlantic by making Germans part of a growing global media society. This sense of belonging to a transnational community and a *Wirtschaftswunder* search for values beyond materialism, Balbier argued, attracted Germans to Graham's religious spectacle.

Volker Berghahn's public lecture on "The Falacy of Triumphalism" that afternoon attracted a broad audience apart from the conference participants. Reflecting on the lessons American intellectuals learned from the collapse of the Soviet Union – leaving the United States as the "victor" of the Cold War – Berghahn (Columbia University) claimed that triumphalist attitudes among American elites hurt domestic and international policy making. These sentiments found expression in post-Cold War unilateralism, which failed under the second Bush administration as the United States approached an economic and political state that is best described by Paul Kennedy's concept of imperial overstretch. Berghahn criticized American elites for failing to learn the right lessons from the end of the Cold War, missing the opportunity to promote lower military expenditure and invest money in reforms of American social institutions as well as the economic system. The current economic crisis is both the result of that failure and an indication of the problems to come. In one of two responses to the speech, Henry Teune (University of Pennsylvania) responded to the speech with his own critique of American post-Cold War policy, emphasizing the short-term strengths and long-term weaknesses of many decisions. Ronald Granieri (University of Pennsylvania) used his response to argue that only an equal partnership with the European Union and a renewed sense of shared responsibility within the transatlantic community would save the United States from collapsing under the burden of an overstretched empire.

The concluding roundtable discussion was driven by two presentations. Martin Thunert (HCA) extracted three concepts of the West from western and non-western literature: the territorial West marked by NATO, EU, and EFTA; the material West, driven by interests rather than values; and the philosophical West based on the equality of

men and anchored in modern science. Challenged by Afrocentrism, Asian values, anti-modern radical Islam, all part of the "Rise of the Rest" in a post-American world, and the possibility of chaos that Niall Ferguson has called the "Dark Age," the West has lost its monopoly in interpreting the world. While today's West is open to everybody, Thunert argued, it faces a paradox: How can a democratic minority sustain a predominantly undemocratic world while maintaining its support for democracy? Thunert's presentation suggested that one fruitful way of thinking about "the West" is to look through the eyes of the "Other." Bryan van Sweringen (US Army Europe, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.) picked up Volker Berghahn's discussion of American imperial overstretch. With the double-involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq the United States has made a precarious move. These operations have defined the limits of U.S. military power, as guerilla fighters and terrorists undermine U.S. strategic efforts. What should be essential to the West is to think more about allocation of resources and to worry about defending what it has achieved. Otherwise the West will have to face an exhaustion of resources.

The lively and controversial discussions after each panel and at the conclusion left participants with a productive uneasiness over a simplified concept of "the West." The multiplicity of definitions, such as Western civilization, Western values, the Cold War West confirms a need for more research on the West and its possible decline. Despite grim outlooks predicting a "decline of the West," Thunert suggested that we should rather see this process as a normalization of relations. The postwar 1940s and 1950s had posed an exceptional situation in Europe, a vacuum that Americans were ready to fill. What we see happening in transatlantic relations today, he concluded, is a rebirth of "the West."

## HCA Research Staff and Research Fellows

### Dr. Rashida K. Braggs

Ghaemian Junior Scholar-in-Residence

Rashida K. Braggs received a Ph.D. in Performance Studies at Northwestern University in 2006; she was also awarded an M.S. in Mass Communications from Boston University and a B.A. in English and Theater Studies from Yale University. Before HCA, she was a postdoctoral fellow for three years in the Introduction to Humanities Program at Stanford University, where she taught in conjunction with Drama, American Studies, and African American Studies.



In her time at HCA, Braggs is working on a draft of her book manuscript *Before Jazz Was American: Exploring the Changing Identity of Jazz in Post-WWII Paris*. In the book project, Braggs illustrates how jazz production abroad complicates national and racial categorization and critiques the perception that jazz solely represents an American experience.

Employing an interdisciplinary methodology that incorporates performance historiography, biography, personal interviewing, as well as performance and literary analysis, she argues that the end of World War II spurred changes in how jazz was perceived and represented by Americans and the French. The postwar years revealed a political reclaiming of jazz by the U.S. government, while also prompting more collaboration between African American and French jazz musicians as well as further acculturation of jazz as a French cultural product. Braggs ultimately argues that Paris nurtured many African American jazz musicians and became a second home for the jazz industry; her larger objective is to challenge the discourse of jazz that accounts exclusively for performance in America, by Americans and for the benefit of Americans. After 3 months at HCA, Braggs has already discovered additional research opportunities. She has conducted several interviews and commenced research for two new article projects. These projects extend her research to include an African American jazz musician's work in Germany and the exploration of cultural diplomacy as a potentially useful frame for her work. In addition to her research, Braggs is excited to be teaching "From Blues to Rock: Representing Music in African American Literature" for the MAS program and contributing to the co-taught Ph.D. seminar this winter.



## **Dr. Noah Bubenhofer**

Research Associate

Noah Bubenhofer was until July 2009 the coordinator of the project „Sem-tracks: Tracking Meaning on the Surface“ at the HCA in Heidelberg. In his Ph.D.-thesis „Muster an der sprachlichen Oberfläche“ (patterns at the linguistic surface), he develops corpus linguistical methods for discourse and cultural analysis. As a linguist, he is mainly interested in computer based semantical text analysis and the relation between text and culture.



The methods Noah Bubenhofer developed in his Ph.D.-thesis aim to put discourse and cultural analysis on an empirical foundation. Modern approaches in corpus linguistics make it possible to analyse enormous amounts of text using tools of computational linguistics and statistics. These tools can be used to study language use which is typical for certain text domains like newspaper articles, web discussion forums, blogs etc. Furthermore it is also possible to compare the change of language use over time: Which patterns of language use are specific for a certain time period?

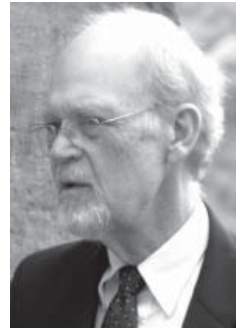
In co-operation with researchers from Germany and Japan, Noah Bubenhofer is also developing a search engine for foreign language learners. The core of this search engine is an algorithm which evaluates the readability of a given text using linguistic and statistical methods of text evaluation.

Since August 2009, Noah Bubenhofer is working as a corpus linguist at the Institut für Deutsche Sprache (IDS) in Mannheim.

**Prof. Robert W. Cherny**

Fulbright Visiting Professor

Professor Robert Cherny has served on the history faculty of San Francisco State University since 1971. His courses deal with the U.S. between 1865 and 1945, politics, and California and the West. His Ph.D. is from Columbia University. Cherny is author of three books on the history of U.S. politics, 1865-1925, co-author of two books on the history of San Francisco, co-author of college textbooks on American history and California history, co-editor of an anthology on the Cold War and labor and of a special issue of the *Pacific Historical Review* on woman suffrage around the Pacific Rim, and co-editor of an anthology in progress on California women and politics, 1865-1930. Most of his two dozen essays in journals and anthologies are on western politics and labor.



Prof. Cherny has been a fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Distinguished Fulbright lecturer at Moscow State University, and visiting scholar at the University of Melbourne. He has been president of H-Net and the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, member of the executive board of the Organization of American Historians, and member of the editorial boards of the *Pacific Historical Review* and *California History*.

Prof. Cherny spent at the HCA the summer term of 2009 teaching a seminar together with Prof. Dietmar Schloss titled "Work and Leisure in America: History, Literature, and Culture, 1870-1914" as well as presenting a workshop at the Spring Academy 2009.

## Prof. Kirsten Fischer

Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence

Kirsten Fischer received her Ph.D. from Duke University in 1994 and taught at the University of South Florida before moving to the University of Minnesota in 2000, where she is now an associate professor of history.

Her first book, *Suspect Relations: Sex, Race, and Resistance in Colonial North Carolina* (Cornell, 2002), draws on court records and travel literature to show how notions of racial difference were shaped by illicit sexual relationships and the sanctions imposed on those involved. In North Carolina's developing slave society, attempts to regulate the sexual practices of ordinary people, especially those of lower-class white women and free black women, were crucial to the making of a racial hierarchy.

Fischer is currently working on a book, *Pantheism Comes to America*, about radical Enlightenment thought in the early American republic. She teaches courses on religious history, radicalism in early America, religion and the U.S. founding. She has published essays in a number of anthologies and journals and co-edited *Colonial American History* in the series *Blackwell Readers in American Social and Cultural History* (2002). Her work has been generously supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Utah and the Newberry Library in Chicago, and the McKnight Research Foundation at the University of Minnesota.

Prof. Fischer had a very productive and pleasurable year as the Deutsche Bank Junior Scholar-in-Residence at the HCA, 2008-2009.



## Dr. Jana Freihöfer

Research Fellow

Jana Freihöfer was a full staff member of the HCA from 2007 to 2009. She coordinated the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the American Academy in Berlin and was also responsible for Public Relations.

Jana Freihöfer studied geography, political science and economics at the University of Bonn. She received her M.A. in Geography from King's College London. Before receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Heidelberg, she worked with the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE) in Vienna and with the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations in New York. In April 2007, she successfully completed her Ph.D. thesis. Her past accolades include scholarships from the German National Academic Foundation (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

In her dissertation entitled *“Karrieren im System der Vereinten Nationen. Am Beispiel hochqualifizierter Deutscher, 1973-2003”* she explores the spatial development of international civil servants' careers and their determining factors. Regional mobility has become a facet of contemporary world economy, especially of highly skilled labor markets. Trans-national companies transfer their staff around the globe. While it has been shown for many business sectors that high-skilled workers are usually highly mobile in the course of their career, this study illustrates that the labor market of international organizations is characterized by a high amount of immobile employees. Drawing on a case study of German international civil servants, this paper argues that this distinct career pattern is mainly a result of personnel policies together with spatial and hierarchical post-structures as well as individual career aspirations. The dissertation was published in 2007 (Heidelberg: Heidelberger Geographische Arbeiten 124, ISBN: 978-3-88570-124-8).

Jana Freihöfer's research interests lie within the broad scope of social geography, with a specific focus on migration issues, labor market studies, international tourism and transnational networks.



## Dr. Mischa Honeck

Research Associate

Mischa Honeck joined the HCA as a research associate and full staff member in April of 2008. Apart from administering the Ph.D. in American Studies program, he is responsible for coordinating the Center for Interdisciplinary Research as well as the HCA's visiting fellows program.

Honeck studied history, philosophy, and English at Portland State University and Heidelberg University, where he received his M.A. in February of 2004 and completed his Ph.D. in June of 2008 ("summa cum laude"). For his doctoral studies, he was awarded the Kade-Heideking Fellowship of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. and the University of Wisconsin-Madison as well as a dissertation stipend from the Schurman Foundation. A specialist in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century U.S. and transatlantic history, Honeck has taught courses on revolutionary America, the abolitionist movement, the Old South, the Jacksonian Era, and environmental history.

His dissertation *"We Are the Revolutionists: Forty-Eighters, Abolitionists, and the Struggle to Overthrow Slavery,"* which he is currently revising for publication, explores contacts and coalitions between American abolitionists and German-speaking immigrant radicals in the Civil War period. Honeck is also involved in putting together an edited volume on the history of African-German interaction tentatively titled "Blacks and Germans, German Blacks: Germany and the Black Diaspora, 1450-1914." A new project on cosmopolitanism, patriotism, and the transatlantic Enlightenment is in the making.



## Dr. Martin Klimke

HCA Research Fellow

Martin Klimke is a research fellow at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA). Since May 2006, he has been the coordinator of the international Marie-Curie project "European Protest Movements Since 1945: The Rise of a (Trans-)national Civil Society and the Transformation of the Public Sphere" which is supported by the European Commission. Together with Noah Bubenhofer and Joachim Scharloth, he also co-directs the research projects SEMTRACKS on "Perceptions of America after 9/11" and the "SEMTRACKS Political Tracker" at the HCA.



Klimke studied History and English at the University of Göttingen, Amherst College and Heidelberg University, where he received both his M.A. and his Ph.D. (2002/2005). He has taught at college and high school level in the U.S. and Germany, and was a Research Fellow at the History Department of Heidelberg University in an international research project sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation entitled "The Other Within Us: Collective Identities, Intercultural Relations, and Political Protest in West Germany and the U.S. During the 1960s and 1970s."

His 2005 dissertation "*The 'Other' Alliance: Global Protest and Student Unrest in West Germany and the U.S., 1962-1972*," was awarded the prestigious Ruprecht Karls Prize for best doctoral thesis at Heidelberg University in 2006, and will be published by Princeton University Press. Klimke has been working extensively in the area of transnational history and social movements and has published numerous articles on processes of cultural transfer and global protest networks. He is a series editor of "*Protest, Culture and Society*" (Berghahn Books, New York/Oxford) and co-editor of *1968 – Handbuch zur Kultur- und Mediengeschichte der Studentenbewegung* (Stuttgart: J. B. Metzler, 2007; Bonn: BpB, 2008), as well as *1968 in Europe. A History of Protest and Activism, 1956-77* (London/New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).

He is currently on leave and a Research Fellow at the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., where he co-directs the research projects and digital archives "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany" and "The Nuclear Crisis: Transatlantic Peace Politics, Rearmament, and the Second Cold War." He is also co-authoring a book with Maria Höhn entitled *A Breath of Freedom: The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany*. (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming).

## Dr. Wilfried Mausbach

HCA Executive Director

Wilfried Mausbach received his Ph.D. from the University of Cologne where he studied history, political science, and philosophy. He has been a research fellow at the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Washington, D.C., and has held assistant professorships in history at both the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin and Heidelberg University, where he has also been a Volkswagen Foundation fellow.

His major research interests are in transnational and intercultural history with a focus on German-American relations during the twentieth century.

He is the author of *Zwischen Morgenthau und Marshall: Das wirtschafts-politische Deutschlandkonzept der USA 1944-1947* (Düsseldorf: Droste, 1996), co-editor of *America, the Vietnam War, and the World. Comparative and International Perspectives* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003), and an adjunct editor of *The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War, 1945-1990. A Handbook*, 2 vols. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004). He is currently at work on a book about Germany and the Vietnam War.



## Dr. Anja Schüler

Lecturer and Research Fellow

Anja Schüler is a lecturer and a research fellow at the HCA. She also teaches English at Heidelberg Teacher's College.

Anja Schüler studied History, American Studies, and Journalism at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, the University of Georgia, Athens, and the Free University of Berlin, where she received her M.A. in 1991. For her dissertation research, she spent a year at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, and lived in Washington, D.C., for several years. She received her Ph.D. from the Free University of Berlin in 2000. Her dissertation, *Frauenbewegung und soziale Reform im transatlantischen Dialog: Jane Addams und Alice Salomon, 1890-1933*, was published by Franz Steiner in 2004.

Dr. Schüler has published a number of articles on women's activism and social reform in the United States and Germany. She also is the co-editor of two volumes in comparative and transnational history, respectively: *Social Justice Feminists in the United States and Germany: A Dialogue in Documents, 1880-1930* (with Kathryn Kish Sklar and Susan Strasser, Cornell University Press, 1998) and *Kommunikation – Mobilität – Netzwerke: Zur internationalen Dimension der Frauenbewegungen 1830-1960* (with Eva Schöck-Quinteros, Annika Wilmers and Kerstin Wolff, trafo verlag, 2007).

Schüler's research interests include reform movements of the nineteenth and early twentieth century in the U.S. and Germany and the transnational dimensions of feminism. She is currently conceptualizing a project on gender and Americanization in Weimar Germany.

Since July of 2009, Schüler is also coordinating the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the HCA and is responsible for public relations.





## **Dr. habil Martin Thunert**

HCA Political Scientist in Residence

Martin Thunert joined the HCA as university lecturer and senior research fellow 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 from the University of Hamburg, where he was an assistant professor. At Heidelberg University Thunert teaches at the HCA as well as at the Political Science Department.



Thunert has written widely on American and Canadian politics and political institutions. He has completed a comparative study on the role of think tanks and policy advisors in modern societies focusing on recent developments in the United States, Canada, Britain, Germany and other European countries. His areas of teaching and research are comparative politics – with a regional focus on the NAFTA countries U.S., Canada and Mexico – as well as public policy and lobbying. Among other activities Martin Thunert serves as the head of the section “Political Science and Sociology” of the Association of Canadian Studies in the German-Speaking Countries (GKS) between 2004 and 2010.

Besides North American studies his major field of research is “Politikberatung”, which translates into English as both policy advice and political consulting. He has completed a comparative study on the role of think tanks in North America and Europe. Martin Thunert is founder and section chair of the Working-Group ‘Policy Advice and Political Consulting (Politikberatung)’ in the German Political Science Association. In 2006 he co-edited the Handbuch Politikberatung (Handbook of Policy Advice and Political Consulting) and in 2001 he was the “Germany expert” in an international research project comparing alternative sources of public policy advice in eight democratic countries, directed by the Japan Center for International Exchange and the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. Since 2008 Martin Thunert is one of three founding editors of a new quarterly journal – Zeitschrift für Politikberatung (ZP) (Policy Advice and Political Consulting) published at VS-Verlag, Wiesbaden and he is a member of the Bertelsmann Stiftung expert group on “Politikberatung”.

## Individual Research

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

### **Tobias Endler, M.A.**

“The Public Intellectual Debate over American World Leadership after September 11”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss (English Department)

Since September 11, 2001, the book market has been flooded with publications discussing the United States’ position as the world’s last remaining superpower. The professional backgrounds of the authors are as diverse as their ideological orientations. While most of them agree that America should have a leadership role in the world, differences arise as to how the “American way” can be disseminated most effectively. The publications are geared to a mainstream audience and the general public. The authors also use other media to spread their message (TV and radio interviews, internet blogs, reading events). This study considers the authors as intellectuals who mediate and “moderate” processes of public opinion formation. It describes the complex structure of public intellectual work under postmodern conditions. Will America’s leading thinkers be able to continue their work in the tradition of the Enlightenment intellectual – which seems to be their intention – in the world of today?



During a Research and Teaching Fellowship at Yale, almost twenty of America’s most prominent public intellectuals were interviewed on their self-perception, working conditions, the state of the nation, and the present American mindset. The results, together with the authors’ publications, will provide a comprehensive illustration of intellectual life in 21st-century America.

### **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 original-



ly 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, and thus back the monetary value of the U.S. Dollar and a deficit-ridden U.S. budget. 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 broad 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, this project 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 to the U.S.-German relations during the Carter Presidency characterized by continuously growing disagreement.

**Sophie Lorenz, M.A.**

“Solidarity with African-American Protest in East and West Germany during the 1960s and 1970s”

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

Since the 1950s, solidarity with the African-American freedom struggle became an integral part of the political and cultural self-conception of the self-proclaimed anti-racist state of the German Democratic Republic. The civil rights activists Dr. Martin Luther King jr. and Ralph Abernathy, the African-American singer and actor Paul Robson as well as Angela Davis, icon of the Black Power Movement, became symbols of the “other America” in the GDR. Solidarity with the African-Americans was not only meant to renounce the Nazi past, but also to show that the GDR was morally superior to the West. In contrast to this state-operated form of solidarity, West German support for the African-American freedom struggle emerged predominantly in concert



with the student protests around the year 1968. The study seeks to trace how state-operated solidarity with the African-American civil rights struggle led to interactions between African-Americans and East Germans. By analyzing and comparing how the African-American civil rights struggle was perceived and re-contextualized in both West and East Germany, the study also aims to show how ethnic identities and the concept of race was renegotiated. Thereby the study intervenes in two recent historiographical debates: It establishes a transnational perspective on the African American civil rights struggle, and illustrates the multidimensional perception of the United States in East German society.

**Elena Matveeva, M.A.**

“Going East: American Journalists and the Soviet Experiment, 1921-1934”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss (English Department)

This project focuses on four American intellectuals and foreign correspondents – William Henry Chamberlin, Louis Fischer, Eugene Lyons, and Maurice Hindus – who traveled and lived in the Soviet Union during the 1920s and the early 1930s. It examines the books and articles they wrote about their host country. While other historical studies have used these journalists merely as sources, this dissertation portrays the group as an intellectual network that aimed to influence America’s perception of the Soviet Union by presenting it as a possible and attractive alternative to Western capitalism.

Since 2007, the project has been supported by a scholarship from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. In November of 2007, Elena Matveeva took part in the international conference “200 Years of American-Russian Relations” which took place in Moscow. In March of 2008, she did research at the Historical Society of the University of Wisconsin in Madison. In September, she spent two weeks at the Mudd Library archive in Princeton where she mined the papers of Louis Fischer.

In 2009, Elena continued working on her thesis. In May, she presented a recently completed chapter entitled “Louis Fischer and his struggle for the Soviet recognition” at the HCA’s summer Ph.D. colloquium. In August, she visited the archives of the University of Oregon in Eugene, OR, and Stanford University, CA where she worked with the papers of Eugene Lyons. Elena is currently in the fourth year of her Ph.D. project.



The following HCA staff members and associates have completed their Ph.D. projects in 2008/09:

**Dr. Jana Dorband**

“Politics of Space: The Changing Dynamics of the “Middle East” as a Geo-Strategic Region in American Foreign Policy”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Peter Meusburger (Department of Geography)

**Dr. Matthias Molt**

“Von der Wehrmacht zur Bunderwehr: Personelle Kontinuität und Diskontinuität beim Aufbau der Deutschen Streitkräften, 1955-1966”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker (HCA)

**Dr. Katja Nagel**

“Die Provinz in Bewegung: Studentenunruhen in Heidelberg, 1967-1973”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker (HCA)

**Dr. Florian Pressler**

“The Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), 1981-2005: From the Reaganomics of Development to the Rise of the US-Caribbean Apparel Circuit and the Logic of Free Trade”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker (HCA)

**Dr. Alexander Vazansky**

“An Army in Crisis: Social Conflicts in the United States Army, Europe and 7th Army, 1968-1975”

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker (HCA)

## 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 2008/09. For the same period, it furthermore encompasses publications relevant to the field of American Studies that have been published by scholars from the academic departments affiliated with the HCA.

### **Manfred Berg (History Department)**

(with Bernd Schaefer), eds., *Historical Justice in International Perspective: How Societies are Trying to Right the Wrongs of the Past*. Publications of the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008).

Willi Paul Adams, *Die USA im 20. Jahrhundert*. Oldenbourg Grundriss der Geschichte, Bd. 29. 2. Auflage, aktualisiert und um einen Nachtrag zur Bibliographie ergänzt von Manfred Berg. (München: R. Oldenbourg Verlag, 2008).

(with Dieter Gosewinkel), "Recht: Verfassung und Kultur," in: Christof Mauch and Kiran Patel, eds., *Wettlauf um die Moderne: Die USA und Deutschland 1890 bis heute*. (München: Pantheon Verlag, 2008), 155-185.

(with Bernd Schäfer), "Introduction," in: Manfred Berg and Bernd Schäfer, eds., *Historical Justice in International Perspective: How Societies are Trying to Right the Wrongs of the Past*. Publications of the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 1-17.

"Historical Continuity and Counterfactual History in the Debate over Reparations for Slavery," in: Manfred Berg and Bernd Schäfer, eds., *Historical Justice in International Perspective: How Socie-*

*ties are Trying to Right the Wrongs of the Past*. Publications of the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 69-91.

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"Die Überzeugungsstrategien von Restitutionsbewegungen: Die Forderung nach Reparationen für die Sklaverei in den USA," in: Angelos Chaniotis et al., eds., *Überzeugungsstrategien. Heidelberger Jahrbücher 52* (Berlin u. Heidelberg: Springer Verlag, 2009), 61-71.

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"Civil Rights Act of 1960," in: Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 1, 402-3.

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*the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 2, 321-22.

"Martin Luther King, Jr.", in: Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 3, 99-107.

"Literacy Tests", in: Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 3, 176-77.

"National Association for the Advancement of Colored People", in: Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 3, 427-35.

"Voting Rights", in: Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. 5 Vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), Vol. 5, 53-57.

"We Shall Overcome...Some Day. Dieser Tag könnte mit der Wahl Barack Obamas zum Präsidenten der USA nahe rücken. Es wäre ein Meilenstein auf dem langen Weg der Afroamerikaner zu ihrer Emanzipation," in: DIE ZEIT (2008), 19. 6. 2008, 82.

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**Rashida K. Braggs**  
(HCA)

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**Winfried Brugger**  
(Law Department)

(with Ingo Wolfgang Sarlet), "Moderner Konstitutionalismus am Beispiel der US-Verfassung, des Grundgesetzes und der brasilianischen Verfassung," in: *Jahrbuch des öffentlichen Rechts* 56 (2008), 613-638.

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### **Bob Cherny**

(HCA)

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"The Jungle and the Progressive Era," in: *History Now* (online journal of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History), June 2008. Online at [http://www.historynow.org/06\\_2008/historian4.html](http://www.historynow.org/06_2008/historian4.html)

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### **Kirsten Fischer**

(HCA)

"Review of 'A Paradise of Reason: William Bentley and Enlightenment Christianity in the Early Republic. By J. Rixey Ruffin (Oxford University Press, 2008)," in: *Church History* 78 (2009), 415-418.

### **Dorothea Fischer-Hornung**

(English Department)

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### **Philipp Gassert**

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### Thomas Gijswijt

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### Jens Hofmann

(HCA)

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### Mischa Honeck

(HCA)

“Lincoln and the German-Americans,” in: Paul Finkelman and Martin J. Hershock, eds., *The Political Lincoln: An Encyclopedia*, (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2008), 214-216.

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## **Detlef Junker**

(HCA)

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## **Martin Klimke**

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(with Noah Bubenhofer and Joachim Scharloth), "The Word War: ‚Yes, He Did‘ - How Obama won the (rhetorical) battle for the White House," in: *International Relations and Security Network (ISN)*, ETH Zurich, December 2008. Online at <http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Current-Affairs/Special-Reports/The-Word-War-Yes-He-Did/Analysis>.

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(with Noah Bubenhofer and Joachim Scharloth), "Die Wort-Wahl: Obama und McCains rhetorischer Kampf ums Weisse Haus," in: *Suite 101 Spezial: US-Wahlkampf*, October 2008.

(with Noah Bubenhofer and Joachim Scharloth), "U.S. Presidential Campaign ‚08: A Semantic Matrix Analysis," SEMTRACKS-Blog.

"1968 als transnationales Ereignis," in: *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* 14-15 (2008), 22-27.

## **Steven Less**

(HCA)

"The International Administration of Holocaust

Compensation: The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC)," in: Armin von Bogdandy et al., eds., *The Exercise of Public Authority by International Institutions: Advancing International Institutional Law*. (Berlin/Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag, 2010), 607-658.

### **Günter Leypoldt**

(English Department)

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### **Wilfried Mausbach**

(HCA)

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### **Mohamed Metawe**

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### **Anthony Santoro**

(HCA)

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### **Dietmar Schloss**

(HCA/English Department)

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### **Manfred G. Schmidt**

(Department of Political Science)

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### **Anja Schüler**

(HCA)

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ral Education Board," "Angelina Weld-Grimké," "National Association of Colored Women," "National Urban League," "National Welfare Rights Organization," "Philanthropy," "Poor People's Campaign," "Segregation in the Federal Government," "Single-Parent Households," "Washington D.C.," and "Women's Clubs," in: Paul Finkelman, L. Diane Barnes, Graham Russell Hodges, Gerald Horne, and Cary D. Wintz, eds., *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008).

### **Martin Thunert**

(HCA)

(with Detlef Junker und Wilfried Mausbach), eds., *State and Market in a Globalized World: Transatlantic Perspectives*. (Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2009).

(with Phillip Gassert, Detlef Junker, Wilfried Mausbach), eds., *Was Amerika ausmacht - Multidisziplinäre Perspektiven*, (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2009).

"Was war mit Amerika los? Die politische Landschaft der USA in der Ära George W. Bush," in: *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 53, no.3 (2008), 325-353.

"Die wirtschaftspolitische Beratung für Barack Obama" in: *Zeitschrift für Politikberatung* 2, no.1 (2009), 82-95.

"Barack Obama: Wandel in Amerika. Eine Analyse der US-Präsidentenwahl 2008," in: *Gesellschaft. Wirtschaft.Politik (GWP)* 59, no.1 (2009), 41-56.

"'Große Zelte' – Entwicklungen amerikanischer ‚Volksparteien‘ und mögliche Rückschlüsse für die deutsche Diskussion," in: Ralf Thomas Baus, ed., *Zur Zukunft der Volksparteien. Das Parteiensystem unter den Bedingungen zunehmender*

*Fragmentisierung*. (St. Augustin/Berlin: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, 2009), 121-146.

“Hüter der Botschaft oder Mann fürs Grobe? Barack Obamas Chefstrategie und Medienberater David Axelrod,” in: *Zeitschrift für Politikberatung* (ZPB) 1, no.2 (2008), 254-260.

“Kanada – Nordamerikas Energiesicherheitsgarantie?” in: Josef Braml, Karl Kaiser, Hanns W. Maul, Eberhard Sandschneider and Klaus-Werner Schatz, ed., *Weltverträgliche Energiesicherheitspolitik. Jahrbuch Internationale Politik 2005/06*, (München: R. Oldenbourg Verlag, 2008), 170-178.

“Think Tanks und Öffentlichkeit in den USA: Medienstrategien in der Politikberatung,” in: Matthias Fifka and Daniel Gossel, ed., *Mediendemokratie in den USA. Politische Kommunikation und Politikvermittlung am Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts*. (Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2008), 117-133.

“Todesstrafe,” in: Werner Kremp und Wolfgang Tönnemann (Hrsg.): *Lexikon der populären Amerikabilder*, Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2008), 161-164.

## **Simon Wendt**

(History Department)

“‘We Were Going to Fight Fire with Fire’: Black Power in the South,” in: Peniel E. Joseph, ed., *Neighborhood Rebels: Black Power at the Local Level*. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), 131-147.

“Black Self-Defense,” “Deacons for Defense and Justice,” and “Williams, Robert F.,” in: Leslie Alexander and Walter Rucker, eds., *Encyclopedia of African American History*. (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2009).

“Civil Rights Movement,” in: Paul Finkelman et al., ed., *Encyclopedia of African American History*,

*1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008), 411-419.

“African American Resistance, Jim Crow Era,” “African American Resistance, Reconstruction Era,” and „American Slave Rebellions,” in: Immanuel Ness, ed., *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to the Present*. (New York: Blackwell, 2009), 16-19, 19-21, 88-90, respectively.

## Selected Talks

During 2008/09 the following HCA staff members, students, and affiliates took part in the conferences, workshops, and roundtable discussions listed below:

### **Prof. Kirsten Fischer**

"Pantheism comes to America: The Radical Religion of Elihu Palmer." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the East-Central American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, October 8-11, 2009, Lehigh University, USA.

### **Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert**

"The Reader. A special screening of the film and a discussion with Bernhard Schlink" (Moderator), January 22, 2009, American Film Institute (AFI), Silver Spring, Md.

"Indians on Display" (Chair). Panel at the Annual Meeting of Historians in the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), February 7, 2009, Tutzing.

"Sozialer Wandel und Protest: Kultur und Gesellschaft der langen 1960er Jahre." 1968 in Japan, Germany and the USA: Political Protest and Cultural Change, Conference, March 4-6, 2009, Japanese-German Center (JDZB), Berlin.

"Die gesellschaftlichen Auswirkungen des NATO-Doppelbeschlusses in der Bundesrepublik." Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive. Conference convened by the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., and the Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin, March 26-28, 2009, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin.

"Auf der Suche nach Normalität: Die Auseinandersetzung mit dem Nationalsozialismus in der Ära Adenauer." Epoche im Widerspruch: Ideelle und kulturelle Umbrüche der Adenauerzeit (25. Rhöndorfer Gespräche), March 31, 2009, Bad Honnef.

"Anglo-Amerikanische Konjunkturen der Erinnerung: Vom Mythos zum Nicht-Ereignis?" Die Berliner Luftbrücke: Ereignis und Erinnerung, Symposium, April 24, 2009, Berlin.

"Medien – Manipulation und Markt." Wettlauf um die Moderne: Die USA und Deutschland 1890 bis heute, Roundtable Discussion, June 8, 2009, Bayerische Amerika-Akademie, München.

"Detlef Junker – Eine Würdigung." Festakt zu Ehren von Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c Detlef Junker aus Anlass seines 70. Geburtstages, June 20, 2009, Universität Heidelberg.

"Preventing Nuclear Armageddon: Armament, Peace Politics, and the Transatlantic Alliances of the 1970s and 1980s." Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), June 27, 2009, Falls Church, Va.

"Im Gespräch: Edzard Reuter" (Moderator). Presseclub Augsburg, September 19, 2009, Neue Stadtbücherei, Augsburg.

"Preventing Nuclear Armageddon: Armament, Peace Politics, and the Transatlantic Alliances of the 1970s and 1980s." Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (GSA), October 9, 2009, Washington, D.C.

"American Studies in the Cold War Transatlantic Community." The Decline of the West? The Fate

of the Atlantic Community after the Cold War, October 15-17, 2009, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

"Die Deutschen und der Westen." December 4, 2009, Copenhagen University/Goethe Institute Copenhagen.

### **Melanie Gish, M.A.**

"A Green Gap? - Conservative Sceptics, Evangelical Environmentalists, and the Dilemma of Global Climate Change." Presentation of dissertation project, Fourth Roosevelt Study Center Ph.D. Seminar, April 21-23, 2009, Roosevelt Study Center, Mid-delburg, Netherlands.

### **Dr. Mischa Honeck**

"Die USA – von den rebellischen Kolonien zur globalen Supermacht", Teacher Training Workshop, Presentation on Colonial America and the Founding Period, March 9-13, 2009, Akademie für politische Bildung, Tutzing.

"Black Diaspora and Germany Across the Centu-ries", Conference (organized together with Martin Klimke and Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov), March 19-21, 2009, German Historical Institute, Wash-ington D.C.

"Intellectual Marginality – Intellectual Resistance" (Chair). Panel at the international conference Mod-ernization and Intellectual Authority in US Literary Culture, 1750-1900, July 2-5, 2009, Heidelberg University.

### **Dr. Martin Klimke**

"Modern Germany's Engagement with the Holo-caust." Invited Talk, February 4, 2009, School of Law, Washington and Lee University, Virginia.

"1968 in the U.S., Japan and Germany", Confer-

ence (organized together with Yoshie Mitobe, Joachim Scharloth and Laura Wong), March 4-6, 2009, Japanese-German Center, Berlin.

"From June 2 to Kent State: Transnational Symbols and Collective Identities." 1968 in Japan, Germany and the United States: Political Protest and Cul-tural Change, March 5, 2009, Japanese-German Center, Berlin.

"Black Diaspora and Germany Across the Centu-ries" (Convener, together with Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov and Mischa Honeck), March 19-21, 2009, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.

"Von den USA nach Westeuropa: Friedensbe-wegung als 'transnationales' Phänomen der westlichen Welt." Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Frie-densbewegung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspek-tive. Conference convened by the German Histori-cal Institute, Washington, D.C., and the Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin, March 26-28, 2009, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin.

"Shaping Europe in a Globalized World? - Protest Movements and the Rise of a Transnational Civil Society?" (Convener, together with Roland Axt-mann, Kathrin Fahlenbrach, Joachim Scharloth, Rolf Werenskjold), June 23-26, 2009, Department of German, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

"Countering The Other Alliance: Transatlantic Stu-dent Protest and the U.S. Department of State in 1960/70s." Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), June 28, 2009, Falls Church, Va.

"'The Personal is Political': The Interfaces between Politics and Culture across Europe in the 1970s."

International Conference (Co-Convener), August 26-27, 2009, Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge.

"Yes, We Can! Political Rhetoric in the U.S. and German Elections." Invited Talk, September 23, 2009, Goethe-Institute, Washington, D.C.

"African American Civil Rights and Germany in the 20th Century." (Convener, together with Maria Höhn), October 1-3, 2009, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

"Countering The Other Alliance: Transatlantic Student Protest and the U.S. Department of State in 1960/70s." Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (GSA), October 9, 2009, Washington, D.C.

"Bewegung und Establishment. Neue Konstellationen seit 1968?" Invited Talk, November 30, 2009, Institut für soziale Bewegungen, Ruhr-Universität Bochum.

### **Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt**

"Ethics and Translation." Symposium, with Michael Schreiber and Dilek Dizdar, 2009, University of Mainz.

"Modernization and Intellectual Authority in US Literary Culture, 1750-1900" (Convener, with Dietmar Schloss). International Conference, July 2-5, 2009, Heidelberg University.

### **Jiawei Mao, M.A.**

HCA Ph.D. Colloquium, May 22-23, 2009, Weinheim.

"China's Rules-Compliance Efforts before its WTO Accession." WTO Public Forum, September 29, 2009, Geneva, Switzerland.

### **Elena Matveeva, M.A.**

"American Bolshevik: Louis Fischer and the Struggle for Soviet Recognition", Presentation at the Ph.D. Colloquium directed by Prof. Dr. Heinz-Dietrich Löwe, Chair for East European History, May 19, 2009, Heidelberg University.

"American Bolshevik: Louis Fischer and the Struggle for Soviet Recognition", Presentation at the HCA Ph.D. Colloquium, May 22-23, 2009, Weinheim.

### **Christian Maul, M.A.**

Sixth HCA Spring Academy: American History, Culture & Politics, March 30 – April 3, 2009, Heidelberg.

Fourth Roosevelt Study Center Ph.D. Seminar, 21-23 April, 2009, Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg, Netherlands.

"Thoreauvian Modernities." Symposium, May 14-16, 2009, Université de Lyon, France.

### **Dr. Wilfried Mausbach**

"Von der ‚zweiten Front‘ in die friedliche Etappe? Internationale Solidaritätsbewegungen in der Bundesrepublik." The Alternative Milieu: Unconventional Lifestyles and Left-wing Politics in West Germany and Europe 1968-1983, September 19-21, 2008, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

"USA nach der Wahl: Die Weltmacht Nr. 1 als Motor oder Bremse?" (Discussant). Roundtable Discussion "UVG-Expertenforum", November 24, 2008, Haus der Unternehmer, Duisburg.

Panel "Social and Cultural Consequences of the Sixties Movements" (Chair). 1968 in Japan, Germany and the USA: Political Protest and Cultural Change, Conference, March 4-6, 2009, Japanese-



German Center (JDZB), Berlin.

"Das europäische Exil als intellektuelle Anknüpfung und kollektive Identität der 68er in den USA." Exil, Entwurzelung, hybride Räume, Annual Meeting of the Gesellschaft für Exilforschung e.V., March 6-8, 2009, Hamburg.

"Schrittmacher, Störenfried oder Zaungast? Die amerikanische Friedensbewegung und das Ende des Kalten Krieges." Zweiter Kalter Krieg und Friedensbewegung: Der NATO-Doppelbeschluss in deutsch-deutscher und internationaler Perspektive. Conference convened by the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., and the Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin, March 26-28, 2009, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin.

"Ideologia Americana or Americanism in Action: Exceptionalism and Democracy Promotion" (Chair). Panel at the international conference The United States and the World: From Imitation to Challenge, May 29-30, 2009, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.

"The West as Idea" (Chair). Panel at the conference The Decline of the West? The Fate of the Atlantic Community after the Cold War, October 15-17, 2009, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

"Western European Perspectives: Making and Implementing the Dual-Track Decision" (Discussant). Panel at the conference The Euromissiles Crisis and the End of the Cold War, 1977-1987, December 10-12, 2009, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome, Italy.

### **Anja Milde, M.A.**

"'Pansies', 'Dykes', and Panthers – New Dimensions of Social Movement Coalitions." Sixth HCA Spring Academy: American History, Culture & Poli-

tics, March 30 – April 3, 2009, Heidelberg.

"'Pansies', 'Dykes', and Panthers – New Dimensions of Social Movement Coalitions." Interdisziplinäres Doktorandinnenkolloquium (IDK) – Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Colloquium, Summer Term 2009, May 6, 2009, Heidelberg University.

"'Pansies', 'Dykes', and Panthers – The Challenge of Conducting an Oral History Project." Transatlantic Doctoral Workshop: Northwestern/LMU Summer School, May 27 – 31, 2009, Munich.

### **Cristina Mustea, M.A.**

Fourth Roosevelt Study Center Ph.D. Seminar, 21-23 April, 2009, Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg, Netherlands.

"The United States and the world: from imitation to challenge", International Conference, May 2009, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.

"Blending Media: Defining Film in the Modernist Period", An International Symposium of the Framing Media Research Group, June 2009, Department of American Studies, University of Innsbruck, Austria.

"Negotiating Europe. Jewish and Non-Jewish Spaces", International Summer School, July 2009, University of Jena.

### **Anthony Santoro, M.A.**

"The Confessions of Nat Turner: On the Slavery Experience and Toward Historical Research." Guest lecture. Course: From Blues to Rock: Representing Music in African American Literature. Instructor: Dr. Rashida Braggs. October 21, 2009, Heidelberg University.

"Problematising 'Religious': How Utilizing Ethical

and Locative Metaphors Will Help Scholars Better See the 'Religious.'" Paper presented as part of the panel "Facing the Challenge of a New Religious History: Post-1945 American Religion as a Site of Historical Inquiry in Germany," 123rd Annual Conference of the American Historical Association, January 5, 2009, New York.

### **PD Dr. Martin Thunert**

"Kanada und Deutschland in Afghanistan." Briefing von Bundestagsabgeordneten des Auswärtigen Ausschusses und der deutsch-kanadischen Parlamentariergruppe zum Afghanistan-Engagement Kanadas, Embassy of Canada Berlin, February 19, 2008.

"Continuities and Change in Canadian Energy Policy." June 20, 2008, Universität Greifswald.

"Organization and Structure of Think Tanks." Egyptian-German Think Tank Co-Operation and Exchange, international conference convened by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Information and Decision Support Centre of the Egyptian Cabinet, June 30 – July 1, 2008 Cairo, Egypt.

"Beyond the Imperial Presidency? Executive Power and its Limits during the Administration of George W. Bush." Annual Meeting of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (DGfA), Heidelberg, May 17, 2008.

"Wahlkampf 2008 – zwischen Wandel und Kontinuität, Strategien der Kandidaten." Change for America, Change for the World? Die USA 2008: Wahlen, Wandel, Weltpolitik, Atlantische Akademie und Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, May 24, 2008, Lambrecht.

"Neuere Verfassungsdebatten in den USA und Kanada." Bayerische Akademie für Lehrerfortbil-

dung Dillingen and Akademie für politische Bildung, Tutzing, August 6, 2008.

"Die kanadischen Parteien und die Innenpolitik nach den Wahlen 2008." Election Breakfast, Embassy of Canada, Berlin, October 15, 2008.

"Deutschlandbilder in Nordamerika." Workshop, Public Affairs Section of the German Public Relations Society, October 20, 2008 Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Cadenabbia, Italy.

"Kanada – postmoderner Nationalstaat oder nordamerikanischer Regionalstaat?" Universität Augsburg, October 27, 2008.

"A Conservative Canada and a Progressive USA? Reflections on the Canadian and U.S. Federal Elections of 2008." Joint Conference on "Atlantic Connections: Europe and Aspects of the Americas" of ASANOR (American Studies Association of Norway) and Nordic Association for Canadian Studies (NACS/ANEC), Bergen, November 2, 2008, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Bergen, Norway.

"Das Wahlverfahren und die Battleground States." Atlantische Akademie Kaiserslautern, November 4, 2008.

"Wahlausgang, Interpretation, Folgen." Zentrum für Nordamerikaforschung, Universität Frankfurt, November 6, 2008.

"Die politische Rhetorik Barack Obamas." Staatskanzlei (Office of the Minister President) des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, November 25, 2008.

"Soziale Sicherheit in den USA – Gefahren durch die Finanzkrise und politischer Reformbedarf."

Akademie für politische Bildung Tutzing und Akademie für Lehrerfortbildung Dillingen, Tutzing, December 2, 2008.

"USA und Europa in den transatlantischen Beziehungen." Katholische Akademie Ludwigschafen, December 11, 2008.

"Foreign Policy Think Tanks and Policy-Advice in the United Kingdom." Foreign Ministry of Poland, Warsaw, December 15, 2008.

"The Party System and Recent State Elections in Germany." University of San Diego March 3, 2009.

"Die innere Entwicklung der westlichen Führungsmacht im Kalten Krieg." Akademie für politische Bildung Tutzing, Gymnasium (High School) Teacher Education Seminar Die USA – von den rebellischen Kolonien zur globalen Supermacht, March 12, 2009.

"Die Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik der USA im 21. Jahrhundert." March 19, 2009, Mannheim, Fachhochschule des Bundes, Wehrtechnik.

"Occidentalism? Non-Western Images of the West" (with Mario Glanzmann). The Transcultural Atlantic, Universität Heidelberg, May 14, 2009

"Policy Advice and Governance: The State of the Art." Workshop on Politics and Knowledge, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, June 4, 2009.

"Vom Governator zum Girlie-Man? Zum Wandel des politischen Images von Arnold Schwarzenegger." Arnold Schwarzenegger- Body und Image, September 19, 2009, Heidelberg University.

"Team of Rivals? Beratungsstrukturen in und im

Umfeld der Obama-Administration." 24th Congress of Deutsche Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft, September 24, 2009, Kiel.

"The Future of the West." The Decline of the West? The Fate of the Atlantic Community after the Cold War, October 15-17, 2009, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

"Obamas Gesundheitsreform und der Widerstand dagegen." Annual Meeting of DGfA Political Scientists, Lambrecht, November 13, 2009.

"Obamas Gesundheitsreform." Universität Kaiserslautern, December 8, 2009.

## Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars

In January of 2008, the Ghaemian Foundation established the Jolanta and 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 15,000 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 Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars helps alleviate this condition by assisting scholars with the expense of travel. Grants from the Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Fund for Scholars are awarded by the HCA on a competitive basis. Eligibility is limited to graduate students, Ph.D. candidates, and postdoctoral scholars at the University of Heidelberg who work on topics related to the United States, Canada or transatlantic relations.

In 2009, the Ghaemian Travel Fund has sponsored the following young scholars and their research projects:

### **Yuyun Chen** (HCA)

“The Flow of ‘Master Texts’ in the U.S. and China.”

### **Raymond Eberling** (HCA):

“‘Come on Down!’ The Selling of the Florida Dream.”

### **Hilka Eckardt** (Department of Law):

„Wettbewerblicher Dialog und Competitive Negotiation-Verfahren in Deutschland und den USA.“

### **Melanie Gish** (HCA):

„A Green Gap? – Conservative Skeptics, Evangelical Environmentalists, and the Dilemma of Global Climate Change.“

### **Elena Matveeva** (English Department):

“Going East: American Journalists and the Soviet Experiment, 1921-1937.”

### **Karsten Senkbeil** (HCA)

“Sports and Business – American Games. A Discourse Analysis.“

### **Johannes Steffens** (History Department):

“Ball Games Behind Barbed Wire: The Significance of Japanese American Sports during Internment in World War II.“



# HCA

Special Feature

## Manuel de Saint-Germain-des-Prés: Guide Book to African American Freedoms



This essay was written by Ghaemian Junior Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Rashida K. Braggs. Another version of this paper was presented at “Jazz Places and Spaces,” the 2008 Leeds International Jazz Conference, which was organized by the Leeds College of Music in Leeds, England on March 13-15, 2008.

*Ironically, Vian is one of the more American of postwar French writers, in so far as his writing is as equally informed by what he gleaned of American popular culture and styles as it is from French literature. . .*<sup>1</sup>

Flipping through the pages of the guide book *Manuel de Saint-Germain-des-Prés*, one is immediately assailed by visions of Paris in its golden age. In 1949, Boris Vian penned descriptions and profiles as well as compiled photos and documents for *Manuel*. Photos by photographer Georges Dudognon were also added. The guide book represented the approximate period of 1945-1950 and was originally fashioned as an extension of *Guide Vert* for Paris; Vian completed it in May 1950 and it contained a diverse collection of personal accounts, drawings, photos and press clippings on the in-crowd of Saint-Germain-des-Prés—originally totaling 300 pages.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, *Manuel de Saint-Germain-des-Prés* is a guide to the streets, cafés, and jazz clubs of Saint-Germain-des-Prés as well as a testament to the freedoms being sought in music and life in this postwar era. Despite the ravages of WWII throughout Europe, in *Manuel* Boris Vian portrays a time lit by newfound freedoms. He illustrates a place of existentialists, political protests, jazz clubs and the commingling of artists, musicians, writers and celebrities in the vibrant heart of Paris’s sixth arrondissement, Saint-Germain-

des-Prés. In *Manuel*, we are privy to the sites and sounds of this era: There’s Hotel Crystal where pianist Mary Lou Williams and singer Hazel Scott resided.<sup>3</sup> Then there are cafes like Café de Flore where writers Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir conversed with friends about existentialism, feminism, and contemporary literature in France. In *Manuel* we also see images of a vibrant night life, as is exhibited by La Rose Rouge where writer Maya Angelou once sang and Club Saint-Germain where clarinetist Claude Luter and saxophonist Sidney Bechet wowed the tipsy crowds. These are just a few of the images shared in *Manuel de Saint-Germain-des-Prés*.

The job of revising the guide book was particularly appropriate for Boris Vian, as he negotiated Paris through multiple roles. Boris Vian was a jazz critic, trumpeter, song writer, radio host, event promoter, writer and even an engineer. Amidst all of his occupations, though, it was clear that jazz was Vian’s obsession. In 1947 he wrote one of his most critically acclaimed works, *L’Ecume des Jours*, which featured jazz-inspired street names and characters named after jazz musicians.<sup>4</sup> Vian’s interest in jazz also moved beyond the page and shaped his renown as a jazz promoter and intermediary.

Boris Vian played a key role in nurturing the jazz scene in Paris: During the International Jazz

Festival in 1949, he introduced Charlie Parker and Miles Davis to Jean Paul Sartre; in 1948 and later in 1950, Vian hosted Duke Ellington and helped plan his tour in France.<sup>5</sup> In 1957, Vian connected Miles Davis and Louis Malle, who later worked together on the award winning, improvised jazz soundtrack for *Ascenseur Pour L'Échafaud*.<sup>6</sup> All of this networking and negotiating occurred in Saint-Germain-des-Prés, which housed opportunities for many jazz musicians.

But Vian would add even more diversity to this jazz community, introducing the literary greats and intellectuals Sartre and Camus to this jazz world; both writers would grace Chez Inez, Le Tabou and Club Saint-Germain.<sup>7</sup> As one of the main figureheads of the existentialist movement, Sartre represented a multitude of young, enthusiastic zazous<sup>8</sup> intent upon living for the moment and banishing the sorrow and pain of the war. Existentialism was an appropriate mate to a music so heavily associated with freedom. Historian Tyler Stovall explains, "Because its condemnation by the Nazis during the occupation made it a cultural symbol of antifascism, jazz enjoyed a spectacular rebirth in Paris after the war."<sup>9</sup> In these years fresh after Nazi occupied France, youngsters crowded the clubs of Saint-Germain-des-Prés listening to jazz and philosophizing on individual expression and freedom. Tosh Berman, co-editor of the English translation of *Manuel*, puts it best when he writes: "What Vian and his friends stirred up was an exchange between bohemian American jazz culture and the French youth and intellectuals who found it fascinating and exotic."<sup>10</sup> *Manuel* offers documentation of this exchange between French and American culture. Given the dual interests of the text, I am most curious about how *Manuel* reflects the less obvious perspective, that of American culture. Accordingly, in this essay I explore *Manuel* as more than a guide to a popular Parisian location and era; instead, I argue that Vian presents just as

much a vision of American culture—specifically an image of African American musicianship and sociability in postwar Paris. Moreover, I suggest that one of Vian's goals is to raise the perception of African Americans and to shed light on the nurturing environment France has offered African American jazz musicians in particular.

But first, Vian's primary goal with *Manuel* was to provide a "truer" vision of the members of Saint-Germain-des-Prés; this was in direct contrast to what he perceived as the "deformed" portrayal of Saint-Germain-des-Prés and its members by the press.<sup>11</sup> In *Manuel*, Vian passionately indicts the press for lying and creating an unfair image of this community. He addresses this misconception by presenting an archive of photos and anecdotes to counter actual press releases. Taking on a pseudo-anthropological tone, Vian divides the book into five sections and proceeds to define and categorize the Saint-Germain-des-Prés population, which he calls "Germanopratin." Distinguishing facts from myths and detailing everything from street names to personality types, Vian uses the pages of *Manuel* to free his community of this misperception; in doing so, he literally reconstructs his own version of this community. With classifications such as "natives," "the assimilated," and "the permanent invaders," Vian details the "racial makeup of Saint-Germain-des-Prés" without making any racial or national divisions; instead he creates his own distinctions, which have nothing to do with biology but rather with lifestyle. Of particular interest to this essay is the group named "troglodytes or permanent residents of the cellar clubs (the Underground)."<sup>12</sup> Vian lists the following characteristics for troglodytes: living in the cellar clubs, having a preoccupation with drinking alcohol and smoking, going multiple days without eating, and having "a prodigious addiction to the rhythmic noise currently designated jazz."<sup>13</sup> With these classifications, Vian both

corrects the misconceptions of the Saint-Germain-des-Prés community while also making fun of categorizations in the first place. Even though his pseudo-anthropological tone is tongue in cheek, I suggest that Vian also attempts to offer a more “true” vision of this group, thus gaining legitimacy for it. The format of *Manuel* with its citations and inclusion of real press clippings provides evidence for Vian’s statements. The background he presents on the different types of Germanopratin offers a detailed, critical breakdown of the arrondissement. In addition, the text provides authentic and useful geographical data, as it offers locations and statistics about the clubs, cafes, and important streets in Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

By performing such an authoritative and knowledgeable tone, Boris Vian affirms his position as the “Prince”<sup>14</sup> of this community and uses language to free Saint-Germain-des-Prés from the stereotypes and lies he feels the press has illustrated. In contrast, Vian portrays Saint-Germain-des-Prés as homogenous in the troglodytes’ shared desire for life, music and social interaction, yet he also shows a heterogeneous group that contains a diverse population—most relevant to this paper is the community of African American jazz musicians. Significantly for African Americans, when Vian describes the troglodytes and when he details the racial makeup of Saint-Germain-des-Prés, it is not a segregated image that he constructs. His heterogeneous vision in *Manuel* is in direct contrast to “separate but equal” policies that were being instituted in the U.S. in the 1950s. Instead, Vian includes African Americans as part and parcel of the Germanopratin community; actually, he underlines the belief that without African Americans, the creative and intellectual richness of Saint-Germain-des-Prés would not have existed. For without the jazz of these African American musicians, the existentialist movement

would not have flourished or been housed in the same type of environment. The freedom that jazz and African Americans sought was mirrored by the freedom that existentialists pondered. The existentialists remembered the war and how they had clung to jazz then as a symbol of freedom. When the war was over, they embraced jazz openly, finding their pick of an array of jazz clubs in Paris. Stovall comments, “Saint-Germain-des-Prés became the center of both jazz and existentialism at the same time, the years immediately after 1945 [ . . . ] The popularity of existentialism produced a new type of nightclub, the famous caves of Saint-Germain-des-Prés. These caves were basement rooms, usually small and often very crowded, that featured live music and stayed open until the wee hours of the morning.”<sup>15</sup> Thus, jazz clubs became centers of not only music, but philosophy as well. Again, this dependence of the Germanopratin community on African American culture and the overt discussions of freedom and individuality that these jazz caves housed were in direct contrast to the U.S., where even equal rights were still being violently denied to African Americans.

While the aforementioned description of Boris Vian’s anthropological categorizations does not explicitly refer to African Americans, Vian’s strategy and passion for correcting the image of Saint-Germain-des-Prés mirrors one of his core motivations, which is to support the cause of African Americans in his writing.<sup>16</sup> An incident that occurred just a few years before he wrote *Manuel* offers more insight: In 1946, Vian caused much controversy when he published *J’irai cracher sur vos tombes*. In *J’irai*, Vian illustrated an African American protagonist and lifestyle that he could only imagine, since he was a white Frenchman who had never visited the United States. The protagonist of the novel was a blues musician, who passed for white and murdered white women in order to avenge the



lynching of his brother. Though the novel was condemned by critics as sexually explicit and overly violent, African American writer James Baldwin was able to distinguish one thing that the novel accurately portrayed. He described Vian as one of the rare few able to hear the “rage and pain . . . in the black American musicians, in the bars, dives, and cellars, of the Paris of those years.”<sup>17</sup> The problem, however, was that Vian secretly took on a made-up pseudonym and created for himself an imagined persona as an African American author. Similar to *Manuel*, Vian took on a fake persona, but in this case it was much more problematic and controversial. Also, I see parallels between Vian’s intent in *J’irai* and *Manuel*. In both texts, Vian strives to defend those who have been dishonored, misunderstood and mistreated. This time instead of African-Americans specifically, he protects the larger group of Germanopratins from the misrepresentation of the press. As with *J’irai* where he imagines the United States and creates a world where African Americans can gain vengeance, so with *Manuel* Vian takes his vengeance out on the press. He also creates his own world in *Manuel* too; using photos, anecdotes and drawings Vian constructs his own “truer” and “more equitable” vision of Paris. Similar to *J’irai*, his world is one that recognizes equal rights for African Americans and offers opportunities for success.

So far I have analyzed the more subtle attention to the African American community, which is found in *Manuel*; however, the text also literally showcases the role of African American musicians and fans in Saint-Germain-des-Prés. In *Manuel*, we see African American artists thriving in Paris. For example, Inez Cavanaugh is one of the female artists individually profiled in *Manuel*. Given equal billing as Juliet Gréco, the French actress and singer, Vian shows Inez Cavanaugh on two pages. In one of the pictures, *Manuel* presents a black

and white photo of Cavanaugh with hands spread and veing to the sky; her mouth is also widened as if singing a full bravado. With trumpeters just behind her and smiling fans alongside, Cavanaugh garners much applause and causes what Vian describes as a minor spectacle at the Club Du Vieux Colombier.<sup>18</sup> Inez Cavanaugh was an African American jazz vocalist, who sang with greats such as Don Redman, Errol Garner and Duke Ellington. As a lead singer for the Don Redman Orchestra, she was a member of the first African American band to play in Paris since the end of WWII.<sup>19</sup> But Cavanaugh was left out of subsequent gigs and was not very well known, until her obscurity was dashed by the interest and promotion of Boris Vian. Cavanaugh appeared among the pages of *Jazz Magazine* in 1953, but even before then, Vian, an oft-featured jazz critic in the magazine, spread an enthusiastic buzz about her, which is recounted in *Manuel*.

Cavanaugh’s inclusion in *Manuel* reveals Boris Vian’s ability to construct the scene of Saint-Germain-des-Prés, on the page and in person. He both furthers Cavanaugh’s career by vocally boosting her reputation and now in *Manuel* we see written advertisement for her work. Later in the text, Vian calls Cavanaugh “la plus Parisienne des dames de Saint-Germain-des-Prés.”<sup>20</sup> By calling an African American vocalist the most Parisian of women in Saint-Germain-des-Prés, Vian is claiming her as a native of Paris or at the very least illustrating her successful acculturation there. With this statement and with his attention to African American jazz musicians throughout the text, Vian subtly promotes jazz not only of African Americans but jazz by African Americans situated in their new French home. In sum, with *Manuel* Vian portrays Paris as a home to great jazz production fostered primarily by African American musicians. Actually, Sartre said it best when he related his surprise at

hearing Inez Cavanaugh sing; he wrote: "I went all the way to New York to hear jazz, and here it was right here in Paris."<sup>21</sup> This comment is especially significant given Sartre's previous opinions about jazz in the U.S. versus France.

In his 1947 essay, "I Discovered Jazz in America," Sartre recounted his memorable experience of finding authentic jazz in Greenwich Village, New York. He established jazz as a "national pastime" for Americans and suggested that only Americans could succeed at the music, while the French lagged behind and did not take the music seriously.<sup>22</sup> In his earlier article, Sartre privileged an American location for jazz production. But he would soon change his mind when he heard Inez Cavanaugh sing in Saint-Germain-des-Prés, thus also validating the role of France in supporting African American jazz musicians.

*Manuel* does not stop at illustrating Inez Cavanaugh's contribution to the Germanopratin jazz scene; it goes further by highlighting (arguably foregrounding) the history of African American musicianship in the Saint-Germain-des-Prés community. For *Manuel* resembles a catalogue of some of the most famous names in jazz. Between the covers of *Manuel* we see photos of Don Redman, Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Sidney Bechet and Charlie Parker. With these profiles, *Manuel* remembers the significant role that African Americans played in contributing to the creative richness of Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

Driven overseas by continued oppression and segregation in the U.S., African American artists found a haven in Paris. James Baldwin estimated that by 1950, there were 500 African-American artists in Paris; while in 1964, *Newsweek* reported that there were 1500 African Americans there.<sup>23</sup> The American GI Bill contributed to this increase

in the postwar black community in Paris because its benefits could be used at U.S. government-approved schools and universities overseas."<sup>24</sup> Accordingly, African Americans of every art form came to Paris to study, perform and write, from author James Baldwin to photographer Gordon Parks. *Manuel* documents the visiting musicians and exiled migrants in the jazz industry. In doing so, Boris Vian adds African American musicians to French cultural memory, thus validating these musicians' experiences and stories at a time when these stories struggled to be heard in the U.S. In support, Tyler Stovall writes, "After 1945, when the center of Parisian jazz shifted to the *caves* of Saint-Germain-des-Prés, nightclubs like the Tabou Club, the Trois Maillets, and the Vieux-Colombier played host to African Americans and many others... [He adds,] however, even though Parisian jazz had become much more French, employing many more French performers than in the interwar years, these clubs remained centers for black American residents, visitors, and tourists, in Paris during the 1950s and 1960s."<sup>25</sup> Thus, Stovall indicates that African Americans contributed much to this community and that Paris was a nurturing environment for the success of African Americans. But he also suggests that in contrast to the 1920s when African American jazz musicians also populated Paris, the post-WWII era showed more French jazz participation. Accordingly, in this era there were more mixed bands with African Americans and French; in addition, the French were slowly gaining more confidence and competing with African American musicians for gigs in Paris. So in illustrating the jazz scene, Boris Vian could have easily highlighted groups like his own—the Abadie band that he headed with his brothers; moreover, he opened the jazz club, Le Tabou, and was known to play there and tour. Instead, Vian features a range of bands, mixed and African American in the photos and profiles.

So, then, *Manuel* symbolizes the collaboration of blacks, whites, French, American and others.

Put simply, *Manuel* emphasizes the myth of a racially blind Paris. In the beginning of the text, it effectively does this by obfuscating the difference in races/ethnicities of the Germanopratins. With the photos, *Manuel* shows a racially mixed crowd, where bands are mixed, audiences are primarily white but the reader also sees interracial couples dancing amongst them. Even the decision to showcase African Americans at all in a guide about French culture and with the rise of French jazz musicians, promotes the perspective that Paris supports racial mixing but more significantly it illustrates France as offering a freer environment to African Americans, a place with equal rights and opportunities to succeed creatively.

In the 1950s, *Manuel* would have affirmed the perception of a racially blind Paris among African Americans; these stories were passed down from soldiers during WWI and artists in the 1920s to their children; in addition, *Manuel* would have undergirded the peak in migration of African American artists to the City of Light in the 1950s. Today, with its recent translation in 2005, *Manuel* fits in well with the trend of idealization in the hearts of African Americans who come to visit Paris. It seems that jazz is a source of nostalgia, as African Americans can trace their ancestors back to Paris—seeing them perhaps thriving in a time when that was challenging in the U.S. Paris, in itself, also serves as a source of nostalgia for visiting African Americans. There are the Paris Noir Tours, African American restaurants and the districts such as the 18th arrondissement, where Africans from all over mix. Given Paris' current political turmoil over diversity issues, the African American's formerly rose-tinted glasses may have been dropped. But *Manuel* reflects a time

before the Algerian war, before the protests in 1968 and before the contemporary riots/fires over black French citizens. Though it was certainly not entirely racially blind in the late 1940s and 50s, the perception of migrating African Americans was that it was definitely an upgrade from the U.S.

With his pseudo-anthropological tone, his positioning of African Americans in the heart of postwar Parisian culture and his dedication to showcasing African American jazz musicians even more than his native French bands, Boris Vian authoritatively positions African Americans at the forefront of cultural production in post-WWII Paris. From the title and the first pages, *Manuel* may at first appear to be a nostalgic guide book of bygone Paris. But upon closer study, Boris Vian attempts to convince us that Saint-Germain-des-Prés was a site of Franco-American exchange, fueled by the swinging music of African Americans and housed in the fruitful environment of young intellectuals focused on freedom and practicing equal rights in their diverse interactions.

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Paul Knobloch qtd. in Boris Vian, *Manuel* de St. Germain des Prés. Trans. Paul Knobloch (New York: Rizzoli International Publications, 2005), 189.

<sup>2</sup> Noel Arnaud. *Les vies parallèles de Boris Vian* (Paris: Union Générale d'Éditions, 1970), 119-124, 496. However, *Manuel* was only published posthumously by Edition du Chêne in 1974. Arnaud also indicates that the publication kept being stalled, though it was apparently advertised as a supplement upon purchase of another book by Vian. Printing and other publication projects got in the way of its publication. Later, *Manuel* was believed to be destroyed and it was only found and published in 1974--fifteen years after Vian's death.

- <sup>3</sup> Linda Dahl, *Morning Glory: A Biography of Mary Lou Williams* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999), 230.
- <sup>4</sup> Boris Vian. *L'Écume Des Jours* (Paris: Le Livre de Poche, 1999).
- <sup>5</sup> Tournes, 312.
- <sup>6</sup> Tournes, 313.
- <sup>7</sup> Tyler Stovall, *Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1996), 311-312.
- <sup>8</sup> William Shack, *Harlem in Montmartre: A Paris Jazz Story Between the Great Wars* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001), xviii, 119-123. In these pages, William Shack describes zizou as a term given to young existentialists who engaged in music and philosophical debate on the left bank of Paris: They were often characterized as young, excitable non-conformists. The zizous were also heavily linked with the anti-war positions—especially against WWII and the conflict with Algeria.
- <sup>9</sup> Tyler Stovall, *Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1996), 134.
- <sup>10</sup> Tosh Berman, "A Snapshot of History as it Happens: Boris Vian and His Saint Germain-des-Pres." *Manuel de St. Germain des Pres* (New York: Rizzoli International Publications, 2005), i.
- <sup>11</sup> Boris Vian, *Manuel de St. Germain des Pres*. Trans. Paul Knobloch (New York: Rizzoli International Publications, 2005), 23-24.
- <sup>12</sup> Vian, 8.
- <sup>13</sup> Vian, 13.
- <sup>14</sup> Boris Vian was nicknamed "The Prince of Saint-Germain."
- <sup>15</sup> Stovall, 164.
- <sup>16</sup> Ralph Willett, "Boris, Bebop and Blackness." *International Jazz Archives Journal* 1, 4 (1996): 76.
- <sup>17</sup> James Baldwin, *Collected Essays*. (New York: Penguin Putnam, 1998), 506.
- <sup>18</sup> Vian, 173.
- <sup>19</sup> Tournes, 119.
- <sup>20</sup> Boris Vian. *Manuel de St. Germain des Pres* (Paris: Chêne, 1974), 173.
- <sup>21</sup> Jean Paul Sartre quoted in "Paris Night Life." *Ebony*. (November 1949): 71.
- <sup>22</sup> Sartre, Jean-Paul. "I Discovered Jazz in America." *The Saturday Review*. Trans. Ralph de Toledano. 29 November 1947: 48-49.
- <sup>23</sup> Baldwin qtd. in Stovall 232; Michel Fabre, "The Cultural Milieu in Postwar Paris." *Explorations in the City of Light: African-American Artists in Paris, 1945-1965*. Ed. Audreen Buffalo (New York: The Studio Museum in Harlem, 1996), 33-45. 45.
- <sup>24</sup> Stovall, 141.
- <sup>25</sup> Stovall, 164.



**A Forum for  
Public Debate**

# A Forum for Public Debate

As a forum for public debate, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) facilitates communication between the academy and the general public as well as among the business community, the political sphere, and the media.

Contemporary research in the field of American Studies is presented to the public in our public forums. These include the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar, individual lectures on the United States, high-profile keynote addresses on U.S. and transatlantic affairs, debates, and panel discussions.

Strongly believing that mutual respect and consideration can only be achieved through an open-minded but critical debate, the HCA's public forum serves as venue for dialogue and discussion about the United States, thus enhancing the understanding of the United States in Germany.

## The Baden-Württemberg Seminar

### Baden-Württemberg Seminar

Each spring and fall, the HCA invites distinguished scholars, public policy experts, journalists, writers, and artists to participate in its Baden-Württemberg Seminar. Initiated in the spring of 2007 as a lecture series featuring fellows of the American Academy in Berlin and coordinated by the HCA, the seminar has been run exclusively by the HCA since the summer of 2009. Participants present their current work, discuss issues of transatlantic interest or read from their writings at selected institutions throughout the state of Baden-Württemberg.

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 year, the HCA was pleased to present the fifth and sixth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. Our cooperation partners in 2009 were the Carl Schurz Haus in Freiburg, the English Department at the University of Freiburg, the graduate program

"Globalization and Cultural Studies" at the University of Mannheim, the School of History at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), the Institut für Finanz- und Steuerrecht (Institute for Finance and Tax Law) at Heidelberg University, the German-American Lawyers' Association, the James F. Byrnes Institute in Stuttgart, the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut (DAI) (German-American Institute) in Tübingen, the American Studies department of the University of Tübingen, the Department of Literature Studies at the University of Konstanz, and the Kunstverein (art association) Freiburg. We wish to thank this committed network of partners for their continued support. The HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar is funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg as part of the matching fund described in the introduction.

### Spring Seminar 2009

This year's Spring Program of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the American Academy featured lectures, readings and discussions. Consisting of

nine lectures, the spring seminar 2009 offered a huge variety of topics ranging from Germany's constitutional odyssey to the Cuban Missile Crisis and the meaning of thumos for politics. The outstanding quality of this program underscored the cooperating partners' commitment to excellence and transatlantic dialogue.

In the series' opening lecture on February 25, Washington Post journalist and Pulitzer Prize Laureate Walter Pincus addressed the question of what has happened to the American press. This popular event was hosted by the DAI in Freiburg and by the English Department at the University of Freiburg. In the next session, held on March 12, Susan Pedersen, Professor of History at Columbia University and Bosch Fellow in Public Policy of the American Academy in Berlin, gave a presentation in Mannheim on Iraq's emerging from its League of Nations-administered mandate status in 1932.

The metaphor of construction was an important one for the burgeoning Soviet Union. Juliet Koss, an art historian at Scripps College, presented the multiple ways that construction appeared in the film, photo-graphy, painting, and architecture of the early USSR in her lecture on April 2, hosted by the FRIAS. Another highlight event of the Spring Seminar took place on April 22 at the HCA. Donald Kommers, an expert on German constitutional law and George H. W. Bush/Axel Springer Fellow at the American Academy, discussed the complexities and values embedded in German constitutional law. This event attracted an impressive crowd of leading scholars within this field, among them two Justices of the German Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe, Prof. Dr. Brun-Otto Bryde und Prof. Dr. h.c. Rudolf Mellinghoff.

The next day, former Washington Post foreign correspondent and Cold War historian Michael Dobbs

elaborated on the Cuban Missile Crisis before a select audience at the Bosch Foundation in Stuttgart.

On May 11, novelist Donald Antrim, acclaimed New York-based writer and a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*, read from his recent work, *Must I Now Read All of Wittgenstein?* at the Akademie für gesprochenes Wort (Academy for the Spoken Word). "New Public Spaces for Urban America" was the title of the lecture given by Edward Dimendberg, a professor of film and media studies at UCLA. The lecture, a joint project of the Institut für Literaturwissenschaft, Abteilung Amerikanistik, Universität Stuttgart, the Internationales Zentrum für Kultur- und Technikforschung (IZKT), and the German-American Center/James F. Byrnes Institute, was held on May 14 in Stuttgart. Both of the May lectures in Stuttgart formed part of the city's American Days Program.

Harvey Mansfield's lecture on politics and political science addressed the ancient Greek concept of thumos, a tripartite piece/segment of the soul (psyche, logos, and eros) that intones "spiritedness" or the craving for self-importance, ambition. Mansfield has taught at Harvard since 1962, and is considered one of the most influential members of the Straussian right in elite academia. The spring seminar closed on May 19 with a lecture delivered by Charles Lane of the *Washington Post* and Bosch Fellow in Public Policy of the American Academy in Berlin. In his lecture on "America's Disappearing Death Penalty: A Victory for Europe?" Lane elaborated on international opposition to the death penalty and the impact it has made on the frequency of American executions. The DAI Tübingen and the Institute for American Studies at the University of Tübingen jointly hosted this closing session.

## Fall Seminar 2009

After coordinating five semesters of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar of the American Academy, the HCA assumed sole responsibility for the program in the summer of 2009. At the same time, the Baden-Württemberg Seminar also extended its base beyond the fellows and guests of the Academy. Once again, the HCA succeeded in putting together an attractive series of nine lectures, readings, and discussions that were greatly appreciated by enthusiastic audiences. The topics of the fall program ranged from a comparison of the American and European constitutions over the impact of oil on oil-producing nations to Plato and modern drama.



Prof. Junker and Rick Atkinson during the discussion after the presentation

For the inaugural lecture of the fall program, held on September 24, the HCA was delighted to host Rick Atkinson, a distinguished journalist, historian, and multiple winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Atkinson, who is currently working on the third volume of the Liberation Trilogy, examined the role of the U.S. Army during World War II and the way this war has become a central mythic component of modern literature. During the lively discussion in the HCA's Bel Etage, Atkinson emphasized that he wants his books to be understood as anti-war literature that exposes the horrors of war without any glorification.

On October 9, Philip Zelikow shared his insights into America's role in the world in a time of transition with the audience at the HCA. Currently the

White Burkett Miller Professor of History at the University of Virginia, Zelikow previously served on the National Security Council and as the executive director of the 9/11 Commission. He pointed out that past American foreign policy was always guided by a surprisingly stable "master script," which has been lacking since the end of the Cold War and was not recreated after the events of September 2001.

The return of Iran's democratic reform movement to the global stage was the topic of Laura Secor's lecture at the James F. Byrnes Institute in Stuttgart on October 22. Secor, who has extensively traveled the country and is at work on a book currently entitled "Fugitives from Paradise," presented the story of two generations of Iranians, those who steered the course of the 1979 Islamic Revolution and those who have come of age since, struggling with the repression of the regime.

The Department for Literature Studies at the University of Konstanz co-hosted the fourth lecture of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar on November 3. Martin Puchner, H. Gordon Garbedian Chair in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, talked about "Plato and the Modern Drama." His approach emphasizes that the histories of philosophy and theater have been crucially intertwined since Plato, and that this perspective on theater history facilitates new readings of the most important modern dramatists.

One day later, on November 4, Daniel Halberstam gave a very timely talk at the HCA. This event was co-hosted by the German-American Lawyers' Association and drew a sizeable and knowledgeable crowd. Halberstam is Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School and Founding Director of the European Union Center at the University of Michigan; he also served as an attor-



ney-advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice. In his lecture on "The Constitutional Challenge: Authority and Conflict in Europe and America," he focused, amongst other things, on the way the European Union is constituted. In his lecture, coincidentally held on the day after the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty, Halberstam argued that clashes of authority within the EU or between the Supreme Court, Congress and the President are essentially disputes over who holds the superior claim on protecting individual rights.

On December 1, the Carl Schurz Haus in Freiburg co-hosted a reading by one of America's most exciting poetic voices, Susan Howe. She presented poems and an essay from her most recent book *Souls of the Labadie Tract* (2007) to a large and vivid audience and also discussed the poetry and life of Emily Dickinson. The images of Dickinson's drafts and late fragments shown in this reading shed new light on the life and work of this fascinating poet. The reading was moderated by Prof.

Dr. Kornelia Freitag, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, who has published widely on Howe's use of experimental language in her poetry.

Two days later, Jochen Hellbeck from Rutgers University presented his research on "Frontline Stalingrad" at the colloquium of the School of History at the FRIAS. Hellbeck's work looks at the competing appeals of the Soviet and Nazi German ideologies by examining the thoughts and actions of the people on both sides of the front in Stalingrad.

The fall program of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded in Freiburg on December 9, when the Kunstverein Freiburg co-hosted a talk with the artist Michael Queenland. Queenland has been a visiting faculty member in sculpture at the Yale School of Art since 2007, and his work was included in the 2008 Whitney Biennial. Many of his works mirror the unpredictability of time and circumstance as a means of shaping interpretation and meaning.

## **HOT OFF THE PRESS at the HCA: A Day of Talks and Discussions about Literature and Culture in Obama's America, October 31, 2009**

Dietmar Schloss and Heiko Jakubzik's colloquium "Hot Off the Press" (HOP) is now in its seventh year. Since 2002, every semester anew, students, Ph.D.s, and members of staff of the Anglistisches Seminar and the HCA have sifted through new books, films, music, TV shows in order to grasp the cultural Zeitgeist across the Atlantic. The publication of a book of essays on new American novels (*Zweiundzwanzig amerikanische Romane aus dem neuen Jahrhundert*) written by the members of the colloquium and edited by the organizers was the occasion for a day of lectures and discussions, on which the public was invited to join the group in the exploration of new trends in American culture.



Mischa Honeck talking about Obama's America

In the first talk of the day, Mischa Honeck described the highly emotional public debate surrounding Obama's health care reform, opening up interesting perspectives on fundamental cultural

conflicts in American society. The majority of the talks, however, were devoted to the field of contemporary literature. Wiebke Wöltje discussed David Wroblewski's bestselling novel *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*. While ostensibly dealing with the relationship between dogs and humans, the novel reverberates with old American myths and raises deeper, even philosophical questions about human existence. Cormac McCarthy's highly acclaimed novel *The Road*, describing the journey of a father and his son in a post-apocalyptic world, was introduced by Katia Rostetter. The audience, however, was divided as to the novel's quality: While some considered it an impressive, poetical work, others viewed it as sentimental kitsch.



Dietmar Schloss introducing Wiebke Wöltje

Ute Grosskopf introduced Neil LaBute's recent play *Reasons to be Pretty*, offering the audience a sample dialogue in a spirited staged reading. Heiko Jakubzik succeeded in bringing brilliant clarity into the complex plot of Paul Auster's recent novel, *Man in the Dark*. The novel's confusing story notwithstanding, many in the audience felt that Auster may be finally turning away from postmodernist experiments. Another controversial novel was at the center of Maria Diaconu's talk: *Falling Man* by Don DeLillo, in which the author tackles life after 9/11. The discussions on the novels confirmed that the trend described by the HOP-group in their book seems to be continuing: After a period of postmodernist irony, relativism and experimentalism, American writers are search-

ing for a new authenticity via attempts to anchor human identity in history and society.



Enamored crowd at the HCA's Hot OFF the Press event

After this focus on the novel, discussion moved to an interesting work of nonfiction—Jon Krakauer's *Where Men Win Glory*, which was presented by Karsten Senkbeil. The book describes the fascinating story of the football player Pat Tillman, who quit his sports career to serve in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan only to be killed by friendly fire. In another talk, Diana Kupfer discussed Quentin Tarantino's highly controversial film *Inglourious Basterds* (sic!) showing that it is not only an entertaining comedy, but also a carefully crafted work full of allusion and language games. The last talk of the day, entitled "From G's to Gents," dealt with new trends in hip-hop. Christian Schneider showed how many former "gangster rappers" are trying to change their public image by reverting to a more sleek, or even bourgeois style. The day was crowned by a concert by the indie-rock band "Shy Guy at the Show", which played without question the loudest, and arguably the best rock music in the history of the Engelhorn Palais.



# HCA

Further Activities

## HCA Research Project Receives Julius E. Williams Distinguished Community Service Award

Celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, the prestigious civil rights organization NAACP (the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) decided to present its Julius E. Williams Distinguished Community Service Award for 2009 to Maria Höhn (Vassar College) and Martin Klimke (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC / Heidelberg Center for American Studies, University of Heidelberg) for their research project and digital archive on “The Civil Rights Struggle, African-American GIs, and Germany” ([www.aacvr-germany.org](http://www.aacvr-germany.org)).

His awards include the Legion of Merit Medal, the Soldier’s Medal, and the Purple Heart.

The award recognizes an organization that has influenced broad service initiatives to develop veterans and community service partnerships. It was given at the Centennial Convention of the NAACP scheduled for July 11–16, 2009, in New York City. The award presentation took place during a private reception preceding the NAACP’s Annual Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Banquet on July 14. Speakers at the event included James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as well as David N. Dinkins, the first African-American mayor of New York City.



Maria Höhn (middle) and Martin Klimke (right)

The award is named after the first national director of the NAACP Department of Armed Services and Veterans Affairs. Mr. Williams joined the civil rights organization in 1966 and organized the Veterans Affairs Department in 1969. He served in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam.

## Celebration of the HCA's 5th Anniversary and the 70th Birthday of its Founding Director, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker

On June 20, 2009, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) celebrated the 5th anniversary of its official inauguration and the 70th birthday of its founding director, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker. The official celebration took place at the Heidelberg City Hall. Among the guests who gathered in this historical and beautiful assembly hall were benefactors and friends of the HCA, academic colleagues of Prof. Junker, HCA MAS and Ph.D. students as well as staff members, and Prof. Junker's family and friends.

Former Rector Prof. Dr. iur. Dr. h.c. Peter Hommelhoff opened the celebration with a speech in which he praised Prof. Junker's work as founding director of the HCA. Prof. Hommelhoff emphasized that the HCA with its MAS, Ph.D. and research programs is a unique institution of the University of Heidelberg, uniting under its roof six faculties and ten disciplines. He also underlined that over the last five years the HCA has established itself as one of the leading European centers for American Studies and that each year more students from all over the world took part in its programs.



Heidelberg City Hall

Prof. Dr. Inken Prohl, a Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, congratulated the HCA and Prof. Junker on behalf of the faculty and its members.

Prof. Dr. Stefan Weinfurter, a longtime colleague of Prof. Junker, took the floor on behalf of the Department of History delivering a very personal laudation sparkling with wit. He was followed by Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert and Dr. Christine Weiss, who shared with the audience their vivid memories about the time during which they earned their postgraduate degrees under the direction of Prof. Junker.



Dr. Christine Weiss

After Prof. Junker had thanked all the speakers for their warm words and cordial wishes, Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg from the Department of History introduced Dr. Josef Joffe. Dr. Joffe is a well-known public intellectual and publisher of *Die Zeit*, one of Germany's most recognized weeklies. In his talk titled "America and Europe in the Obama Era," Dr. Joffe gave a deeply analytical overview of the changing mutual perceptions between Europe and America. First, Dr. Joffe presented several stereotypes which had come to the minds of Europeans when they talked about America and of Americans when they talked about Europe. After the inauguration of Barack Obama in January 2009, these views have started to slightly change, and

in his talk the publisher underlined that German-American relations have recently become more open. Still, one should keep in mind that there were several potential points of friction, such as the war in Afghanistan, where European and American politicians need to arrive at common solutions based on international instead of only national interests.

The evening ended with a formal dinner in the famous Heidelberg Castle.



Dr. Josef Joffe (links), Prof. Dr. Philipp Gassert (back left), Dr. Rolf Kentner (back right), Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker (right)

## **Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker elected President of the European ASN, 2009-2011**

On May 1, 2009, the European American Studies Network Association (ASN) convened at the Arthur Miller Centre, University of East Anglia, Norwich, and elected the HCA's Founding Director, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlef Junker, as President 2009 – 2011. The association is a group of 18 European Centres dedicated to the study and teaching of the United States.

## Cooperation and Support

The HCA is grateful for the cooperation and help that it has received over the past year from the following institutions:

The American Academy in Berlin; the Academy for the Spoken Word, Stuttgart; the Department for American Studies, University of Tübingen; the Seminar for Contemporary History, University of Tübingen; the Department of English, University of Freiburg; the German-American Center / James-F.-Byrnes Institute e.V., Stuttgart; the Marie-Curie-Actions for the Promotion of Scientific Excellence of the European Commission; the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS); the Fritz Thyssen Foundation; the German American Institute Heidelberg (DAI); the Carl-Schurz-Haus / German American Institute Freiburg (DAI); the German American Institute Tübingen (DAI); the German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV); the Graduate Program "Globalization and Cultural Studies," University of Mannheim; the International Center for Research on Culture and Technology (IZKT), University of Stuttgart; the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin; the Kunstverein Freiburg; the Department of Literature, University of Konstanz; the Department of Literature/American Studies, University of Stuttgart; the American-European Friendship Club, Heidelberg; the American German Business Club, Heidelberg; the Institute for Finance and Tax Law, University of 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; the Humboldt Foundation; the Robert Bosch Foundation, 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 the University of Heidelberg for their support:

The Computing Center, the Guest House of the University, the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg (IWH), the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, the Press Office, the Rector and the Rectors's Office, the Studentenwerk Heidelberg, the University Library, and the Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung (ZUV).

Furthermore, special thanks go out to the administrative staff of the Schurman Foundation and the FHCA (Tanja Hönninger, Lucy Whitehead, Silke Ruh-Simon), to the office of the Engelhorn family (Gunda Baumgartner), to attorney at law Klaus-Dieter Freund, to Klaus Kettner for his advice on accounting, and to architect Horst Müller.

## HCA Interns

In 2009, the HCA successfully extended 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:

Tatjana Eichert (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany), who spent three months at the HCA as an intern. After assisting the Spring Academy Team in the organization of the sixth Spring Academy, Tatjana continued her internship in the public relations department, where she wrote weekly summaries of the U.S. policy news coverage. Next to researching for publications, she especially supported the organization of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar and a lecture series on the American presidency. Tatjana proved to be an excellent colleague, so that the HCA decided to employ her after her internship. Since September 2009 Tatjana Eichert is a member of the HCA staff.

Egmont Gassert (Kimberton Waldorf School, Kimberton, PA) mainly assisted the MAS team. During his six-week internship he translated numerous texts from German into English, created various statistics about the new applicants for the Master of American Studies program and did an extensive research of B.A. programs in American Studies in North America for potential new students of HCA.

Miriam Hampp (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany) spent six weeks at the HCA. She contributed to the HCA website writing weekly summaries of the U.S. policy news coverage and assisted the organization of the fall program of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar.

Svetlana Hirth (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany), who spent three months at the HCA, supported the MAS team in preparing for

the arrival of the new MAS students and in the organization of this year's commencement ceremony as well as a variety of other HCA events. She continued her internship in the public relations department where she, among other things, wrote news reports for the HCA website.

Mario Glanzmann (University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany) worked closely with the research department of the HCA. During his two-month stay at the HCA, he did extensive research for an article on "American Students in Heidelberg from 1800 to 2000", which will be published in the "Heidelberg University's Atlas". Mario was also involved in the preparation and organization of the workshop "The Transcultural Atlantic", where he gave a presentation on "Occidentalism? Non-Western Perceptions of the West".

Aurelia Huffer (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany) supported the HCA staff in the organization of various events at the HCA, such as the lectures on the American presidency and the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. During her two-month internship, she did research on topics like "Lobbyism in the USA" for lectures and publications and wrote weekly summaries of the U.S. policy news coverage.

Johannes Steffens (University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany) stayed at the HCA for three months during which he mainly focused on two tasks: On the one hand, he did extensive research of the existence and structure of B.A. programs in American Studies in Germany in preparation of the HCA's new Bachelor program. On the other hand, he compiled information on collections for U.S. related primary sources.

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



## Media Coverage

During the past year, reports on the HCA, its faculty and staff and its activities have appeared in the following media:

Abendzeitung, The Atlantic Times, Badische Neueste Nachrichten, Blick, Campus-Report, Deutsche Welle, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, Greenpeace Magazin, Handelsblatt, Heidelberg Aktuell, hr info, ifo-Schnelldienst, Kölner Stadtanzeiger, Mannheimer Morgen, mdr Info, PR-Inside.com, net-tribune.de, news.de, Radio Eins (RRB), Radio 1 Zürich, Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung, Rhein Neckar Fernsehen, Ruprecht, derstandard.at, Stars and Stripes, Sonntagszeitung, Spiegel online, Stuttgarter Nachrichten, sueddeutsche.de, Süddeutsche Zeitung, suite101.de, swissinfo.ch, SWR2, SWR 4, Tagesanzeiger, Tagesspiegel, die tageszeitung, WDR 3, welt.de, Die Zeit, zoomer.de, zürcher Unijournal, 20 Minuten.

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Philipp Gassert / Detlef Junker / Wilfried Mausbach /  
Martin Thunert (Hg.)

## Was Amerika ausmacht

Multidisziplinäre Perspektiven



2009. 231 Seiten. Kart.

€ 24,-

ISBN 978-3-515-09396-5

Die Frage, was Amerika ausmacht, hat europäische Beobachter seit je her fasziniert. Betonten die einen die jeweiligen „Sonderwege“, sahen andere Amerika und Europa auf ähnlichen Pfaden. Diese Auffassung war besonders ausgeprägt in den Jahrzehnten nach 1945, als die USA auf dem Höhepunkt ihres Einflusses standen. Seit dem Ende des Kalten Krieges und seit dem 11. September 2001 werden transatlantische Unterschiede wieder stärker betont.

Der Band trägt zur Versachlichung der Debatte bei, indem er das europäisch-amerikanische Spiel wechselseitiger Beobachtungen und Konkurrenzen historisiert. Denn Verallgemeinerungen verdecken inneramerikanische Vielfältigkeiten und Differenzen. Andererseits werden in empirisch vergleichenden Untersuchungen konkrete Unterschiede benannt, wie sie sich z.B. bei einer Analyse sozialstaatlicher Systeme und der Rechtskulturen ergeben.

### AUS DEM INHALT

**P. Gassert:** Was Amerika ausmacht → **D. Junker:** Geschichte und nationale Identität der USA → **A. Demandt:** Die klassische Antike in Amerika → **K. Krakau:** Exzeptionalismus und Mission → **D. Fischer-Hornung / D. Schulz:** Multikulturalismus und der Amerikanische Traum im Spiegel der Literatur → **W. Gamerith:** Ethnische Minoritäten und ihre Ausbildungs- und Arbeitsmarktsituation → **W. Brugger:** Schutz oder Verbot von Hassrede? Ein Streit zwischen Amerika und Deutschland → **M. G. Schmidt:** Staat und Markt – die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika und Europa im Vergleich → **G. Besier:** Religionsfreiheit in Amerika und Europa → **A. Kemmerling:** Pragmatische Wahrheit: Was uns im Leben weiter bringt → **T. Schmidt-Beste:** Was ist ‚amerikanische‘ Musik? → **H. Sangmeister:** Das Projekt einer gesamtamerikanischen Freihandelszone aus lateinamerikanischer Perspektive → **B. Neuss:** Europa und die USA. Wozu brauchen wir die Amerikaner (noch)?

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JUNKER, DETLEF  
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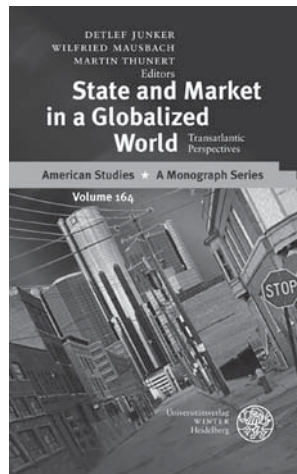
## **State and Market in a Globalized World**

Transatlantic Perspectives

2009. IV, 272 Seiten. (American Studies – A Monograph Series, Volume 164)

Geb. €42,-

ISBN 978-3-8253-5526-5



This volume is the product of a conference of the same name, which took place at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies between October 5 and 8, 2006, and was generously sponsored by Manfred Lautenschläger, CEO of the MLP Group. A distinguished group of more than a dozen authors from universities in the United States, Germany and the European University Institute representing academic disciplines such as economics, law, political science, religious and cultural studies etc. offers unique transatlantic perspectives on issues such as the role of

markets as well as regulatory regimes, or the role of educational systems in a globalized world. Experts examine, whether the welfare state will be replaced by a “market state”, reflect on the complex relationship between religion and capitalism, and analyze the rights-bearing individual and its relationship to the market and the state. Together, the contributions in this volume paint a fascinating panoply of the ways in which globalization, or talk of it, affects ideas of the relation between state and market in all kinds of different realms.

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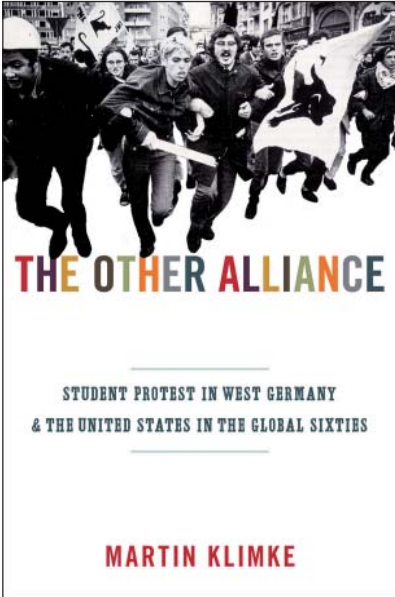
# The Other Alliance

## *Student Protest in West Germany and the United States in the Global Sixties*

by Martin Klimke

*"Klimke brings to life a transnational movement that linked radicals on both sides of the Atlantic to a global struggle for power and justice. Must reading for '68ers and those who seek to understand the history they made."*

—David Farber, author of *The Age of Great Dreams*



*"Klimke uncovers all kinds of links between the American and West German student movements. . . . This book is clearly a labor of immense passion, discipline, intelligence, and insight."*

—Jeremy Varon, *New School for Social Research*

**Martin Klimke** is a research fellow at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies at the University of Heidelberg.

Using previously classified documents and original interviews, *The Other Alliance* examines the channels of cooperation between American and West German student movements throughout the 1960s and early 1970s, and the reactions these relationships provoked from the U.S. government. Revising the standard narratives of American and West German social mobilization, Martin Klimke demonstrates the strong transnational connections between New Left groups on both sides of the Atlantic.

Klimke shows that the cold war partnership of the American and German governments was mirrored by a coalition of rebellious counterelites, whose common political origins and opposition to the Vietnam War played a vital role in generating dissent in the United States and Europe. American protest techniques such as the "sit-in" or "teach-in" became crucial components of the main organization driving student activism in West Germany—the German Socialist Student League—and motivated American and German student activists to construct networks against global imperialism. Klimke traces the impact that Black Power and Germany's unresolved National Socialist past had on the German student movement; he investigates how U.S. government agencies, such as the State Department's Interagency Youth Committee, advised American policymakers on confrontations with student unrest abroad; and he highlights the challenges student protesters posed to cold war alliances.

Exploring the catalysts of cross-pollination between student protest movements on two continents, *The Other Alliance* is a pioneering work of transnational history.



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**Belinda Davis** is Associate Professor of History at Rutgers University. **Wilfried Mausbach** is the Executive Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) at the University of Heidelberg. **Martin Klimke** is a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. **Carla MacDougall** is a doctoral student at Rutgers University.

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