



Heidelberg Center for American Studies

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

SPECIAL FEATURE

Detlef Junker:

"Ambassador Jacob Gould Schurman and
the University of Heidelberg"



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RECTOR'S WELCOME

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

Dear Reader,

The Ruperto Carola celebrated another milestone this year: After seven years of construction, we were able to finally present a 6,500 square meters extension of our University Library to its users. This new space offers 1,000 new work stations along with quiet zones, lounges, and seminar rooms. Throughout construction, our University Library managed to keep its top ranking in the prestigious German Library Index. While large parts of the holdings are digitized and can be accessed virtually anywhere, the University Library remains an immensely popular meeting place for our 31,000 students, who frequent it to study, work on presentations, or just relax with a book or a magazine.

With construction completed, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies now stands reconnected with two key spaces of our university – its superb library and its popular Triplex Mensa – through the inner courtyard. Since 2004 the courtyard has also often served as a space for the generous hospitality the HCA has extended to members of the university and the Heidelberg public. With its distinguished lecture series, its festive award ceremonies – be it the annual commencement or the bestowal of the James W. C. Pennington Award – and its public conference keynotes, the HCA has firmly established itself as a facilitator for communication between academia and the general public. We look forward to continue this tradition in the newly designed inner courtyard.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears 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

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

Dear Friends and Benefactors, Students, and Colleagues,

The internationalization of universities is part of today's encompassing globalization. This has also fundamentally affected the HCA's research and teaching and is especially evident in our signature Master in American Studies Program (MAS). In the short time this institute has existed, 161 students from 44 countries on 5 continents have completed a Master's degree at the HCA.

Lawmakers in the state of Baden-Württemberg have allowed us to charge € 2,500 tuition per semester for the MAS. For many German students, used to thorough public financing of their studies, this amount might appear as an imposition – in global comparison, it is rather innocuous.

At any rate, the MAS, much more so than most comparable programs in Germany, needs to assert itself on a competitive world market of science and education dominated by the United States, Great Britain, Australia, and Canada. This is why in recent years we have been promoting our MAS program in various regions around the world: in 2012 in China, at education fairs in Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu and Shanghai; and in 2013 in Chile, at education fairs in Santiago de Chile, Antofagasta, and Concepción.

This fall we turned our attention to the American market, where tuition fees have climbed to dizzying heights. These costs prevent many American students from being able to study their own country. Indeed, the average tuition fees in the U.S are now higher than the average family income. Thus, American students risk acquiring massive debts, encumbering their prospects after graduation.

Our focus on the American market kicked off in early October 2015, when we participated in the Second German Higher Education Virtual Fair in the U.S. and Canada, initiated by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). We presented the HCA, its programs, and its embeddedness in one of Europe's premier universities in a virtual auditorium. Afterwards, several members of our faculty were available to answer questions in a chatroom.

Then, from October 28 to November 6, Katia Rostetter, M.A., Dr. Anne Sommer, and myself visited universities and other institutions in New York, St. Louis, Lincoln, and San Francisco offering answers to the question "Why American Studies at the HCA?"

The most important answer is: Students will experience the past and present of the United States anew – through the eyes of foreign peers and with renowned professors imparting inside knowledge with an outside perspective. Big contours are only visible from a distance. At some point in one's life one has to get out of one's home country and culture, both physically and mentally.

I experienced this transformation myself. I spent almost nine years in the United States and some parts of Canada. I toured all states except North Dakota and Alaska, which are still on my travel agenda. By working, travelling, and living in North America, I developed a better understanding of Germany and Europe. After all, comparisons are the very backbone of education.

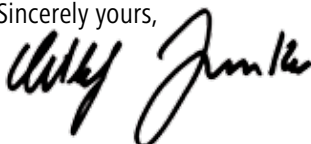
The second answer is more practical, or, you might even say, more existential: In Heidelberg, students get more academic bang for their bucks, to paraphrase President Obama. They will get an excellent education, international experience, and intercultural competence at an affordable price. In fact, most of our students are able to graduate debt-free – and state regulations guarantee steady tuition fees.

In addition to the MAS, we offer a Ph.D. Program in American Studies, which is conducted in English as well. Students of our international M.A. and Ph.D. programs can easily interact with undergraduates in our B.A. in American Studies (BAS) program who largely hail from Germany but are all fluent in English. Of course, Heidelberg University also offers the opportunity to learn German.

The third answer to our leitmotiv "Why study at the HCA?" relates to the academic quality of our program. While we offer a classical area studies program, the HCA is notable among American Studies programs for its multidisciplinary nature. We offer courses in U.S. history, literature, culture, politics, American religion, and human geography. All our German-born professors and lecturers have spent part of their education and career in the United States, and, from the very beginning, American guest professors have enriched our academic profile.

Our publicity tour to the East Coast, West Coast and American heartland was met with great enthusiasm, and we look forward to welcoming even more American students to the HCA to enjoy Heidelberg's academic life and hospitality.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Detlef Junker". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

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

Founding Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies



THE HCA

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Officially inaugurated in 2004, the HCA has become one of the leading centers for American Studies in Europe. It provides excellent research and education opportunities for scholars and students from all over the world. In addition, the HCA strengthens the profile of Heidelberg University as one of Germany's finest academic institutions. Heidelberg University's 628-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

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

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

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

Again, the Ladenburg Foundation and the Friends of the HCA, headquartered in New York City, have been pillars of institutional support. The Ghaemian Foundation supported the HCA from 2007 to 2012. It established the Ghaemian Travel Fund for scholars in 2007. From 2009 to 2013, the foundation offered a Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence fellowship as well. The first recipient of this fellowship was Professor Rashida Braggs, who came to the HCA from Stanford University, followed by professors Patrick S. Roberts from Virginia Tech University, Charles Postel from San Francisco State University, and Sarah-Jane Mathieu from the University of Minnesota.

One of the most active benefactors of American Studies in Heidelberg since 1991, Rolf Kentner, established the Rolf-Kentner-Dissertation Prize in 2010. This annual award recognizes an outstanding and yet unpublished dissertation submitted to a German University. In 2010, the award went to Daniel Stein from the University of Göttingen; the 2011 recipient was Frank Usbeck from the University of Leipzig; in 2012, Leonard Schmieding, also from the University of Leipzig, received this award; in 2013, the Kentner Prize was awarded to Jasper M. Trautsch, who received his doctorate from the Free University Berlin; in 2014 the award went to Juliane Braun from the University of Würzburg; Tom Kaden from the University of Leipzig received the Kentner Prize in 2015 (see pages 113-114).

Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger and the Lautenschläger Foundation continued their longtime support of the HCA by providing the initial funding for a new and exciting program set up jointly by the HCA and the Faculty of Theology: the James W. C. Pennington Award. On the occasion of the award's inauguration, the HCA was honored to receive a message of greetings from U.S. President Barack Obama acknowledging this new initiative (see HCA annual report 2010-11). In 2012, this prestigious award, named for the first African American to receive an honorary doctorate from a European University, brought the first preeminent visiting scholar in this program to the HCA, Professor Albert J. Raboteau from Princeton University, followed by Professor Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham from Harvard in 2013, Professor Laurie Maffly-Kipp from Washington University in St. Louis in 2014, and Professor William L. Andrews from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

During the academic year 2014-15, fourteen MAS students and four Ph.D. candidates were privileged to enjoy the support of the BASF Group, Elfie and Ray Carrell, Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn, and the Leonie Wild Foundation. And once more, the 2015 Spring Academy was made possible due to the generosity of the John Deere Company.

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

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

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ORGANIZATION

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In November 2005, the HCA established a Board of Trustees. Today, it consists of eleven members, all of them long-time supporters of the HCA and of the endeavor to create a leading center for American Studies and transatlantic exchange at Heidelberg University. Along with HCA Founding Director Professor Detlef Junker they are: Dr. Kurt Bock (BASF Group, Ludwigshafen), Dr. Martin Bussmann (Mannheim LLC, New York), Ray Carrell, Curt Engelhorn, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Rolf Kentner (BW-Bank, Mannheim), Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger (MLP Group, Heidelberg), Dr. Hans-Peter Wild (Rudolf-Wild-Werke GmbH & Co KG, Eppelheim), and the rector of Heidelberg University, Professor Bernhard Eitel. In 2014, and after rendering great service to the HCA since its inception, Dr. Bernd-A. von Maltzan left the Board of Trustees. His successor is Joachim Häger, head of Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management Germany. The Board of Trustees meets at least once a year to discuss the institute's progress and to advise its future developments.



DR. KURT BOCK

Dr. Kurt Bock is chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF. Since 2003 he has been a member of the Board of Executive Directors and served as chief financial officer of the BASF Group, responsible for finance, corporate controlling, global procurement & logistics, and information services as well as for corporate audit. In this capacity, his responsibilities also included the North America regional division. Dr. Bock was born in Rahden, Germany, in 1958. From 1977 to 1982, he studied business administration at the universities of Münster and Cologne as well as at Pennsylvania State University. He received his doctorate in economics from the University of Bonn in 1985. He joined BASF's finance division in 1985 and served as executive assistant to the CFO until 1991 and as head of technology, planning and controlling, engineering plastics division, until 1992. In 1992 he joined the Robert Bosch GmbH in Stuttgart, first as senior vice president, finance and accounting, before becoming managing director of Bosch Brazil. In 1998, he returned to BASF, this time as CFO of BASF Corporation, Mount Olive, New Jersey. In 2000, Dr. Bock became president of logistics & information services at BASF headquarters in Ludwigshafen. As a member of the Schurman Foundation he has been involved in promoting research and education in American history and culture at Heidelberg University for many years. (Photo courtesy BASF SE)



DR. MARTIN BUSSMANN

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



RAY CARRELL

Ray Carrell was born in Texas in 1946 and holds a B.A. from Texas Tech University. He has more than forty years of executive experience in development, sales, and finance, including positions as managing director of companies in the U.S., France, and the U.K. From 1966 to 1982, his career with the Michigan-based Clark Equipment Company took him to Wiesbaden and Strasbourg. In 1982, he became group vice president of the Perkins Engines Group in Peterborough, Great Britain. Ray Carrell returned to Texas in 1987 as the President and CEO of MTU North America. In 1995, he joined the Board of Management of Kühnle, Kopp, and Kausch in Frankenthal and became president and CEO of the Company in 1999. With the sale of AG KK&K to Siemens AG in 2006, he joined ECM Equity Capital Management, a mid-sized private equity fund based in Frankfurt. Ray Carrell has supported the HCA and its multidisciplinary programs for many years, fostering the transatlantic dialogue that is important to him.



PROF. DR. RER. NAT. BERNHARD EITEL

Professor Bernhard Eitel studied geography, German philology, and literature at the University of Karlsruhe. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Stuttgart in 1989 and his *venia legendi* from the same university in 1994 with a study on calcium-rich cover beds and calcrete generations in Namibia. Prior to coming to Heidelberg, Professor Eitel taught at the University of Passau. Since 2001, he has held the chair in physical geography and has also acted as head of the Department of Geography at Heidelberg University. His major fields of research are in

geomorphology, geoecology, the Quaternary research, soil geography, geoarchaeology, and dryland areas, particularly in Namibia, Peru, and China. In October 2007, Professor Eitel assumed the office of rector of Heidelberg University. He was reelected for a second term in 2012.



CURT ENGELHORN

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



HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN

Heidemarie Engelhorn was born in Munich, where she studied at the College of Business Administration. In 1970 she moved to Italy to manage a company founded by her first husband. Orm Berggold Chemistry soon acquired an excellent reputation for dependable top quality chemical products and became very profitable. Heidemarie Engelhorn sold the company to Safety Kleen in 1991 after the death of her first husband. In 1995 she was married to Curt Engelhorn. She has since been

instrumental in selecting and shaping many charitable projects of her husband, especially the extraordinary support of sustainable and far-sighted projects at Heidelberg University. In 2008, Heidemarie Engelhorn was named Honorary Senator of the university for her unfailing commitment to and support for the promotion of American Studies in Heidelberg.



JOACHIM HÄGER

Joachim Häger has been head of Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management Germany since November 2014 and head of Wealth Management Germany since June 2007. He is a member of Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management Global Executive Committee and chairman of the Supervisory Board of Sal. Oppenheim and Deutsche Oppenheim Family Office AG. Following his apprenticeship at Deutsche Bank, Joachim Häger studied business administration in Trier, graduating with the degree "Diplomkaufmann" in 1990. He returned to Deutsche Bank and started his professional career as executive assistant to Deutsche Bank's chief economist, Professor Norbert Walter. From 1991 to 1997, Joachim Häger was responsible for mid-cap corporate client coverage in Global Banking. In 1997, Joachim Häger took over responsibility for Deutsche Bank Corporate Banking in Eastern Europe and Austria. In 1999, Joachim Häger joined the Private Banking Division and founded a private and institutional UHNW clients business in Germany. From 2002 to 2005, he served as a member of the Executive Committee of Private Wealth Management (PWM) with the responsibility for sales and strategy development. In 2005, he became member of PWM's Global Executive Committee with responsibility for global strategic business development. Joachim Häger was born in Wuppertal in 1963. He is married and has two daughters.



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

The founding director of the HCA was born in Pinneberg near Hamburg. He studied history, political science, philosophy, and German philology in Innsbruck and Kiel, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1969. In 1974 Professor Junker was appointed associate professor at the University of Stuttgart. He taught modern history at Heidelberg University from 1975 to 1994 and held the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History there

from 1999 to 2004. From 1994 to 1999, Professor Junker served as the Director of the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Washington, D.C. The foci of his research are U.S. foreign policy in the twentieth century, German history, international relations and the history of transatlantic relations, and the theory of history. His most important recent publications include his monograph *Power and Mission. Was Amerika antreibt* (2003) and the two volume handbook *The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War 1945-1990* (2004), which he edited. In 2005, Professor Junker was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Maryland–University College Europe (UMUC) in Heidelberg, recognizing his commitment to fostering German-American dialogue and cross-cultural understanding. In 2007, he was appointed Distinguished Senior Professor of Heidelberg University. In 2009, Professor Junker was elected president of the American Studies Network Association (ASN) Europe. In September 2010, he received the Federal Cross of Merit for his exceptional support of American Studies as a discipline, his academic teaching, and his administrative abilities.



ROLF KENTNER

Rolf Kentner studied business administration in Germany and the United States, graduating with the degree of Diplomkaufmann from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg in 1973. After holding positions for an international commercial bank in Germany, Great Britain, Italy, and the U.S., 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 bank's corporate clients key account II. Rolf Kentner is active in many charitable organizations, among others as chairman of the Schurman Society for the Promotion of American Studies in Heidelberg, and as chairman of the Jacob Gould Schurman Foundation. Both organizations are named after the Heidelberg alumnus Jacob Schurman, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Germany from 1925 to 1930, and both have been crucial in the establishment of the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History as well as of the HCA. Rolf Kentner is honorary senator of Heidelberg University and of the Mannheim University for Applied Sciences. In 2009, he endowed the annual Rolf-Kentner-Dissertation Prize for a yet unpublished outstanding dissertation in American Studies submitted to a German university.



DR. H.C. MANFRED LAUTENSCHLÄGER

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



DR. HANS-PETER WILD

Dr. Hans-Peter Wild, is owner and chairman of the Deutsche SiSi Werke. He studied law at Heidelberg University and business administration in Mannheim, Cambridge, and at the Sorbonne, Paris and holds a doctorate from the Faculty of Law of the University of Mannheim. Dr. Wild was managing director of the oil and shipping company Diersch & Schröder before joining his parents' company in 1974. Today it is the world's largest private manufacturer of natural ingredients for food and beverages. Additionally, Dr. Wild has taught at the University of Sofia. He also is president of the Leonie Wild Charitable Foundation, which he established with his mother in 1997, supporting social and cultural projects. He has been a long-time supporter of Heidelberg University, which named him honorary senator in 1996. Based on his experience

with foreign markets and other cultures, Dr. Wild has always acknowledged the importance of paying attention to and respecting cultural differences. To provide others with the opportunity to also learn about the cultural specifics of the U.S., he has been supporting the HCA from the very beginning, for example with the endowment of the Wild Scholarships for the M.A. in American Studies program.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies consists of members from the six faculties that contribute to the HCA. These are the Faculties of Chemistry and Earth Sciences; Economics and Social Studies; Law; Modern Languages; Philosophy; and Theology. In 2004, the six representatives adopted the proposal of Professor Peter Hommelhoff, then rector of Heidelberg University, and named Professor Detlef Junker the founding director of the HCA. The late Professor Winfried Brugger and Professor Michael Welker were named deputy directors.



PROF. DR. MANFRED BERG

On the HCA's Board of Directors, Manfred Berg represents the Faculty of Philosophy. He has held the Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History since September 2005. From 1992 to 1997, Professor Berg was a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. Subsequently he taught at the Free University of Berlin, Cologne University, and the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. He also served as executive director of the Center for USA Studies at the Leucorea Foundation of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. The foci of his research and teaching are African American History, the history of mob violence, and the history of U.S. foreign relations. He is the author of *The Ticket to Freedom: The NAACP and the Struggle for Black Political Integration* (2005), *Popular Justice: A History of Lynching in America* (2011), and most recently *Geschichte der USA* (2013). In 2006 Professor Berg received the David Thelen Award from the Organization of American Historians (OAH) for the best article on American history published in a foreign language for his article "Black Civil Rights and Liberal Anticomunism: The NAACP during the McCarthy Era." In the spring of 2009 Manfred Berg served as the Lewis P. Jones Visiting Professor of History at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. From 2010 through 2012, Professor Berg served as dean of the Faculty of Philosophy.



PROF. DR. ULRIKE GERHARD

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

scapes in Canada and Germany. Since then she has analyzed political and socio-economic trends in US American cities (see, for example, *Global City Washington, D.C. – eine politische Stadtgeographie*, 2007), spending several months in Washington, D.C., and other urban centers. Her most recent research topics deal with reurbanization trends in North American cities, urban inequality in the Americas, and urban sustainable politics across the world. She aims at developing a planetary research perspective on urban theory that takes into account the wide array of urban developments in an increasingly urbanized world. Professor Gerhard was a visiting professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from March to July 2015 and is facilitating a close partnership with that university. She joined the HCA Board of Directors in 2011.



PROF. DR. BERND GRZESZICK

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

tional Theory, and Legal Philosophy at Heidelberg University. He joined the HCA's Board of Directors in 2011. In 2013, he was appointed an ordinary member of the social sciences class of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities.



PROF. DR. SEBASTIAN HARNISCH

Sebastian Harnisch is professor for international relations and comparative foreign policy and deputy director of the Institute for Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences. He taught international relations, German and American foreign and security policy at Trier University (2003-2006), the Federal Armed Forces University, Munich (2006-2007), Beijing Foreign Studies University (2011), and Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (2013). Sebastian Harnisch holds degrees in history and political science from Trier University (M.A., doctorate and habilitation) and was a research fellow at JCIE (Tokyo, 1996), Columbia University (New York, 1996), Yonsei and Seoul National University (Seoul, 1996-1997), as well as Heidelberg's Center of Excellency, the Marsilius-Kolleg (2011). He has published widely on U.S. foreign and security policy, including a monograph on U.S.-Korean relations (1850-1995) and most recently an edited volume on role theory in international relations (2011). Professor Harnisch joined the HCA Board of Directors in 2010.

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

(See p. 16)



PROF. DR. GÜNTER LEYPOLDT

Günter Leypoldt is professor of American literature and culture at the Faculty of Modern Languages. He taught American Studies at the universities of Tübingen (2001-2007), Maryland—College Park (2003), and Mainz (2007-2009). Günter Leypoldt holds degrees in American, British, and German literatures from Cape Town (B.A.) and Tübingen (doctorate and habilitation). He has published essays on literary transcendentalism, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century aesthetics, twentieth-century literary and cultural theory, and a monograph on contemporary fiction, *Casual Silences: The Poetics of Minimal Realism* (2001). His most recent study deals with nineteenth-century U.S. literary culture and its modernist reconstruction, *Cultural Authority in the Age of Whitman: A*

Transatlantic Perspective (2009). His present research interests include transatlantic romanticism and modernism, American pragmatism, transculturality, the borders between aesthetic and religious experience, and the sociology of knowledge formation. Professor Leypoldt joined the HCA Board of Directors in 2009.



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

Michael Welker, professor emeritus of Systematic Theology represents the Faculty of Theology on the board. Professor Welker served as Director of the Internationales Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg from 1996 to 2006. He was a visiting professor at Harvard, Princeton, Cambridge (UK), and the Emory Law School. He is currently Administrative Director of the Forschungszentrum für Internationale und Interdisziplinäre Theologie (FIIT) in Heidelberg. Recent publications: (ed), *The Spirit in Creation and New Creation: Science and Theology in Western and Orthodox Realms* (2012; Russian 2013); *Concepts of Law in the Sciences, Legal Studies and Theology* (2013). The sixth edition of his work *Gottes Geist. Theologie des Heiligen Geistes* was published in 2015 (*God the Spirit*, 3rd edition 2013). In 2012 he published the Yale Taylor Lectures *The Theology and Science Dialogue: What Can Theology Contribute?* and *Gottes Offenbarung: Christologie (God the Revealed)*, (2013). With Francis Schüssler Fiorenza and Klaus Tanner (eds.), *Political Theology. Contemporary Challenges and Future Directions* (2013); with Jürgen von Hagen (eds.), *Money as God? The Monetization of the Market and its Impact on Religion, Politics, Law and Ethics* (2014); (ed.). *The Depth of the Human Person: A Multidisciplinary Approach* (2014); (ed.) *Quests for Freedom: Biblical – Historical – Contemporary*, (2015); with William Schweiker (eds.) *Images of the Divine and Cultural Orientations: Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Voices* (2015).

FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Ten departments from six faculties committed themselves to the program, enabling a broad range of disciplines to be represented at the HCA: American literature and culture, economics, geography, history, law, musicology, philosophy, political science, theological studies, and sociology.

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

Four months later, the center hosted its first conference, the HCA Spring Academy 2004 on American History, Culture, and Politics. Twenty-six European and American Ph.D. students from ten countries and six academic disciplines participated in this conference. The annual Spring Academy has since become a highly regarded forum for international Ph.D. students in the field of American Studies and has to date attracted more than one thousand applications from 65 countries.

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

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

The Curt and Heidmarie Engelhorn Palais opened up a whole new range of possibilities for the HCA. In order to fully realize the new potential, Heidelberg University, the State of Baden-Württemberg, and private donors agreed to set up a matching fund for the future development

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

The next major development was the commitment of Heidelberg University in the spring of 2009 to provide funding for the HCA on a permanent basis once its start-up financing expired. In light of this reassuring news the HCA could celebrate the fifth anniversary of its founding (and the seventieth birthday of its founding director) at Heidelberg Castle. The center's vibrant growth continued. In October 2009, the HCA dedicated its new academic facilities, a modern annex to the landmark palais. The fall of 2009 also saw the first semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar under the exclusive direction of the HCA.

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

This development went hand in hand, however, with new obligations, as the HCA was required to establish a three-year B.A. program in order to create the necessary capacities for the anticipated students. The first half of 2010 was therefore dominated by conceptualizing a new course of studies that would be true to the HCA's multidisciplinary custom, yet geared toward a different, that is undergraduate, clientele. Under the guidance of Dr. Andreas Barz from the Dezernat für Studium und Lehre and with support from the Faculties of Philosophy, Theology, Chemistry and Earth Sciences, Modern Languages, Economics and Social Sciences, and Law, as well as several student representatives, the B.A. in American Studies (BAS) was developed in record time and shepherded through the bodies of the university. When the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research, and the Arts finally authorized the results, barely four weeks were left before the university's application period for the fall term closed. This program became an instant success; in the fall of 2015, a total of 90 B.A. students are enrolled at the HCA; to date, more than one thousand have applied.

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

THE CURT AND HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PALAIS

The home of the HCA is a beautiful old Bürgerpalais with a long history. The location can be traced back to 1564. In 1699, the "Haus Neukirch" was purchased by Burkhard Neukirch. The current structure was built at the beginning of the eighteenth century, making the home of the HCA 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 had bought the building and generously granted the HCA rent-free use of the rooms for ten years, a grant that in 2013 was extended to 2026.

Within walking distance of the university library, two student cafeterias, as well as the university's time-honored premises at University Square – the Alte Universität, dating to 1712, and the Neue Universität, erected between 1929 and 1932 with funds raised in the United States by then-ambassador Jacob Gould Schurman. On the occasion of the Ruperto Carola's 625th anniversary in 2011 Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn fully refurbished the Neue Aula and donated a new organ, thus continuing Schurman's work.

The Lounge of the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais





The HCA's Annex.

The Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais is the ideal location for students and faculty alike. It also is an architectural gem, particularly because of the decorative stucco on its walls and ceilings. The extensive restoration of the palais revealed carvings long lost to multiple coats of paint, with lions' heads, musical instruments, roses, and women's faces literally coming out of the ceiling.

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

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

PEOPLE 2014-2015



JENNIFER ADAMS-MASSMANN, M.DIV. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Jennifer Adams-Massmann is a doctoral student and instructor in American religious history. She teaches courses on American religious history, especially colonial and women's religious history, and works on editorial and translating projects with Professor Stievermann. She received her B.A. in English and political science (1996, magna cum laude) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her master's degree (2003, summa cum laude) from Duke University Divinity School. Her doctoral project focuses on intercultural and interreligious exchange along the "gender frontier," examining the role of German-speaking women Moravian missionaries during the Great Awakening in the eighteenth century, primarily in American Indian missions and among German-speaking immigrants in the middle Colonies. Her research interests include women in religious history, colonial American religious history, and missions and intercultural encounter, and the anthropology of religion. Jennifer is also an ordained Episcopal minister and an experienced translator and editor in the areas of theology and church history.



PROF. WILLIAM L. ANDREWS, PH.D. JAMES W.C. PENNINGTON DISTINGUISHED FELLOW 2015

William L. Andrews is the E. Maynard Adams Professor of English at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the fourth recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Distinguished Fellowship. He received both his M.A. and his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Before his appointment at UNC, Professor Andrews taught at Texas Tech University, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Justus Liebig University, Gießen, and the University of Kansas. His first book, *The Literary Career of Charles W. Chesnutt* (1980), deals with a seminal figure in the development of African American and Southern American prose fiction. *To Tell a Free Story* (1988) is a history of African American autobiography up to 1865 and sparked Professor Andrews' interest in autobiography studies. Since 1988 he has been general editor of *Wisconsin Studies in Autobiography*. Since the mid-1980s, Professor Andrews has edited a considerable amount of African American and southern literature and

criticism. This work has resulted in three big collaborative projects, *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature* (1997), *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (1997), and *The Literature of the American South: A Norton Anthology* (1997). Professor Andrews is currently the series editor of *North American Slave Narratives, Beginnings to 1920*, a complete digitized library of autobiographies and biographies of North American slaves and ex-slaves, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Ameritech, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He continues to study the historical linkages between white and black writers in the formation of American literature, African American literature, and southern literature.



KATHARINA BEDORF, M.A.

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Katharina Bedorf received her B.A. in international politics and history at Jacobs University Bremen. She interned at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) in Hamburg and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. She started working at the HCA as a student assistant in the summer of 2012 and is now primarily responsible for event management. In 2013, she graduated from Heidelberg University with an M.A. in global history. She left the HCA at the beginning of 2015 to pursue a career in public relations.

PROF. DR. MANFRED BERG

CURT ENGELHORN PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY

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GIOVANNI BERNARDINI, PH.D.

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW

Giovanni Bernardini is a researcher at the Historical Institute for German-Italian Studies in Trento (Italy). He graduated in political science at the faculty "Cesare Alfieri," Florence (Italy) in 2000 and earned his Ph.D. in the history of international relations from the University of Florence in 2005 with a thesis on the relations between the U.S. administration and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany between 1969 and 1974. He was a research fellow at the Department of International

Studies, University of Padua (Italy) between 2006 and 2010. His new research focuses on social engineering as a key concept for Western Europe and the transatlantic space during the post war decades. He spent the summer semester 2015 as a visiting research fellow at the HCA.



MARIE-LUISE BISCHOF, DIPL.-GEOGR. PUBLISHING

Marie-Luise Bischof studied geography, English, sociology, and urban planning at Heidelberg University and graduated as Dipl. geographer in 2015. She worked at the HCA from March 2013 to September 2015 and was mainly responsible for its publications, especially the Spring Academy booklet, the MAS reader, and the annual report.



VICTORIA CAILLET ASSISTANT MAS COORDINATOR

Ref. iur. Victoria Caillet has been a law student at Heidelberg University since the winter term 2010-11. In addition to her regular legal studies, she has earned further credits in Anglo American public and private law at Heidelberg University and in the U.S. at the University of California-Davis during summer 2011. An internship at the Senate Office for International Relations in Sacramento followed in 2013. Victoria Caillet joined the MAS team in September 2013. She is part of the MAS administration, in charge of the MAS newsletter and the HCA alumni reports.



GREGG CULVER, PH.D. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Gregg Culver has been working as a research assistant at Heidelberg University's Institute of Geography since September, 2014. He received his Ph.D. in geography from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in August 2014. Gregg Culver's primary area of research interest is in the intersection of critical urban, mobilities, and transportation geographies. His research deals primarily with competing discourses in the politics of urban mobility and in the production of mobility and space. Specifically, his research investigates political struggles over urban mobility, particularly in regard to the role played in these struggles by the

competing interests, beliefs, normative values, and social meanings that are attached to mobility. His predominant regional interest is the U.S. rust belt. His teaching at Heidelberg University has included "Regional Geography of North America," "Transport and Mobility in the North American City," and "Social Theories of Mobility in the American Context." He has also given lectures in "Introduction to Human Geography at the HCA."



MICHAEL DOPFFEL, M.A. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Michael Dopffel works as a research associate of Professor Stievermann. He studied American literature, sociology, and comparative religious studies at the universities of Cologne and Tübingen, where he received his M.A. in 2011. From 2012 to 2014 he taught classes on American religious history and supernatural literature at the University of Tübingen. In 2011 he started his doctoral studies in the research training group "Holy Texts" at the University of Tübingen. His dissertation discusses the interdependencies of Christian religion, natural philosophy, and literature through analysis of Anglo-American apparition narratives in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Since 2007 he has been working for the *Biblia Americana* edition.



DR. TOBIAS ENDLER RESEARCH ASSOCIATE/ PH.D. & RESEARCH COORDINATOR

Tobias Endler has worked on public intellectuals in present-day America, Enlightenment thinking, and issues of democracy. His current research focuses on U.S. foreign policy in the twenty-first century and the future of transatlantic and transpacific relations. Endler has published three books: *After 9/11: Leading Political Thinkers about the World, the U.S. and Themselves* (2011), a collection of interviews with leading foreign policy experts, *How to Be a Superpower* (2012), and *Entzauberung: Skizzen und Ansichten zu den USA in der Ära Obama* (2015, with Martin Thunert). He is the co-editor of *Zeitenwende 9/11? Eine transatlantische Bilanz* (forthcoming). At the HCA, he is responsible for coordinating research activities and the Ph.D. program.



DR. DOROTHEA FISCHER-HORNUNG
SENIOR LECTURER AMERICAN STUDIES

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung was Senior Lecturer in the English Department of Heidelberg University. Her research focuses on ethnic and post-colonial literatures and film in English as well as performance theories and practices. She has developed, taught, and published on international e-learning co-operations with universities in numerous countries. She is founding co-editor of the journal *Atlantic Studies: Global Currents* and former president of MESEA, Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas. For several years, Dr. Fischer-Hornung taught the MAS course "Methodology I: Introduction to American Studies." She has retired but continues to facilitate the HCA Spring Academy.



GORDON FRIEDRICHS, M.A.
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Gordon Friedrichs studied political science and South-Asian Studies at the Johann-Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main, Heidelberg University, and Arizona State University. He joined the HCA in December 2013 as part of a team that coordinated and conceptualized the interdisciplinary research project "Authority and Trust." He now works as a research associate in the project "Patterns of Economic Policy Advice in Germany and the United States with a Special Focus on the World of Work" and is also a Ph.D. candidate at the HCA. His research emphasis is on international relations with a particular focus on U.S. foreign and domestic policy, South-Asian security studies, rising powers, as well as international organizations.



LUISA GAA, B.A.
RESEARCH/ CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Luisa Gaa has been attending the HCA since 2010 as a student of the first BAS class. Since April 2011 she has been a research assistant at the HCA and served as a co-coordinator of the 2011 international conference "Religion and the Marketplace." Luisa Gaa received her B.A. in 2014 and is now pursuing a master's degree in global history at Heidelberg University.

PROF. DR. ULRIKE GERHARD
PROFESSOR OF NORTH AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY

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CHRISTINA GRAVES
STUDENT ASSISTANT

Christina Graves was an exchange student from Georgia State University in the academic year 2014-15. She supported the coordination of the HCA's Ph.D. program.



IRIS HAHN-SANTORO, M.A.
BAS COORDINATOR

Iris Hahn-Santoro received her M.A. in linguistics, Scandinavian Studies and philosophy from the University of Cologne in 2002. She wrote her thesis on anglicisms and neologisms in contemporary Icelandic. After receiving her M.A., Iris Hahn-Santoro served as a research assistant at the Smithsonian Institute's Arctic Studies Center in Washington, D.C. She joined the HCA in August of 2009 as the MAS program coordinator and took over the coordination of the BAS following the establishment of the program in 2011. She is also a member of the HCA's Ph.D. program researching endangered Native American languages. Iris Hahn Santoro left the HCA in September 2015 and now lives in Seoul, South Korea.

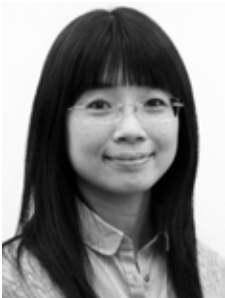
PROF. DR. SEBASTIAN HARNISCH
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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KAI HERZOG M.A.
STUDENT ASSISTANT – RESEARCH

Kai Herzog received his B.A. in German Studies and history from the University of Stuttgart in 2012 and his M.A. in Global History at Heidelberg University in 2015. In 2013 he spent a semester at Lunds Universitet (Sweden). He joined the HCA as a student assistant for research in February 2015.



POLLY HO
SPRING ACADEMY ASSISTANT

Polly Ho started her M.A. in translation studies (B-Language English and C-Language French) at Heidelberg University in 2013. After completing an internship at the HCA, she supported the Spring Academy team from August 2014 to September 2015.



RYAN HOSELTON, M.DIV., TH.M.
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Ryan Hoselton is a doctoral student at Heidelberg University. Born in New Mexico, he earned a B.A. in history from The University of New Mexico and a M.Div. and Th.M. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His research interests include Puritanism, evangelicalism, and transatlantic religious cultures, and his dissertation focuses on the history of biblical interpretation in early American evangelicalism. Ryan works as a research assistant to his adviser, Professor Jan Stievermann, on the *Biblia Americana* Project and other assorted assignments.



PD DR. AXEL JANSEN PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Axel Jansen was the temporary professor for American history at the History Department and the HCA in winter semester 2014-15. He lectured on "Science and American History" and taught the graduate seminar "From Gold Rush to Cyberculture: California since 1848." Among his publications are *Alexander Dallas Bache: Building the American Nation through Science and Education in the Nineteenth Century* (2011) and *Individuelle Bewährung im Krieg. Amerikaner in Europa, 1914-1917* (2003). Axel Jansen was a visiting scholar at Cambridge University and UCLA, among other positions. He is currently the temporary professor for American history at Goethe University Frankfurt.

PROF. DR. DR. H.C. DETLEF JUNKER FOUNDING DIRECTOR

(see p. 17)



MICHAEL KÜHLEN, M.A. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Michael Kühlen worked as a research associate in the project "Patterns of Economic Policy Advice in Germany and the United States with a Special Focus on the World of Work," funded by the Hans Böckler Foundation. Before joining the HCA, he served as a legislative assistant to Congressman Rush D. Holt, as a senior policy advisor to the Bertelsmann Foundation's CEO, and as editor, author, and translator for various publishing houses. His most recent book, a mystery novel for children, was published in the summer of 2014. Michael Kühlen took leave from the HCA for a substitute position at the Hans Böckler Foundation and decided to stay on as head of the foundation's publication department.



KRISTINA KUHLMANN
STUDENT ASSISTANT – EVENT MANAGEMENT/
PR

Kristina Kuhlmann is a student of political science at Heidelberg University and joined the HCA in October 2014 as a tutor for political science. She is currently working as a student assistant in the HCA event management and is responsible for the retrospect reports on the website. Her main research emphasis is on the area of the U.S. foreign and security policy with a particular focus on conflict research in the Middle East and Maghreb. She is a member of the Forum for International Security (FIS) and works for the regional group "The Middle East and Maghreb" of the Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research (HIK).



CHRISTINA LARENZ
OFFICE MANAGER

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

PROF. DR. GÜNTER LEYPOLDT
PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

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ANN-KATHRIN MAIER
STUDENT ASSISTANT – PHOTOGRAPHY

Ann-Kathrin Maier has been attending the Heidelberg Center for American Studies since the fall of 2013 as a student in the BAS program. In October 2013 she started working at the HCA as a student assistant and is primarily responsible for the photographic documentation of events.



DR. WILFRIED MAUSBACH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Wilfried Mausbach received his Ph.D. from the University of Cologne where he studied history, political science, and philosophy. A research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. from 1995 to 2000, he proceeded to assistant professorships in history at both the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin and Heidelberg University. He has also been a Volkswagen Foundation fellow, a Marshall-Monnet Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a visiting researcher at Carleton University in Ottawa. His major research interests are in transnational history with a particular emphasis on the study of social movements. His most recent publications include *"Entrüstet Euch!" Nuklearkrise, NATO-Doppelbeschluss und Friedensbewegung* (2012); *The American Presidency: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (2012); and *Changing the World, Changing Oneself: Political Protest and Collective Identities in West Germany and the U.S. in the 1960s and 1970s* (2010, paperback 2012). Since 2005, he has been the executive director of the HCA.



GINO MEIER, DIPL.-GEOGR.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

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



EVA MAYER, M.A.
BAS COORDINATOR

Eva Mayer (née Kiefer) studied American Studies, psychology, and political science at Bonn University and at the University of Pennsylvania. She interned at the German Foreign Office and the German Institute for International and Foreign Affairs. In October 2010, Eva joined the HCA as a Ph.D. student focusing on ways to explain a post-9/11 rally around the flag effect in Congress with securitization and prospect theory. From September 2010 to June 2011 she worked as the BAS coordinator. In the following years she has held a range of different positions at the HCA. Since winter term 2011-12, she has taught American government courses. With the beginning of the winter term 2015-16, she also teaches a course on key skills for the BAS in American Studies. Since mid-June 2015 Eva Kiefer serves as BAS coordinator.



JOHANNA MÜLLER, B.A.
STUDENT ASSISTANT

Johanna Müller started the HCA's BAS program in 2011. In September 2014 she joined Professor Stievermann's team at the Chair for the History of Christianity in the United States as a student assistant. She received her B.A. degree in the fall of 2015 and is now pursuing a master's degree in christianity and culture with a focus on church history at Heidelberg University.



STELLA MÜLLER
SPRING ACADEMY ASSISTANT

Stella Müller has been a student in the HCA's BAS program since the fall of 2012 and became part of the Spring Academy team in July 2013. After spending an academic year at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, she returned to the HCA in the fall of 2015.



HANNES NAGL, M.A.

WEBSITE

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



MICHAELA NEIDIG

ADMINISTRATION

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



FELIX NEUWERCK

PUBLISHING

Felix Neuwerck has studied geography and German literature at Heidelberg University since 2011. He started working at the HCA in September 2015 and supports the HCA publications.



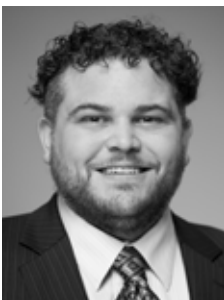
DR. THEOL. PAUL-SILAS PETERSON.
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Paul Silas Peterson is an academic assistant to Professor Stievermann. He offers courses primarily on the history of Anglo American theology. He is also working on multiple volumes of the first edition of Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana*. Dr. Peterson is also an academic assistant to Professor Christoph Schwöbel at the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the University of Tübingen. In Tübingen, he offers courses in the field of systematic theology. His dissertation *The Early Hans Urs von Balthasar: Historical Contexts and Intellectual Formation* was published in 2015.



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

Katia Rostetter holds an M.A. in English literature, history, and political science of South Asia. She is a doctoral candidate at the English Department. As part of the research project "Violence and the Hidden Constraints of Democracy: A New Civilization Studies Approach to American Literature and Culture," her scholarly interests range from the sociology(ies) of modernization to literary depictions of the dynamic between individuals and society as the latter evolves. Her dissertation focuses on the representation of the changing dynamic of violence and modernization in the work of American author Cormac McCarthy. After working at the South Asia Institute for a year, she joined the HCA staff in September of 2010 as part of the MAS team. She has taught theory and literature courses for the BAS and is currently working as MAS coordinator in addition to organizing the Spring Academy.



DR. ANTHONY SANTORO
LECTURER HISTORY

Anthony Santoro graduated from the University of Virginia in 1999 with a B.A. in English and history. After spending a year in Iceland, he worked for several years in the private and non-profit sectors, including for the Virginia Mitigation Project, a non-profit that provided indigent defendants and their counsel with assistance in preparing mitigation defenses for the sentencing phases of capital trials. He moved to Heidelberg in 2004 to take part in the Heidelberg Center for American

Studies' MAS program and continued on to complete his dissertation at the HCA. His first book, *Exile and Embrace: Contemporary Religious Discourse on the Death Penalty*, was published in 2013 by Northeastern University Press. In addition to his work on religion and the death penalty, he has in print and forthcoming a number of articles on the links between sport and religion in the U.S., the historiography of professional football, depictions of the links between law and religion in popular culture, new media as a tool in the formation of political communities, and the role of prophetic religion in slave revolts. Dr. Santoro is now an assistant professor of history at Sogang University in Seoul, South Korea.



STYLES SASS, M.A.

WRITING CENTER/ PUBLIC RELATIONS SUPPORT

Styles Sass received his B.A. in English from the University of Iowa. After teaching in the Basque country of Northern Spain, he moved to Germany where he was awarded several writing fellowships and published a collection of poetry and prose pieces titled *More Than These Few Days*. He has just completed his interdisciplinary doctoral dissertation titled "Swaying the Nation: Campaign Narratives in the 2008 U.S. Presidential Election." Alongside his responsibilities at the HCA, he also writes, edits, and teaches.



PROF. DR. DIETMAR SCHLOSS

PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

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

has taught the courses "' The Rising Glory of America': Literature and Politics in the Early American Republic," "Visions of America: The Nineteenth Century, " and "American Fictions of Violence" as well as the interdisciplinary seminars "Explaining America: Readings in American Culture, Society, and Politics" (with Dr. Martin Thunert) and "Modernizing the United States: History, Literature, Culture, 1865-1914" (with Dr. Wilfried Mausbach).



DR. ANJA SCHÜLER COORDINATOR FORUM/ PUBLIC RELATIONS

Anja Schöler studied history, American Studies and journalism at the University of Münster, the University of Georgia in Athens, and the Free University Berlin, where she earned an M.A. in American history. She was a DAAD Fellow at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and lived in Washington, D.C. for several years. She received her Ph.D. from the Free University of Berlin in 2000. She is the author of *Frauenbewegung und soziale Reform: Jane Addams und Alice Salomon im transatlantischen Dialog, 1889-1933* (2004), the co-editor of *Social Justice Feminists in the United States and Germany: A Dialogue in Documents, 1885-1933* (1997) and of *Politische Netzwerkerinnen: Internationale Zusammenarbeit von Frauen 1830-1960* (2007). Her research interests include German and American social history, gender history, and transatlantic history. She has taught at the Free University Berlin, Humboldt University, and the University of Education in Heidelberg. Starting in 2006, she has been teaching academic writing at the HCA. Since 2009, she has also been coordinating HCA events, including the Baden-Württemberg Seminar, and is responsible for public relations.



DANIEL SILLIMAN, M.A. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Daniel Silliman joined the HCA in April 2011 as a research associate and instructor in American religion. He has a B.A. in philosophy from Hillsdale College in Michigan and an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Tübingen. His research interests include twentieth-century American evangelicals and pentecostals, religious book history, atheism, and the cultural conditions of belief. He is working on a doctoral dissertation with Professor Jan Stievermann on representations of secularity in contemporary evangelical fiction.



DR. ANNE SOMMER

MAS COORDINATOR

Anne Sommer (née Lübbers) studied political science, German philology, English, and Romance languages at Heidelberg University and the University of Bologna, Italy. She interned at the German Foreign Office in Berlin and at the Goethe Institute in Paris. After receiving her M.A. in 2006, she began work on her doctoral dissertation, making research trips to Italy, France, and Switzerland. She earned her Ph.D. in 2013 with her dissertation on "Alfieri, Foscolo, and Manzoni as Readers of Machiavelli: Intertextuality and Reception in the Early Risorgimento." Anne Sommer has worked for the HCA since 2003. From 2003 to 2007, she was responsible for organizing and convening the Spring Academy and the Baden-Württemberg-Seminar. She has served as MAS coordinator since 2007. In 2010, she was instrumental in developing and implementing the B.A. program at the HCA. After lecturing at the Romance language department, Anne Sommer now teaches American literature seminars at the HCA and conducts workshops on intercultural competence. She developed a concept of research-oriented teaching that has been competitively funded by the university as part of the program "Welcome to Research." In addition, she is the editor of the online journal "HeLiX –Heidelberger Beiträge zur romanischen Literaturwissenschaft" and the book series "HeLiX im Winter," both published by Winter Verlag.



PROF. DR. JAN STIEVERMANN

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

Jan Stievermann has written and edited books and essays on a broad range of topics in the fields of American religious history and American literature, including a comprehensive study of the theology and aesthetics of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Most recently, he co-edited *A Peculiar Mixture: German-Language Cultures and Identities in Eighteenth-Century North America* (2013) and *Religion and the Marketplace in the United States* (2014). His edition of vol. 5 of Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana* and a book-length study of this hitherto unpublished Puritan bible commentary are forthcoming. For the Biblia-project as a whole (10 vols.) he also serves as the executive editor.



PROFESSOR MATTHEW A. SUTTON, PH.D.
HCA SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE/
MARSILIUS VISITING PROFESSOR 2014-2015

Matthew Sutton came to the HCA and the Marsilius Kolleg of Heidelberg University as the Edward R. Meyer Distinguished Professor of History at Washington State University, where he teaches courses in twentieth century United States history, cultural history, and religious history. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California in Santa Barbara. Professor Sutton's most recent book *American Apocalypse: A History of Modern Evangelicalism* (2014) is the first comprehensive history of modern American evangelicalism to appear in a generation. Professor Sutton has also written a textbook, *Jerry Falwell and the Rise of the Religious Right: A Brief History with Documents* (2012). His first book, *Aimee Semple McPherson and the Resurrection of Christian America* (2007), won the Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize from Harvard University Press and served as the basis for the documentary *Sister Aimee*, part of PBS's *American Experience* series. Sutton has published articles in numerous edited collections and scholarly journals as well as *The New York Times*. Professor Sutton spent the 2012-2013 academic year as the Mary Ball Washington Professor of American History at University College Dublin on a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant. He has also held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Professor Sutton's new research is for a book tentatively entitled *God and the CIA: Religion and American Espionage*. He is also currently co-editing a collection of essays on American Faith in the New Millennium.



BRYCE TAYLOR, M.A.
STUDENT ASSISTANT

Bryce Taylor studied history at Utah Valley University and received a Bachelor of Arts in history. After his bachelor studies, he taught religion and history at high school level and served as the varsity basketball coach for American Heritage School. He then moved his family to Heidelberg, Germany and received his M.A. in American Studies at Heidelberg University in 2013 with an M.A. thesis entitled "A Devil's Pact: Re-evaluating Constitutional Legitimacy through Lysander Spooner." He now is a Ph.D. student at the HCA and works as an assistant to Professor Stievermann. Bryce Taylor's current research looks at the life of a historically neglected nineteenth-century New England clergyman, Adin Ballou, to be used as an intimate lens to explore the Christian chaos of early nineteenth-century America.



PD DR. MARTIN THUNERT
**SENIOR LECTURER POLITICAL SCIENCE/
 SOCIOLOGY**

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



MICHAEL TRÖGER, DIPL.-SOZ.
IT

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



JANINA WEISS
OFFICE ASSISTANT

Janina Weiss is studying English, German, and natural sciences for elementary school at the University of Education in Heidelberg. She interned at a German immersion school in San Diego, Calif., from August 2013 to February 2014. Janina Weiss started working at the HCA as an office assistant in October 2012.

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Hasan Adwan, M.A.
Teaching Assistant Political Science

Millie Baker, M.A.
"Presentation and Media Skills"

Maria Diaconu, M.A.
Teaching Assistant American Literature

Julia Lichtenstein, M.A.
Teaching Assistant American literature

Heike Jablonski, M.A.
Lecturer Religious Studies

Kristina Kuhlmann
Teaching Assistant Political Science

Julia Lichtenstein, M.A.
BAS "Methodology"

Katharina Reif
Teaching Assistant American History

Ulrich Seglert
Teaching Assistant Geography

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

Klaus Wiedmann, B.A.
Teaching Assistant Literature

Cynthia Wilke, J.D.
Lecturer Law

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St. Louis

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Professor of Africana Studies, Williams College

Professor Kirsten Fischer, Ph.D.
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Professor of History, University of Mannheim

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Studies, Harvard University

Dr. Anthony Santoro
History Department, Sogang University, Seoul

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

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

HCA INTERNS 2014-2015

In 2014-15, the HCA successfully continued its internship program, which began in the fall of 2005. We were very fortunate to host excellent interns during the year who provided valuable support for our work. We would like to thank:

Kristina Kuhlmann (Heidelberg University) supported Martin Thunert in the political science section.

Kim Martines from the MAS class of 2015 supported the Spring Academy team before and during the conference.

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

COOPERATION AND SUPPORT

The HCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following institutions in facilitating its programs: The American Academy in Berlin; Alliiertenmuseum Berlin; Street Art Berlin; the Hans Böckler Foundation; the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; Deutscher Bundestag; the Enjoy Jazz Festival, Heidelberg; Prof. Dr. Eckhard Janeba and the Economics Department, Mannheim University; the Forum für internationale Sicherheit (FiS), Heidelberg; Andreas Henn Kunsthandel Galerie Stuttgart; the Hertie School of Governance; the Institute for International Studies, Charles University, Prague; the Institute of North American Studies, King's College, London; the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Jagiellonian University, Krakow; the Franklin Institute at the University of Alcalá, Spain; the Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg, The Netherlands; the Heidelberg Program of Pepperdine University; the American Studies Program, Columbia University; the American Studies Program, New York University; the German Culture Center, University of Missouri, St. Louis; the History Department, Washington University, St. Louis; the Education Abroad Office and the History Department, University of Nebraska at Lincoln; the San Francisco State University; the American Studies Department, University of California at Berkeley; Duane Morris LLP, San Francisco; the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin; the German American Institute Heidelberg (DAI); the Carl-Schurz-Haus / German American Institute Freiburg; the German American Institute Tübingen (dai); the Institut Culturel Franco-Allemand, Tübingen; the German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV); the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin; the SFB "Political Economy of Reforms," University of Mannheim; the English Department, Heidelberg University; the Zentrum für Europäische Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften (ZEGK), Heidelberg University; the Department of Religious Studies, Heidelberg University; the Institute for Geography, Heidelberg University; the Faculty of Theology, Heidelberg University; the American Council on Germany; the Heidelberg University Association, New York, and its executive director Irmintraud Jost; Heidelberg Alumni International and its director Silke Rodenberg; the American German Business Club, Heidelberg; the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); the German-American Fulbright Commission; the German Historical Institute (GHI), Washington, D.C.; the Goethe Institut, New York; the German Center for Research and Innovation, New York; the Government of the State of Baden-Württemberg; the Canadian Embassy in Berlin; and especially the United States Embassy in Berlin and the United States Consulate General in Frankfurt/Main.

Additionally, the HCA would like to thank the following institutions of Heidelberg University for their support: The Rector and the Rectors's Office; Communications and Marketing (KuM), the Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung (ZUV); the International Office; the Office for Equal Opportunity; the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy; the Computing Center (URZ); the University Guest Houses; the Studentenwerk Heidelberg; and the University Library. Furthermore, special thanks go out to the administrative staff of the Schurman Foundation (Christina Larenz) and the FHCA (Irina Padejeke-Enke and Lucy Whitehead), to the office of the Engelhorn family (Gunda Baumgartner), and to attorneys at law Klaus-Dieter Freund and Jan Breckenfelder.



AN INSTITUTE FOR
HIGHER EDUCATION

AN INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Having offered a Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) program (see pages 56-81) from its inception and a three year Ph.D. in American Studies program (see pages 84-112) starting in 2006, the HCA completed its educational portfolio by adding a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies (BAS) in October 2010.

BACHELOR IN AMERICAN STUDIES (BAS)

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

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

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

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

The program wants to attract German as well as international applicants holding a General Qualification for University Entrance ("Allgemeine Hochschulreife" or equivalent) with a special interest in the history, politics, society, and culture of North America. The Bachelor in American Studies program at Heidelberg University offers students to choose their individual focus, allowing them to specialize in the areas they are most interested in. The course of study comprises

both subject-specific and practical parts. For more information, please visit the BAS website at www.hca.uni-heidelberg.de/ba/index.html.

THE BAS CLASS OF 2018

This year, the program admitted 23 students from Germany and one international student from Russia. Most of them have already had some experience abroad, be it a year during high school or as an au-pair after graduation. The new BAS students were welcomed at the HCA at the beginning of October with a two day orientation session and took up their course work afterwards.



The new students of the BAS Class of 2018 (front to back and left to right):
 first row: Tyrone King, Annkatrin Voos, Ina Tadewesky, Clarissa Begon, Anna Kehres, Miriam Baar, Annkatrin Hartmann, Handenur Araci, Reinhold Siegle
 middle row: Michael Watson, Jonas Dreher, Marie Steinmann, Lara Smail, Amira Grotendiek, Sarah Joeris, Vi-Anh Le,
 back row: Michelle Widmann, Denise Fohr, Annika Lamade, Martina Wagner, Dennis Nusser
 Not pictured: Elena Zabelina, Jan Eckardt

BAS STUDENT TRIP TO BERLIN 2015

From May 4 to 8, the HCA Debating Club II – twenty BAS students, their instructor, Dr. Martin Thunert, and Professor Dietmar Schloss – went on a trip to Berlin to experience Germany’s capital and its manifold connections to the United States. Due to a strike of Deutsche Bahn, not only the arrival but also the departure and getting around the city were more complicated than everybody anticipated.

BAS Students in Berlin



On Monday evening, the group met with the HCA’s MAS students to enjoy the sun down during a boat trip on the river Spree. For Tuesday, Dr. Thunert had arranged a visit to the Bundestag with a short lecture followed by a Q&A on the visitor gallery. The visit also included some free time on the Bundestag’s dome and rooftop terrace. Later that day, the group went on a guided bus tour with a short break at the Berlin wall memorial and profited from the tour guide’s humor and exceptional knowledge of the city. On Wednesday, smaller groups explored Berlin on their own. A list provided by Professor Schloss was helpful in deciding which sights to see and events to attend. There was no official plan for the evening, but interested students decided to visit a performance of Mozart’s Magic Flute at Deutsche Oper in Charlottenburg. The highlight of the following day was a visit at the Allied Museum, where the group had the privilege of climbing on board of an original candy bomber. Our guide related many interesting anecdotes which deepened the students’ knowledge of German and North American relations. For the day of departure, Dr. Thunert had organized some time at the Kennedy Museum where especially a recording of John F. Kennedy’s famous Berlin speech from 1963 made a big impression. The museum not only exhibits pictures, but also personal belongings and video excerpts which documented Kennedy’s other speeches and captured private moments with his family. Afterwards, the group caught the only train leaving Berlin that day and made it home safely.

EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR B.A. STUDENTS

Like the year before, a sizable portion of our B.A. students seized the unique opportunity provided by Heidelberg University's exchange programs to spend a year studying abroad. These international exchanges strengthened the students' intercultural expertise and allowed them to obtain skills for their further studies and their future professions. The B.A. students who went to the United States spent their year at the University of Kentucky, Lexington; Sweet Briar College, Lynchburg, Va.; Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.; St. Mary's College in Maryland; Appalachian State University, Boone, N. C., and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. One student opted for an exchange via the ERASMUS program and went to study at Charles University, Prague, our partner university in the Czech Republic.

BAS STUDENTS' COMMITTEE

In the fall semester 2012, several BAS students started to loosely organize into a group that could represent the student body. With the founding of the general student council ("Studierendenrat/Stu-Ra") at Heidelberg University in 2013, the American Studies Students' Committee ("Fachschaft") became officially recognized. Its responsibilities include organizing events, such as the annual Christmas party and the summer barbecue, and supporting the orientation week for first-year students in the fall. The Students' Committee also arranges informational meetings for upper-level students, for instance regarding thesis-



Sharon Hodge and
Franziska Pentz.

writing and studying abroad. To the public, the Committee represented the American Studies major at Heidelberg University's 2015 fair for high school students. Within the HCA, the Students' Committee has acted as intermediary between the students and the staff and faculty whenever needed. Its biweekly meetings, open to everyone, are a platform for students to voice their concerns and suggestions. The establishment of the HCA's Writing Center is one example of the Committee's success in communicating the students' ideas to the administration. The Committee furthermore presents dedicated students with the opportunity to become active in the political discourse on higher education. The Students' Committee welcomes new members at all times. For further information, please contact the 2015-16 Students' Committee chairs Sharon Hodge and Franziska Pentz at fachschaft@hca.uni-heidelberg.de.

MASTER OF ARTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES (MAS)

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

The HCA admits up to thirty students to the MAS annually. To date, ten graduating classes totaling 161 students have earned the master's degree. These 161 students came from 44 countries on five continents. Admission is competitive and depends on the quality and academic merits of the candidates. Most candidates will have studied humanities, social sciences, media and communication studies, or law at the undergraduate or graduate level.

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

The winter semester 2014-15 began with a one-week orientation period in early October followed by a weekly curriculum of four lectures with their accompanying tutorials in literature, law, religious studies, and political science, one interdisciplinary colloquium, and two additional methodology courses. The summer semester, which started in April 2015, consisted of two lectures in political science and history, two tutorials, two interdisciplinary seminars, one presentation skills course, and the continuation of the methodology courses and the interdisciplinary colloquium. The annual Berlin excursion took place in May. Over the two semesters, students had to choose three majors with mandatory attendance in the tutorials, oral exams, and term papers. In their chosen minors students also had to take oral exams.

The third and final semester is reserved for writing the M.A. thesis that has to be handed in by February 29, 2016. On November 13 and 20, the M.A. thesis workshop took place where students presented their theses outlines. The graduation ceremony will take place on April 22, 2016.

Below you will find information on the MAS program of 2014-15, including course outlines of the classes offered, an outlook onto the academic year 2015-16, as well as brief introductions of the classes of 2015 and 2016.

For more information please visit the MAS website at www.hca.uni-heidelberg.de/ma/index_en.html.

MAS COURSE OUTLINE

WINTER SEMESTER 2014-15

During the winter semester 2014-15, four lectures were offered as well as two methodology classes and an interdisciplinary colloquium.

Literature

"The American Novel – Beginnings to 1900"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

Teaching Assistant: Maria Diaconu, M.A.

This lecture course acquainted students with a variety of novelistic traditions in the United States from the founding era to the end of the nineteenth century. We examined the relevant literary philosophies, interpreted representative novels, and assessed the 'cultural work' they perform. Among the works we analyzed in detail were: Hannah Webster Foster's *The Coquette* (1797), James Fenimore Cooper's *The Pioneers* (1823), Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852), William Dean Howells' *The Rise of Silas Lapham* (1885), Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* (1884), and Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie* (1900).

These works were discussed within the following topics, both in relation to the changing function of the novel as a genre and in connection with the particular concerns of the respective periods of U.S. history: "The Rise of the Novel in the United States," "The Early Republic: Making Society Virtuous," "The Sentimental Novel: Women's Space," "Consolidating the Nation: The Challenge of the Frontier," "The Historical Novel: In Search of an American Past," "The Age of Jackson: A Literature for Democracy," "The 'Poverty of Materials' Debate," "The American Renaissance: The Power of the Self," "Romance and Novel," "Before the Civil War: Slavery and the Promise of America," "The Domestic Novel: Women, Home and Society," "Modernizing the United States: Making It Real," "Realism and Naturalism: Visions of the Ordinary," "Outsiders, Slaves, and the Challenge of the Local," "New Urban Capitalism: Surviving the Real."

The tutorial supported the lecture, providing additional material as well as allowing the students to interact with the texts through active participation in class discussions and other practical activities such as presentations. In addition to reviewing the key points of the lectures, students engaged in close readings of the literary texts, discussed selected secondary materials, and deepened their knowledge of literary studies terminology. Paradigmatic American cultural aspects such as republicanism, liberalism, the changing role of civic virtue, the frontier, or individualism were introduced by bringing students in contact with emblematic texts by Hector St. John de Crevecoeur, R. W. Emerson, and Alexis de Tocqueville. Through critical articles by Sacvan Bercovitch, Brook Thomas, Jane Tompkins, James Baldwin, Walter Benn Michaels, or Winfried Fluck, students became familiar with the characteristics of literary genres including

the sentimental and domestic novel, the historical novel, the novel of manners, the romance, and literary movements like Realism and Naturalism.

Law

In cooperation with the Faculty of Law

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

Lecturer: Cynthia Wilke, J.D.

The study of the American legal system provides unique insights into the history, politics, culture, and values of the United States. The lectures for this course provided an overview of many important elements of this system. The origins of the U.S. law are strongly rooted in the English common law. Students learned about the reception of these traditions in the English colonies in North America and how they were adapted to serve the needs of the "new world." The course addressed important building blocks of the U.S. legal system, including sources of law, the special dynamics of the relationship between the federal government and the states, the court system, the selection of judges, the trial process, and legal education and training. Particular emphasis was given to the substantive legal areas of constitutional law, criminal law, and torts. We spent time in class following the legal developments in Ferguson, Mo., after the shooting of Michael Brown by a police officer, including the ensuing grand jury proceedings.

The tutorial sessions provided the opportunity to focus in greater detail on selected topics. Students were introduced to case law analysis, read the historic case *Marbury v. Madison* to understand the principle of judicial review, became acquainted with the unique institution of the jury, and learned about the variety of judicial selection procedures for state and federal judges. In the tutorials on the death penalty, students gave short presentations on various issues related to this punishment. Dr. Anthony Santoro joined us during these tutorials and provided valuable insight into this topic based on his research and experience in the area of mitigation. In anticipation of a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, we discussed the legal and societal issues involved in the topic of marriage equality. The historic decision in the case *Obergefell v. Hodges* upholding a constitutional right to marriage for same sex couples was issued on June 26, 2015, after our class had ended.

We looked in great detail at two cases from the 2014 term of the U.S. Supreme Court. In *Holt v. Hobbs*, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the policy of the Arkansas prison department prohibiting a Muslim prisoner from having a half inch beard was a violation of the prisoner's constitutional and statutory right to exercise his religion. Violent threats on the Internet and the free speech rights guaranteed by the First Amendment were the issues in our second case, *Elonis v. U.S.* The varied cultural, educational, and personal backgrounds of the masters students resulted in lively and enriching class discussions and a valuable exchange of ideas.

Religion

"Religion in the 20th Century U.S."

Lecturer: Professor Matthew Sutton, Ph.D.

Teaching Assistant: Dr. Anthony Santoro

The United States is one of the most religious nations in the world, a point that was famously articulated by Alexis de Tocqueville in 1835. "On my arrival in the United States," he recalled, "the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention." Yet the impact of the separation of church and state on the broader culture was even more significant to de Tocqueville than the preponderance of religion. "The longer I stayed there," he continued, "the more I perceived the great political consequences resulting from this new state of things. In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom marching in opposite directions. But in America I found they were intimately united and that they reigned in common over the same country." Yet he cautioned that "the church cannot share the temporal power of the state without being the object of a portion of that animosity which the latter excites." This was a warning that Americans have never heeded. In fact, de Tocqueville's observation that religion and politics in the United States had separate spheres of influence was and is more myth than reality. Faith has always played a tremendous role in American culture, which was the focus of this course. It surveyed the history of American religions in the twentieth century, focusing on the evolution of religious faiths as varying groups came into contact with one another. In particular, the course analyzed how steady immigration and limited governmental intrusion produced a diverse and pluralistic culture that places tremendous value on religious beliefs. In addition, the course focused specifically on the ways in which Americans have used religion to shape their communities, their cultures, and their nation. Religion has never been simply about belief; it is always about actions as well. As a result, this course placed heavy emphasis on "lived" religion, or religion "on the ground."

Political Science

"Contemporary American Civilization through the Lens of (North) American Social, Political and Economic Thought"

Lecturer: PD Dr. Martin Thunert

Teaching Assistant: Gordon Friedrichs, M.A.

The aim of this combined lecture and reading course was to analyse American civilization through the lens of late nineteenth, twentieth, and early twenty-first century North American social, economic, and political thought. Following the Second World War, the United States emerged as the world's preeminent superpower. It was a period of unprecedented economic growth, affluence, and technological innovation. But for all the material benefits enjoyed by Americans in the decades after the Second World War, it was also a time of crisis and conflict, as the nation confronted unresolved issues of race and poverty and faced new challenges of changing gender roles, redefinitions of values, and America's position in the world through the Cold War and beyond. While the lectures explored how Americans met those challenges and

how their society, culture, and perhaps the world were transformed in the process, the tutorial held by Gordon Friedrichs focused on a close reading of predominantly primary texts. Together, we explored how people in North America (and beyond) think of society and communal life, immigration and identity, race and gender relations, education, the media and communication, the economy and globalization, class, social stratification and (in)equality, social services, political institutions and justice, human rights, and power as well as America's role in the world. The first lecture introduced students to antecedents of modern American sociology and social thought by looking at William Graham Sumner, *Consolidation of Wealth* (1902), Andrew Carnegie, *The Gospel of Wealth* (1889), Lester Ward, *Sociocracy* (1893), George Herbert Mead, *Mind, Self, and Society* (1934) and C. Wright Mills. Thereafter, the lecture course followed a systematic rather than a chronological pattern. Four lectures focused on various aspects of U.S. society: Issues such as settlement, immigration/integration and national identities were analysed through the writings of authors from Horace M. Kallen to Michael Walzer. We also studied anti-immigrant pamphlets and documents as well as voices of native Americans, early American settlers, and African-Americans. Other units in this segment were devoted to the role of women and feminism in U.S. society from Elizabeth Cady Stanton to Betty Friedan and bell hooks as well as race relations as reflected upon by Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Stokeley Carmichael, Cornel West, and Orlando Patterson. Subsequent sections focused on international issues, on economic perspectives on society from Thorstein Veblen, Mancur Olson, Milton Friedman, John Rawls, and Richard Thaler, on media and public opinion from Walter Lippman, Marshall McLuhan, and Noam Chomsky, and on the sociology of knowledge, including texts by Peter L. Berger, Thomas Luckman and Sheila Jasanoff. Finally, we examined social and cultural explanations of issues ranging from poverty and educational achievement to professional sports with authors such as William Julius Wilson, Amy Chua, and Andrei Markovits.

Three-quarters of the MAS class of 2016 took this course as a major and even most minors chose to attend the tutorial, which had a combined audience of 13 participants. Thus, most students were able to share their ideas for term-papers with their classmates, and everyone was well prepared for the oral exams.

Methodology I

"Introduction to American Studies, Part I"

Lecturer: Hannes Nagl, M.A.

The "Introduction to American Studies" differs from other classes offered in the MAS program in that it is not concerned with any particular aspect of American culture, such as history, religion, or law. Instead, following Henry Nash Smith's famous call, the course is designed to look at American Studies "as a whole." It thus addresses questions such as: What issues and questions informed the development of American Studies as an academic discipline? What are its methodological and theoretical foundations and problems? What categories and concepts inform current debates in the field? In order to discuss these questions, students were asked to read two to three essays on the history, theory, and methods of American Studies for each class session.

In addition, they were required to write three short papers, each in response to one of the assigned articles, as well as one "review essay," in which they should summarize and respond to a "classic" of their choice.

In the first part of the course we traced the development of American Studies from the work of early pioneers such as Vernon L. Parrington (*Main Currents in American Thought*) and F.O. Matthiessen (*American Renaissance*) to the "Myth and Symbol School" of the 1950s and early 1960s (Henry Nash Smith, "Can American Studies Develop a Method?"; Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden*) to the fundamental transformation and diversification of the discipline in the late 1960s and the 1970s (Robert Sklar, "American Studies and the Realities of America"; Linda Kerber, "Diversity and the Transformation"). Building on these foundational debates about the meaning and scope of American Studies, we then moved on to more recent re-conceptualizations of the discipline such as "New Historicism" and "New American Studies" (Philip Fisher, "American Literary and Cultural Studies"; Alan Trachtenberg, "Albums of War") as well as "Comparative" and "Transnational American Studies" (Shelley Fisher Fishkin, "Crossroads of Cultures"; Winfried Fluck, "Inside and Outside"; Henry Yu, "Los Angeles and American Studies"), arguably one of the most influential recent trends in American Studies scholarship. In part two we discussed "Selected Theories, Concepts, and Perspectives" that inform current debates in the field, among them popular culture studies (Berndt Ostendorf, "Why Is American Culture So Popular?"), gender studies (Nina Baym, "Melodramas of Beset Manhood"; Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*), and questions of race and ethnicity (Mary Helen Washington, "Disturbing the Peace").

Methodology II

"Problems in Academic Writing, Part I and II"

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schöler

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

MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium

Facilitators: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach; Anne Sommer, M.A.

The "Interdisciplinary Colloquium" opened on October 15, 2014 with a talk of the winner of that year's Rolf Kentner dissertation prize, Juliane Braun. In her lecture entitled "Imagining Freedom in the Black Theatres of Francophone New Orleans," Dr. Braun explained how Louisiana's theater tradition took up, altered, and incorporated elements from both French and more recent

American theatrical culture. On October 23, the HCA welcomed Penny von Eschen, professor of history and American culture at the University of Michigan. She presented her research *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War* and explained how Jazz evolved as a lifestyle and how it became part of America's cultural inheritance, nationally as well as internationally. In the following week, Barbara Ladd, professor of English at Emory University, Atlanta, came to the HCA from Prague, where she spent the academic year as a Fulbright Professor at Charles University. In her lecture "Beyond the Plantation: Race and Class at the Edge of the Swamp," Ladd applied the concepts of race and class to the social structure of Great Dismal Swamp, a real-life region as well as a recurring theme in Southern literature.

On November 11, the HCA welcomed Kenny Cupers, an assistant professor at the Illinois School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow. In his talk, he introduced the term "environmental determinism" as the idea that living conditions shape people's lives, connecting it to the development of public housing in the U.S. On November 14 and 21, the annual MAS thesis workshop took place, where students of the MAS Class of 2015 presented their thesis outlines. On November 25, Robert Boyle, professor of urban planning and chair of the department of urban studies and planning at Wayne State University, talked about "Detroit – Empty City?" analyzing the reasons for the city's decline as well as its recent recovery. The "Interdisciplinary Colloquium" took a break from academics and focused on a different American tradition on November 27, when the traditional HCA Thanksgiving Dinner took place.

On December 3, Professor John Witte, Jr., Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law and the McDonald Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University challenged the members of the colloquium in his talk on "Sharia in the West?" by raising the question whether Sharia as a faith-based family law should find application to Muslims living in modern liberal democracies.

In the new year, the Colloquium turned to American literature and welcomed Laurence Howe, professor of English and chair of the Department of Literature and Languages at Roosevelt University, as well as Distinguished Fulbright Chair of American Studies at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense. He presented his ongoing research on "Mark Twain and America's Ownership Society: Property and Its Discontents" looking at Samuel Clemens' own material and economic concerns as well as how he transferred this to his novels. In the following week, Professor Myles Jackson, Albert Gallatin Research Excellence Professor of the History of Science, professor of history of the Faculty of Arts and Science, and director of Science and Society of the College of Arts and Science at NYU gave a lecture on "The Genealogy of a Gene. Patents, HIV/AIDS, and Race in the Age of Biocapitalism," questioning racial categories and stereotypes on the basis of genealogical findings. A lively debate proved the importance of this scientific topic to American Studies.

As part of the "Interdisciplinary Colloquium," Dr. Anne Sommer offered for the first time three workshops on intercultural competence that took place on October 9, November 6, and January

8. Coming from all parts of the world, the M.A. students interactively discovered the importance of cultural awareness and intercultural communication, not only to ease the transition to German culture, but also to become global citizens. During the first workshop, the students slipped into the role of cultural ambassadors by presenting their own learning environments to each other, comparing it to the German system, and identifying challenges that might occur from the cultural differences. To ease the transition into a new culture, they discussed the different phases of assimilation in their second meeting and developed strategies to overcome a possible culture shock. Sharing personal accounts of "critical incidents" at the end of the last workshop showed them how important it is to maintain one's sense of humor in situations in which misunderstandings arise due to cultural differences. By providing an institutional setting for the workshops on intercultural competence, the MAS program aims at fostering the cultural self-awareness as well as the interest in and knowledge about other cultures of its very diverse student body.

SUMMER SEMESTER 2015

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

Political Science

"House of Cards? Policy-Making in the United States"

Lecturer: PD Dr. Martin Thunert

Teaching Assistant: Hasan Adwan, M.A.

This lecture course adopted an empirical approach to the study of policy-making by relating theories of the policy-making process to actual developments in America since the 1980s as well as to its fictional representations in TV-shows like House of Cards. The main goal of the lecture course was to help students understand the American public policy making process. To make the subject matter less dry, we illustrated the lecture course with scenes and episodes of the acclaimed Netflix show House of Cards. HoC has popularized policy-making in the United States through the lens of its main character, Francis Underwood, who in the course of the series moves from Democratic majority whip to vice-president and eventually becomes president of the United States.

The course started with a conceptual and theoretical section that introduced and discussed the foundations of public policy, theories of the policy process, and concepts such as the "policy cycle." Section II focused on so-called "policy advocates" (organized interests, advocacy groups, think tanks, or policy-advisers) as well as on the media and its pundits. In the next section we looked at the main institutional actors in the policy-making process – especially the U.S. Congress and the executive branch. We analyzed conditions of divided government, when gridlock becomes the norm, and unified government, when the two branches often legislate together in a greater degree of harmony. Finally, our knowledge of theories and actors of policy-making

were applied to selected policy fields such as immigration, homeland security, and foreign policy. Regarding the fictional representation of U.S. policy-making, our assessment was that some aspects of the policy process, such as the politics-media nexus, the White House staff, the relationship between the congressional leadership and the presidency, and the role of majority whips in policy making, were depicted more or less accurately in the first season of *House of Cards*. In the later seasons the demands of an attractive plot collided somewhat with accuracy. We reminded ourselves that the best show ever to depict executive policy-making in the U.S. was the NBC show *The West Wing*, not *House of Cards*.

The accompanying tutorial held by Hasan Adwan, M.A. extended the thematic scope of the lectures by specifically focusing on selected issues and readings in American foreign and security policy. The tutorial also aimed to help students whose undergraduate background is in other disciplines than political science to familiarize themselves with key concepts of the discipline.

History

"The European Conquest of North America and the Establishment of Colonial Societies"

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg

Teaching Assistant: Katharina Reif, M.A.

The "discovery" of the Americas by European explorers and conquerors in the late fifteenth century was a key event in world history. From the early seventeenth century onward, Europeans successfully established colonial outposts in North America, which over time grew into viable and prosperous societies while indigenous populations experienced catastrophic disease, warfare, and subjugation as a consequence of their encounter with the Europeans. Africans were brought to North America as slaves for the plantation economies, which produced staple crops for European markets. This lecture course treated North American colonial history not merely as a prelude to the American Revolution but as a complex period in its own right lasting for more than 150 years. It introduced North America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as a place where diverse cultures met, interacted, and collided. Moreover, it conceptualized colonial North America as part of a larger Atlantic World created by European colonial expansion.

Interdisciplinary Seminar I (History and Religious Studies)

"James W. C. Pennington and the Rise of American Anti-Slavery Literature"

Lecturers: Professor William L. Andrews, Ph.D.; Prof. Dr. Jan Stievermann

This interdisciplinary seminar gave students the opportunity to engage with one of the leading experts on the history of the African American slave narrative and abolitionist literature more generally, Professor William L. Andrews (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), who came to Heidelberg as the fourth recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award. Over the course of this seminar, we read some of the "classical" slave narratives of the antebellum era, including those by Pennington, Frederick Douglass, and Harriet Jacobs, as well as Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the first major fictional work written in the service of the abolitionist

movement. We discussed the historical and religious background as well as the changing political contexts, but also the literary traditions and rhetorical strategies that went into the making of early American anti-slavery literature. As a special highlight, the class had the opportunity to hear Professor Williams lecture on "James W.C. Pennington and Mark Twain: Slavery and the Moral Conscience of American Literature" at the award ceremony.

Interdisciplinary Seminar II (History and Literature)

"Modernizing the United States: History, Literature, and Culture, 1865-1914"

Lecturers: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach; Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

After the Civil War, the United States developed rapidly into a modern industrial urban society. This interdisciplinary course discussed different aspects of this modernization process and looked at how they affected American thinking of the time. Participants analyzed the processes of modernization not by attending to the narratives of modern historiographies but by scrutinizing contemporary documents, pamphlets and treatises, and literary texts. The course was divided into four sections on industrialism, capitalism, and urbanism; race, class, and gender; politics and the state; and wealth, leisure, and culture. Among the literary works studied were Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*, Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, and Henry James's *Daisy Miller*. In addition, the class analyzed texts by William Graham Sumner, Jacob Riis, W.E.B. Du Bois, Jane Addams, Frances Willard, Andrew Carnegie, and Thorstein Veblen. One of the general questions that guided the class concerned changes in the concept of work and leisure. 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 how far do these different discourses draw on new concepts of human self fulfilment? And what is the place of culture in the debates about work and leisure?

Methodology I

"Introduction to American Studies, Part II"

Lecturer: Daniel Silliman, M.A.

In this class, students developed the critical thinking skills they need for the M.A. program. They were introduced to the theory and practice of cultural criticism, began to articulate their own stance in relationship to the history of cultural criticism, and engaged in that public discourse. They did this in three ways. First, the class considered the purpose of the larger project of cultural criticism. They looked at everyday examples of cultural criticism, such as TV reviews and newspaper editorials, and thought about its social function. They considered further their place in the Western tradition of public discourse. Studying the history of that discourse, they examined how modern democratic states are grounded in the practices of open and free communication and re-examined their own media use and cultural activities in that light. Second, the class considered the rules of public reasoning. They looked at what makes a good argument, what makes a bad argument, and how bad arguments masquerade as good ones. The class spent considerable time studying logical fallacies. They were taught not only what they are, but how to recognize them in

practice, and how to avoid them themselves. Third, the class engaged in public discourse. Each student edited and substantially revised a Wikipedia article related to their proposed M.A. thesis. Before doing this, they had to engage with the publicly available information on this topic and compare it to scholarly resources, practice a neutral and objective encyclopedic writing style, and learn how to be transparent in the process. They learned about public knowledge production by taking on the role of expert in a controlled environment. In the liberal arts tradition, this class developed an array of critical thinking skills. It prepared students for future work inside and outside of academia.

Methodology II

"Problems in Academic Writing, Part II"

Lecturer: Dr. Anja Schüler

See course description winter semester 2014-15

MAS Interdisciplinary Colloquium

Facilitators: Dr. Wilfried Mausbach; Dr. Anne Sommer

On April 24, the "Interdisciplinary Colloquium" resumed with the 2015 commencement speech by James D. Bindenagel, U.S. Ambassador (ret.) and Henry Kissinger Professor for Governance and International Security, Bonn University, about "Does the West Still Matter? America and Europe in the Twenty-first Century." According to Professor Bindenagel, the title's question needed to be rephrased in "Is the grand bargain still valid?" On April 30, Scott M. Kenworthy from the Department of Comparative Religion at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, who was the Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, delivered a lecture on "Eastern Orthodox Christianity in North America." He presented the historic evolution of Orthodoxy in the U.S. since the eighteenth century, emphasizing the impact of Russian settlers, Greek orthodox settlers, and the Russian revolution.

On May 12, the HCA welcomed John Corrigan, Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion and professor of history, Florida State University, as well as Fulbright Distinguished Research Chair at the Roosevelt Studies Center, Middelburg, The Netherlands, who presented an in-depth analysis of "Religious Intolerance and American Foreign Policy." The following week, Christopher Parker, Stuart A. Scheingold, Professor of Social Justice and Political Science at the Department of Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, gave a talk on "Identifying the Roots of Reactionary Movements: A Comparative Analysis of European and American Cases," linking past and present reactionary movements and thus examining the motivations and political implications of the Tea Party. On May 27, Rita Felski, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of English at the University of Virginia, and editor of *New Literary History*, presented her current research on "Attachment Theory." By considering the often overlooked aspect of media's basic function of enjoyment or pleasure, Professor Felski pushed past the boundaries of mere aesthetics and sought to discuss art more deeply than understanding it for art's sake.

On June 2, Lloyd Ambrosius, Samuel Clark Waugh Distinguished Professor of International Relations and professor of history at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, spoke at the HCA. He delivered a talk on "World War I and the Paradox of Wilsonianism," pointing out that even if Wilson's idea of a peaceful world order failed, Wilsonianism continued to shape U.S. foreign policy. On June 11, Walter Benn Michaels, professor of English, University of Illinois at Chicago, continued the "Interdisciplinary Colloquium" with his talk "On the Use and Abuse of (Institutional) History for (Neoliberal) Life." Professor Michaels argued that higher education in the U.S. is not as open as it might seem but rather limited to the elite. He ended his lecture with the conclusion that education is not a luxury but an economic imperative. The next presentation on "Trust off/in Communication: The Case of the First Fireside Chat" was held on June 18 by Frank Kelleter, professor of North American culture and Einstein Professor of North American Cultural History, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Berlin. In his talk, he addressed issues such as trust and modern media, depression radio's "Imagined Community," continuation as theme and practice in the first Fireside Chat, and media affordances and para social interaction.

On June 25, two young scholars enriched the Colloquium's program. Maren Schäfer and Jin Wu, both members of the MAS Class of 2016, presented their thesis topics to their class mates, engaging them in lively discussions afterwards. On July 2, Daniel S. Malachuk, associate professor of English at Western Illinois University, lectured on "Lincoln and Emerson: Preparing the Public Mind," wondering why no research has ever been published on these two great thinkers who lived at the same time. Turning from history to dispute resolution, a talk on "The Role of Alternative Dispute Resolution in the U.S." was delivered by Thomas J. Stipanowich, William H. Webster Chair in Dispute Resolution, professor of law at Pepperdine University, and academic director of the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, on July 9. He emphasized the development and role of alternative ways to solve conflicts or disputes between contractual parties, such as binding arbitration, mediation, real-time approaches, or online-dispute resolution (ODR). On July 16, Walter H. Conser, professor of history and religion at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, gave a fascinating lecture about "Ritual and Ecstasy in Early American Shaker History." Reflecting on the foundation and evolution of the religious Shakers community in Massachusetts between 1780 and 1820, Conser defined the Shakers as a sect or community rather than a denomination; he portrayed the community's basic beliefs and tenets as the affirmation of a dual sexuality of God, reliance to equal gender roles, zealous missionary work, full obedience to church, believing in Second Appearing of Christ, attachment to simplicity and order in their secular life, and finally the excellent craftsmanship through congenial work. The summer term's concluding session of the Interdisciplinary Colloquium was held on July 23.

OUTLOOK ON THE MAS COURSE OUTLINE

In the winter semester 2015-2016, the MAS schedule will include the following four lectures: "Introduction to the Law and Legal System of the United States" by Cynthia Wilke, J.D.; "The History of the United States from Independence to Secession, 1760-1860" by Professor Manfred Berg; "Government, Politics and Policy-Making in the United States" by PD Dr. Martin Thunert, and "North American Cities" by Professor Ulrike Gerhard. In addition, Dr. Anja Schüler offers a class on "Problems in Academic Writing", and Daniel Silliman, M.A., teaches an "Introduction to Critical Thinking in American Studies." Dr. Wilfried Mausbach and Dr. Anne Sommer chair the Interdisciplinary Colloquium.

THE MAS CLASS OF 2015

Rasha Al Saie (Jordan)

Rasha was born in Aqaba, Jordan, in 1987. She received her B.A. in English Language and Literature from the University of Jordan in 2009. She worked as a middle school English teacher at an international school in Amman for three years. In 2012, Rasha spent a year as a Fulbright teaching assistant at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. During her master's program, she majored in law, political science, and geography. She wrote her master's thesis on "Muslim Women in Twenty-First Century American Fiction: The Removal of the Veil."

Paul Bacharach (USA)

Paul was born in New Orleans, La., in 1987. In 2007 he began his collegiate studies as a liberal arts major, and in December 2011 he graduated from Louisiana State University with a B.A. degree in history, with both a German and a philosophy minor. He was introduced to Germany as an undergraduate through a study abroad semester in 2010. At the HCA he majored in history, political science, and law, writing his thesis on "Redistricting/'Gerrymandering' in the United States: A Political and Legal Analysis of the Justiciability and Constitutionality of Redistricting Plans from their Beginnings until Today."

Asena Bosnak (Turkey)

Asena was born in Turkey in 1991. She completed her B.A. in American culture and literature at Istanbul University. In the MAS program, her interest shifted from literature to political science and law. As the topic for her M.A. thesis, she chose "Guantanamo: The Treatment of 'Unlawful Combatants' in the Obama Era: An Analysis of the Detention Policy from Review to Implementation."

Jun Chen (China)

Jun Chen studied English at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China, and graduated with a B.A. degree in 2013. In the MAS program, she chose political science, geography, and law as her majors. She wrote her M.A. thesis on "Did the 'Reset-Button' Malfunction? Russian-American Relations During the Obama Administration."

Trang Dao Thi Minh (Vietnam)

Trang was born in Hanoi, Vietnam, in 1990. She graduated from Hanoi Foreign Trade University with a major in international economics and a minor in business. During her college time, she worked as a writer for a teen magazine and editor for a student radio channel. After graduation, she spent a year joining volunteer projects and running missions in Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, and Northern Vietnam, while still working as a travel blogger. At the HCA, she majored in literature, geography, and law and wrote her M.A. thesis on "Outsiders on the Margin: Vietnamese Americans and the Model Minority Myth – The Struggle for Education in the New World of the Second Generation."

Miao Huang (China)

Born and raised in Beijing, China, Miao received her Bachelor of law degree in international politics at Peking University. Her experience in the Model United Nations sparked her interest in studying abroad. In Heidelberg, she chose political science, geography, and law as her majors. She wrote her M.A. thesis on "Surveillance vs. Privacy and Personal Liberties in Post 9/11 America."

Leah Karels (USA)

Leah Karels was born in Minnesota and received a B.A. in American Studies from Carleton College in 2009. After graduation, she spent three years teaching and traveling in Brazil, Argentina, and South Korea before serving as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Portugal. At the HCA, Leah majored in geography, political science, and religion. Her thesis, entitled "The Small Town on the Small Screen: From Escapism to Authenticity in Representations of the Rural," examined shifting mythologies of the American small town as depicted in popular television shows. She graduated as one of the two valedictorians of the MAS Class of 2015. Leah was recently awarded a State Department/Georgetown University-sponsored English Language Fellowship. She will spend the 2015-2016 school year leading university classes, holding teacher training workshops, and facilitating cultural events in Makassar, Indonesia.

Nikolas Mariani (Germany / USA)

Nikolas Mariani was born and raised in Germany to German-American and Croatian parents. Upon finishing his B.A. in English and philosophy in Heidelberg 2012, he moved to New York City to act, make music, and reconnect with his American roots. He returned after a year to start the MAS program at the HCA. He chose history, political science, and law as his majors, writing his thesis on "U.S. Independent Media in the 21st Century – Challenges and Opportunities for a Dying News Industry."

Kimberly Martines (USA)

Kimberly returned to Germany after first living here as a Rotary Exchange Student in 2001. She received her B.A. in French and economics from Kalamazoo College and studied at Ecole Supérieur de Commerce of Clermont-Ferrand, France and later at DePaul University in Chicago for an M.A. program in International Studies. She has worked for the French government and Rotary International. At the HCA she chose history, literature, and religious studies as her majors.

She wrote her thesis on "Alternative Food Systems in the United States: Food Hubs as Models of Change."

Everett Messamore (Canada)

Everett was born in Winnipeg, Canada, in 1986. He received his B.A. in history from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia, in 2009. During this time, he worked as a research assistant on a Canadian history textbook. At the HCA, he majored in religious studies, history, and literature. Everett finished the M.A. program as one of the two valedictorians. He is currently expanding his M.A. thesis, entitled "Andrew Jackson Davis, American Spiritualism, and the Idea of Universal Religion," into a Ph.D. dissertation, tentatively entitled "Spiritualism and the Language of Universal Religion in Nineteenth-Century America," which he is writing as part of the research group "Global Religious History from a Regional Perspective: Historicizing and Decentering Religious Identities in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries." Everett is also working as a teaching assistant for history at the HCA.

Sara Osman (Lebanon)

Sara was born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1990. After living in Beirut for sixteen years, Sara got the opportunity to study at the United World College in Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina for two years, where she received her International Baccalaureate. She was then offered a full tuition award to study in the United States at Westminster College, where she completed her Bachelor degree in international studies, pre-law and French. In the MAS, she chose political science, geography, and law as her majors and wrote her M.A. thesis on "The Influence of Lobbying on American Foreign Policy: A Comparative Study of the Arab and Israeli Lobbies in the United States."

Natalie Rauscher (Germany)

Natalie started studying in Heidelberg in 2009 and finished her B.A. in English and political science in 2009. In 2011-12, she spent one year in the U.S. at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Pursuing political science next to history and law as majors at the HCA offered her new insights into the society and system of the United States. She used these insights to write a thesis on "The Occupy Movement and its Impact on the Political Discourse in the United States." Natalie is now working as a teaching assistant for political science at the HCA.

Guo Shuyi (China)

Shuyi was born in China in 1991 and spent almost eight years in the capital Beijing. Travelling around the world sparked her interest in western cultures, which finally led her to Germany. In the MAS, she majored in political science, geography, and law and wrote her thesis on "Dragon vs. Eagle: The Nature of the U.S.-China Economic Relationship in the Early Twenty-First Century."

Jordan Beck Wagner (USA)

Jordan was born in Washington, D.C., in 1991. She received her B.A. in political science and German from Washington University in St. Louis in May 2013. During her time at university, she held internships with the U.S. House of Representatives and U.K. House of Lords. She was also

active in the 2012 U.S. presidential election, holding internships with a presidential campaign as well as a political fundraising organization. Jordan's MAS thesis was entitled, "Gender Bias in Media Outlets towards U.S. Female Politicians: Hillary Clinton, Michele Bachmann, and their Presidential Campaigns." She majored in political science, geography, and law. After finishing the M.A. program, she interned at the U.S. Embassies in Croatia and Bulgaria. Jordan will start a business degree program in "International Business and Emerging Markets" in September 2015 at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Laurence Williams (United Kingdom)

Laurence was raised in London, but moved to Guildford to study English literature and creative writing at the University of Surrey. For his third year placement, he studied abroad at Heidelberg University and decided to come back for his Masters. Besides this, Laurence's focus lies in theatre, having written and performed with the Soho, Kings Head and National Theatre along with working on the design for Olympic events. At the HCA, he majored in political science, literature, and law. As a topic for his M.A. thesis he chose "A Police Force of Soldiers and their Civilian Enemies: How the War on Drugs and 9/11 gave Birth to a Racist Police Force." After his graduation, he wrote a play "How It Was," which will premiere at the "Theater im Romanischen Keller" in Heidelberg in December 2015."

Yawen Yang (China)

Yawen was born in 1988 in Jiangsu, China. She received her M.A. degree in teaching Chinese to speakers of other languages in 2012 from Nanjing Normal University. She worked as a volunteer Chinese teacher in Cambodia for one year and was a Chinese tutor for students from the U.S., Korea, Australia, and Belgium. At the HCA she majored in political science, geography, and law, writing her M.A. thesis on "Film Industry Regulation in the United States: United States Supreme Court Cases and the Dissolving of State Censorship, 1915-1974."

HCA COMMENCEMENT 2015

On April 24, the HCA celebrated the commencement of the BAS and MAS classes of 2015 in the lecture hall of the Old University. In these festive surroundings, family, friends, and colleagues joined in the graduation ceremony of fifteen M.A. students and six B.A. students.

The commencement ceremony was opened by the rector of Heidelberg University, Professor Bernhard Eitel. Acknowledging the university's theme "semper apertus" ("always open"), Professor Eitel expressed his heartfelt wishes to the graduates, whose time in Heidelberg had opened new doors for them through which they could start changing the world. After that, Professor Henry Keazor, the vice dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, reminded the class of 2015 that wherever they ended up, they should always remember their roots in Heidelberg – a place to live, to study, and to return to. Professor Detlef Junker, the founding director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, then welcomed the graduates and their families as well as the friends of the

HCA. He pointed out that the graduates would profit from their interdisciplinary and intercultural education and reminded them to continue to expand their skills every day, so they could put to good use their knowledge about the politics, culture, economy, and society of the United States. Professor Junker then introduced the commencement speaker as someone who has built bridges across the Atlantic and the world.



The BAS Graduates of 2015 (l. to r.):
Miriam Siebeking, Miriam Oser, Vanessa Ries, Vanessa Marschang, Franziska Frey, Jan Bauer

James D. Bindenagel is a former U.S. ambassador, a career diplomat, and expert on Germany, who currently holds the Henry Kissinger Chair for Governance and International Security at the Friedrich-Wilhelms-University Bonn. He started his keynote-address by comparing the friendship and camaraderie of the HCA students with the transatlantic relationship – both are based on trust. Born after the end of World War II and in a sense the child of President Truman's containment policy, the special German-American relationship was also an important pillar for the U.S.-European partnership, both militarily and economically. This pillar remained a mainstay of U.S. foreign policy for decades, but, according to Professor Bindenagel, the question "Does the west still matter?" needs to be recast as "Is the grand bargain still valid?." While President Obama has repeatedly emphasized that "America has no better partner than Europe," Professor Bindenagel thinks it is the other way around – Europe has no better partner than America. Professor Bindenagel's commencement speech then turned to the topics of liberty and freedom, which are at the core of both nations. He reminded the audience that nothing epitomized the meaning of liberty and freedom better than the fall of the Berlin Wall twenty five years ago. It also marked the beginning of a new era in transatlantic relations. Their continued importance has become evident many times since 1989, most recently in the Ukraine crisis, which showed that peace in Europe cannot be taken for granted. At the same time, many challenges remain for the foreign policy of the U.S. and its partners around the globe: the Middle East, the emergence of the Islamic State, Iraq, and North Korea, to name only a few. While the planned Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership or the NSA affairs could put a strain on the U.S.-German relationship, Professor Bindenagel reminded the graduates that they should always act on the knowledge they gained at the HCA. Europe and America needed to stand together. The commencement speaker encour-

aged the students to find their own answer to the question of whether the West still mattered and ended his remarks with a quote by Nelson Mandela: "As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."



The MAS Class of 2015
 Front row (l. to r.): Yawen Yang, Guo Shugi, Jordan Beck Wagner, Natalie Rauscher, Asena Bosnak, Jun Chen, Leah Karels, Kimberly Martines
 Back row (l. to r.): Trang Dao Thi Minh, Miao Huang, Everett Messamore, Paul Bacharach, Nikolas Mariani, Laurence Williams, Rasha Al Saie

After a musical interlude with Joscha Sörös (piano) and Jan Prax (sax) and the presentation of the diplomas, the valedictorians of the MAS class of 2015, Leah Karels and Everett Messamore, shared some of their memories of the HCA. Following the ceremony, the graduates and their families and friends joined the other guests for a reception at the HCA, where they reminisced and made future plans. Congratulations to both the BAS and MAS classes of 2015!

VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH

Dear esteemed guests, professors, family, friends, and fellow students,

It is something of a cliché to say that the world is getting smaller. Looking at the extremely international MAS class of 2015, this seems to ring very true. The students sitting here represent nine countries and speak just as many languages. We come from incredibly diverse academic and professional backgrounds. The chance to meet and study with so many wonderful people from around the world is one we're very grateful for and something that, not all that long ago, probably would never have happened. It has been endlessly observed that today's ease of communication and travel has broken down many of the traditional obstacles and barriers between places. Which is fortunate. It would be tragic, indeed, to be separated from the many beloved friends we have made here by such insurmountable space. But such tired observations about the shrinking of the world ignore the tremendous distance that many of us have travelled to be here. I am a long way from home. Airplanes and Skype don't negate the enormity of picking up one's life and moving, sometimes thousands of kilometers, to spend a year and a half working towards something. Though we have all come varying distances, there is no one in this class in whom

we've seen the least unwillingness to embark on long journeys and difficult tasks. That is company that we're proud to be associated with. It is maybe a fitting trait for students of American Studies. After all, American history, from the first native inhabitants coming from Asia, to later arrivals up to the modern day, has been filled with people moving great distances, both within and from without. Not everyone has the stomach for such an undertaking. I'm sure we're not the only ones to be incredulously asked on multiple occasions why we would move all the way to Germany when we could have done a degree near home. Earning a degree in and of itself is no mean task even without the move, but it takes an exceptional type of individual to do so in a foreign country or language. The reward is clear in the great people we've met and enriching experience we've had here.



The valedictorians of the MAS Class of 2015: Everett Messamore and Leah Karels

We've learned a lot in the past year and a half, from multitudinous readings, from an array of interdisciplinary lectures and seminars, and from intensive research and writing. The diversity of our group also provided the unique opportunity to learn from each other. We really did get to see the United States from an outside perspective.

Still, we can't give ourselves all the credit. Without the support of the HCA itself, our achievements would not have been possible. We had the opportunity to learn from world renowned professors at one of the finest universities in Europe. We attended fascinating talks from diverse speakers that reminded us we were part of a larger community of American Studies scholars. We also thoroughly enjoyed several well-catered post-colloquium receptions and HCA events.

Throughout this process, we also had each other. Whether going on coffee runs during our long first-semester Wednesdays, organizing helpful study groups before oral exams, or texting each other encouraging gifs the night before thesis submission, we contributed to each other's success. Without the friendships formed within our MAS 2015 class, it would have been a difficult and lonely time indeed. We feel honoured to have been asked to speak on your behalf.

So from the MAS class of 2015, we would like to say thank you. To Professor Junker for creating this unique institution and ensuring its continuing health. To our esteemed guests, for celebrating with us today. To our professors and advisors, for bestowing on us your knowledge and guidance. To the HCA coordinators and staff, for making everything run so smoothly. To our families and friends, for supporting us from near and far . . . and for proofreading at the last minute. We would also like to congratulate the BAS class of 2015 on their hard work and accomplishments.



James Bindenagel

So, if we're meant to give some profound piece of wisdom for the future, the best we can come up with is this. Think of the countless people who have set out on great journeys or been uprooted and adapted to new surroundings. Maintain in yourselves a reckless sense of adventure and don't be afraid to travel great distances in pursuit of your goals. The poet Rainer Maria Rilke once wrote "I live my life in widening circles that reach out across the world." We encourage you to do the same. The world may be shrinking, but our experience here at the HCA has allowed us to grow within it.

Leah Karrels and Everett Messamore

THE MAS CLASS OF 2016

Özcan Altay (Turkey)

Özcan was born in Kirikkale, Turkey, in 1982. He received his B.A. in law from Ankara University in 2005. Since then, he has been working in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey as a legislative expert. During that time, he took part in the meetings of the Committee on Conciliation on the Constitution. At the HCA, he majored in law, religion, and political science. He intends to study the current discussions on the Imperial Presidency, focusing on the Obama administration.

Iulia Caizer (Romania)

Born in Romania, Iulia received her Bachelor of law from the West University of Timisoara in 2013. During her studies, she participated in international debate competitions, moot court competitions and also interned at law firms. In her third year, she was elected to be National Vice President of the Seminar & Conferences Department of ELSA Romania. She also received an Erasmus scholarship and studied at the University of Genoa, Italy. At the HCA, she chose sociology, political science, and law as her majors. She is now taking part in an exchange program studying at Georgia State University for the academic year 2015-16.

Daniel Donohoe (UK)

Daniel grew up in Llandudno, North Wales. He then moved to Lampeter to attend the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David. Daniel studied history in his first year and modern historical studies for the rest of his degree. Set on doing his masters at Heidelberg University, he started learning the German language. At the HCA, he majored in literature, law, and political science.

Vincent Wai Shing Ha (Hong Kong, China)

Vincent was born in Hong Kong and received his B.A. in English literature along with a minor in history from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2012. During his studies, he also worked as an English tutor at the Wallstreet Institute. After graduation, he worked as an English teacher for a local school and a kindergarten for two years and also as a freelance writing assistant. At the HCA, he majored in literature, sociology, and history.

Xin Huang (China)

Huang Xin was born in China and graduated from the Civil Aviation University of China with a B.A. in English in 2014. At the HCA, she majored in literature, law, and political science.

Tingyu Liu (China)

Tingyu was born in 1992 in Sichuan, China. In 2010, she started her college life at Sun-Yat Sen University and received her B.A. in English language and literature there, specializing in translation and interpretation. At the HCA, she chose sociology, law, and political science as her majors.

Xing Liu (China)

Born in a small city, Zhumadian in Henan province, China, in 1986, Xing Liu was given the opportunity to study at the Chengdu University of Information Technology and finished his B.A. in

English in 2009. After graduation, he went back to his hometown and worked in a local chemical company. At the HCA he majored in sociology, law, and political science.

Michelle Maffucci (Peru/USA)

Michelle was born in Lima, Peru in 1993. She graduated from the University of Tampa, cum laude, in May 2014. She received her B.A. in international and cultural studies with minors in history and Latin American Studies, and completed a certificate in the German language. Michelle participated in two study abroad courses in Lima, Peru, and in Stuttgart, Germany. She volunteered at the United Services Organization and participated in the Republican National Convention during the U.S. presidential election in 2012. At the HCA, Michelle majored in sociology, history, and law. Michelle is writing her thesis on U.S. Humanitarian Aid in Africa.

Matthew Niebes (USA)

A native of Atlanta, Ga., Matthew graduated from Emory University in 2014, where he completed a B.A. in English and history as well as an honor's thesis analyzing the literature of William S. Burroughs within 1960s countercultural philosophy. He interned with a non-profit farm that caters to refugees living in Clarkston Ga., At the HCA, he chose to major in religious studies, history, and literature.

Lijie Ruan (China)

Lijie was born in 1991 and studied English at Henan Normal University. She chose to major in religious studies, law, and history at the HCA

Maren Schäfer (Germany)

Maren was born near Bonn, Germany. After gaining a B.A. in international business, she worked as key account manager in an online marketing agency. After finishing her coursework of the MAS program, Maren spent a year as an exchange student at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. She returned in June 2015 and continued her studies with writing her M.A. thesis.

Emine Türkmen (Turkey)

Emine was born in Trabzon, Turkey in 1990. She graduated from the Department of History at Middle East Technical University in February 2014. Before coming to HCA, she did her master degrees at Middle East Technical and Bilkent Universities, where she studied Latin and North American Studies and U.S. history. At the HCA, she chose sociology, history, and religious studies as majors. For her master thesis she wants to focus on American foreign policy in the Middle East during the George W. Bush years.

Jin Wu (China)

Jin was born in Chengdu City and studied at Xi'an Jiaotong University, China, graduating with a B.A. in English. During her studies, she participated in an academic exchange program at National Chengchi University in Taiwan. She started the MAS program in 2013. After taking a leave of absence to do an internship in Brussels, she resumed her studies in fall 2014.

Hanqi Yu (China)

Hanqi was born in Zhejiang, China in 1992. She graduated from Fudan University, Shanghai, with a B.A. degree in international politics. At the HCA, she majored in religious studies, sociology, and political science.

Nan Zhang (China)

Nan was born and raised in Inner Mongolia, China. She graduated from Inner Mongolia University with a Bachelor degree. Although she majored in philosophy, she also studied literature and history during her four years at college. At the HCA, she chose law, political science, and history as her majors.

THE MAS CLASS OF 2017

This year we welcome fourteen new students from seven different countries: Hacer Bahar (Turkey), Louis Butcher (UK/USA), Jessica Hagen (USA), Frederick Janzen (Germany), Zachary Holler (USA), Gayong Kwon (South Korea), Xingyan Liu (China), Emily Lloyd (USA), Aljay Pascua (USA), Henry Prown (USA), Tony Royle (USA), Jonathan Schlaefler (USA), Nao Tomabecci (Japan), and Nahia Uribe (Brazil).

MAS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Thanksgiving 2015

Our festive Thanksgiving dinner is one of the most valued traditions at the HCA for both students and staff. Once more on the third Thursday in November, M.A. students, faculty, and staff celebrated the occasion in the Atrium. Everybody contributed to a rich buffet made up of traditional dishes. After the ceremonial opening, we enjoyed delicious food along with conversation and laughter.



Vincent Ha and Marie Luise Bischof Enjoy the Buffet at the 2014 Thanksgiving Dinner.

Summer Barbecue

We celebrated the arrival of the well-earned summer break again in good American tradition: with a barbecue. The HCA backyard offered an ideal atmosphere for a garden party. HCA staff and faculty, M.A., and B.A. students brought delicious food, and some of the students showed their skills as barbecue chefs.

Berlin Report

The MAS Class of 2016 visited Berlin for a week in May 2015. Scarlett Ruan and Hanqi Yu share their impressions.

With excitement and many different expectations, the MAS Class of 2016 met at Heidelberg Hauptbahnhof on the morning of May 4, where the journey to the German capital began. Accompanied by Katia Rostetter and Victoria Caillet, we got on the train to Berlin. It was an enriching train ride for everyone. Even though we all had to wake up early, no one showed disinterest in one another. We had great discussions, exchanged experiences and ideologies, leaving us in admiration of those who broke their own social and cultural circles while trying to understand classmates who come from different backgrounds. This excursion also taught us about interrelationships and the mixing of differences and was an opportunity for us not only to learn about one of the most renowned cities in Europe, but also to respect each other's differences with grace.

On day one in Berlin, an organized boat trip on the Spree lifted the curtain for the week. It was a thoughtful idea because there's no better way of getting to know a place than to see where the "blood of the city" runs. Red rabbits running in the park and friendly people waving at us from the banks of the river made us see the charm and openness of this city and its people. On day two, the visit to the parliament exposed us to the political history of German legislation, answering questions like how does the legislative branch work and what are the political rankings in Germany? The lecturer led us through various historical periods, not only of the building itself, but also of the alteration of German legislative activities. We laughed together when the lecturer made some funny jokes, and we learned so many interesting facts about the Parliament. For example, the giant glass mirror hanging from the ceiling, which provides seventy per cent of the light in the Parliament, reflects the German people's rooted-in consciousness of environment-friendliness and energy conservation.

This fascinating trip overwhelmed us with the charm of Berlin: its culture, its history, its dynamite energy. If it were not for the HCA's support and dedication in planning and guiding, this trip would have been a chaotic experience. Despite our trip being affected by a Deutsche Bahn strike, and the metro system seeming to be confusing and ever-changing, we still proudly made it till the end. In the first two days we got the chance to have guided tours both by bus and by boat. During the boat trip, we enjoyed the wonderful architecture and landscapes along the river. During the bus trip, we explored many interesting corners of this city together with a local guide, whose humorous commentaries drew a vivid image of the past history. Berlin is a city with so many stories! We also went to numerous museums. All the guides were fantastic, especially the

one at the Allied Museum. Not only did she demonstrate the historical and political background of the American airlift in Berlin, she also integrated into the lecture her own experiences with German people who lived in that hard time as children. Of course, we showed our appreciation with focused attention and long-standing applause. Apart from exploring history in the museum, we were also introduced to a more modern side of Berlin: its street art. Graffiti art is an inseparable part of the streetscape and demonstrated the freedom and tolerance of the city. We encountered some of the most extraordinary graffiti works, expressing the social and political concerns of the artists. Though the weather was very cold and windy that day, the passion of the guide ignited our interest.

This trip showed us many faces of Berlin but also bonded and tied us together like a true family: We loved and supported each other in so many beautiful ways, especially during the trip, and felt almost at home, surrounded by all our classmates.

LECTURE AND MAS MARKETING TOUR IN THE UNITED STATES

After promoting the MAS program in China (2012) and in Chile (2013), the MAS team visited the United States in the fall of 2015 to promote the HCA's MAS and Ph.D. programs as well as the Spring Academy. Dr. Anne Sommer presented the institute at the Career Day "Studying and Working in Germany" at the Goethe Institut in New York City. She also established closer ties with the German Center for Research and Innovation through its director Dr. Joann Halpern, with New York University through its undergraduate advisor Betts Brown, and with Columbia University through its program director for the M.A. in American Studies, Dr. Matt Sandler.

Dr. Sommer was then joined by Katia Rostetter, M.A., and the HCA's Founding Director Professor Detlef Junker, who gave lectures on "The Widening Atlantic: Market Gap, War Gap, God Gap" in St. Louis, Mo., Lincoln, Neb., and San Francisco. In St. Louis, the team met with Dr. Joel Glassmann, Associate Provost and Director International Studies and Programs at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Professor Elizabeth Borgwardt of the Department of History at Washington University. The HCA associates also had the opportunity to introduce their programs at the German Culture Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and to network at the International Fall Reception of the Vice Chancellor for International Affairs at the house of Professor Jim Wertsch and his wife Mary. In Lincoln, Neb., they enjoyed the hospitality of professors Jeannette Jones, Alexander Vazansky, and Lloyd Ambrosius, as well as the latter's wife Marge. They also met with Rebecca Luhrs Baskerville, director of the Education Abroad Program of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In San Francisco, the MAS team and the founding director could count on the support and the hospitality of Professor Charles Postel and his wife Michael, Professor Peter Richardson, and Professor Bob Cherny, all from San Francisco State University, as well as of professors Mark

Brilliant and Anthony J. Cascardi from the University of California-Berkeley. Professor Cascardi, who is also the Dean of Arts and Humanities, initiated a very productive meeting with a number of professors in American Studies. The final event of the trip, arranged by the American Council on Germany and Heidelberg University, took place in the office of "Duane Morris LLP," where a sizeable audience attended Professor Junker's lecture on the widening Atlantic.

Our special thanks go to Irmintraud Jost, Executive Director of the Heidelberg University Association, New York, for her extraordinary support for this lecture and marketing tour.



A CENTER FOR
INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

A CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

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

PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Launched in 2006, the Ph.D. in American Studies program continues to attract talented young scholars from around the world. Currently two dozen students from twelve countries are enrolled in the program, conducting cutting-edge research that brings various perspectives from cultural studies, political science, history, economics, literature, religion, and geography into a fruitful dialogue. They come from Germany, the United States, Greece, Palestine, Turkey, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Lithuania, Canada, and Vietnam.

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

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

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

In October 2015, yet another doctoral candidate enrolled in our program: Anastassia Rühl, hailing from Stuttgart, the capital of Baden-Württemberg. Anastassia's work takes a close look at milk advertisements in twentieth-century America, using discourse analysis. Her research project is titled "Animal Milk in Human Culture," and it argues that milk, rather than being just everyday food, is a "multifaceted product of human discourse," as the author puts it. Anastassia now

forms part of an ambitious intellectual community at the HCA. For more information on all current Ph.D. candidates, see the Ph.D. candidates section (pages 88-112)..

Curriculum

Once admitted, students are expected to take one class on theory, one class on problems in academic writing, and one presentation and media skills class. In addition, for the duration of their enrollment, students are required to attend the Ph.D. colloquium. Regular progress reports and orientation talks with supervisors are also an integral part of the HCA's Ph.D. program.

Theories and Issues in American Studies

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

This course is designed to acquaint Ph.D. students with key concepts and debates in the subject areas that make up the core of American Studies at the HCA: literature, cultural studies, history, political science, religious studies, and geography. It cuts across disciplinary landscapes and boundaries to give students a better understanding of the major contentions each of the subjects brings to the pluralistic, contested, and dynamic field of American Studies. True to the interdisciplinary fabric of the HCA, the course is co-taught by faculty members with different areas of specialization. Among the various theorists and writers discussed in class are Peter Novick, Hayden White, Winfried Fluck, Barbara Johnson, Jane Tompkins, Sacvan Bercovitch, Edward Soja, G. John Ikenberry, and Anne-Marie Slaughter. The course – updated every year – addresses issues and concepts such as deconstruction, imagined communities, gender, performance, post-colonialism, historical objectivity, memory, globalization, international relations, liberalism, and communitarianism.

Problems in Academic Writing

(Dr. Anja Schüler)

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

Media and Presentation Skills

(Millie Baker)

This course is a two-day seminar in which students are encouraged to gain insight into the subtleties of verbal and non-verbal communication to help get their message across. They learn how to assess their presentation strengths and weaknesses and experiment with new communication strategies. Furthermore, this course helps students to develop a critical awareness of their own and each other's presentation styles; to develop strategies for dealing with unexpected or difficult situations, for example answering questions, technical problems, or audience hostility; and to develop confidence in public speaking. Therefore, it is essential that participants receive not only verbal feedback from the trainer and each other but also see themselves presenting on video (each student receives a copy of this video on disk to study at home).

Ph.D. Colloquium

The Ph.D. colloquium offers Ph.D. candidates and visiting scholars an opportunity to present and discuss their research in an open, interdisciplinary setting. Participants are encouraged to give feedback and engage in scholarly debate with presenters from various disciplines in the field of American Studies. Sessions take place on a weekly basis in the winter term while in the summer term the colloquium takes the form of an extended two-day session. The colloquium in the winter semester of 2014-15 was directed by Dr. Tobias Endler and PD Dr. Martin Thunert. Traditionally, it started with the Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize ceremony on October 16 (see pages 113-114). Other highlights included guest lectures by Professor Penny von Eschen (University of Michigan) who spoke on "Jazz as a Global Culture of Dissent" and visiting professor Matthew Sutton (Washington State University) who explained to an intent audience how religion and American espionage formed an unholy alliance in World War II. The remaining sessions consisted of a wide variety of intriguing projects presented by doctoral candidates both from the HCA and affiliated departments. Thus the participants of the colloquium got to hear about "Nostalgia and *Mad Men*" (Debarchana Baruah), "John Foxe in America: Publishing, Distributing, and Reading the *Book of Martyrs* in the United States" (Heike Jablonski), "The Ineffability of Business in *The Great Gatsby*" (Erhan Simsek), and "The U.S. Leadership Role in the 21st Century" (Gordon Friedrichs), to name just a few examples. All speakers seized this great opportunity to introduce their work to an international and very interested audience, and they performed admirably. Another highlight took place on January 20, 2015, when HCA Ph.D. students Maria Diaconu, Eva-Maria Mayer (née Kiefer), Maarten Paulusse, and Styles Sass presented the newly published anthology *The United States as a Divided Nation: Past and Present* to a sizeable crowd. Each of them contributed a chapter to the book which was edited by the American Studies Department at Charles University Prague, one of the HCA's renowned partners in the Ph.D. exchange network.

On May 15-16, 2015, the Ph.D. colloquium relocated once again to its traditional summer retreat. For the fourth time, this two-day workshop took place at the Kurhaus Annweiler/Trifels, a beautifully renovated villa in the picturesque Palatinate. In a pleasant and inspiring atmosphere and in the presence of their fellow students and supervisors, doctoral candidates from the HCA

as well as guests from the university's English Department (both from the fields of literature and linguistics) discussed their research projects and received valuable feedback. On Friday evening, Giovanni Bernardini, Ph.D., presented his current research. Professor Bernardini, who holds a position at the Italian-German Historical Institute at the Bruno Kessler Foundation in Trento (Italy), was a visiting professor at the HCA. He gladly accepted our invitation to give a talk on "Détente in the Cold War as a Source of Conflict in Transatlantic Relations," and he engaged in a lively debate with the audience on past as well as current challenges in transatlantic relations afterwards.



Kurhaus Annweiler, the site of the summer's Ph.D. Colloquium

PH.D. CANDIDATES

Axel Kaiser from Chile successfully defended his dissertation in the fall of 2014. In his research, Axel focused on the "American Philosophical Foundations of the Chilean Free Market Revolution," and specifically on one particular reformer, Jose Piñera, whom the author considers one of the central actors in the context of these developments. Axel makes a strong case that American libertarian philosophy, including that of the Founding Fathers and others who inspired Piñera's work, are shaping the economic system in Chile until this day. Having completed his dissertation, Axel returned to his home country in early 2015 in order to pursue a career as an academic, journalist, and public commentator on issues related to his research.

Another three Ph.D. candidates have handed in their dissertations as this edition of the annual report goes into print: Michael Drescher, Styles Sass, and Stephanie Weymann-Teschke, all of whom work in the field of American literature. They will defend their projects within the next months and join the ranks of our proud Ph.D. graduates to be honored at our 2016 commencement ceremony.



HASAN ADWAN (PALESTINE)

GESCHWISTER SUPP FOUNDATION

Hasan Adwan was born in Gaza City, in the Palestinian Territories, in 1985. He studied for the International Baccalaureate in Norway at Red Cross Nordic United World College between 2002 and 2004. In 2005, he was awarded the Davis-UWC scholarship to study at Westminster College in Missouri. He received a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in political science, with emphasis on political philosophy, and American history. After completing his bachelor studies he moved to Germany, where he attended the HCA and earned a master's degree. Hasan Adwan joined the HCA's Ph.D. program in 2011 and his current research deals primarily with the impact U.S. foreign aid has had on Middle East politics; his dissertation working title is "U.S. Foreign Aid and the Decline of the Peace Party." In 2013-14, Hasan Adwan worked as a student assistant at the HCA, tutoring a course on the government and politics of the United States.

Hasan Adwan's dissertation seeks to develop a better understanding of the relationship between the Palestinian Authority and Fatah on the one hand and the United States on the other. It focuses particularly on U.S. foreign aid to the Palestinian National Authority and on how this aid contributed in a number of ways to Fatah's failure in the 2006 parliamentary elections and the party's continuing decline. Despite the extensive research on this particular election cycle and on the consequences of Hamas' rise to power, little research has focused on the role of U.S. foreign aid and how the Palestinian voters' perception of the purpose of this financial assistance led them to rethink their support for Fatah. This research establishes that the required policy adjustments by the United States, as precondition for these grants and loans, on behalf of the PNA contributes to President Abbas and Fatah's loss of popularity among Palestinian voters. If the "peace party" is to rise again, American foreign aid policies need to be re-examined and adjusted.

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



DEBARCHANA BARUAH (INDIA) BASF SCHOLARSHIP

Debarchana Baruah was born in Guwahati in northeast India. In 2005, she moved to Delhi and later completed her B.A. (2008), M.A. (2010), and M.Phil. (2012) in English literature at the Department of English, University of Delhi. Some of her areas of interest are American cinema and television, consumer culture and representations of modernity, post-war American literature, whiteness studies, feminist theories, body politics, and ideologies of dissent. In July 2012, Baruah submitted her M.Phil. dissertation entitled "Elusive Dreams: Suburbia in Post World War II American Literature." During her M.Phil. she temporarily taught as a guest lecturer at Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi. After the completion of her M.Phil program, she moved to Heidelberg and started her doctoral studies at the HCA in October 2012. At present, Baruah teaches a course at the university's English Department on representations of the suburb in post-war American literature.

The working title of Baruah's dissertation is: "The Age of *Mad Men*: The 1960s in Twenty-First Century American Television." Her research focuses on contemporary America's negotiations with memories of the 1960s in the AMC television series *Mad Men*. She examines the factors that create and circulate contemporary desires to re-memorialize and return to the complex and paradoxical decade of the 1960s in television. She uses memory and culture theories to analyze this on-going television series that activate and energize perceptions of the 1960s embedded within contexts and ideas of "American-ness." In doing so, she outlines a framework of an ongoing retro boom and the ways in which retro representations reconstitute memories of the period. Finally, she engages with the peculiar ways in which retros in American television such as *Mad Men* configure and interpret the 1960s past in the present.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leyboldt



THI DIEM NGOC DAO (VIETNAM)

HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg



MARIA DIACONU (ROMANIA) HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP/

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



MICHAEL R. DRESCHER (GERMANY)

GERMAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC FOUNDATION

Michael Drescher was born in Kassel, Germany in 1985. He studied English philology, political science and law at Heidelberg University and received his Magister degree with honors in 2011. Michael Drescher is a doctoral stipendiary of the German National Academic Foundation, focusing on political dissent in American and German literature. His academic interests are the study of resistance and dissent, political mythology, and the representation of democratic processes in literature. Besides his academic work, Michael Drescher writes German and English prose and poetry. He also works as lecturer for American culture and language at Heidelberg University and as trainer for intercultural communication at BASF, Ludwigshafen. Currently, he is a visiting scholar at Harvard's English Department, focusing on the completion of his research.

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leypoldt



GORDON FRIEDRICHS (GERMANY)

Gordon Friedrichs was born in Heppenheim, Germany, in 1984. He studied political science and South-Asian Studies, first as an undergraduate at the Johann-Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main from 2005 to 2007, and later as a graduate student at Heidelberg University from 2007 to 2012. In addition, he spent a year at Arizona State University in 2009-2010. He graduated in 2012 with a Magister Artium, specializing in international relations, U.S. foreign policy, South-Asian security studies, as well as international organizations. After his graduation, Gordon Friedrichs worked at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin before he joined the HCA's Ph.D. program in 2013. In his dissertation, Gordon Friedrichs focuses on the quality and direction of the U.S. leadership role in the twenty-first century.

The U.S. role as a leader in the international system is rooted in the country's ability to generate trust and authority (both domestically and internationally). Despite the still undisputed supremacy of the United States, these two foundations of its leadership role have become increasingly contested over the last decade. While scholars predominantly focus on a relative material U.S. decline compared to the rise of other nations, Gordon Friedrichs argues instead that U.S. power is mainly contested domestically, owing to political struggles about the function and configuration of U.S. leadership. In order to understand different conceptions of the U.S. leadership role among domestic actors, Gordon Friedrichs applies role theory in his analysis. He aims to develop an ideal type of leadership role in order to measure the domestic contestation process and to determine whether it benefits, inhibits, or stymies leadership.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Harnisch



MELANIE GISH (GERMANY)

CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP

Melanie Gish graduated from the University of Mannheim with a B.A. in German and geography in 2003, and from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, with an M.A. in German in 2004. From 2005 until 2007, Melanie lived in Tennessee and Colorado and held several non-academic jobs. Overall, her experiences in the U.S. triggered the wish to engage in a more disciplined and systematic American Studies effort, and in 2007 she received the HCA Director's Fellowship to participate in the MAS program.

Melanie Gish's dissertation "Caught in the Middle? Creation Care Activism and the Intersection of Contemporary American Evangelicalism and Environmentalism" explores the organizational and ideological space evangelical environmentalists occupy in the contemporary United States. The primary goal of her research, which is based on qualitative interview data with creation care movement leaders, is to present a holistic yet nuanced portrait of organized evangelical environmentalism and to better understand its position/ing on the "battlefield map" of the culture wars. While pursuing this primarily hermeneutic task, Melanie Gish's thesis adds sociologically relevant knowledge to the literature on American evangelicalism, environmentalism, and "citizen lobbying," and contributes to the ongoing debate on the interplay of religion and politics in the public sphere.

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



IRIS HAHN-SANTORO (GERMANY)

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Joern Albrecht



RYAN HOSELTON (USA)

HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP

Ryan Hoselton was born in New Mexico, USA. He earned a B.A. in history from the University of New Mexico and an M.Div. and Th.M. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He wrote his undergraduate thesis on the history of religious studies in America and his master's thesis on the Baptist theologian Andrew Fuller's theology of virtue. His doctoral dissertation focuses on the history of biblical interpretation in early American theology. Ryan also works as a research assistant to Professor Jan Stievermann on the Biblia Americana Project.

Ryan Hoselton's dissertation examines how eighteenth-century New England theologians employed experiential piety in biblical interpretation. Historians have documented the ways that many conservative theologians adopted evidentialist reasoning to defend and interpret Scripture in response to pressures from deism, empiricism, and historical criticism. Alongside these changes, however, religious thinkers like Cotton Mather (1663–1728) and Jonathan Edwards (1703–58) ascribed increasing authority to experiential piety in their hermeneutics. Drawing chiefly from their biblical commentaries, sermons, diaries, and other writings, this project seeks to understand the elevated role of experiential piety in hermeneutics and its significance in the intellectual and cultural context of eighteenth-century New England.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Jan Stievermann



HEIKE JABLONSKI (GERMANY) **HEIDEMARIE ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP**

Heike Jablonski studied English and American literature and history as well as business studies and economics at the universities of Passau and Kassel. In 2008-09, Heike was an exchange student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. In 2010, she worked at the German Consulate General in San Francisco. She received her M.A. in English and American Studies from the University of Kassel in 2012 with a thesis on Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon stories. In 2013, Heike won the Christoph Daniel Ebeling Fellowship of the German Association for American Studies and the American Antiquarian Society. She received the Bibliographical Society of America's McCorison Fellowship for the History and Bibliography of Printing in Canada and the United States and a Lapidus Fellowship from the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture in 2014. Heike has worked as a teaching assistant at the universities of Kassel and Heidelberg and is a regional contributing editor for the Omohundro Institute's online journal *Uncommon Sense*, a freelance translator, and a bike mechanic.

Heike Jablonski's dissertation project examines the influence of John Foxe's *Actes and Monuments* (popularly known as *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*) in the United States. Sixteenth-century martyrology, a product of the English Reformation, exerted a significant influence on the Anglican Church and English culture in general. The largest work produced up to that time in England, Foxe's book soon became a Protestant classic, rivalling even the Bible in its popularity. William Shakespeare and other Renaissance poets were influenced by it, and the early settlers took it to the British colonies in the New World. There Foxe's work continued to influence the leading thinkers of the day. Critics have claimed that the *Actes and Monuments* was read by colonists as diverse and powerful as William Bradford, Roger Williams, Cotton Mather, John Winthrop, and Jonathan Edwards. In the following centuries, the martyrology was among the most popular books in America. Selections of Foxe's book continue to be published even nowadays. This project asks how Foxe's work shaped Anglo-American Protestant culture, trying to trace roots of the *Actes and Monuments* in a variety of material. An interdisciplinary project, it will survey a work of literature in its historical and socio-cultural context, thus combining textual criticism with cultural studies.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Jan Stievermann



BARBARA KUJATH (CANADA)

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



JULIA K. LICHTENSTEIN (GERMANY) **CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP**

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Günter Leyboldt



ANTHONY LIVANIOS (GREECE)

Anthony Livanios graduated in 1988 from the School of International Service, The American University, Washington, D.C. with a B.A. in economics and in 1991 from the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University with a master's of international affairs in international political economy. He has over twenty years of experience in structuring, negotiating, and implementing oil and gas projects, intergovernmental agreements, geopolitical risk assessments, and market intelligence. He has delivered consulting projects for the upstream and midstream petroleum industry in Eurasia and the Caspian region, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf, Europe and the United States. He has been a fellow at prominent Washington D.C.-based think tanks, such as the Atlas Economic Research Foundation (1994-1997), the American Enterprise Institute (1998), and the Leadership Institute (1999-2004). In 2006 he was honored in the United States with two International Templeton Awards for his active role and "outstanding work in the field of international development and cooperation in the region of East Mediterranean." He is often quoted as an analyst in the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. He frequently appears as a commentator on CNN, Reuters, and Associated Press.

Anthony Livanios' dissertation "The Geo-strategy of the United States and the Role of the U.S. Oil Majors in the New Great Game of Oil and Gas in Eurasia after the End of Cold War" explores the influence of U.S. policy and the challenges the U.S. oil industry faces in the exploration and production of the Eurasian oil and gas resources. The Caspian Sea is at the heart of Eurasia, and after the end of the Cold War the U.S. geo-strategy was unfolding on the stage of geopolitics and petroleum industry. The U.S. geo-strategy is analyzed in relation to the role of the U.S. oil majors in the new Great Game in Eurasia. In his dissertation, Anthony Livanios uses the methodology of qualitative primary research while performing and analyzing in-depth interviews with oil industry leaders and public policy decision makers.

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



AGNESE MARINO (ITALY)

Agnese Marino was born in Naples, Italy. In 2008, she received her B.A. in English and Spanish languages and literatures from the University of Naples L'Orientale with a dissertation in North-American history. The thesis was about the contribution of Chicanas to the shaping of a Chicano identity and to the development of the Chicano movement. In 2011, she completed her M.A. Her thesis, entitled "Performative Identities and Premises of Post-Ethnicism in contemporary USA: An analysis of two novels by Gish Jen and Rebecca Walker," provided insights into the history of the American national identity and a critical analysis of multi-cultural ethno-racial identities from a post-ethnic point of view. The following year her work was awarded a prize by the Italian Association for North-American Studies (AISNA). Now, as a Ph.D. student at the HCA, she is working on a project that analyzes mixed-race memoirs and the way they can contribute to the shape of a new cosmopolitan identity in contemporary America.

Through the analysis of mixed-race memoirs produced over the past twenty years, Agnese Marino's project explores the contemporary conceptualization of ethnic identity in relation to Multiculturalism and New Cosmopolitanism. The reflection starts from the assumption that speaking of cosmopolitanism is to refer to a transformation in self-understanding as a result of the engagement with others over issues of global significance. This study adopts an interdisciplinary, transnational, and post-structural approach, trying to move outside of the gravitational force of exceptionalism, which has characterized much of the American debate on cosmopolitanism so far. Therefore, her literary analysis moves within the theoretical framework offered by Homi Bhabha's, Kwame Anthony Appiah's, and Martha Nussbaum's views about individual identity and cultural cosmopolitanism. On the other hand, Agnes Marino makes use of Judith Butler's performative theory and David Hollinger's post-ethnic theory in order to introduce the concept of "performative cosmopolitanism." This specific form of cosmopolitanism denies any relation between the body and its cultural significations and favors practices of free affiliation over descent ties. Moreover, it represents a way to go beyond not only national boundaries, but also communitarian ones, being based on the idea that hybridity, and not the binary opposition of ontological categories, is the future of American society.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



EVA-MARIA MAYER (GERMANY) KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION

Eva-Maria Mayer (née Kiefer) received her Magister degree in American Studies, psychology, and political science from Bonn University. In 2007, she spent a year at the University of Pennsylvania on a scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), where she gained expertise in political science and wrote an independent study on power shifts in the U.S. government. During her academic studies, she completed internships at the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Institute for International and Foreign Affairs. Eva-Maria Mayer wrote her Magister thesis about the "imperial" Bush presidency. In October 2010, she joined the HCA as a Ph.D. student. In the winter term 2012-13, she taught a class on the U.S. government. She became the HCA's BAS coordinator in the summer of 2015.

Eva-Maria Mayer's research focuses on how fear and threat shaped U.S. congressional behavior in the years after 9/11. She argues that the threat after 9/11 was multidimensional. The dissertation will include a case study of laws from the realm of homeland and national security and aspires to explain when different threat mechanisms had an influence on congressional activity. The working title of her Ph.D. thesis is: "U.S. Government in Times of Crisis: How Securitization shaped Congressional Behavior after 9/11." Eva Mayer presented at the HCA's Spring Academy in March 2012 and discussed parts of her results at the Fifth International Conference of the Graduate School for North American Studies, Free University Berlin, in May 2012.

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



HANNES NAGL (GERMANY)

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

In his thesis, Hannes 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, Hannes Nagl will draw on rather uncommon theoretical sources: Besides more recent sociological research on violence, he will use Norbert Elias' "theory of civilization" and other sociological theories of modernization 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



MAARTEN PAULUSSE (THE NETHERLANDS)

Maarten Paulusse received his bachelor's degree in history at Utrecht University in 2007 and completed his master's degree in American Studies at the same university in 2009. During his studies he did an internship in New York City with the U.S. correspondent of the leading Dutch current affairs television program Nova and undertook several other ventures into journalism. In the summer months of the years 2010-2013 he taught courses on Dutch history and culture to international students at bachelor level at the Summer School of Utrecht University. In the spring semester of 2011 Maarten Paulusse enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. In his doctoral study Maarten Paulusse explores the ways in which politicized forms of "contemporary spirituality" have an impact in the American public sphere. The project aims to make a contribution to the contemporary discussion on the role of religion in American politics. In this far from settled debate among historians, political scientists, sociologists, theologians, and other analysts of public life in the United States, the primary focus in the past two decades has been on the interaction of forms of Evangelicalism, particularly those related to the "Christian Right," with American politics. In this project the matter will instead be explored from the angle of "contemporary spirituality," using the recent Occupy Movement as a case study. The extensive theoretical toolbox offered by the academic field of religious studies will be used in this endeavor. In 2012 and 2013 Maarten completed two research trips to the U.S. during which he interviewed participants of the Occupy Movement.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Inken Prohl



ANASTASSIA RÜHL (GERMANY) BASF SCHOLARSHIP

Anastassia Rühl received her bachelor's degree in English philology and art history from the University of Stuttgart in 2011. Her B.A. thesis "*Dead Man* and the Mythic West: Anglo-Saxon Values Revised" examined Jim Jarmusch's movie *Dead Man* within the framework of the classic Western, looking at its subversive potential. In 2014, Anastassia Rühl received her M.A. in English philology with distinction at the same university. Her M.A. thesis "Bodies in Escape – Performative Gender versus Gender as Institution in Jackie Kay's *Trumpet* and Jeffrey Eugenides' *Middlesex*" analyzed the construction and performance of masculinity in *Trumpet* and *Middlesex*. Regarding the broad field of American Studies, Anastassia Rühl mainly focuses on ethnic literatures and cultures. In this area, she is also interested in Post-Colonial questions that range beyond the borders of North America. Queer and gender studies belong to her earliest research emphases. Moreover, she is highly interested in post humanism and theoretical questions which arise at the interfaces of human & animal and human & machine. A participant in both the Ph.D. in American Studies program of the HCA and the research group Human Geography of North America, Anastassia Rühl is writing an interdisciplinary dissertation with the working title "Animal Milk in Human Culture – A Critical Study of U.S. Milk Advertisements in the 20th Century" that draws from a broad variety of theoretical discourses for her project. Apart from this, she is a freelance teacher and multimedia artist.

Anastassia Rühl's project examines milk advertisements as outcomes of a complex interplay of social and historical vectors of power. Her dissertation aims at investigating both the geopolitical and sociocultural forces that helped building milk as a cultural construct and the broad variety of myths and images intimately tied to this liquid. Given the persisting presence of milk overflow, how does milk continue to be promoted? What are some of the changes that took place in milk advertising in the roughly one hundred years since the beginnings of industrialization and urbanization? Which images are used and established to gain new consumers? How do these images inform and are informed by dominant discourses of race, class, gender, and species? These are some of the questions driving this dissertation project.

Primary Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Gerhard



STYLES SASS (USA) CURT ENGELHORN PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP

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

In his interdisciplinary dissertation project "Swaying the Nation: Campaign Narratives in the 2008 Presidential Election," Styles Sass begins with a discussion of what narratives are and why they are important in the political arena. After delineating both the Democratic and Republican campaign narratives from 2008, he lays out what he terms the "narrative fundamentals" – themes that were of special importance during that particular election cycle. By looking at how the candidate's narratives positioned them in relation to these fundamentals, he shows the advantages or disadvantages this resulted in for each of the campaigns.

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



JUSTE ŠIMELYTE (LITHUANIA)

HCA PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTED BY THE LANDESGRADUIERTENFÖRDERUNG

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

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

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



ERHAN SIMSEK (TURKEY)

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss



BRYCE TAYLOR (USA)

Bryce Taylor was born in the small town of Pleasant Grove, Utah in 1982. He studied history at Utah Valley University and received a Bachelor of Arts in history. After his bachelor studies, Bryce toured the U.S. with his independent rock band. Thereafter, he taught religion and history at high school level and served as the varsity basketball coach for American Heritage School. He then moved his family to Heidelberg and received his M.A. in American Studies at Heidelberg University in 2013 with an M.A. thesis entitled "A Devil's Pact: Re-evaluating Constitutional Legitimacy through Lysander Spooner." Bryce also works as an English and culture instructor for immersive education based in Hong Kong.

His current research uses the life of a historically neglected nineteenth-century New England clergyman, Adin Ballou, to be used as an intimate lens to explore the Christian chaos of early nineteenth-century America. Ballou who spent his life enveloped in various Christian denominations eventually formed a utopian community based on his own version of Christianity entitled "Practical Christianity."

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Jan Stievermann



STEPHEN URICH (USA)

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

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

Primary supervisor: PD Dr. Martin Thunert



STEFANIE WEYMANN-TESCHKE

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

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

Primary supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schloss

AWARDING OF THE ROLF KENTNER DISSERTATION PRIZE

On October 15, 2015, the HCA awarded the Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize for what was already the sixth time. On this occasion, we also introduced our new MAS and Ph.D. classes to the wider academic public.

Since 2006, when the HCA established its Ph.D. in American Studies program, almost three dozen aspiring scholars from twenty different countries have decided to pursue their doctorate in this field at Germany's oldest university. On October 15, in the crowded Atrium of the HCA, another ambitious young scholar officially started her doctoral training: Anataxia Rühl. In his welcome remarks, Founding Director Professor Detlef Junker introduced her as well as the new MAS Class of 2017. Professor Junker briefly reminded the audience how HCA's academic programs have shaped an institution that attracts students worldwide.

Tom Kaden



The main part of the evening, however, was reserved for the awarding of the Rolf Kentner Dissertation Prize. Sponsored by one of the HCA's most active benefactors, Rolf Kentner (see page 17), the award recognizes an outstanding and yet unpublished dissertation in the field of American Studies completed at a German university. In 2015 it went to Tom Kaden of the University of Leipzig. The recipient is a member of the DFG-Graduiertenkolleg "Religious non-conformism and cultural dynamics" at the University of Leipzig. He studied sociology and German at the Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main as well as at the Albert-Ludwig-University Freiburg. The price recognized his thesis "The Development of American Creationism from the 1960s to the present: A Sociological Perspective." It examines the social dynamics of creationism in the past decades, looking particularly at transformation processes in the sciences which in turn have reacted upon the ideas of creationism.

After a short introduction by Professor Günter Leypoldt from Heidelberg University's English Department, Tom Kaden briefly introduced the audience to his award-winning dissertation. He sees American creationism as a form of religious deviance. Since the late 1950s it has developed in reaction to the conformity expectations raised by secular science and often reaffirmed by judicial decisions. Nevertheless, at the base of the quarrel lie very different world views; Tom Kaden has coined the term "naturalism with restrictions" for the different variations of creationism, and these restrictions vary quite considerably. Thus, creationists limit themselves to defending a certain position but rather exhibit an inner impetus to change society as a whole. Tom Kaden argues that the U.S. educational system is at the core of this conflict and that the balance often tips in favor of the creationists due to court decision and high visibility in the mass media. His dissertation does not primarily deal with the historical development of creationism but rather with the social dynamics it produced in scientific discussions and research. This has caused transformation processes labeled "science education" and "new atheism," which, in turn, influence the development of creationism. Creationism and its secular opponents therefore form a dialectical unit that brings about strategic, ideological, and institutional innovations. This insightful, entertaining, and originally illustrated talk captured the audience, which continued the conversation during a reception in the HCA's Bel Etage.

Günter Leypoldt, Tom Kaden and Mrs. Kaden at the Reception Following the Award Ceremony



HCA RESEARCH

The following pages give an overview of the interdisciplinary research that comes together at the HCA.

Authority and Trust in American Culture, Society, History, and Politics

The topical focus of this undertaking is the emergence and transformation of authority and trust in American politics, society, religion, and culture since the nineteenth century. Due to its early democratization, its egalitarian and libertarian political culture, its ethno-cultural heterogeneity, and its international predominance, the United States is a particularly interesting case study of authority and trust in the modern world. The thematic scope of the project encompasses state and private actors, social and economic structures, institutions and discourses as well as spatial dimensions and transnational interconnections. For the first time, the formidable expertise that the HCA has been able to gather from the fields of geography, history, linguistics, literature, political science, and religious studies is concentrating on a single issue in this project.

With this project, the HCA hopes to inspire innovative doctoral dissertations in the field of American Studies, and it envisions to concurrently establish an innovative qualification concept tailored to academic as well as professional career paths. This endeavor ties in with the comprehensive concept of graduate training that Heidelberg University has developed in recent years. It is the goal of this program to combine clear-cut institutional structures and cooperative research with a maximum of intellectual freedom for junior researchers.

Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana*: A Critical Edition of America's First Bible Commentary

Professor Jan Stievermann and a team of young scholars from American Studies and theology are now working on volume ten (Hebrews to Revelation) in the ongoing edition of the *Biblia Americana* by Cotton Mather. Together with general editor Reiner Smolinski (Atlanta), Jan Stievermann also serves as executive editor of the entire ten-volume edition of the *Biblia* to be realized by a team of seven international scholars. The original handwritten manuscript, never before transcribed or published, is a comprehensive English-speaking Bible commentary from colonial British North America, produced by the famed Puritan theologian Cotton Mather (1663-1728) between 1693 and 1728. Since 2010 this work – of great significance for both religious and intellectual history – is being made available for the first time by academic publishers Mohr Siebeck in what will ultimately be ten annotated volumes. In 2015 Stievermann and his team completed volume five that includes Mather's commentaries on the biblical books of the Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, The Song of Solomon, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. Editing the *Biblia Americana* in its entirety is unquestionably one of the most important and promising interdisciplinary projects now underway in early North American Studies. Researchers examining the cultural, religious, or literary history of America as well as Europe can equally profit from this academic edition of the *Biblia*.

The descendant of an important Puritan clergy family of New England, Cotton Mather was one of the most influential and productive theologians in Colonial North America. He published more than four hundred writings, including a series of extensive and well-known works in various academic fields. Yet, he always regarded the *Biblia* as his most important endeavor and the summation of his lifework but failed to find either a wealthy patron or sufficient subscribers for the publication of his *magnum opus*. Today the 4,561 handwritten folio pages of the *Biblia* reside in the archives of the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS). While the *Biblia* manuscript is in good overall condition, its contents have not generally been accessible even to scholars using the MHS library in Boston, given its form. Challenges include the early modern handwriting used, which is difficult to decipher; frequent comments on loose pages of paper inserted into the manuscript; the extensive number of citations in classical languages provided without a translation; or a lack of identification for the innumerable literary references. Over the past few years leading Mather expert Reiner Smolinski has brought together a seven-person team of scholars from the fields of American Studies, American history, church history, and religious studies who will now finally realize this mammoth undertaking. The target for completion of the entire edition is 2020.

For more information, please visit matherproject.org

Urban Inequality in the Creative City: A Comparative Analysis of Emerging New Disparities in the Knowledge Society

In the context of the knowledge society, knowledge-intensive industries are seen as a chance for urban economic prosperity and development. However, many of these claims have not yet been tested thoroughly or have even been refuted. Moreover, it might be that the strong focus on education, creativity, and social networks adds to increased cleavages between different social groups instead of opening up opportunities for disadvantaged inhabitants. The project therefore takes a closer look at the impact of the knowledge-based industries on disparities in cities. We are analyzing social inequalities in seven different cities and how these relate to being so-called creative cities. All cities investigated are in different countries, all have large and prestigious universities, and all share a strong focus on the knowledge-intensive industries. By comparing them, we will be able to assess differences and similarities in inequalities and relate these to recent trends in the context of the knowledge society. Associated partners are: Professor Ulrike Gerhard (Heidelberg), Dr. Michael Hölscher (Heidelberg), Professor David Wilson (Urbana-Champaign), Professor Thomas Hutton (UBC Vancouver), Professor Linda McDowell (Oxford), Professor David Giband (Montpellier), Dr. Ferenc Gyuris (Budapest), and Dr. Justin Beaumont (Groningen).

Mobile Spaces: Urban Practices in Transcultural Perspective

The project "Mobile Spaces" focuses on the study of urban everyday practices. It is grounded in three disciplines – human geography, linguistics, and media anthropology – and aims to develop and promote new angles and methods for interdisciplinary urban studies. The project is based on the members' different regional expertise. Conceptualizing the specific urban spaces of the individual research fields in Asia, Europe, and North America as genuinely transcultural phenomena, the project explores in which ways experiences and understandings of cities of the "global South" and the "global North" can be brought together. It probes whether transculturality as concept and method allows for new ways to critically examine everyday practices in different regional contexts under the influences of globalization and neoliberalization. The research focus on everyday practices will be approached through the three analytical fields of migration, language & media as well as gender. Project partners of Professor Ulrike Gerhard are Professor Christiane Brosius (visual media and anthropology), Professor Beatrix Busse (linguistics), Dr. Marie Sander (ethnology), Dr. Editha Marquardt (geography).

Global Urban Society: Doing Global Urban Research Beyond the Global North and South

"Planetary Urbanism" is the new term to study recent urbanization processes throughout the globe. It criticizes the classic dichotomy between rural and urban and extends urban research beyond the traditional urban boundaries. There is "no outside to the urban" since we live in a complete urbanized society (Lefebvre). Thus we have to think the city not as a form or function but as a new theoretical concept. This opens possibilities to study cities throughout the world from different angles, diverse scales, and critical perspectives. The mega city should not stand as a metonym for the city in the global south, whereas the global city is not just a phenomenon of the global north. Neoliberalism is not the only quintessential narrative of urban development in the twentieth century but just one way to understand increasing inequalities within and between cities. This new epistemology of the urban provides new grounds to study North American cities from an interdisciplinary perspective.

The Transcultural Atlantic: Constructing Communities in a Global Context

This multidisciplinary and multinational research project (current members hail from Canada, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, and the United States) explores the Transcultural Atlantic as a realm of cross cultural interaction from the period of the late eighteenth-century Atlantic revolutions to the end of the Cold War and beyond. More precisely, it investigates various processes of transatlantic networking, community building, and dissent in the realms of business, academia, the media, popular culture, government, law, and the military. The project sheds new light on the men and women who shaped cultures of transatlantic exchange and cooperation; on the transfer and adaptation of ideas and values across the Atlantic; and on the changing nature

of the Atlantic space in an increasingly globalized world. Taking up this approach not only allows us to resituate discourses about the "West" within a larger global framework; at the same time, it will place a greater and necessary emphasis on the contingent, pluralist, and protean nature of transatlantic cultures itself. Because it considers the making of the Atlantic world over a broad span of time, the project will trace changes in the culture of different, sometimes competing communities in the Atlantic realm to highlight continuities and ruptures; to show the effects of increased flows of goods, services, information, ideas, and identities; and to reassess the impact of major historical developments across the centuries.

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

Funding for the overall project has been provided by the Foundation German-American Academic Relations (Stiftung Deutsch-Amerikanische Wissenschaftsbeziehungen, SDAW), the European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Global Networks Program of Heidelberg University, the Ontario Baden-Württemberg Faculty Mobility Program, and by the Transatlantic Program of the Federal Republic of Germany through funds from the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology.

African American History: National and Transnational Vistas

The HCA's research focus on African American history unites several endeavors. In 2008, the HCA joined a research initiative with the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. and Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.) on "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany." Initiated by Professors Maria Höhn (Vassar) and Martin Klimke (New York University/Abu Dhabi), this research project and digital archive explores the connection between the establishment of American military bases abroad and the advancement of civil rights in the United States. It investigates the role African American GIs played in carrying the demands of the civil rights movement abroad beginning with World War II. In July 2009, the project was awarded the Julius E. Williams Distinguished Community Service Award by the prestigious civil rights organization National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) at its Centennial Convention in New York City. As the NAACP explained, "By giving voice to their experience and to that of the people who interacted with them over civil rights demands and racial discrimination on both sides of

the Atlantic, Höhn and Klimke are preserving and expanding the history of the African American civil rights movement beyond the boundaries of the U.S." As part of this research initiative, an exhibition on "The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany," including more than 50 black and white photographs as well as other exhibition samples, has been shown in numerous cities across both Germany and the United States, including Augsburg, Berlin, Hamburg, Heidelberg, Mainz, Munich, Ramstein, and Tübingen, as well as in Washington, D.C., Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Berkeley, Calif., Oxford, Miss., San Francisco, Athens, Ga., Chapel Hill, N.C., and London, England. By illustrating the untold story of African American GIs and the transnational implications of the civil rights movement, the exhibit aims at advancing a more nuanced and multilayered sense of how America's struggle for democracy reverberated across the globe. The accompanying book *A Breath of Freedom: The Civil Rights Struggle, African American GIs, and Germany* by Maria Höhn and Martin Klimke was published by Palgrave Macmillan in October 2010 (www.breathoffreedom.org). The documentary "Breath of Freedom: Black Soldiers and the Struggle for Civil Rights," directed by Dag Freyer and originating from the project, premiered February 17, 2014, on the Smithsonian Channel in the U.S. and was broadcast on Arte on December 16, 2014. For further information on the project as well as access to its digital archive, please visit: www.aacvr-germany.org.

Two projects at the Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History have explored the history of slavery, race, abolitionism, black political integration, and the civil rights movements from a perspective that encompasses intersections with social, political, and cultural developments outside the United States. They seek to contribute to a deeper understanding not only of the enduring relevance of African-American history at a national level but also to place questions of ethnicity, race, and racism in a larger global and transnational framework. Publications from these projects include *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective* (eds. Manfred Berg and Simon Wendt, 2011) and *Racism in the Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaption* (eds. Manfred Berg and Simon Wendt, 2011).

In 2009, Martin Klimke and then-HCA research fellow Mischa Honeck co-convened a conference on Germany and the black diaspora at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. The conference volume *Germany and the Black Diaspora Points of Contact, 1250-1914*, edited by Mischa Honeck, Martin Klimke and Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov, came out in 2013.

HCA research associate Anja Schüler has started work on a biography of the African-American biographer Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955), the preeminent figure of the African-American women's movement in the first third of the twentieth century. Utilizing one of the few roads for African American women to gain professional status, Bethune established and presided over what would in 1941 become the first fully accredited four-year college for African Americans in Florida; advised four presidents on child welfare, education, and civil rights; served two terms as president of the National Association of Colored Women; founded the National Council of Colored Women; and became a member of Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet" and arguably the most influential African American woman in the New Deal administration.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sustainable Governance Indicators 2014 and 2015: Regional Coordination – United States, Canada, Chile and Mexico

HCA faculty member Dr. Martin Thunert continues to serve as regional coordinator for the OECD member states in the Americas (Canada, Chile, Mexico, United States) and affiliated member of the board 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 is a cross-national survey of governance in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) that identifies reform needs and forward-looking practices and offers full access to its data set. Currently, the OECD has thirty-four member states in Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Oceania. The SGI project was launched in 2006-07 – at the time under the heading "Bertelsmann Reform Index" – and published the first and second editions of results in the spring of 2009 and 2011, respectively. The first edition of the Sustainable Governance Indicators 2009 was based on a two-year study period from 2005 to 2007; the second edition looked at developments from 2008-09 to 2010. The third SGI round for the observation period 2012-2013 was published in March 2014 as Sustainable Governance Indicators 2014.

Some seventy international experts participate in this broad-based study. Based on 150 qualitative and quantitative indicators, the SGI provide a detailed picture of the countries' strengths and limitations in order to advance the debate on good governance and sustainable policymaking among OECD members. The SGI thus provide considerably more information than conventional

economic data since social progress and sustainability cannot be expressed by growth rates or material prosperity alone. They also shed light on the success of OECD member states in additional policymaking fields crucial for ensuring the ongoing performance and long-term stability of economic, political, social, and ecological systems and for guaranteeing a high level of social participation. These fields include education, employment, healthcare, integration, innovation, and the environment. In addition to these traditional policymaking fields, the SGI also examine the quality of democracy and rule of law as well as each government's executive capacity in practice. Thus, similar to its sister project, the Bertelsmann Foundation's Transformation Index (BTI) for developing and transition countries, the SGI are divided into a Status Index, which measures policy performance and the quality of democracy, and a Governance (formerly: Management) Index measuring executive capacity and executive accountability. The SGI and its sub-indexes are calculated using quantitative data from international organizations and then supplemented by qualitative assessments from recognized country experts. As a result, the SGI shed light on how capable each country is of using governance processes to identify pressing problems, formulate strategic solutions, and, consequently, ensure sustainable policymaking outcomes. Over the past eight years the project has helped to create a comprehensive data pool on government-related activities in the world's developed market democracies – among them the United States, Canada, Chile, and Mexico. The role of the regional coordinator for the Americas is to edit, amend, and consolidate expert assessments written by eight recognized country specialists – two for each country, representing at least two academic disciplines (for example economics and political science) or two nationalities, including the subject nation. The results are four separate country reports of 30 pages each on reform capacities of the United States, Canada, Chile, and Mexico, incorporating quantitative data interpreted through the lenses of the qualitative expert assessments.

The results of the latest SGI round were released as Sustainable Governance Indicators 2014 in the spring of 2014. As always, the entire data, rankings, and sub-rankings for each policy area as well as the country reports are accessible online free of charge on the project's website at www.sgi-network.org. At the moment, this address is the home of SGI 2014. Based on its highly interactive functionality, the SGI website offers users easy access to every level of information, including a short version of key findings. For a direct link to the U.S. country data and report (SGI 2014) go to www.sgi-network.org/2014/Downloads.

The USA 2014 country report written by PD Dr. Martin Thunert (HCA), Professor Christian Lamert (Free University of Berlin, JFK-Institute), and Professor Paul J. Quirk (University of British Columbia) can be downloaded at www.sgi-network.org/docs/2014/country/SGI2014_USA.pdf. In 2014 the key findings for the United States were on balance similar compared to the results of SGI 2011, but better than the results of SGI 2009. Take policy performance as an example: from 2011 to 2014, the USA's Economic Policies score has increased from 5.7 to 5.8 (0.1 points), but it was lower than, for example, Germany's increase of 0.5 points. This score reflects improving economic conditions in both countries since 2012. The U.S. position remained largely unchanged in other policy areas such as social and environmental policy. In the Quality of Democracy sub-index the U.S. still ranks among the top 10 of OECD countries, but its score has declined from 8.6 to 8.4 (0.2 points) between 2011 and 2014.

Regarding governance, the continuation of divided government after President Obama's reelection in 2012 has left its mark on the U.S. scores: from 2011 to 2014, the USA's Executive Capacity score has declined from 7.9 to 7.6 (0.3 points), while the Executive Accountability score has declined from 7.3 to 7.2 (0.1 points). The full SGI 2014 indicator scores for the United States can be accessed at www.sgi-network.org/2014/United_States; the full U.S. country report can be downloaded at www.sgi-network.org/docs/2014/country/SGI2014_USA.pdf.

SGI was covered extensively, for example in a series of the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* in the summer of 2012 (editions 26/2012-29/2012) entitled "The Craft of Governing" ("Das Handwerk des Herrschens"). The series singled out "good governance" as the central topic for policymakers and civil servants in time of economic and financial crisis. In its introductory article, *Der Spiegel* described the Sustainable Governance Indicators and its sister project BTI as the "most ambitious experience in comparative politics since Aristotle's time." Current SGI News is available on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/SGI-Sustainable-Governance-Indicators/92146590185. For the foreseeable future it is planned to update the SGI every one to two years, that is, in shorter intervals than in the past. Therefore, the next round of SGI 2015 expert assessments was launched in fall 2014.

Patterns of Economic Policy Advice in Germany and the United States: Organizational Models, Cultural Influences, and Advisory Discourses, with a Particular Emphasis on the World of Work

In times of economic uncertainty and financial crisis, economic advice is in high demand across the industrialized world. The United States and Germany represent two very different models of making economic expertise available to policymakers and society at large. Dr. Martin Thunert, together with Professor Andrea Römmele of the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, received a substantial grant to research economic policy advice in the United States and Germany from a comparative perspective. The project started in late 2013 and will run through 2016. Funding comes from the Hans-Böckler-Foundation, affiliated with the DGB, the Confederation of German Trade Unions. The project analyzes the rules, mandates, and procedures and then evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of selected advisory bodies in both countries – from in-house policy units to expert committees and think tanks. In line with the Hans-Böckler-Foundation's support for research linked to the world of work, the project pays special attention to the question of how the perspective of workers can inform actors, institutions, and processes of economic policy advice in both countries. Dr. Martin Thunert's work was supported by Michael Kühlen, M.A., who served as his research associate between February and November 2014, when he left for a position at the Hans-Böckler-Foundation. Gordon Friedrichs, M.A., who has been with the HCA since 2012, has taken over this position as research associate as of December 1, 2014. In Berlin, Professor Andrea Römmele at the Hertie School of Governance works with Dorota Stasiak, Ph.D., who succeeded Yann Lorenz, M.A.

During the first months of the project, the research team compiled an extensive database of the various players on both sides of the Atlantic. The staff at the HCA focused on institutions in the United States, drawing on a wealth of material, for example IRS data (990 forms), annual reports, Web sites, studies and op-ed pieces, media coverage, and scholarly articles. The resulting database contains both hard facts (like figures on financing, staffing, and publication output) and summative assessments, for example with regard to an institution's ideological bent, history, and position in the world of policy advice. This database is already being used as a major source for a number of papers and lectures by members of the research team. The database also helped to identify players that were interviewed in the first half of 2015 in Germany and in the fall of 2015 in the US via questionnaire. Interviewees include both practitioners from advisory bodies and those with a meta-perspective like scholars, journalists, and veteran observers.

The research team is currently in the process of analyzing results from a comprehensive online survey of think tank representatives from both the United States and Germany. The collected data promise to offer insights regarding instruments and form of think tanks' advisory activities, as well as national perspectives on supply and demand of economic policy advice, including its perceived impact on actual policymaking and their representation of the world of work. The online survey will be enriched with personal interviews in the first quarter of 2016 in both the United States and Germany. In addition, the research team presented present parts of its research results in December 2015 at the workshop "Think Tanks in the Knowledge Society" in Speyer and will also present at the annual conference of the International Political Science Association 2016 in Istanbul.

Two side-studies of our project will focus on consulting arrangements around (a) TTIP, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership currently negotiated between the U.S. and the European Union, and (b) inequality in a changing economy. TTIP is ideal for a comparative case study on the mechanisms on economic policy advice because of its transatlantic scope and because of the oversized role that actors from civil society are playing in the discourse on the proposed agreement. On February 6, 2015 a panel discussion on TTIP was held at the HCA involving stakeholders from the business community (BASF and the Rhein-Neckar Chamber of Commerce) (see pp. 209-210), trade unions (IG Metall), as well as Brussels-based groups like the Transatlantic Business Dialogue and the "Stop-TTIP"-network. A workshop on inequality in a changing / digitalizing economy is planned for the first quarter of 2016.

The research project "Patterns of Economic Policy Advice" is monitored by an interdisciplinary advisory council appointed by the Hans-Böckler-Foundation in cooperation with the project directors. The advisory council includes members from academia, politics, federal ministries, think tanks, and unions. The first meeting took place in February 2014, and the second meeting was on July 3, 2015 in Düsseldorf.

HCA SPRING ACADEMY 2015

Since 2004, the HCA Spring Academy brings together doctoral students from all over the world for a one-week interdisciplinary conference on American history, culture, and politics. This year's conference was held from March 23 to March 27 and was, again, a big success. Since its initiation, the HCA Spring Academy has received over one thousand applications from 65 countries. In 2015, The Spring Academy team selected twenty candidates from thirteen countries who enjoyed the congenial atmosphere of the city and the Curt-and-Heidemarie-Engelhorn-Palais. Once more, the John Deere Corporation, one of the world's largest producers of agricultural and consumer equipment, generously supported the venture and, as every year, invited the participants to visit the Mannheim factory.

THE CONFERENCE

The twelfth annual Spring Academy started early on March 23 with a reception in the Atrium of the Curt and Heidemie Engelhorn Palais. Heidelberg University's Vice Dean for International Relations, Professor Dieter Heermann welcomed the participants and highlighted the multitude of academic opportunities in Heidelberg and expressed his pleasure that projects like the Spring Academy keep alive connections the university has with over 400 institutions worldwide. He emphasized the importance of the Spring Academy as an intellectually stimulating occasion for collaboration across disciplines and reminded all participants to make the most of their time during the sessions as well during the breaks.

Following Professor Heermann, Dr. Wilfried Mausbach spoke of the accomplishments and activities of the HCA in relation to Heidelberg University's international objectives. As Executive Director of the HCA, Dr. Mausbach highlighted important aspects of sponsorship and scholarship at



Spring Academy participants at the Old Bridge, ready to embark on a tour of the city

the HCA, noting its areas of research, academic programs, and social outreach initiatives. John Deere Europe, the Spring Academy's long-time sponsor, was also recognized for its continued patronage and unflagging support that has made the conference a fixture among post-graduate events worldwide.

Dr. Dorothea Fischer-Hornung and Dr. Mausbach (Ms. and Mr. Spring Academy) then commenced the Warm-Up Session. After a raucous ice breaker, the group tackled the question of how to state in one word or a very succinct phrase what American Studies is. Suggestions included "multifaceted," "paradox," "mashup," "complicated perceptions," and "socio-cultural critique of the USA." In spite of the preliminary conclusion that American Studies is a rather un- or underdefined field, participants attempted to at least come up with an approximate definition of American Studies, which subsequently led to a discussion of the future of American Studies. Several participants voiced concerns that their field of study seemed to be shrinking in their countries as American Studies departments are dismantled, although such institutions are vital to the profession. This prompted Dr. Mausbach's to observe that, for career reasons, it might indeed be a good idea to first ground oneself solidly within a specific discipline and only then move on towards interdisciplinary work. Tom Bishop argued that this is essentially already the case for most American Studies students, as they have often done their undergraduate work in a specific discipline and have only then moved on to interdisciplinary work. Elin Käck noted that it is important to have a thick description of what American Studies is/are, especially if one's university does not have an American Studies department. To come up with such a description or definition, Bishop replied, is exactly what is complicated by the fact that most scholars pursuing American Studies do so from the point of view of their specific discipline. Sarah Robey agreed with this and added that some identities, once formed, are difficult to break away from and that to create an American Studies identity, while simultaneously maintaining one's disciplinary grounding, can be particularly trying. Nevertheless, while concluding that American Studies as a distinct field of research faces many difficulties, it turned out that about half of the Spring Academy participants are currently doing their research in American Studies departments. The

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung collects key words about American Studies .



group discussion, while not yielding any fixed definition of what American Studies are, nonetheless ended with a consensus on the importance of the international aspect to American Studies.

The first panel, entitled "Body Politics: Fictions and Visual Cultures," was chaired by Dr. Fischer-Hornung. It brought together two presentations from very different fields with a common focus on body politics. Chia-wen Kuo (National Cheng-chi University, Taiwan), invoked bold themes from an important era of American crime fiction in her presentation "Sex, Violence, and Anarchy: Body Politics in American Crime Fiction from the 1920s and 1940s." The presentation looked at hardboiled fiction set in Los Angeles in the 1930s and 1940s alongside film noir to uncover how the three primary themes (sex, violence, and anarchy) are reflected in the body politics of the texts. Celeste Sharpe (George Mason University, USA) then followed with a talk on representations of disabled bodies in media and ad campaigns by national organizations during the Cold War, entitled "I NEED THEM!: Toward a Media-rich, Networked Study of Disability, Representation, and Values in Cold War America." Sharpe's dissertation is looking at how national organizations for the disabled marketed themselves and made claims on who they serve and why by way of carefully crafted ad campaigns. Focusing in particular on two organizations, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (March of Dimes) and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Sharpe demonstrated how the images used in their campaigns affected the larger cultural perception of physical disabilities and how they also had an influence on the identity formation of disabled people.

The first day concluded with a guided walking tour with and on Mark Twain in Heidelberg. After the traditional group photo on the Old Bridge, the participants warmed up with a traditional German meal at a historic German restaurant in the Old Town.

Tuesday's session began with "Poetic Crossings" chaired once more by Dr. Fischer-Hornung. First to speak was Elin Käck (Linköping University, Sweden) on "The Euro-American Relationship in Writing: Counterhegemonic Literary Strategies." Her dissertation centers on William Carlos Williams, who, according to Käck, was able to write the first truly American novel by making use of certain literary strategies, like poetic diction or mock apostrophe, that were in opposition with European traditions and conventions. He thus provided the tools for counter hegemonic interventions in American writing which were necessary for a break with European conventions. The day's second speaker was Joanna Makowska (University of Warsaw, Poland), who gave a presentation on "The Corporeal Turn in the Works of Mina Loy and Adrienne Rich." While regarding Loy as an American poet of transatlantic modernism, Makowska contrasted her with Rich, who she considers a radical poet. Despite their differences in aesthetics, the works of these poets converge in their emphasis on the female body and its transcendence.

After a brief coffee break, Noelia Gregorio Fernández (University of Alcalá, Spain) began the third panel with "Borderless Chicano Cinema: The Films of Robert Rodriguez." She posited Rodriguez as a rebel of Chicano cinema. Focusing on representations of culture and identity, Fernández raised the questions of how to define cultural manifestations which vary wildly in his films and what terminology to use for the hybridity of style, genre, and characterization that are a hallmark of Rodriguez' movies. Pablo Gómez Muñoz (University of Zaragoza, Spain) followed

Fernández with another presentation on film, more particularly on "American Culture and the International Style in Science Fiction Cinema: A Cosmopolitan Perspective." Emphasizing global interconnectivity, Gómez Muñoz argued that many contemporary science fiction films deal with globalization by being self-reflexive, multi-lingual, and artisan, and thus creating what he calls "international cinema." Gómez Muñoz's cosmopolitan perspective and definition of international cinema fanned an intense debate after his presentation.



Daniel Rothschild on Walt Whitman and the Body Bel Canto.

The fourth panel and final session on Tuesday revolved around the theme of "Music Defining Ways of Life" and was chaired by Dr. Wilfried Mausbach. The session's first speaker, Daniel Rothschild (University of Melbourne, Australia), pointed out that Walt Whitman was an opera singer and aficionado whose love of bel canto music possibly reveals more of the man than his writings. The presentation "Whitman: The Body Bel Canto," allowed Rothschild to explain how greatly this specific type of opera singing influenced the physical being of Whitman and in turn influenced his works. Concluding that Whitman's poetry and writings are a literary description of being the body bel canto, his way of creating identity resonates in his ontological melding with the music through vocalism. The final speaker of the day was Masayoshi Yamada (Doshisha University, Japan) on "A People's Music? The Cultural Politics of Jazz Fandom and the Alternative Archives of History." Rather than focusing solely on music, Yamada centralized his argument on the agency and freedom of fandom in jazz music and the roles of fans in shaping a new understanding of history and politics in jazz. Sifting through archival records of selected musicians in American jazz history, Yamada found references to Civil Rights issues and Black Power in the music that fans responded to, which emphasized the importance of archival material as rich sources of insight. Questions and a lively discussion raised the issue of measuring agency and effectiveness on political and social issues that Yamada was still delving into, but was glad to receive comments on.

Wednesday's first session, "Cultural Borderlands" was chaired by Dr. Fischer-Hornung. Nicole Poppenhagen (University of Vienna, Austria) gave a presentation on "Myths and Mysteries: (Re) Creating Transpacific Memories in Chinese American Family Narratives." Her central argument was that family narratives define the transpacific community in a new way; Poppenhagen argued that Chinese-American memoirs resist dominant experiences recounted in historical accounts and bring up alternative histories. The second presentation of the panel discussed the complexity surrounding bi-cultural life of Arab Americans. Nawel Zbidi's (University of Arts and Humanities of Sousse, Tunisia) talk "The Writing of Food in the Ethnic Borderland: Food as Emblematic of the Investigations on Arab-American Culture and Identity in Diana Abu Jaber's *The Language of Baklava*" examined food and its role as a tool of negotiation between cultures.

The sixth panel picked up this theme with Lesley Gissane's (University of Western Sydney, Australia) talk about "Afterness: New Directions in the Post 9/11 Novel," which targeted the literary representation of Muslims in several novels. Gissane outlined how Islam has become the counterpoint to western ideals in many post 9/11 novels. Wednesday's second panel ended with Nathalie Schmidt (Columbia University, USA), whose presentation "In God's Name: Do the Religion Clauses of the First Amendment Create a Right to Discriminate?" explored how the religion clauses are interpreted in current legal cases in the United States as a way to understand the extant influence of religious beliefs. Schmidt's presentation also touched upon the confluence of gay rights and religious liberty conflicts arising in legal issues and on how far states intervene or interfere in both areas while also looking at the problem of discrimination cases at the state and federal levels.

Wednesday afternoon's final session "Gaming and TV Fiction" included presentations by Min Kyung Yoo (Free University Berlin, Germany) and Carmen Ng (Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong). Yoo's presentation "Performing Modernity and Hybridity: South Korean Melodrama TV Series and the U.S." discussed the reflection of western culture in South Korean shows performing hybridization. The ultimate question Yoo sought to address was how national identity is formed and whether its formation is predicated upon a meeting with the Other? She ended on the notion that one never arrives at a complete identity because it is a never-ending process, but what helps to strengthen identity is understanding it in the face of conflict. To conclude the seventh session, Ng spoke about a unique field in American Studies: video games. Her talk, "Playing War: Engaging the Postmodern Military in Metal Gear Solid" addressed multimodality that articulates themes in digital games which she claimed "are a combination of real rules and fictional worlds." The game analysis framework Ng uses in her work depends mostly on narrative analysis and does not simply focus on the interactive parts of the game. Using "Metal Gear Solid" as a case study, Ng explained that the game exposes bio-political control issues and brings up questions about what makes a human "human" in an increasingly militarized world, thus tackling real-world ideological issues within the game world.

Following the final panel of the day, the Spring Academy participants then went to Mannheim for a private tour of the John Deere Europe factory. As long-time sponsor of the Spring Academy, John Deere not only supports the program financially but imparts its business success with its participants as one of the greatest American-German partnerships in manufacturing. Following

a warm welcome and introduction by Public Relations and Brand Management Manager, Dr. Oliver Neumann, the group was lead on a walking tour of the main factory to see John Deere's extensive operations in Germany. Back at the visitor's center, the group enjoyed a light reception, had a chance to test drive the tractor simulator, and had pictures taken next to a large trademark tractor.



Mikal Eckstrom Test Driving a John Deere Tractor Simulator

The HCA's own research associate and Ph.D. coordinator Dr. Tobias Endler introduced Thursday's first session "The Atomic Age and Its Discontents." The day's first presentation was Sarah Robey's (Temple University, USA) talk on "Scientific Authority, Popular Education, and Public Safety in the Early Cold War." Robey looked at how nuclear weapons altered citizen-state relationships in the Atomic Age. Arguing that citizenship, public science, space, and geography were all affected by the advent of nuclear weapons, Robey explained how the scale and scope of these new weapons changed public opinion on the meaning of war as well as citizens' responses to state actions and public demands. The eighth panel ended with Tom Bishop (University of Nottingham, UK) and his presentation entitled "'Gun-thy-neighbor': The American Fallout Shelter, Masculinity, and the Early Cold War," which will be one of the first studies of American fallout shelters. While its focal point revolves around fallout shelters, Bishop explained that the issues he seeks to unravel include positing the image of the militarized male against the domestic male consumer, discussing a fusion of ethics and fatherhood during the early Cold War period and deciphering impacts on masculinity resulting from nuclear survival tactics (including propaganda).

After a brief coffee break, Associate Professor of History at San Francisco State University Charles Postel, was introduced by Dr. Endler as an "open-minded and constructive" expert in doctoral work. Professor Postel chaired the final panel for the day on "Left to Center: Socialist and Cooperative Histories." Lorenzo Costaguta (University of Nottingham, UK) presented first on: "Which Way to Emancipation? Race and Ethnicity in American Socialist Thought (1876-1899)." Outlining some of his research findings, Costaguta explained that the information analyzed suggests that

socialist groups within the larger movement were indeed critically controversial. As this is an under researched area in American Studies, Postel encouraged Costaguta to push ahead with his research. The second speaker was Alexia Blin (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris), who gave a presentation on "Cooperatives and the State: The Ambiguous Normalization of Voluntary Organizations." Her research looks primarily at the question of state involvement in Wisconsin cooperatives between the 1870s and 1930s to see how the state handled cooperatives and government intervention over time. During the discussion, many questions were answered about the basic concept of cooperatives, as few participants had come across the issue prior to Blin's presentation. Professor Postel was able to shed light on federal action in respect to cooperatives as well as on some of the larger trends occurring within the cooperative movement at the time.

Thursday concluded with a workshop on "Academic Writing and Publishing," lead by Dr. Fischer-Hornung and Dr. Sherry Föhr. Participants were given tips and motivational instructions on writing their theses by Dr. Föhr, who runs the Writing Resources Center in the English Seminar of Heidelberg University. Dr. Fischer-Hornung shared her expertise in the publishing world as a co-editor of a scholarly journal. The workshop proved effective and instructive to participants.

Friday morning began with a workshop by Professor Postel, who spoke on "American Populism, Past and Present" as one of the most powerful movements in American history that is currently being reconsidered by historians. He outlined the history of populism from its beginnings as a democratic movement mainly consisting of farmers to Populism today and the looked at the links that remain between its beginnings and its current reincarnation.

After lunch, the tenth and final panel began with a presentation on "Marginalized Tribes: Shared Experiences of Jews and Native Americans in the Trans-Missouri West, 1850-1930" by Mikal Eckstrom (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA). Basing his work on digital records and methodologies to thematically analyze Native-Newcomer histories, Eckstrom spoke on the way Midwestern Jews in the nineteenth century exhibited dismissive behaviors towards American Indians in order to claim a new identity of whiteness, motivated in part by federal pressures to contain American Indians. Responding to participants' questions and feedback on his research, Eckstrom was able to posit the shift of American immigrant Jews from their place within the larger Anglo-American settlement group to their eventual role in intimate colonialism.

To conclude the conference, Friday's "Cool Down" session started out with a feedback section and prompted new questions about the direction of American Studies. New key words about what American Studies is were added to the ones collected on in Monday's warm-up session: "voice," "narrative," revisit," "crossroads," "agency," and "archive" were among many new ideas. The one over-arching theme that participants thought worked best to tie together the conference's results was "connect the dots." The Spring Academy participants also concluded that American Studies succeeds in bringing diverse fields closer together while also positively complicating perceptions. After the cool down session, the HCA hosted a farewell dinner in honor of the participants, who had contributed to another successful Spring Academy.

CONFERENCES

Workshop "The Challenges of Doing Biography," July 3, 2015, at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Biography is among the most venerable and commercially successful genres of historical writing. General readers are fascinated with the life stories of historical figures and cherish viewing history through the eyes of "ordinary" individuals. Although critics have frequently assailed biography for celebrating "great men" or "great women" and elevating "agency" over "structure," none of the historiographical paradigm shifts over the past fifty years has seriously damaged the popularity of biographies. Historians have continued to employ biographical approaches in nearly all subfields and disciplines, while the new cultural history has spawned lively theoretical debates. This workshop focused on the practical challenges the participants face in their current research. It brought together scholars from Germany and the United States whose protagonists also come from both sides of the Atlantic: African American educator and social reformer Mary McLeod Bethune, political activist Angela Davis, anthropologist Felix von Luschan, naturalist and explorer Alexander von Humboldt, and U.S. President Woodrow Wilson.

The workshop got off to a great start with a talk by Volker Depkat (University of Regensburg), who reflected on the epistemology and narratology of biography. According to Professor Depkat, the cultural turn has generated new interest in the individual without losing sight of structures and has brought forth experimental approaches and a more substantive theoretical debate. Yet, biography remains undertheorized. Professor Depkat sees biography at the intersection of scholarship, literature, and popular culture, bringing together the facts of a life, autobiography, and biographical writing. Biography turns a curriculum vitae into a story by selecting facts, setting themes, and creating plots. It employs both, reconstruction and construction. We also need to keep in mind that authors have their own autobiography. Professor Depkat finally identified three new trends in the current state of biographical writing: the "secret self" that discloses the protagonist as a truly human figure; a new take on context; and the "new biography" that is partial to a pluralization of actors and meets the poststructuralist challenge.

Andreas Daum (University of Buffalo, SUNY) then introduced his approaches of writing a biography of Alexander von Humboldt. He first pointed out that the concept of "Humboldtian science" we have today is rather fictional and was not practiced by its namesake. Therefore, writing a biography of Alexander von Humboldt is like producing a "picture without a frame." Daum approaches his protagonist as a person of eighteenth-century civil society, as a knowledge producer, as a globalizer, and as a European. His talk also retraced some early Humboldt biographies and raised the question whether writing about Humboldt's life is best attempted as a collaborative work to do justice to his many facets.

Tracing the transfer of ideas is at the center of the biographical writing of John David Smith (University of North Carolina at Charlotte). He talked about the "making of" two of his biographies, one on *Black Judas: William Hannibal Thomas* and *The American Negro* and his forthcoming

biography of Austrian anthropologist Felix von Luschan. Both projects illustrate the challenges of writing intellectual biography. While Thomas achieved notoriety with *The American Negro*, an intemperate critique of African Americans, especially women, Felix von Luschan at first rejected the ideas of "scientific racism" rising in his times but later became an ardent supporter of German imperialism.

"Why write another biography of Woodrow Wilson?" was the question workshop convener Manfred Berg (Heidelberg University) posed in the first talk of the afternoon session in the light of a plethora of Wilson biographies. Professor Berg's work in progress intends to fill an important gap – a biography of Wilson for a German audience to be published in time for the centennial of America's entry into World War I. Between 1917 and 1919 the U.S. president became a key figure of world politics; war-weary Europeans greeted him like a messiah upon his arrival for the Paris Peace Conference. His dual failure to implement his peace program at Versailles and to persuade the U.S. Senate to ratify the League of Nations Covenant triggered an unprecedented wave of disappointment and resentment, especially among Germans. As a German historian of the United States writing for German readers, Professor Berg sees cultural translation as one of his key tasks, taking into account the unspoken normative assumptions of his readers who will hopefully recognize that the peace order of 1919 was about more than punishing and humiliating Germany.

The protagonist of Anja Schüler's (Heidelberg Center for American Studies) biography was an eminent African American educator, activist, and politician. Mary McLeod Bethune established the first fully accredited college for African Americans in Florida; she advised four presidents on child welfare, education, and civil rights; she was central for the African American women's club movement; she was instrumental in forming the "Black Cabinet"; and she received numerous awards and honorary degrees. Yet, her life is strangely understudied, although there are many biographies about her, almost all of them anecdotal and hagiographic. Dr. Schüler's biography attempts to use Bethune's life story to illustrate some bigger points for a general audience, such as the educational opportunities – or lack thereof – for African Americans in the South, the importance of the black women's club movement for the black community, and the meaning of the New Deal for African Americans.

The workshop concluded with a talk by Sophie Lorenz (Heidelberg University), who is about to finish her doctoral dissertation on Angela Davis and the German Democratic Republic and introduced the workshop participants to one particular aspect of her work: "How using a biographical lens helps understanding Angela Davis' encounter with East Germany." The main problem she faces is opposite from that of Professors Daum and Berg, who have to take many biographies of their protagonists into account. In contrast, there is no biography of Angela Davis. Indeed, Sophie Lorenz' protagonist is very restrictive about releasing her papers or granting interviews, which complicates writing about the biographical aspects of her life.

Taken together, the six presentations covered a broad spectrum of problems and challenges of doing biography. All participants agreed that the format of a small one-day workshop was very conducive to fruitful and intense discussion.

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

On June 9, the HCA celebrated the fourth James W.C. Pennington Award. This year, Professor William L. Andrews received the prize for his work on the history of African American literature. The award is named in honor of James W.C. Pennington, a former slave who received an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University in 1849, quite possibly the first honorary doctorate for an African American in the world. The Manfred Lautenschläger Foundation has graciously provided funding for the first five awards.

Heidelberg University's Rector Bernhard Eitel opened the ceremony by pointing out that this award brings together the Faculty of Theology, the university's oldest, and one of its youngest research institutions, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies. Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger then congratulated Professor Andrews and briefly spoke about the life and achievements of James W.C. Pennington, whose legacy had impressed him immensely. Pennington escaped slavery at the age of 21, taught himself how to read and write, was the first African American to attend Yale Divinity School and became a Methodist minister. In 1849 he traveled to the World Peace Congress in Paris, where he met the Heidelberg Professor Friedrich Carové, who urged the university to bestow an honorary doctorate on Pennington.

Professor Jan Stievermann from the HCA then gave the laudation for Professor Andrews, who is the E. Maynard Adams Professor of English at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He received both his M.A. and his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Before his appointment at UNC, Professor Andrews taught at Texas Tech University, the University of Wisconsin Madison, Justus Liebig University, Gießen, and the University of Kansas. His work focuses on the historical linkages between white and black writers in the formation of American literature, African American literature, and southern literature.

The award winner commenced his talk by drawing the attention of the audience to the literary analysis of slavery, something that does not only connect the works of James Pennington and Mark Twain but also decisively influenced American literature as a whole. Quite possibly, Twain's story of Huckleberry Finn and Jim, the refugee slave, was inspired by Pennington's past. In his biography "The Fugitive Blacksmith," written in 1841, Pennington used his own story to condemn the institution of slavery. He argued that slaveholders can never be true Christians, no matter how they treat their slaves. Pennington saw slavery as a violation of the Ten Commandments and education as the best way to ending any kind of bondage. He also described the moral dilemma he encountered many times during his escape when asked where he came from. He decided that protecting his freedom was more important than saying the truth.



Manfred Lautenschläger extends congratulations to the fifth recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award, William L. Andrews

Professor Andrews then pointed out that several antebellum novels focus on this question of the moral righteousness of slavery and the principles of a Christian life, among them Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The story deals critically with the "peculiar institution," empathizes with refugee slaves, and picks up Pennington's dilemma. In one scene, Huck Finn convinces slave catchers that the boat they want to search for the escaped slave Jim is infected by small pox. Huck's shameless lie violates a Christian commandment but follows through with another one. Christian principles manifest themselves in deeds; in this respect, the story is a social critique of American society, inside and outside of the South. Professor Andrews suspects that Twain knew of Pennington's fate and that it might have inspired the character "Jim" in *Huckleberry Finn*. Compared to the educated Pennington, though, Twain's Jim is very down to earth. Comparing both texts makes clear that neither Jim nor Pennington took their quest for freedom lightly.

After this engaging lecture and the award ceremony, the guests enjoyed a reception and more good conversation in the HCA's inner courtyard.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

The list below includes books, book chapters, journal articles, and entries in reference works published by HCA faculty and staff in 2014-15. Also listed are publications by scholars affiliated with the HCA that are relevant to the field of American Studies.

Manfred Berg (HCA and History Department)

Lynchjustiz in den USA (Hamburg: Hamburger Edition, 2014).

"Revolt gegen die Willkür," *DIE ZEIT*, April 30, 2014.

"Blut für den Fortschritt," *Ruperto Carola Forschungsmagazin*, May 4, 2014.

"Ein Traum für alle. Der Civil Rights Act sollte vor 50 Jahren die Rassentrennung in den USA beenden. Ist das gelungen?" *DIE ZEIT*, June 12, 2014.

"'Schnappt Euch die Nigger!' Der 'blutige Sonntag' von Selma in Alabama wurde im März 1965 zu einem Wendepunkt der US-Bürgerrechtsbewegung," *DIE ZEIT*, February 19, 2015.

"Pulverfass mit kurzer Lunte. Die Unruhen in Ferguson und Baltimore haben eine bedrückende Tradition: Seit mehr als 150 Jahren erschüttern 'race riots' die amerikanische Gesellschaft," *DIE ZEIT*, May 13, 2015.

Tobias Endler (HCA)

With Martin Thunert, *Entzauberung: Skizzen und Ansichten zu den USA in der Ära Obama* (Opladen/Toronto: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2015).

"Der Un-Europäer. Barack Obama fehlt beim 'Charlie Hebdo'-Marsch und alle wundern sich. Weshalb eigentlich?", *The European*, January 13, 2015, <http://www.theeuropean.de/tobias-endler/9465-barack-obama-fehlt-bei-charlie-hebdo-marsch>.

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Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota)

"Cosmic Kinship: John Stewart's 'Sensate Matter' in the Early Republic," *Common-place.org* (Spring Issue, 2015), <http://www.common-place.org/vol-15/no-03/fischer/>.

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Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (HCA and English Department)

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Gordon Friedrichs (HCA)

With Sebastian Harnisch, "Rüstungskontrolle/Rüstungskontrollpolitik," in *Kleines Lexikon der Politik*, 6th edition, ed. Dieter Nohlen and Florian Grotz (München: C.H. Beck, 2015).

With Sebastian Harnisch, "Sanktionen/Sanktionspolitik," in *Kleines Lexikon der Politik*, 6th edition, ed. Dieter Nohlen and Florian Grotz (München: C.H. Beck, 2015).

Philipp Gassert (University of Mannheim)

Ed. with Günther Kronenbitter, Stefan Paulus and Wolfgang E.J. Weber, *Augsburg und Amerika: Aneignungen und globale Verflechtungen in einer Stadt* (Augsburg: Wiesner 2014).

With Michael Wala, *Weltmacht USA* (Stuttgart: Reclam, 2014).

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With Paul J. Quirk und Christian Lammert, *Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) 2014 United States Report* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2014), http://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2014/country/SGI2014_USA.pdf.

Möglichkeiten und Grenzen politikberatender Tätigkeiten im internationalen Vergleich (Berlin: Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, 2014), http://www.bmbf.de/pub/ITA_Moeglichkeiten_und_Grenzen_bf.pdf.

With Anke Kessler and Andrew Sharpe, *Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) 2015 Canada Report* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2015), http://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2015/country/SGI2015_Canada.pdf.

With Fabian Klein, Edgar von Knebel and Claudia Zilla, *Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) 2015 Chile Report* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2015), http://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2015/country/SGI2015_Chile.pdf.

With George Philip and Jörg Faust, *Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) 2015 Mexico Report* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2015), http://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2015/country/SGI2015_Mexico.pdf.

With Paul J. Quirk and Christian Lammert, *Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) 2015 United States Report* (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2015), http://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2015/country/SGI2015_USA.pdf.

Simon Wendt (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Ed. with Pablo Dominguez Andersen, *Masculinities and the Nation in the Modern World: Between Hegemony and Marginalization* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).

"Transnationalizing American and Transatlantic History: Chances and Challenges," in *American Studies Today. New Research Agendas*, ed. Winfried Fluck, Erik Redling, Sabine Sielke and Hubert Zapf (Heidelberg: Winter, 2014), 3-24.

"White Elite Women, the Gendered Memory of Heroism, and American Nationalism, 1890-1939," in *Bewunderer, Verehrer, Zuschauer: Die Helden und ihr Publikum*, ed. Ronald G. Asch und Michael Butter (Würzburg: Ergon, 2015), 159-176.

With Pablo Dominguez Andersen, "Introduction: Masculinities and the Nation," in *Between Hegemony and Marginalization: Masculinities and the Nation in the Modern World*, ed. Pablo Dominguez Andersen and Simon Wendt (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), 1-18.

SELECTED TALKS

During 2014-15, the following HCA staff members, students, and associates gave talks at the conferences, workshops, and panel discussions listed below.

Jennifer Adams-Massmann (HCA and Faculty of Theology)

"'Wherever you go I will go, your people will be my people and your God my God...'"—Women Missionaries, Indian Converts and Migration in the Moravian Mission to the Indians in Eighteenth-century Pennsylvania." American Society of Church History, April 2014, Oxford, U.K.

Manfred Berg (HCA and History Department)

"Voting and Violence in American History." Universität Greifswald, May 2014, Greifswald.

"Die USA und der Erste Weltkrieg." Ruprecht-Karls Universität, June 2014, Heidelberg.

"Lynchjustiz und Staatsgewalt in den USA." Goethe-Universität, November 2014, Frankfurt/Main.

"Writing and Teaching American History in Germany." University of Copenhagen, December 2014, Copenhagen.

"The Dream Revisited: Racial Integration and Black Advancement since the Civil Rights Era." Universität Bonn, January 2015, Bonn.

"We Shall Overcome: Die schwarze Bürgerrechtsbewegung und die Kampagne in Birmingham im Frühjahr 1963." Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz, January 2015, Chemnitz.

"Ursprünge und Formen der Sklaverei in Nordamerika; Die Lynchjustiz im amerikanischen Süden. Free At Last?" Fridtjof-Nansen-Haus, February 2015, Ingelheim.

"Lynchjustiz und Staatsgewalt in den USA." Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung, March 2015, Hamburg.

"American Lynching and the State." Newcastle University, May 2015, Newcastle, U.K.

"Indescribable Barbarism: The Lynching of African Americans in the Age of Jim Crow." Universität Kassel, May 2015, Kassel.

"The US South in the World: Political Organizing Across the Black Atlantic." German Historical Institute, June 2015, Washington, D.C.

"Das Erbe der Lynchjustiz in den USA." Technische Universität Kaiserslautern, June 2015, Kaiserslautern.

"How Do We Write the History of Lynching in America? Some Reflections." Universität Regensburg, July 2015, Regensburg.

"Why write another biography of Woodrow Wilson? The Challenges of Doing Biography." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, July 2015, Heidelberg.

"Ongoing Divide: Obama und das Problem des Rassismus, Signed Sealed and Delivered?" Atlantische Akademie, August 2015, Lambrecht.

"Authority and Trust in American Culture, Society, History, and Politics." Notre Dame University, September 2015, South Bend, Indiana.

"Woodrow Wilson und der liberale Internationalismus. Liberale zwischen Ideal- und Realpolitik." Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, November 2015, Stuttgart.

"Was ist aus Martin Luther Kings Traum geworden? Amerikas schwarze Minderheit seit der Bürgerrechtsbewegung." Universität Tübingen, November 2015, Tübingen.

"Obama und das Problem des Rassismus. Die Ära Obama. A Transformational Presidency?" Akademie für Politische Bildung Tutzing, December 2015, Tutzing.

Tobias Endler (HCA)

Moderator, Panel Debate and Book Launch: "The United States as a Divided Nation: Past and Present." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, January 2014, Heidelberg.

Moderator, Panel Debate: "Der Adler, der Drache und der Stier: Die USA, China und Europa im 21. Jahrhundert." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, July 2014, Heidelberg.

"Tilting against Windmills? America's War on Terror." Carl-Schurz-Haus / Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut, October 2014, Freiburg.

"Freundschaft in stürmischen Zeiten – Ein Abend zum deutsch-amerikanischen Verhältnis." BR Television, March 2015, München.

Teacher Training. Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum/James-F.-Byrnes-Institut, June 2015, Stuttgart.

Moderator, Panel Debate, "Der Adler, der Stier und der Bär: Amerika, Europa und Russland auf

Konfrontationskurs?" Heidelberg Center for American Studies, July 2015, Heidelberg.

With Martin Thunert, "Book Launch," *Entzauberung: Skizzen und Ansichten zu den USA in der Ära Obama*, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2015, Heidelberg.

Kirsten Fischer (University of Minnesota)

"On Gender and Genius: John Stewart, Transatlantic Traveler." Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, July 2015, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (HCA)

"'Bazinga!': Ethnic Humor, Stereotypes, and Science in *The Big Bang Theory*." American Studies Association, November 2014, Los Angeles, California.

"De/Colonizing the Image: Photography, Geronimo, and Resistance in Leslie Marmon *Silko's Almanac of the Dead*." American Studies Association, October 2015, Toronto, Ontario.

Gordon Friedrichs (HCA)

With Sebastian Harnisch, "The Pivot to Asia, a pivot getting nowhere? A role theoretical study of U.S. leadership and contestation at home and abroad." International Studies Association, February 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana.

"From Factions to Fractions: Indian foreign policy role-taking across different coalitional settings." British International Studies Association, June 2015, London.

With Sebastian Harnisch, "Rebalancing oder Counter-balancing? Der 'US Pivot to Asia' und seine unintendierten Folgen." Deutsche Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft, September 2015, Duisburg.

With Sebastian Harnisch, "The U.S., its Pivot to Asia, and allies in the Northeast Asia: convergence or divergence." Workshop "Strategisches Dreieck: USA-China-Europa," November 2015, Frankfurt/Main.

Philipp Gassert (University of Mannheim)

"Political Entrepreneurship und Protestbewegungen: Überlegungen zu einem interdisziplinären Forschungsansatz." Universität Göttingen, January 2014, Göttingen.

"The Nuclear Crisis: Popular Culture, Political Protest, and Social Change during the 1970s and 1980s." Universität Augsburg, February 2014, Augsburg.

"Amerikaforschung an der Universität Augsburg." Neue Stadtbücherei Augsburg, February 2014, Augsburg.

"Protest und gesellschaftlicher Wandel im 20. Jahrhundert." Protestkultur – Populismus? Politische Akademie Tutzing, Oktober 2014, Tutzing.

"Amerikas Kriege: Die Welt für die Demokratie sicher machen." Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut Heidelberg, January 2015, Heidelberg.

"Auf die Straße gehen: Überlegungen zu einer Weltgeschichte der Demonstration seit 1848." Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, January 2015, Jena.

"Die Welt im Lokalen suchen? Zeitgeschichte zwischen regionaler und globaler Orientierung," Inaugural lecture at Universität Mannheim, February 2015, Mannheim.

"Challenges and Constraints of Presidential Power: Domestic and Foreign Policy (during President Obama's Last Two Years of Presidency)," Universität Mannheim, March 2015, Mannheim.

"Zeitenwende in Europa? Zwischen Krieg im Osten und Re-Nationalisierung im Westen." Mannheim Forum, March 2015, Mannheim.

"Der Weltuntergang in der Mediendemokratie: Zur Kulturgeschichte der nuklearen Katastrophe in den 1980er Jahren." Förderverein des Historischen Instituts der Universität Mannheim, March 2015, Mannheim.

"Amerika in Deutschland: Die deutsch-amerikanischen Beziehungen seit 1945." Point Alpha Akademie/Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, March 2015, Geisa/Rhön.

"Does Protest Have No Borders? Approaching Global History through Marches and Street Demonstrations." New York University Abu Dhabi, April 2015, Abu Dhabi.

"Warum Protest auch weiter konkreter Orte bedarf. Zu Geschichte und Gegenwart der Straßendemonstration." New Design University, May 2015, St. Pölten, Austria.

"Europa und Amerika: Streit, Vorurteil und die transatlantische Konfliktkultur." Presseclub Concordia, May 2015, Vienna, Austria.

"Thüringen 1945: Die amerikanische Besetzung von Deutschland und die Politik der Großmächte." Gedenk- und Bildungsstätte Andreasstraße, Mai 2015, Erfurt.

"Representing the Most Significant Other: German Historians View the United States." Fondazione Luigi Einaudi, September 2015, Torino, Italy.

"Aufstieg im Geist des Kapitalismus. Max Weber und die USA," D.A.I. Freiburg and Colloquium Politicum, Universität Freiburg, October 2015, Freiburg/Br.

"Amerikas Kriege: Die Welt für die Demokratie sicher machen?" d.a.i. Tübingen, November 2015, Tübingen.

"Die Rolle der Friedensbewegung für die bundesdeutsche Außenpolitik der 1980er Jahre," Université Paris Sorbonne and GHI Paris, December 2015, Paris.

Ulrike Gerhard (HCA and Geography Department)

"Analyzing Social and Economic Class in Different Urban Spaces – A Transcultural Approach." Association of American Geographers, April 2014, Tampa, Florida.

"Sustainability as Urban Growth Strategy: a Comparative Perspective." Comparative Urban Sustainability Politics, May 2014, Freiburg.

"Schafft Wissen Stadt? Die Bedeutung von Wissenseinrichtungen für die Stadtentwicklung, das Beispiel der Internationalen Bauausstellung Heidelberg." Universität Bremen, June 2014, Bremen.

"Reurbanisierung: Stadtentwicklung zwischen Wachstum und Niedergang." Bremer Geographisches Kolloquium, June 2014, Bremen.

"Knowledge & Cities - A Creative Symbiosis? An Urban Research Agenda from a Comparative Perspective." International Symposium on Making Cities Creative, September 2014, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

"Zwischen Zentrum und Peripherie – aktuelle Muster der Stadtentwicklung in Nordamerika." Geographische Gesellschaft Würzburg, October 2014, Würzburg.

"Metropolen Nordamerikas - aktuelle Entwicklungen, Muster und Diskurse." Fränkische Geographische Gesellschaft, January 2015, Erlangen.

"Cities as Places of Knowledge Production: A Creative Symbiosis?" Association of American Geographers, April 2015, Chicago, Illinois.

"Investigating Inequality in Creative Cities: A Global Comparative Perspective." Paper presented at the International Conference Doing Global Urban Research, September 2015, Loughborough, U.K.

"Stadt & Natur: Urbane Infrastrukturen in Nordamerika im Kontext von Ressourcenknappheit und Klimawandel." Deutscher Kongress für Geographie, October 2015, Berlin.

"Mega City, Slumdog City, Global City – Relikte einer Stadtforschung in der Globalen Urbanen Gesellschaft? Oder: Zehn Thesen zur Globalen Urbanen Gesellschaft." Deutscher Kongress für Geographie, October 2015, Berlin.

"Städtischer Wandel durch neue Wissensorte: Eine interdisziplinäre Herausforderung für ein Urbanes Reallabor." Deutscher Kongress für Geographie, October 2015, Berlin.

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

"Burying the Hatchet: The Boy Scouts and the Infantilization of Peace." Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, December 2014, Heidelberg.

"Good Soldiers, All? Democracy and Discrimination in the Boy Scouts of America, 1941-1945." GHI Washington, June 2014, Washington, D.C.

"Burying the Hatchet: The Boy Scouts and the Infantilization of Peace." American Historical Association, January 2015, New York.

"Are You a Crusader? Cold War Citizenship in the Boy Scouts of America." Society for the History of Youth and Childhood, University of British Columbia, June 2015, Vancouver, British Columbia.

"The Power of Innocence: The Boy Scouts of America and the Infantilization of Empire." Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, May 2015, Jena.

"Boyification: How Scouting Fetishized Boys, Rejuvenated Men, and Infantilized Empire." Humboldt-Universität, May 2015, Berlin.

Ryan P. Hoselton (HCA)

"Thomas Paine and Democratic Religion," Charles University, June 2015, Prague, Czech Republic.

Heike Jablonski (HCA)

"Where Nothing Happens, Except Everything: Rural Radicalism in Marilynne Robinson's Gilead." Annual Convention of the German Association for American Studies, May 2013, Erlangen.

"John Foxe in America: Conceptions of Martyrdom in the Long 19th Century." American Antiquarian Society, September 2013, Worcester, Mass.

"American Martyrs: Discourses of Martyrdom in the American Anti-Slavery Movement." British Association for American Studies, April 2014, Birmingham, U.K.

"John Foxe in America: Discourses of Martyrdom in the Long Nineteenth Century." Post Graduate Forum of the German Association for American Studies, October 2014, Mainz.

"Publishing, Distributing, and Reading the 'Book of Martyrs' in the United States." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2014, Heidelberg.

Detlef Junker (HCA)

"Chosen People: The American Civil Religion." Keynote Address, The Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, May 2014, Heidelberg.

"A People of Paradox. Die NSA-Affäre und die Paradoxien der USA." June 2014, Lübeck.

"The HCA – A Success Story That Could Have Failed." Reflections of the Founding Director, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary celebrations of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA), July 2014, Heidelberg.

"Marktlücke – Kriegslücke – Gotteslücke." Rheinische Friedrichs-Wilhelms-Universität, October 2014, Bonn.

"Heidelberg Center for American Studies – Development and Structure." Friends of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, November 2014, New York.

"Der Graben im Atlantik wird breiter. Marktlücke – Kriegslücke – Gotteslücke." Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, March 2015, Tutzing.

"Chosen People: The American Civil Religion." American Studies Network Europe, June 2015, Warsaw, Poland.

"Botschafter Jacob Gould Schurman und die Universität Heidelberg." Freundeskreis für Archiv und Museum der Universität Heidelberg e.V., June 2015, Heidelberg.

"The Widening Atlantic – Market Gap – War Gap – God Gap." University of Missouri, October 2015, St. Louis, USA,

"The Widening Atlantic – Market Gap – War Gap – God Gap." Washington University, October 2015, St. Louis, USA.

"The Widening Atlantic – Market Gap – War Gap – God Gap." University of Nebraska, November 2015, Lincoln, USA.

"The Widening Atlantic – Market Gap – War Gap – God Gap." San Francisco State University, November 2015, San Francisco, USA.

"The Widening Atlantic – Market Gap – War Gap – God Gap." American Council on Germany, Duane Morris LLP, November 2015, San Francisco, USA.

Michael Kuehlen (HCA))

"Book Launch": "Literatur nach Dienstschluss: Die drei ??? und die weiße Anakonda." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, December 2014, Heidelberg.

Günter Leypoldt (HCA and English Department)

"Specters of Feminization in Nineteenth-Century Literary Culture." Universität Paderborn, January 2014, Paderborn.

"The Charisma of Literary Institutions: Toni Morrison's Encounter with Oprah Winfrey." Universität Erlangen, January 2014, Erlangen.

"The Artist as Hero: Nineteenth--Century Concepts of Authorship in a Transatlantic Perspective." Universität Halle-Wittenberg, April 2014, Halle/Saale.

"The Intellectual as Hero: Emerson and Carlyle on the Political Authority of the Man of Letters." University Paris 7, June 2014, Paris.

"From Literary Bohemia to the Creative Class: Embodying Urban Authenticity." University of Shanghai, June 2014, Shanghai.

"Acquired Tastes: Economies of Literary Value in Transcultural Perspective," Heidelberg Center of Transcultural Studies, July 2014, Heidelberg.

"Shifting Meridians: U.S. Authorship in World-Literary Space." University of Illinois, September 2014, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

"Institutional Charisma." The Newberry Library, September 2014, Chicago, Illinois.

"Keynote response." University of Illinois, September 2014, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

"U.S. Authorship in World-Literary Space." FU Berlin, November 2014, Berlin.

"Trust in Literary Institutions." Ringvorlesung FU Berlin, December 2014, Berlin.

"The Materiality of Charismatic Performance." Stanford University, Humanities Center, January 2015, Palo Alto, California.

"Quantifying Relevance." University of Washington, May 2015, Seattle, Washington.

"Herder Effects," Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, June 2015, Heidelberg.

"Literature's Social Lives." Goethe-Universität, July 2015, Frankfurt/Main.

"Shifting Meridians: US Authorship in World-Literary Space." University of Notre Dame, September 2015, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Wilfried Mausbach (HCA)

"The Two Germanies and Vietnam During the Cold War." Colloque International, January 2014, Paris.

"NSA und Whistleblowing: Privatsphäre, Bürgerrechte und nationale Sicherheit in den USA." Fridthof-Nansen-Akademie, February 2014, Ingelheim.

"Deutsch-amerikanische Beziehungen nach dem Abhörskandal." Deutsche Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, February 2014, Heidelberg.

"Re-staging the USA: Positionsbestimmungen von Kunst und Wissenschaft nach dem Truppenabzug." Theater Heidelberg, July 2014, Heidelberg.

"Separatismus in den USA: Geschichte und Gegenwart." Atlantische Akademie Rheinland-Pfalz, April 2015, Kaiserslautern.

"One Nation Under Guns: Was steckt hinter Amerikas Vernarrtheit in Waffen?" Universität Tübingen, July 2015, Tübingen.

"iSpy, you Spy, we all Spy: German-American Relations and the NSA Affair," Annual National HAUS Meeting, September 2015, Snowbird, Utah.

Margit Peterfy (English Department)

"Memory Culture in St. Louis, MO, and the Mediation of Historical Conflict." Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, October 2014, Heidelberg.

"Performance as Interpretation: Authors' Carnivals and the Aesthetic Preferences of American Readers in the Gilded Age." Karl-Franzens-Universität, March 2015, Graz.

"Authors' Carnivals as Literature in a 'Tangible' Form." Columbia University, April 2015, New York.

"Nature into Real Estate: Commercial and Poetic Knowledge of American Landscapes." DGfA, May 2015, Bonn.

"Public and Poetic Use of 'Solitude' in the Works of J. G. Whittier." Universität Würzburg, July 2015, Würzburg.

"Popular Poetry as Philosophy: The Case of the Fireside Poets and John Dewey." Universität Augsburg, October 2015, Augsburg.

"Parody, Adaptation, and Material Culture in the Canonization (and De-Canonization) of

American Popular Poetry." Universität Regensburg, Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, November 2015, Regensburg.

Katia Rostetter (HCA and English Department)

"Of Scalpings and Captive Bolt Pistols: the Rationalization of Violence in the Novels of Cormac McCarthy." Orientale American Studies International School, May 2014, Procida, Italy.

"The Road to Utopia: Cormac McCarthy's Post-apocalyptic Wasteland as the Ashes from which the Phoenix Rises." Oxford University, July 2014, Oxford, U.K.

Anthony Santoro (HCA and History Department)

"Understanding the American Death Penalty." Carl-Benz Gymnasium Ladenburg, January 2014, Ladenburg.

"The Death Penalty in America." Democrats Abroad Heidelberg, April 2014, Heidelberg.

"Plural Visions for Plural Publics: Sport and Civil Religion in Contemporary America (and Beyond?)." Universität Münster, June 2014, Münster.

"Prediction, Prophecy, and (Now) History: Neoliberalism, Technology, and Visions of a 'Post-American America' in Neal Stephenson's Snow Crash." Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe, Universität Heidelberg, July 2014, Heidelberg.

"America's Game on an International Stage: The National Football League, the Oakland Raiders, and the Meanings of the U.S.'s Most Popular Sport." King's College, September 2014, London.

"The Rise of Religion? Religious Diversity and Democratization." d.a.i. Tübingen, October 2014, Tübingen.

"Religious Freedom in American History: Five Myths." Sogang University, October 2014, Seoul, Korea.

"In God's Name? Religion and the Death Penalty in the 21st Century." Carl Schurz Haus/Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut e.V., November 2014, Freiburg/Br..

Anja Schüler (HCA)

"Opportunity Is All They Need: Mary McLeod Bethune's Role in FDR's New Deal."

Democrats Abroad Heidelberg, June 2014, Heidelberg.

"Mrs. President – Die Frau an seiner Seite?" Unitas Ruperto Carola, July 2014, Heidelberg.

Daniel Silliman (HCA)

"Reading Providence: US Reformed Interpretations of the Great War." July 2014, Siegen.

"The Bible in the Evangelical Imagination." Indiana University – Purdue University, August 2014, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Anne Sommer (HCA)

"Returning home? Differing Images of Italy in 21st Century Italian American Literature and Film," Università di Calabria, June 2015, Arcavacata, Italy.

"Review: Transcending Borders, Bridging Gaps. Italian Americana, Diasporic Studies, and the University Curriculum," Università di Calabria, July 2015, Arcavacata, Italy.

Jan Stievermann (HCA and Faculty of Theology)

"The British Debate over Prophetic Evidence for the Authority of the Bible in Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana*." Kingston University, July 2014, London.

"Das Verhältnis von naturwissenschaftlicher Revolution und Bibelforschung um 1700 am Beispiel von Cotton Mathers Biblia Americana." Marsilius-Kolleg, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, July 2014, Heidelberg.

"The Authority of the Bible in Cotton Mather's Biblia Americana." Indiana University-Purdue University, August 2014, Indianapolis, Indiana.

"The German Lives of David Brainerd: The Beginnings of Pietist Interest in an American Evangelical Icon." McNeal Center for Early American Studies, March 2015, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"David Brainerd, German Pietism and the Beginning of Protestant World Mission." Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, March 2015, Chicago, Illinois.

"'Puritans and Prophecy': 'Cotton Mather and Biblia Americana.'" University of California, August 2015, Berkeley, California.

Matthew Sutton (HCA and Washington State University)

"Reading the Bible to Know the Future." Indiana University/ Purdue University, August 2014, Indianapolis, Indiana.

"Prepping for Doomsday: The Cases of Billy Graham, David Koresh, and Harold Camping." Southern Methodist University, November 2014, Dallas, Texas.

"American Apocalypse." Newcastle University, 2015, Newcastle, U.K.

"Religion and Modern American Politics." Charles University, 2015, Prague, Czech Republic.

"Bracing for Armageddon: The Origins of the American Christian Right." Universidad de Alcalá, 2015, Madrid, Spain.

"Political Rhetoric at the Grassroots: The Evangelical Right." Atlantische Akademie, 2015, Lambrecht.

"Gods of War: Religion and Espionage in World War II." Heidelberg Center for American Studies, 2014, Heidelberg.

"The Global Apocalypses of Billy Graham." American Historical Association, 2015, New York.

Martin Thunert (HCA)

"The 2013 Go-To Think Tank Report." Ecologic Institute, Berlin, January 2014, Berlin.

"Zwischen Freihandelsverhandlungen und dem NSA-Skandal – transatlantische Integration oder Irritation?" Seminar Transatlantische Beziehungen, February 2014, Kaiserslautern.

"Zwischen Wild West und Silicon Valley. Zur heutigen Rolle des US-amerikanischen Westens." Deutsch-amerikanisches Institut Stuttgart, April 2014, Stuttgart.

"The U.S. Strategy towards Russia in the Ukraine Crisis." Panel discussion, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, April 2014, Heidelberg.

"Politisches Netzwerken und Lobbyismus." Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Bildungszentrum Eichholz, August 2014, Wesseling.

"TTIP – Hoffnungen und Ängste." Amerikanisches Generalkonsulat Frankfurt, Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Rheinland-Pfalz, Atlantische Akademie RP, September 2014, Mainz.

"Brauchen wir transatlantischen Freihandel?" Atlantische Akademie, October 2014, Kaiserslautern; November 2014, Koblenz.

"Die Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik der USA im frühen 21. Jahrhundert." Bildungszentrum der Bundeswehr, October 2014, Mannheim.

"TTIP – Freier Handel um jeden Preis?" Katholische Akademie, November 2014, Frankfurt/Main.

"Kanadas (neue) Rolle in der Welt." Politische Akademie Tutzing, December 2014, Tutzing.

"Presidential Leadership: Obamas Führungsstil im Vergleich zu seinen Vorgängern." Universität Passau, January 2015, Passau.

"Immigration Matters?– Einwanderungspolitik in Deutschland/EU und den USA." Atlantische Akademie, February 2015, Mainz.

"Freihandel – wer profitiert, wer verliert?" Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut, April 2015, Saarbrücken.

"TTIP – Vielfalt der Hoffnungen und Befürchtungen in den USA und Deutschland/Europa." Europa-Union Südpfalz, May 2015, Landau.

"Immigration and Demographic Change in Germany and the United States." Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Institut für Dolmetschen und Übersetzen, June 2015, Heidelberg.

"Wahlanalyse Unterhauswahlen Kanada," Botschaft von Kanada, October 2015, Berlin.Tutzing.

Simon Wendt (Goethe University Frankfurt/Main)

"Nationalistische Frauen und Amerikanismus vor dem 2. Weltkrieg: Das Beispiel der Daughters of the American Revolution." Universität Hannover, January 2014, Hannover.

"White Elite Women, the Gendered Memory of Heroism, and American Nationalism, 1890-1939." Universität Freiburg, July 2014, Freiburg/Br.

"Race, Emotions, and Defensive Gun Violence in the African American Struggle for Civil Rights in the United States, 1954-1975." Max-Planck-Institut für Bildungsforschung, August 2014, Berlin.

"Marginalized Masculinities and the American Nation: African American and Native American Military Heroism, 1941-1978." Freie Universität Berlin, J.F.K.-Institut für Nordamerikastudien, November 2014, Berlin.

"Black Military Heroism in World War II and the Vietnam War." Goethe-Universität, March 2015, Frankfurt/Main.

Mark Wilson (HCA and UNC Charlotte)

"How the U.S. Military Liberated Plzen: The Business and Politics of U.S. Military Procurement in World War II." American Center, Charles University, March 2014, Prague, Czech Republic.

"The U.S. Military in American Society and the World: Rethinking the History of the Military-Industrial Complex." Charles University, March 2014, Prague, Czech Republic.

"Business, War Mobilization, and Political Reaction in the Twentieth Century USA." Lyon II University, April 2014, Lyon, France.

"The Limits of the State. Organizational and Legal Constraints in the Napoleonic Model." Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), May 2014, Paris, France.

"Military Officers as Economic Players on the U.S. Home Front." Military Officers' Association of America, September 2014, Charlotte, North Carolina.

"The Business of Civil War in the North." Low Country Civil War Roundtable, October 2014, Bluffton, South Carolina.

"Destructive Creation: American Business and the Winning of World War II." University of North Carolina Charlotte, March 2015, Charlotte, North Carolina.

"The De-Militarization of the Military-Industrial Complex." Business History Conference, June 2015, Miami, Florida.

"The New Deal Order and the Military-Industrial Complex: A Reassessment." University of California at Santa Barbara, September 2015, Santa Barbara, California.



SPECIAL FEATURE

SPECIAL FEATURE

"AMBASSADOR JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG"¹

Detlef Junker, Founding Director, Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Heidelberg University Rector Martin Dibelius receives sensational news on January 4, 1928, in a long distance call from the German capital: "Berlin calling. This is the *Acht Uhr Abendblatt*. We would like to talk to the rector." "Speaking." "What do you have to say about the American Foundation?" "I have not heard anything about it." "We just received a news bulletin from the Wolff wire service." "Please read it." He listens and notes down the initial figures: "At a dinner given by the Steuben Society [in New York] Ambassador Schurman announces that he has begun collecting donations with the goal of 400,000 dollars for the construction of a new building for lecture halls and classrooms at the University of Heidelberg." Rector Dibelius has barely hung up with Berlin when other calls start to pour in from the city: public authorities, newspapers, and colleagues—the radio had already spread the news.

That sensational call from Berlin was the prelude to 1928, a year that, without exaggeration, could be called the "Schurman Year" with regard to the history of Heidelberg University. At the end of January, a delegation led by the rector and Heidelberg's lord mayor, Ernst Walz, traveled to Berlin to convey their gratitude to the U.S. ambassador to Germany, Jacob Gould Schurman. The president of Heidelberg University's student body thanked his former classmate in writing. On May 5, members of the university, together with distinguished guests from the city, the state, and the German Reich, gathered in the large hall of the New Collegiate building (where the New University building now stands) on Ludwigsplatz (today: University Square) to bestow honorary doctoral degrees on both

Jacob Gould Schurman.
Source: RNZ.



Ambassador Schurman and German Foreign Minister Gustav Stresemann. The Department of Philosophy had awarded Schurman an honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree on July 28, 1927.

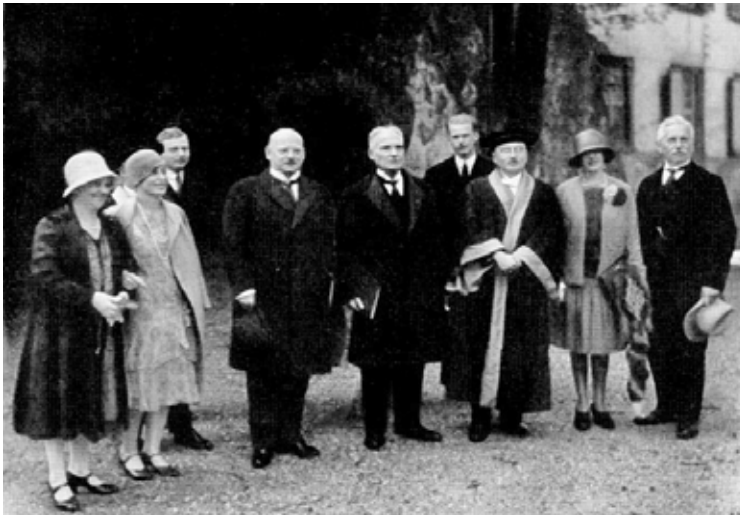
On December 17, at a ceremony in the great hall of the civic center that was organized by the city and the university, Schurman presented the higher-than-expected sum of "more than half a million dollars for the construc-

tion of a new lecture hall." Lord Mayor Walz conveyed honorary citizenship on the American ambassador, while the Baden minister for culture and education, Otto Leers, showed the gratitude of the state by presenting Schurman with a facsimile edition of the Codex Manesse, the "Great Heidelberg Book of Songs" from the fourteenth century. Professor Christoph Voll of Karlsruhe, who had been commissioned to produce a bust of Schurman, was given an appropriate seat in the hall "in order to observe the facial expressions of Mr. Ambassador during his speech." That evening, the entire student body participated in a torchlight procession in his honor.

At seventy-three, Schurman accepted all these honors with surprising liveliness, an easy gracefulness, and an awareness that the funds he had collected on Wall Street would lay the foundation for an impressive building in the center of Heidelberg's historic district that "would survive the centuries." Throughout his 1928 Heidelberg speeches and addresses, he stressed that his year as a student in Heidelberg in 1878 had been the source of his life-long engagement with German cultural and intellectual history. Heidelberg had been the first German university he attended, and it had remained his best-loved.

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Who was Jacob Gould Schurman, this man who – according to the *Frankfurter Zeitung* – had bestowed this sudden bonanza upon the delighted men of the university "out of a blue American sky." What motivated him to create this foundation? What did he think about Heidelberg, Germany and the Germans, and German-American relations?



Gustav Stresemann, (4. from left) Jacob Schurman (5. from left) and Martin Dibelius (3. from left) on May 5, 1928. Source: University Archive Heidelberg

Looking back on his life, Schurman could say that through his own efforts, he himself had achieved the American Dream – the rise from the bottom to the top of the social ladder; the way out of poverty and lack of education to wealth, status, public influence, and a prodigy of

learning. But first he had to become what his Dutch ancestors never would have wanted to be: an American.

Schurman was born in 1854, the third of eight children, on Prince Edward Island in Canada. Loyalists to the British Crown, his ancestors had emigrated to Canada during the American revolution. While his parents toiled on their farm, he attended a primary school and became a member of their Baptist congregation. The hard physical labor that farming demanded drove the 13-year-old boy to leave his parents' house and find a job as a sales clerk in a country store where he worked for three years. At sixteen, he had saved up enough money to be able to pay a year's tuition at a high school out of his own pocket. A year later, the outstanding student won a state scholarship that allowed him to continue his education over the next years at two colleges close to his home.

According to Schurman, that first scholarship had a great impact on his life. It was the basis for other highly-competitive scholarships and awards that made it possible for him to study in England and Germany over a five-year period. At twenty-one, he left Nova Scotia for London and Edinburgh to get a three year degree in what, at the time, amounted to general studies in the humanities. These years of travel and education were characterized by the leitmotiv of Schurman's studies, in which he tried to achieve his own understanding of the relationship between knowledge and religion. His Baptist faith was being challenged by Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, by Herbert Spencer's philosophy, as well as by empiricism, materialism, and agnosticism. Schurman searched for truth, for answers to the three classical questions at the basis of modern philosophy: What can I know? What may I hope? What should I do?

The quest for the foundations of his existence did not, however, hinder the unerring and successful completion of his studies in the United Kingdom. In Edinburgh, he finished his courses in metaphysics, logic, and ethics with the title of "Doctor of Science" (D.Sc.). His work in London on ethics, political philosophy, and political economy earned him a Master's degree. Rather than returning home, the young doctor used another scholarship to go to Germany for two years. Here he would learn the language, familiarize himself with German culture, and acquaint himself with the German university system, which enjoyed world-wide renown at the end of the nineteenth century and would become a model for the organization of graduate studies at elite universities in the United States. From 1878 to 1879, Schurman studied for a year in Heidelberg; from 1879 to 1880 he spent one semester at Berlin University, which, at the time, he considered "the best and most famous in the world," and then another semester in Göttingen.

Already during his time as a student in England and Germany, Schurman had the ability to win over men of influence, standing, and wealth. With this talent, he flourished after his return to the new world. It was an important prerequisite for his meteoric academic career. In 1882, George Munro, a rich New York publisher, endowed a chair in English literature and rhetoric at Dalhousie University in Halifax and offered it to the twenty-eight-year-old Schurman. Two years later, Schurman moved to the newly created George Munro chair in metaphysics at the same university. Almost by the same act, Schurman married the publisher's daughter Barbara Forrest

Munro. This marriage, which lasted forty-one years until the death of his wife in 1930, produced seven children and made Schurman affluent and financially independent.

In 1886, Schurman moved to the prestigious Cornell University as a professor for Christian ethics and philosophy of mind who soon received a chair in the philosophy department. The president of the university, Andrew D. White, played a decisive role in this process – a man with whom Schurman had already become friends in Berlin when the former had been accredited as the U.S. ambassador to Germany. Schurman immediately developed a reputation as the best speaker at Cornell. Besides students and colleagues, his captivating lectures attracted the attention of many local citizens.

His lectures in philosophy made an especially strong impression on Henry W. Sage, the head of the university's Board of Trustees and the owner of a lumber empire. In 1890, Sage endowed a small department at Cornell, the Linn Sage School of Philosophy. Schurman would become its dean. Finally, in a political power move, Sage imposed his will on the board, which at thirty-eight made Schurman president of Cornell University in 1892. Schurman held this position for twenty-eight years until he voluntarily resigned in 1920. He also became an American citizen, with Sage testifying to his good character.

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View from the stairs of new university building towards the buildings in the Grabengasse, 1931. Middle: Jacob Gould Schurman.
Source: University Archive Heidelberg

After Sage's death in 1897, Schurman began to dominate Cornell. Through a fortunate combination of liberality and strong-willed leadership, he was able to win the confidence of his academic colleagues. Breaking with the customs of his time, he saw to it that the departments could propose their own deans and that they would be represented in the central decision-making body of the university, the Board of Trustees – albeit without voting rights. When students protested against the right of their black classmates to live on campus, Schurman issued a sharp rebuke. But he was not able to persuade the Board of Trustees to appoint a woman to the faculty.

During Schurman's presidency, the number of enrolled students rose from 1,538 to 5,765 while the university campus expanded from 200 acres to over 1,400. In addition, more colleges were founded and the university that was originally dependent on patrons evolved into an institution that drew on both private and public funding. As the "administrator in chief," Schurman demonstrated an astonishing tenacity and determination in achieving the goals he set and impressed others with his intellectual and physical vitality. Occasionally his colleagues were overwhelmed by the speed and thoroughness with which he tackled both the large and small problems of his office. In admiration of Schurman, one such colleague wrote: "If, as Plato tells us, philosophers are the ideal rulers, the condition of Cornell University is blessed in having for its king a philosopher of highest repute."

Schurman used his position as the president of Cornell University and his rhetorical abilities to exert influence also in the political sphere. He became an opinionated member of the Republican Party as well as a campaigner and consultant for Republican presidents such as William McKinley (1897-1901), William H. Taft (1909-1913), Warren G. Harding (1921-1923), and Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929). He also had a very good relationship to Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes (1921-1925). As a result, Schurman was entrusted with political assignments. In 1898, he was appointed to lead the first commission set up to investigate the situation in the Philippines after its occupation by American troops. Before the First World War, he was minister of the United States to Greece and Montenegro; later on to China (1921-1925), and finally – at the height of his political career – U.S. ambassador in Berlin from 1925-1930.

Before these political assignments, Schurman had published articles and books within the field of philosophy. He founded a school of philosophical thought that he termed "Objective Idealism." In 1892, he became the first editor of the *Philosophical Review*, the first scholarly journal for philosophy in the United States.

By the time he plunged into politics, Schurman's personal values and political philosophy were already firmly established. In looking for the central themes of his political world view, it is impossible not to notice those values and ideals that had made his own success story possible: freedom for individual fulfillment, a tireless dedication to one's profession, and a sense of responsibility to the community through voluntary donations. In Europe he would have been considered a free-market liberal; in the United States, he chose the Republican Party as his political home. As a "self-made man," he was absolutely convinced of the creative capacities of the individual. Through a constitution guaranteeing freedom, the body politic must put as unlimited a space as possible at the disposal of this individual. The fundamental civil rights and liberties, including

freedom of religion and private property rights, stood at the core of his political philosophy. According to Schurman, equal opportunity for all individuals had to be maintained, but, due to the different characteristics of individuals, equal opportunities led to unequal results. Success and wealth were the just and justifiable products of hard work.

In a very American way, Schurman's libertarianism was closely tied to the professional ethics and the moral precepts of what Max Weber described as "ascetic Protestantism." While his education in philosophy did allow him to overcome the narrowness of his Baptist upbringing, his daily schedule and behavior continued to be influenced by the expectations of a protestant way of life that was moral and pleasing to God. Schurman led a tireless and methodically disciplined professional life. He hated nothing more than people who led idle and "parasitic" lives.

Liberty, property, law and order, and justice all stood at the top of Schurman's scale of values. He felt that all forms of state intervention and socialism, but especially communism, represented ideologies that ran counter to human nature. The state should intervene in society as little as possible; the best form of governing was people governing themselves.

Schurman was a strong adherent of a representative political system, and he despised direct democracy. As a "Tory Democrat" he had a natural sympathy for the values of the American business community. Like the renowned conservative Edmund Burke, he understood himself as both a guardian and a reformer: "A disposition to preserve, and an ability to improve taken together, would be my standard of a statesman." Yet Schurman always distanced himself from the great reform effort of his time, the "progressive movement." He criticized all reform programs that relied on state intervention, like Woodrow Wilson's "New Freedom" and Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" as well as the "New Nationalism" of his fellow Republican, Theodore Roosevelt. For Schurman, reforms had to start at the level of the individual and groups within society, not at the level of the government and bureaucracies.

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Consistent with this view, as the U.S. ambassador in Berlin, Schurman did not have a problem using his own money to cover the 50,000 dollars a year it took to make the American embassy on Wilhelmstraße into a meeting place for prominent figures from politics, business, the arts, and sciences. He developed a good relationship to Reich President Paul von Hindenburg, Reich Chancellor Hans Luther, Reichsbank President Hjalmar Schacht, and a trusting relationship with Foreign Minister Gustav Stresemann. Concerning the relationship between Stresemann and Schurman, one can conjecture that it was a meeting of two congenial characters and kindred spirits. Both were staunch libertarians that had climbed the social ladder largely due to the strength of their own will. In addition to their passion for power, politics, and business, they both had broad cultural and intellectual interests and revered Goethe and German Classicism.

After assuming the office in 1925, it was naturally the primary duty of Ambassador Schurman to represent the interests of his country. These interests had radically changed after the end of the First World War and the rejection of the Treaty of Versailles by the U.S. Senate. The United States

were economically present in Germany and Europe but refused to become entangled in political alliances. When Schurman took up his position, he had to deal with the consequences of the Dawes Plan – the Marshall Plan of the 1920s. In addition, he was convinced that the post-war problems could only be solved through peaceful change and not by the continuing antagonisms of competing nation states.

Schurman's utmost personal goal was to win over the hearts and minds of the Germans in order to begin a new chapter in German-American relations, for which he campaigned tirelessly. Perhaps he had come to regret the role he had played in the internal politics of his country during the First World War. Like almost all intellectuals in warring states, he had justified and glorified U.S. entry into the war. Caught up in the heat of the moment, he would even claim that the American Revolution had not been fought against England, but against Germany. After all, George III had been a German. In 1917-18, Schurman felt that Germany had betrayed modern culture and abandoned the high level of civilization that the country of Kant, Goethe, and Schiller had embodied. Having run amok, the nation had to be whipped into submission since the "huns" only understood the language of force.

Ambassador Schurman placed special emphasis on fostering the existing cultural relationships between the two countries as well as on developing new ones. He worked tirelessly to solicit understanding for his nation among the intellectual and academic elite of Germany. As he explained to a professor in Berlin: "We members of universities all speak the same language and have substantially the same ideals. It devolves on us to work together for the realization of the highest ideals of human life and international intercourse." Ambassador Schurman became a member of the Kant Society and an honorary member of the Kaiser Wilhelm Society for the Advancement of Science. He received a very special distinction when the Prussian Academy of Science voted to make him an honorary member. There he met Albert Einstein, who gave a powerful speech in 1932 honoring Schurman's life work. But Schurman's most spectacular act with regard to academia, which made headlines for him in both the German and international press, was his initiative to build a new lecture hall in Heidelberg. From the time he became ambassador in Berlin, Schurman had visited Heidelberg every year, even twice in 1927, and had developed a special relationship to Johannes Hoops, a professor of English. In 1927, he learned of the unsuccessful attempts by the university to build new lecture halls for the humanities.

The reconciliation of nationalism and internationalism was the overarching leitmotiv guiding the addresses of Stresemann and Schurman in Heidelberg in 1928. What is more, in order not to hurt the nationalistic and ethnic sensibilities of the university professors, Schurman repeatedly stressed that the donation should be seen as an expression of the gratitude American students felt for the academic training they had received in Heidelberg.

Speeches of the Heidelberg professors in 1928 were always concerned with asserting the Reich, the German people, the nation, and the fatherland in the sphere of international politics, never the republic or democracy. These two terms were never even mentioned. Obviously, many Heidelberg professors made it only halfway through the first sentence of Article I of the Weimar Constitution, which stipulated: "The German Reich is a republic."

Schurman's cautiousness was as prudent as it was warranted since nationalistic resentments with regard to the announcement of the donation were clearly visible in the proceedings of Heidelberg University's boards and committees. Carrying the signature of Rector Dibelius, a report by the University Senate from February 22, 1928, to the Baden Ministry of Education stated: "We strongly emphasize that the foundation springs from the desire of the Americans to express their gratitude for the new scientific impulses they received while in Heidelberg. Therefore, any gestures, comments, or formulations that could offend our national sensibilities have been carefully avoided. Neither do the donors have the slightest intention to interfere with any decisions the university makes concerning the execution of its construction plans." The last sentence was a misjudgment of Schurman's intentions. He had made it unmistakably clear to those in Heidelberg that the American foundation was for the purpose of constructing a completely new building.

At the meeting of the Senate on February 27 objections could also be heard concerning the fact that, after the tearing down of the existing lecture halls, the "American edifice" should be built on such a prominent site in Heidelberg's old town. Professor Hans von Schubert considered this a "national loss." According to his unrealistic assessment of the situation, it would be better for the university to petition the Reich for help. Professor Karl Heinsheimer also harbored such concerns, but he withdrew them, since the donors themselves had described the funding as an expression of "gratefulness." Had this not been the case, one would have had to reject the offer immediately.

Thanks to Schurman's diplomatic skills and his brilliant speeches, the festivities took place without incident. The Heidelberg audience was especially impressed when the ambassador presented them with his own translation of Scheffel's song "Alt Heidelberg." He announced his English translation in German, saying: "Begging the forgiveness of the spirit of the author, and the spirit of all the great poets, including Goethe, that loved Heidelberg and celebrated its beauty in verse and prose, I will now read my own translation."

*Old-Heidelberg, dear city,
With honors crowned, and rare,
O'er Rhine and Neckar rising,
None can with thee compare.*

*City of merry fellows,
With wisdom lad'n and wine;
Clear flow the river wavelets,
Where blue eyes flash and shine.*

*Alt-Heidelberg, du feine,
Du Stadt an Ehren reich,
Am Neckar und am Rheine,
Kein' andre kommt dir gleich.*

*Stadt fröhlicher Gesellen,
An Weisheit schwer und Wein,
Klar zieh'n des Stromes Wellen,
Blauäuglein blitzen drein.*

*When spring from Southlands milder
Comes over field and down,
She weaves for thee of blossoms
A shimmering bridal gown.*

*Und kommt aus lindem Süden
Der Frühling übers Land,
So webt er dir aus Blüten
Ein schimmernd Brautgewand.*

*On my heart too thy image
Is graven like a bride,
In thy dear name the accents
Of youthful love abide.*

*Auch mir stehst du geschrieben
Ins Herz gleich einer Braut,
Es klingt wie junges Lieben
Dein Name mir so traut.*

*And if with thorns I'm pierced
And all the world seems stale
I'll give my horse the spurs then
And ride to Neckar vale*

*Und stechen mich die Dornen
Und wird mir's drauß zu kahl,
Geb' ich dem Roß die Spornen
Und reit' ins Neckartal.*

Schurman's popularity in Heidelberg probably reached its peak on December 17, 1928, when the ambassador turned over the endowment. The five-column lead story in the *Heidelberger Tageblatt* announced: "Heidelberg's Schurman Day." With flags flying over the Ruperto Carola, lectures and classes were canceled for the day. At 11:00 a.m., the festivities sponsored by the university and the city began in the great hall of the civic center. While Lord Mayor Walz, the new rector, Professor Heinsheimer, Professor Hoops, and the AStA-chairman went to pick up Schurman and his family – wife, daughter, and sons – at the hotel "Europäischer Hof," the members of the city council, faculty members, and the leaders of the student fraternities, dressed in their uniforms, gathered for the procession into the hall, together with the guests of honor. These included Paul Löbe, President of the Reichstag; Josef Schmitt, the president of the state of Baden and minister of finance; Franz Honold, Baden's envoy to Berlin; and Otto Leers, Baden's minister for education. Then, to the sounds of a fanfare, the guests entered the festively decorated hall. The university's banner, donated in 1886 for the 500-year anniversary of its founding, hung from the organ balcony, flanked by the American and German flags. In front of the speaker's platform, the "Head Beadle" placed the academic scepter.

After the rector's welcome address, Schurman gave his speech. As its highpoint, he concluded by reading the dedication of the endowment, whereupon "spontaneous roaring applause" broke out. The text read: "To the University of Heidelberg, which for a century has been visited and invariably loved by American students whom it always greeted with a friendly welcome and generously trained in scholarship and research, Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, the American ambassador to Germany, hereby presents, in the name of a number of its sympathetic American friends in thankful recognition of the high-quality and helpful service it provided, this endowment of over half a million dollars for the construction of a new lecture hall. Christmas, 1928."

Tempora mutantur. When Schurman returned to Heidelberg to attend the dedication of the main building and the west wing on June 9, 1931 – the south wing was finished in 1933 – the economic, political, and intellectual situation in Germany had changed dramatically. In October 1929, the initial shock from the crash of the New York Stock Exchange led to the greatest collapse of the global economy since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, bringing in its wake social, intellectual, and political crises around the world. The changed *Zeitgeist* could also be felt in Heidelberg and threatened the dignified protocols of the dedication ceremony. Despite Rector Karl Meister's long negotiations with them, over half of the fraternities and the majority of the color-carrying student organizations demonstratively boycotted the event. As the ceremonial procession made its way from the Old Lecture Hall to the hall of the New University, calls of "Germany wake up!" rang out. This happened on the way back as well. In addition, the guests had to bear the stink bombs that were thrown at their feet. For the dedication of the New University, the NSDAP faction of the Heidelberg city council published their own "Festschrift" entitled "The Jews Bring the Living Spirit." The caricature on the title page showed a Jew with a bulbous nose who had one hand stuck in a bag labeled "Reparations" while throwing money down onto the roof of the New University with the other.



Rector Karl Heinsheimer, Ambassador Jacob Gould Schurman, and Lord Mayor Ernst Walz at the dedication ceremony. Source: Universität Archive Heidelberg

The publication was an anti-semitic and anti-American pamphlet. Only Schurman himself was spared criticism. There were even declarations to the sincerity of his motives and his devotion to the university due to his time as a student at Heidelberg. According to the NSDAP faction of the city council, after the German spirit of the university had been systematically undermined, now features of foreign races were being carved into its face. The tasteless white box, a Jewish "Zwing-Uri" in the heart of the old city, would always be a badge of shame – a reminder of the period when Germany was dominated by foreign spirits; when foreign gold ruled; the period of Germany's deepest humiliation. Although pamphlets like this were still confiscated by the police in 1931, this was a harbinger of what was to come.

As a world traveler, Schurman often stopped off in Germany during the first years of NS rule. To be sure, he declined an invitation to the Nazi Party Convention in Nuremberg and stayed away from the 550 year anniversary of Heidelberg University in 1936, which was heavily scripted by Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. Still, Schurman allowed himself to be fooled by what Hans Adolf Jacobsen called Hitler's strategy of markedly belittling himself with regard to his political goals. Schurman was even received by Hitler in Berlin in August 1936. The seating arrangements for this dinner sat him directly across from the *Fuehrer*. Hitler explained to the American what the National Socialist propaganda had tried to convince the world of during the Olympic Games—that the aim of his foreign policy was merely to make sure Germany was treated the same as other nations.

It was not until 1938 that Schurman's eyes were fully opened. The Munich Agreement and Japan's almost simultaneously voiced claim to a "new order" in East Asia convinced him that the Axis powers and Japan posed a threat to world peace and the future security of the United States. In July 1941, a year before his death, the eighty-seven-year-old Schurman testified before a senate committee hearing on military affairs, describing Hitler as the biggest apostle of violence in the world. Citing Hitler's proposition from *Mein Kampf* that "Germany will either be a world power, or it will not be at all," Schurman explained that the Tripartite Pact signed between Germany, Japan, and Italy in 1940 was evidence that Hitler's dream of world domination was aimed at America.

By this time, the former ambassador and celebrated benefactor had long been declared a *persona non grata* by Heidelberg University. Schurman was probably aware that the New University's inscription "The Living Spirit" had been changed to "The German Spirit" and that the Pallas Athena had been replaced with the Imperial Eagle. However, we do not know whether he lived to learn "his" beloved university had taken down the plaque commemorating his endowment and replaced the bronze bust of him with one of Hitler. Using the letterhead "The Rector of the University," Vice Rector Johannes Stein wrote to the minister of education in Karlsruhe on October 21, 1938: "In the New University building there is a plaque listing the names of American donors. Among them are a number of Jews that clearly belong to those currently agitating against Germany. Today, even Schurman's name is no longer worth special commemoration. Therefore I am urgently requesting that you grant permission to remove the plaque and charge the county building authority to do so. Suggestions for replacing the aforementioned plaque will be submitted later." On November 9, the ministry approved the request and stated in pure bureaucratic German: "The costs of 145,- reichsmark are to be drawn from the budget of the university's remaining construction funds." On July 4, 1939, Rector Paul Schmitthenner thanked Ms. Geheimrat Hoffman, an honorary member of the university, for donating a bust of Hitler made by Arno Breker in Berlin that would replace Schurman's bust. From November 1940, Breker's bust stood in the lecture hall of the New University, replacing a smaller bust of Hitler, which was then exhibited outside the faculty room in the vestibule of the New University.

But the times changed again. When American troops entered Heidelberg, which had been spared destruction, and liberated the city from the reign of National Socialism, Schurman was once again worthy of special commemoration. His long-time confidant in Heidelberg, the nearly 80-year-old professor of English, Johannes Hoops, served as vice-rector of the university until early August 1945. On August 17, 1945, the University Senate voted to return the commemorative plaque to its original location. The architect Karl Gruber also spoke up again to inquire about the plight of the plaque since he had dedicated much effort to its design: It had been made from Veronese marble and hopefully had not been broken. In addition, Schurman's name and deed provided useful arguments for the leadership of Heidelberg University during the year-long confrontation over the gradual return of the New University, which had been confiscated by the Americans occupation authorities. In a memorandum written to the military administration on February 7, 1947, Rector Hans von Campenhausen and the senate pointed out that the building was a "gift by notable and well-respected friends and benefactors ... from the United States." It had been "placed at the free disposal of the university," and, according to the desires of the donors, dedicated to the purposes of teaching young students.

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But this was not the end of Jacob Gould Schurman's blessings for Heidelberg University. The rest of the story is connected to the author of this piece. As a result, I will break with the norms of a scientific article and, in part, use my own biography as a guiding theme throughout.

From 1970 to 1971, I had the privilege of post-doctoral research stays at Yale University and in Washington D.C. (It was there that I met a learned German postdoc by the name of Dieter Schulz, who had won a two year grant. In 1982 he became a professor for English literature at our university, and since 2008, he is professor emeritus).



Detlef Junker Facing Jacob Gould Schurman's Bust in the New University Building Heidelberg, 1985.

Source: University Archive Heidelberg/M. Schwarz.

After my return, I did my Habilitation in Stuttgart on a subject in American history and received the *venia legendi* for modern history and theory of history. Then, in 1975, I was called to Heidelberg as a professor for modern history where I alternated between teaching German and American history. That was the reason I was shocked to learn that, while the History Department's library had a holding of over 100,000 books on European history, it possessed only a few hundred dealing with the United States. There was no possibility to persuade my German-centric and Euro-centric colleagues to make any substantial changes to this acquisition policy.

It was at this time that I discovered Schurman. He fascinated me as the embodiment of the American Dream: freedom, self-reliance, and charity. It was also from him that I learned the basic tenant of all donation seekers: "If you don't ask, the answer is no." When collecting donations for his New University, Schurman himself did not shy away from approaching John D. Rockefeller Jr., one of the greatest patrons in America. Rockefeller promised 200,000 dollars on the condition that the same amount could be promptly raised from other donors. Thus, it was also from Schurman that I learned the meaning of a matching fund.

The collision of these two experiences – the desolate situation of the History Department's collection of books on the USA and my research on Schurman – led to a flash of insight, or the famous "divine spark" of inspiration. As the 600-year anniversary of the University drew near, this author was able to convince Rector Gisbert Freiherr zu Putlitz to sponsor an "America Day" during the 1986 celebration. This would put a spotlight on Schurman and the German-American relationship and provide the backdrop for announcing a fund-raising drive aimed at creating a library for American history.

And so it was. On February 8, 1986, many prominent guests gathered to celebrate Schurman and his generosity. Even one of Schurman's granddaughters, Lydia Schurman-Godfrei, flew in from the United States and was looked after by an aspiring young doctoral candidate, Manfred Berg



Schurman Day 1986: Frank H.T. Rhodes, President Cornell University and Heidelberg University Rector Gisbert Baron zu Putlitz.
Source: Universität Archive Heidelberg/M. Schwarz

(today the holder of the Curt Engelhorn chair for American History). A group of engaged students formed in order to prepare the event – the legendary "Schurman Gang." I myself held the official speech at the event.

Encouraged by the success of the America Day event, I began collecting donations to build up the Schurman Library. I soon had the opportunity to remember Schurman's maxim: "If you don't ask, the answer is no." At the private party of a colleague, the political scientist Dieter Nohlen, I was introduced to the minister president of Rhineland-Palatinate, Bernhard Vogel. I told him about our vision to build up a library for American history in Heidelberg. He thought it was a very good idea and encouraged me to write Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who considered the German-American relationship an anchor of German foreign policy and, as I surely knew, had received his doctoral degree in history from Heidelberg University.



Schurman Day 1986: Rector Gisbert Baron zu Putlitz and U.S. Ambassador Richard Burt
Source: University Archive Heidelberg/M. Schwarz

I wrote the chancellor and, to my surprise, received an answer very quickly. He thought it was a good idea and pledged to donate 5,000 deutschmark, adding that if he could be of any more help, I should let him know.

When I told the story to a professional fundraiser from America, he was ecstatic. He told me all I needed to do was to form an honorary committee and make Chancellor Kohl the "Honorary Chairman," and the rest would fall into place. The American fundraiser was right: In no time at all, an impressive honorary committee had formed around Chancellor Kohl.



Meeting on University Square
1991: Chancellor Dr. Helmut
Kohl and Entrepreneur Curt En-
gelhorn.
Source: University Archive
Heidelberg/M. Schwarz.

Around this time, the maxim "If you don't ask, the answer is no" proved its worth again. My colleague from Mannheim, Gottfried Niedhart, was a little surprised when on one occasion I promptly asked the evening's guest of honor, the Mannheim Banker Rolf Kentner, whether he would support our foundation. That was the beginning of a twenty-five-year collaboration and friendship. Rolf Kentner proved to be a smart and well-connected strategist with a strong interest in America, who convinced me to form a Society to Promote the Schurman Library at Heidelberg University that would qualify for tax exemptions. On October 2, 1991 the society was established, and Rolf Kentner became its first chairman.

Rolf Kentner also had the fortunate idea to involve one of the biggest patrons of this region, the Mannheim entrepreneur Curt Engelhorn, by making him speaker of the society's advisory board. This Schurman Society led to exceptionally beneficial effects, and its work was later supported by the creation of a Schurman Foundation. Both of these institutions continue to support the study of the United States to this day.

With the help of the Honorary Committee and the Schurman Society, we were able to raise over 500,000 deutschmark. Today, the Schurman Library has around 9,000 books, continues to grow, and has become an attractive part of the History Department.

But the history of Schurman's impact on Heidelberg does not end there. Schurman's fundamental maxim: "If you don't ask, the answer is no," proved itself yet again. In the years between 1994 and 1999, when I served as the director of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., the members of the Schurman Society, especially Rolf Kentner, managed to convince Curt Engelhorn to finance an endowed professorship, the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History that would finally be designated in the state budget. After my return from Washington, I was the first person to occupy this chair from 1999 to 2004. Since then, this chair has been magnificently filled by Manfred Berg.

In the meantime, I had internalized the maxim, "If you don't ask, the answer is no." That was why, as I approached my statutory retirement in 2004, there was a question rumbling in me: Should I redouble my efforts again and try to achieve an old dream – the establishment of a multi-disciplinary America institute at Heidelberg University? This center should bundle the university's expertise on the United States and, like classical "area studies," should include not only literature and culture, but American history, politics, religion, geography, and, if possible, music, economics, and law. It was clear to me that, due to established interests and limited state resources, this goal would only be achievable through a public-private-partnership (PPP.) Indeed, this had already been Schurman's method of expanding Cornell University. From an institutional perspective, we could only establish ourselves as a central scientific institution. From a research perspective, we would need the support of several departments and disciplines.



The Schurman Library for American History in the Department of History, Heidelberg University
Source: HCA

We started the first initiatives in the years 2002 and 2003 with the help of the Curt Engelhorn Chair for American History. A driving and resourceful force in this project was my academic assistant Dr. Philipp Gassert, who after a long and successful academic journey now has a professorship for contemporary history at the University of Mannheim.

I had always been convinced that there was a close relationship between productivity and aesthetics, and I knew from my Washington experience that industrious personalities appreciate buildings of high quality. And so we paid homage to another maxim of successful fundraisers: "Think Big!" This was a part of our vision to which we held very tightly. We began our work in two rooms above the Heidelberg Volksbank in the Hauptstraße 113. In May of 2003, one of the great benefactors of Heidelberg University, Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, put 200 square meters of rent-free office space in Heidelberg's Weststadt at our disposal. On October 20, 2004, the HCA was finally opened as an official central academic institution of the Ruprecht-Karls-University. This led to the development of the HCA's structure.

Then a miracle occurred: at the beginning of 2005, Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn decided to buy an old *Palais* in the Hauptstraße 120, to renovate it, and provide the HCA with a new, rent-free home. Finally, the Palais was expanded with a modern addition. This symbiosis between tradition and modernity also symbolizes a research focus of the HCA, namely, the relationship between the Old World to the New World.



Curt Engelhorn and Detlef Juncker at the Dedication of the Annex to the Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, 2009.
Source: HCA

I will not describe the academic achievements of the institute during the last ten years in any detail here. Rather, they are documented in ten thick annual reports written in English and published in print and on the HCA website. Last year we celebrated our ten-year anniversary in the Old Lecture Hall. The President of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), Professor Carmen Birkle, paid us a notable compliment: The HCA had become a "City Upon the Hill."

As a public private partnership, we continue to be generously supported by our private benefactors. Our current budget is made up of fifty-five per cent state funding and forty-five per cent private funding. Among our most important benefactors are six honorary senators of Heidelberg University: Curt Engelhorn, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Soheyl Ghaemian, Rolf Kentner, Dr. h.c. Manfred Lautenschläger, and Dr. Hans-Peter Wild. In addition, our donors include, in alphabetical order, Claudia Bussmann, Dr. Martin Bussmann and the Ladenburg Foundation, Dr. Kurt Bock and BASF, Elfie and Ray Carrell, Herbert A. Jung, and Dr. Oliver Neumann and John Deere GmbH. When looking through the "People" section of our last annual report, one finds 44 names of academics, students, and staff, all of whom contribute to the success of the HCA in achieving its three main purposes: research, teaching, and providing a public forum.

On the occasion of the 625-year anniversary of the Ruperto Carola in 2011, Heidelberg University managed to establish a direct chain of tradition between Jacob Gould Schurman and the Engelhorn family. Through the encouragement of Rector Professor Bernhard Eitel, the Engelhorn fam-

ily financed the renovation of the New Lecture Hall and the installation of a new organ. Schurman would have been delighted by both, and this would have strengthened his conviction that his New University truly would survive the centuries.

American Day 2011 (l. to r.): Detlef Junker, U.S. Consul Jeanine Collins, Manfred Lautenschläger, Heidemarie Engelhorn, Curt Engelhorn
Source: HCA.



The relationship of Ambassador Schurman to Heidelberg University and the impact of his initiative are a mirror of German-American relations from 1871 to the present. Schurman studied in this country after the founding of the German Reich, when its universities and culture were very highly regarded in the USA. During the First World War, Schurman too was swept up by the Zeitgeist and became an intellectual warmonger against Germany. After 1919, he quickly became disillusioned with the Treaty of Versailles, which the United States Senate did not ratify. During his time as an ambassador, Schurman did everything he could to improve the German-American relationship in the second half of the Weimar Republic. Within the spheres of culture and academia, he campaigned tirelessly for a better understanding of his country. Schurman's initiative for the construction of a new university building should be seen as the highpoint of this political project. Beginning in 1931, he gradually entered a new phase of disappointment with and skepticism towards Germany as he had to watch how the NS-Zeitgeist gripped Heidelberg University – finally coming to the conclusion that Hitler also represented a vital threat to the USA. However, what he could hardly have foreseen was that his name and the example he set at Heidelberg would spark a sustained initiative to promote the field of American Studies at Germany's oldest university.



Celebrating 625 Years of the Ruperto Carola in the newly renovated Neue Aula: Rector Bernhard Eitel.
Source: Heidelberg University

Note on the text: This article is a revised version of a talk given by the author at the Heidelberg University Archive on June 18, 2015. It is the first attempt to bring up to date the effect that Jacob Gould Schurman, the American ambassador to Germany from 1925– 1930, has had on Heidelberg University. Section one draws on research conducted by the author in the archives at Cornell University and Heidelberg University for the 600-year anniversary of the Ruperto Carola in 1986, see Detlef Junker, "Jacob Gould Schurman, die Universität Heidelberg und die deutsch-amerikanischen Beziehungen" in: *Semper Apertus: Sechshundert Jahre Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg 1386-1986*. Festschrift in sechs Bänden. Im Auftrag des Rector Magnificus Prof. Dr. Gisbert Freiherr zu Putlitz, bearbeitet von Wilhelm Doerr. Band III Das Zwanzigste Jahrhundert. (Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, Tokyo: Springer Verlag 1985), p. 328-358. Section two outlines Schurman's legacy for Heidelberg University after 1945 for the first time.

Translation: Styles Sass



A FORUM FOR PUBLIC DEBATE

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC DEBATE

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

Events in the HCA Forum present new research and current issues in the field of American Studies. The Baden-Württemberg Seminar is the signature lecture series of the HCA. In addition, the HCA invites the public to debates, panel discussions, book launches, and exhibits. We also continued a format we introduced in 2013, "HCA trifft"

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

THE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG SEMINAR

Each spring and fall, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies invites distinguished scholars, public policy experts, journalists, writers, and artists to its Baden-Württemberg Seminar. The program was initiated in the spring of 2007 as a lecture series with fellows of the American Academy in Berlin coordinated by the HCA. Participants present their current work, discuss issues of transatlantic interest, or read from their writings at selected institutions throughout the state.

Baden-Württemberg's profound interest in the United States is reflected in many of its cultural, political, and economic institutions, its corporations, museums, and libraries. This past year, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies was pleased to present the sixteenth and seventeenth semesters of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. Our cooperation partners in 2014-15 were the the Carl-Schurz-Haus/Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut Freiburg, the Enjoy Jazz Festival, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the American Academy in Berlin, the Fulbright Commission, the Wissenschaftlich-Theologisches Seminar at Heidelberg University, the German American Lawyers' Association, the Kunstverein Freiburg, the SFB 884 "Political Economy of Reforms" at the University of Mannheim, the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, the d.a.i. Tübingen, the Institut Culturel Franco-Allemand Tübingen, the Faculty of Theology at Heidelberg University, and the Anglistisches Seminar at Heidelberg University. We wish to thank this committed network of partners for their continued support.

FALL SEMINAR 2014

The sixteenth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar presented distinguished scholars from the University of Michigan, Emory University, the Illinois School of Architecture, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and New York University as well as author Joshua Cohen.

The sixteenth semester of the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar commenced on October 15 with an appearance of New York author Joshua Cohen in Freiburg. The audience was treated to a reading from Cohen's acclaimed collection *Four New Messages*, short stories about familiar themes – sex, family, disappointment, and the frustration writers experience. Cohen's stories revisit these themes in the digital world and thus present new angles on who, where, and why his characters are.

On October 23, the HCA welcomed Penny von Eschen as part of the Enjoy Jazz Festival. Penny von Eschen is professor of history and American culture at the University of Michigan. Her studies mainly focus on transnational cultural and political dynamics and the political culture of United States imperialism as well as on race, gender, and empire. Her talk at the HCA was based on the research for her book *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War* (2004). Professor von Eschen began her talk by stating that, of course, Jazz did not win the Cold War, as there were no winners in this conflict. Yet, after Dizzy Gillespie was the first Jazz artist to go on an international propaganda tour during the Eisenhower administration, hundreds of Jazz and Blues musicians were sent on propaganda missions by the U.S. government, making Jazz part of the Cold War. Jazz had already been brought abroad by the occupation of the Philippines and musical entertainment for the troops in World War II and the Korean War. It was seen as a unique form of American modernism and a metaphor for freedom. While the State Department organized the first propaganda Jazz tours, Jazz artists at home were discussing Jazz and freedom. They saw freedom and democracy as something to aspire to – the Civil Rights Movement was just starting, and blacks struggled for their freedom in many parts of the country. Dizzy Gillespie,



Penny von Eschen

meanwhile, was blacklisted from future tours, as he was unwilling to gloss over segregation in the U.S. while touring Iran. President Nixon, ironically, used black American culture for diplomatic gains but did not support the Civil Rights Movement at home. The fact that Jazz artists like Thelonious Monk and Charles Mingus openly broadcast their anti-war views on their Jazz tours made U.S. officials nervous but greatly increased the artists' popularity in Europe. The last official Jazz tours organized by the State Department took place in 1978. After 9/11, however, the tours were reinstated. This time, they were less restricted and artists were allowed to mingle and improvise with local musicians; the State Department refrained from controlling the artists voicing their opinions. Professor von Eschen concluded her lecture by pointing out that, while the U.S. State Department was instrumental in the globalization of Jazz, the musical style had been created by transnational upheaval in the first place and had, therefore, never belonged exclusively to the USA as a "fundamental part of American culture." After the lecture, Professor von Eschen answered many questions and engaged her audience in a lively debate on Jazz and American foreign policy.

For the next event of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar, the HCA welcomed Barbara Ladd and her lecture entitled "Beyond the Plantation: Race and Class at the Edge of the Swamp." Barbara Ladd is professor of English at Emory University in Atlanta and Fulbright Professor at Charles University Prague. She mainly works in late nineteenth- and twentieth-century American literature, specializing in Southern literature with particular interests in race, gender, transatlantic studies, American Studies, American modernism, and William Faulkner. She is the author of *Resisting History: Gender, Modernity, and Authorship in William Faulkner, Zora Neale Hurston, and Eudora Welty* (2007) and *Nationalism and the Color Line in George W. Cable, Mark Twain, and William Faulkner* (1997). Professor Ladd is currently working on a book dealing with transatlantic routes in southern literatures and editing a collection of essays on William Faulkner written chiefly by scholars from the southern regions of the globe. In her lecture at the HCA, she discussed the concepts of race and class applied to the location of Great Dismal Swamp, a marshy area in the coastal plain region of southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. She began her talk by stating that the static racial narrative continues to shape Southern literature. Professor

Barbara Ladd



Ladd explained that race and class intersect in the South, and most people are affected by one or the other. An example for the intersection of both concepts is that poor Southern whites are always portrayed as illiterate, stupid, or sickly in the literature – yet these poor whites always find their "racial superiority" to blacks a source of pride. The real-life region of Great Dismal Swamp is a recurring theme in Southern literature. For instance, Harriet Beecher Stowe described it in her book *Dred*. Boats were used on the canals within the swamp, and houses and farms were located at its edges. The density and dangers of the swamp made permanent settlement difficult – but not impossible. Archeological and historical evidence suggests the swamp was a hiding and dwelling place for escaped slaves, Native Americans, and criminals. Quakers lived at the edges of Great Dismal Swamp, and the marshy land was also a gathering place for lovers away from the constraints of society. In Great Dismal Swamp, slaves were treated as freedmen, most likely because their knowledge of the tricky area was much needed. Some earned money in the swamp and could purchase their freedom. The swamp was not so much a perspective as a refuge to poor whites, blacks, slaves, Native Americans, and criminals – in short, to all poor who were not desirable members of society. Professor Ladd concluded her talk with a suggestion for future research: In order to truly understand the intersection of class and race in Southern literature, she elaborated, a new paradigm was needed. After her lecture, Professor Ladd answered many questions and engaged her eager audience in a debate on race, class, and the American South.

The fourth lecture of the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar was devoted to questions of human territoriality and public housing. On November 11, the HCA welcomed Kenny Cupers, an assistant professor at the Illinois School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and currently an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow. Professor Cupers is a historian who specializes in nineteenth- and twentieth-century European architecture and urban history. His research interests center on the historical epistemology of global modernism. His current book project focuses on imperial Germany and tries to answer the question of how environmental science shaped the logic of modernism. He is the author of *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France* (2014) and editor of *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture* (2013). Professor Cupers' lecture first introduced his audience to the term "environmental determinism," the idea that living conditions shape people's lives. He then gave an overview of the development of public housing and discussed the problems it has faced. In the 1950s, there was a desperate need for housing in many Western industrialized countries. Experts, who initially targeted white middle class families, wanted the new neighborhoods to include everything people needed in addition to the housing itself. These new conglomerates were going to be called "habitats." The idea to include shops, medical care, and all other necessities in the dwelling area had a direct impact on the organization of the suburbs, which were sub-divided according to the inhabitants' everyday needs. But the "habitat" suburbs reinforced gender inequality by assuming housewives had more limited mobility than their husbands and placing schools and nursery schools closer to the homes, ensuring that women had no need to be mobile. In the 1960s, residents began to complain about certain aspects of their "habitats," such as the long commutes to work. Also, some demanded direct involvement in the creation or changes of their "habitats." This was granted, or at least attempted,



Kenny Cupers

and architects started to work out plans so people could personalize their flats. Oscar Newman then came up with the idea of "latent territoriality," the notion that all people have the inherent wish to control their direct living situation. He found out that the absence of a clear barrier between the private and the public sphere in the habitat caused issues like elevated crime rates, as individuals extended their territoriality from their homes to their entire neighborhood or suburb. Robert Audrey's concept of the "deterritorializing of man," meaning that the absence of private ownership is directly responsible for issues such as juvenile delinquency, seemed to back up Oscar Newman. In England, vandalism was also blamed on public housing. Therefore, the idea of privatizing even public places in the hope of making them less prone to vandalism became very popular. Concluding his talk, Professor Cupers pointed out that there was no singular natural relationship between people and their homes, but rather a dispute between different concepts. After his lecture, Professor Cupers engaged his audience in a lively debate on public housing in Europe and the USA, home ownership, and the role of architecture in the downfall of public housing.

The HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar continued on December 3, when Professor John Witte, Jr. held a lecture entitled "Sharia in the West? What Place for Faith-Based Family Laws in Modern Liberal Democracies?" Professor Witte is the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law and the McDonald Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University. He is also a very prolific writer with broad interests. His latest publications include *Religion and Human Rights: An Introduction* (2012), *Religion and the American Constitutional Experiment* (2011), and two volumes on sex, marriage, and family (2005, 2006). In his talk, Professor Witte posed the question whether Sharia as a faith-based family law should find application to Muslims living in modern liberal democracies. He pointed out that the institution of marriage was at the core of the question. Marriage, deemed sacred in most religions, has long been regarded as the force that holds everything together. John Locke spoke of marriage as the "first society." Liberal democracies have in recent history largely privatized marriage, leaving incest and polygamy the only consensual sex crimes. Many Muslims in the West decry these liberal changes to marriage and family laws. This has led to informal domestic solutions. Many Muslim couples get married in Islamic majority countries and draw up prenuptial agreements there. An-

other development, according to Professor Witte, are shadow Sharia courts in Western countries. Professor Witte proceeded to explain three arguments for Sharia in the West and some problems with these arguments. Firstly, in favor of Sharia, he named religious freedom to opt out of state laws in matters of state and family laws. Furthermore, there are Christian church courts which are apparently not questioned even when they deviate from state laws. The same holds true for Jewish courts. So, why, Professor Witte asked, can Sharia not be applicable to Muslims in the West? Thirdly, he argued, according to liberalism, marriage is a pre-political institution. Hence, why should the state have exclusive jurisdiction over it? And why is state jurisdiction over marriage necessary and accepted? With regard to religious freedom, Professor Witte made the point that many believe religious freedom must always trump, which he considers problematic. The guarantee of religious freedom does not bring with it the liberty to commit crimes such as corporal punishment. This holds especially true when minors are involved. Concerning the question why the state holds jurisdiction over the institution of marriage, Professor Witte pointed out that coercive power can only ever lie with the state. Due process and human rights are guaranteed by states. Lastly, Professor Witte addressed the point of accommodation of Christian and Jewish laws in state law. He explained that this developed over a long period of time. For instance, states have come to accept Jewish courts as Jewish laws have evolved over time and ingrained other laws. A mutual acceptance has developed. In this way, Jewish courts with patience and mutual respect gained the right to handle family-related issues. Furthermore, it is crucial to note that these courts do not demand jurisdiction over all Jews or Jewish issues



John Witte

– only those who wish to settle their issues within these courts – and only use persuasion to achieve settlements. Professor Witte argued that it takes time and patience for a secular community to allow religious courts some room. Also, it is absolutely necessary for the "host" society's core values to be respected and embraced by those who seek to establish religious law within them. Western cultures will not accept others who denounce democracy and liberty and at the same time demand Sharia law, Professor Witte predicted. He closed his talk by pointing out that Western Muslims have an opportunity to go through a slow process of picking their core values

and working with their "host" cultures to find a mutual understanding based on mutual respect.

For the last event in the Baden-Württemberg Seminar before the holiday break, the HCA welcomed Monica Black, Associate Professor of History at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Professor Black is a historian of modern Europe. She completed her Ph.D. at the University of Virginia and her B.A. at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her book, *Death in Berlin: From Weimar to Divided Germany*, was published in 2010, receiving that year's Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History, and the Hans Rosenberg Prize in 2011. It was based on Professor Black's dissertation, which was awarded the Fritz Stern Prize of the Friends of the German Historical Institute Washington. In her lecture about faith healer Bruno Gröning, Professor Black told the story of a German post-war phenomenon. Early in 1946, the mayor of Herford received letters requesting to let a certain Bruno Gröning treat the sick of the city. Other letters opposed and condemned the so-called miracle healer. Bruno Gröning was called many things, including "Third Messiah," "Angel-Doctor," and "Devil Worshipper." After allegedly healing a boy with a degenerative muscular disease by telling him to "go play," Gröning became famous as a healer. Soon, many of his followers came to Herford seeking treatment, despite the city's ban on the performance of his healing rituals. Gröning said of himself that he had no medical education, took no directives from people or books, and only healed those who believed in God and were good at heart. If he healed "bad" people, he would get a fever and the "bad" he had healed would lose their health again. He claimed God had given him his healing powers that even worked at a distance. Some of his healing rituals included handing out little tin foil balls containing his hair, fingernails or even semen, and a "Heilstrom." Soon, crowds gathered everywhere in the hope of being healed. In Rosenheim, where Gröning had taken up temporary residence and occasionally appeared on the balcony to heal people in the crowd, up to 18,000 people gathered. Most of these people had chronic illnesses, had been diagnosed by their doctors as beyond recovery, or had psychological issues. Some had come just to watch or were skeptical. There were reports of several healed patients but many waited in vain. By fall, the phenomenon had ebbed away and

Monica Black



newspapers had branded Gröning a quack and a swindler. The media attention waned, and most people returned home disillusioned. Gröning himself had not created the hype: In 1946 many rumors were spread by the media – even reputable news outlets – about the impending end of the world in the form of natural or nuclear disaster. The media played a crucial part in creating the phenomenon around Gröning. The threat of apocalypse paired with reports of Gröning's supporters and opponents and descriptions of him as "divine" and "hellish" fostered an otherworldly atmosphere around the issue. The magazine *Der Spiegel* did not help matters by reporting that Gröning could remember his own birth, had been born hairy, and that his own father had looked at the baby and said "Now the devil is in the house." Germans had, as a people, collectively lost trust after the war. Another factor was that people had lost trust in their doctors during the Nazi regime and the Holocaust. Many had suffered or witnessed forced sterilization and euthanasia. The sick continued to endure a stigma even after 1945, especially the mentally ill. Professor Black raised the question: If you do not trust anyone, whose diagnosis do you believe to be true? This dilemma also contributed to the Gröning phenomenon of 1946.

The HCA wrapped up the sixteenth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar with Professor Myles Jackson and his talk on "The Genealogy of a Gene: Patents, HIV/AIDS, and Race in the Age of Biocapitalism." Myles Jackson is the Albert Gallatin Research Excellence Professor of the History of Science at New York University, Professor of History of the Faculty of Arts and Science of New York University, and Director of Science and Society of the College of Arts and Science at NYU. He is the current recipient of the Reimar Lüst Award for Scholarly and Cultural Exchange from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. "I am more fascinated by genes than humans," Professor Jackson said. Biology gives us something interesting: In science it is well known that different populations have different alleles, which are alternative forms of the same genes. Therefore, our DNA has stereotypes, but they are not necessarily congruent with our stereotypical thinking. For example, if we imagine a person from Ireland, we think of pale skin, red hair, and a pot filled with gold. The DNA stereotype of an Irish could be a black person without hair or with red hair. Professor Jackson stressed that historians have a role in this controversy: They need to think about patentability and the biology of difference. If DNA "stereotypes" are about history and not racism, the question is whether we can understand the differences between populations. Ultimately, we might need special drugs to treat special populations. These days, the development of drugs no longer follows a one size fits all principle but rather looks at DNA. If you send in your DNA, the pharma industry will create a remedy for you. For Myles Jackson, genealogy is a story about the present: Who we were and how we became who we are. His book with the same title is about public vs. private research in the post-cold-war-world. A lot of private money goes into biologically applied research. But who owns the knowledge private companies gain? The World Health Organization? Welcome to the dilemmas of what Professor Jackson calls "biocapitalism." He argued that intellectual property is not protected and that much in biocapitalism is a question of ownership and protection of knowledge. The classic example is that you cannot patent a thing of nature like a gene or a human being. However, this becomes a possibility if certain properties of the patent material, gained by isolation or abstraction, distinguish it from its natural homologue. Thus, human genes have been patented in the U.S. since the 1980s, and over two thirds of those patents belong to private companies. In the U.S., you can receive a patent for

anything that has a new quality, and the government will protect it for twenty years. It does not matter whether the company actually uses the patent, but if the gene turns out to be useful, the company owns it and can make a lot of money. Patents work differently in the European Union and Japan; there is no one standard. Professor Jackson's talk "The Genealogy of a Gene" focused on the story of the CCR5 gene to show where science, technology, and society find a common ground. The CCR5 gene turned out to be a block buster for the pharmaceutical industry, since it is a co-receptor of the AIDS virus and plays a key role in the immune system. HIV does not kill but weakens the immune system, so any infection can kill you. Studies have shown that even if one partner dies of AIDS, it is possible that the other never gets it. Similarly, an infected partner and a healthy partner can have children who do not have the virus. Some HIV-infected persons only carry the virus and never get AIDS. The reason for this is the bridge protein, which determines how a DNA is formed. HIV sometimes does not stick to the DNA because it needs the CCR5 gene, a so called HIV-1 co-receptor. The CCR5 gene became the base for a blockbuster drug that slows down the development of AIDS; the company that had patented the gene made a fortune. Yet, Professor Jackson also pointed out the problematic aspects of this development. Not everybody can afford this drug; it is even difficult for some Americans because of the lack of universal health insurance and certainly difficult globally. The fight against AIDS and health in general becomes a class issue. Professor Jackson's talk resulted in a lively debate with the audience, and in the end, he had a great piece of advice: "Go where your passion is, so it will be fun to go to work."

Myles Jackson



SPRING SEMINAR 2015

The seventeenth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar started off with a talk by the artist B. Wurtz and continued with prominent scholars from Yale Law School, the University of Bonn, Florida State University, The University of Washington, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of California, Berkeley. It also included a reading of women poets from France, the United States, and Germany.

On March 22, the Kunstverein Freiburg, the Carl Schurz Haus and the HCA presented a talk with the artist B. Wurtz, who was then showing "Daily Life, continued" at the Kunstverein, his first exhibition in Germany. In his objects, B. Wurtz re-purposes materials from everyday life like shopping nets, plastic bags, and buttons. After an introduction to his work, the sizeable audience had the opportunity to ask numerous questions about the selection of material, the work process, and the meaning of the projects.

The second talk of the spring seminar took place at the Sonderforschungsbereich 884 "Political Economy of Reforms" at the University of Mannheim, which hosted a talk by Susan Rose-Ackermann from Yale Law School, a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Based on her renowned publications, she asked the question "Are Corrupt Elites Necessary for Corrupt Countries?"

John Corrigan



The third event of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar was the 2015 commencement speech. The HCA had invited James Bindenagel, Henry Kissinger Professor for Governance and International Security at the University of Bonn, who asked the question "Does the West Still Matter? America and Europe in the Twenty-First Century." (See pages 71-73)

The Baden-Württemberg Seminar continued at the HCA with a talk by John Corrigan, currently the Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion and Professor of History at the Flor-

ida State University and Fulbright Distinguished Research Chair of the Roosevelt Studies Center, Middelburg, The Netherlands. Professor Corrigan opened his talk on "Religious Intolerance and American Foreign Policy" with a reference to a 2009 incident at the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), which offered the job of a South Asia policy analyst to a lawyer from Arkansas fluent in Hindu and Urdu to research religious freedom as well as the human rights situation in the area. After a few months on the job, she was dismissed by her boss, an international Christian religious freedom advocate and very conservative Catholic, and successively sued USCIRF. Even if cases are slow going through the courts, Professor Corrigan is fairly certain that the outcome will be quite embarrassing for USCIRF. So is there even such a thing as religious freedom? Professor Corrigan first pointed out that the history of intolerance in the United States started with the Puritans, who, contrary to common belief, did not support religious tolerance in the colonies, even if they left their home country seeking it. While they sought freedom for their own faith, they did not tolerate other Christian beliefs and expelled Catholics and Quakers from the colony of Massachusetts. John Winthrop's "city upon a hill" allowed no dissent, religious or political. Starting with the Puritans, American history has witnessed many manifestations of religious intolerance. Anti-Catholicism, in particular, proved to be especially long-lasting and fueled Philadelphia's bible riots of 1844. Six years earlier, Missouri Governor Lilburn Boggs had expelled all Mormons from his state with Executive Order 44, which became to be known as the "Extermination Order." Professor Corrigan emphasized that since the early twentieth century, many textbooks have either papered over or tossed aside the bloody tales of religious strife and favored a tidy narrative of religious freedom and tolerance, which has become very popular with American politicians. While the United States declined the principle of state religion early and regulated the separation of church and state, this was implemented against the backdrop of an influential hidden dominant religion. So how does this repressed history of national religious conflicts translate into American foreign policy, asked Professor Corrigan. The idea of religious freedom has become part of the national identity and a political principle. Yet, in spite of all the talk about religious freedom and tolerance, this principle does not translate easily into American foreign policy, as is evident in many State Department policies. Professor Corrigan cited the War on Terror as one example and USCIRF as another. It seems that many foreign policy officials want to protect religious freedom but fall short in practice, for example dismissing staff because of their religious belief.

In May, the HCA was once more part of the Tübingen Book Festival. Together with the d.a.i. Tübingen and the Institut Culturel Franco-Allemand it brought a trio of three women poets to a beautiful outdoor setting on May 17. Catherine Aubelle from Amiens, Joyce Brinkman from Indiana, and Gabrielle Glang from Geislingen read poetry from their volume *Seasons of Sharing*. They presented ancient poetic form created through new means of communication, as these poems were born via e-mail collaboration. Their verse metaphorically visits current global incidents such as climate change, the Arab Spring, or urban violence.

The Baden-Württemberg Seminar returned to Heidelberg on May 21 with a talk by Christopher Parker, the Stuart A. Scheingold Professor of Social Justice and Political Science in the Department of Political Science at the University of Washington, Seattle. Professor Parker received his

Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2001. His lecture "Identifying the Roots of Reactionary Movements: A Comparative Analysis of European and American Cases" linked past and present reactionary movements and thus examined the motivations and political implications of the Tea Party. He focused on questions around the Tea Party movement in America and its supporters. Is the Tea Party the upcoming transformation of the Republican Party? Is it an economic movement? Are Tea Party supporters just very conservative citizens? Are they racists? Do they object to President Obama because of his skin color? Professor Parker offered new perspectives on these

Christopher Parker



questions and drew a picture of the Tea Party as a political movement fueled by the fear that America has changed for the worse. He pointed out that supporters of the Tea Party are not necessarily racist and not just pushed by their own ideology. Rather, he thinks that they are afraid of losing their country and afraid that America is no longer property of what they consider "real Americans." This belief came to the fore when Barack Obama became president. According to Professor Parker's analysis of in-depth interviews with Tea Party supporters, they are made up of skeptics as well as mainstream conservatives who, for example, do not tolerate gay marriages. Race also matters for Tea Party sympathizers. Professor Parker pointed out that this combination was nothing new or unusual in American politics. Conservative movements always come up when a group of citizens think that social changes will make the classic values of that country disappear. Tea Party supporters are quite aware of the changing demographics of their country. In the 1970s about eighty per cent of the American population was white, as opposed to sixty per cent today. Curiously, many supporters of the Tea Party seem to blame the current president for that. Seventy-four per cent think that Obama will destroy their beloved country, and not many of them believe that Obama was born in the U.S. or that he is a practicing Christian. In their point of view, Obama clearly does not love the same country they do. While the Tea Party is often portrayed as a mainstream conservative movement that aims to lower taxes, balance the budget, and put an end to entitlement programs, Professor Parker describes the movement as reactionary and pointed towards some of its predecessors: the Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s or the John Birch Society of the 1950s. His talk was followed by an equally spirited discussion with the audience.

Lloyd E. Ambrosius gave the first June lecture of the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar. The research of the Samuel Clark Waugh Distinguished Professor of International Relations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln focuses on U.S. foreign relations, the American presidency, and international history. He was a Fulbright professor at the universities of Cologne and Heidelberg as well as the Mary Ball Washington Professor of American History at University College in Dublin. Professor Ambrosius currently serves as the Vice President (2013-2015) and President-elect (2015-2017) of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. He commenced his talk on "World War I and the Paradox of Wilsonianism" by defining Wilsonianism as ideological perspectives or principles on foreign policy; they include national self-determination, advocacy of the spread of capitalism and democracy, economic globalization, opposition to isolationism and non-interventionism, as well as collective security and a fundamental belief in progressive history, which can be quite optimistic about its outcome. "Wilsonianism" originally described the policies of Woodrow Wilson, the twenty-eighth president of the United States, who summarized these ideas and outlined liberal internationalism in his "Fourteen Points," an address to Congress on January 8, 1918. Professor Ambrosius pointed out that even if Wilson's idea of a peaceful world order failed, Wilsonianism continued to shape U.S. foreign policy. According to Professor Ambrosius, Wilsonianism is based on Wilson's traditional understanding of America; it comprises political principles of the old world and the new that date back to the eighteenth century. Wilson's Americanism shaped his Wilsonianism. In his "War Message to Congress" on April 2, 1917, Wilson had pointed out that the German submarine warfare was a war against all mankind and against all nations. His understanding of foreign policy was that America had to spread liberty across the world to make it "safe for democracy." The United States had a God-given role to serve all mankind. But Wilson also was a southerner and identified with the South. His global political framework drew a color line around the world. Wilson identified with the British Empire, even as many of its citizens as well as Americans had begun to reject the idea. Wilson figuratively placed the American people on the top and Africans on the bottom of a big bottle. The people at the top represented the kind of liberalism that Wilson wanted to spread around the world; Wilsonianism was designed for the West. In his lecture, Professor Ambrosius scrutinized Wilson's idea for its American roots and pointed out its dilemmas and the dissent about it. He also made clear that it would have caused enormous problems had the U.S. employed Wilsonianism completely in its foreign policy. Wilsonianism simply would not have been compatible with cultural pluralism as well as global economic and political interdependence.

On June 9, the 2015 recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award, Professor William Andrews, delivered his public lecture on "James W.C. Pennington and Mark Twain: Slavery and the Moral Conscience of American Literature" (see pages 134-135)

The spring semester of the HCA's Baden-Württemberg Seminar concluded with a talk by Loïc Wacquant, currently Professor of Sociology and Research Associate at the Earl Warren Legal Institute, University of California, Berkeley, where he is also affiliated with the Program in Medical Anthropology and the Center for Urban Ethnography, and researcher at the Centre de sociologie européenne in Paris. Professor Wacquant's work is best known for linking diverse areas of research on the body, urban inequality, ghettoization, and the development of punishment as an

Loïc Wacquant



institution aimed at poor and stigmatized populations. At the HCA he spoke about the making and unmaking of the ghetto – from Venice to Chicago. Professor Wacquant commenced his spirited talk by pointing out that while historians, sociologists and anthropologists have published abundantly on the ghetto, most research lacks a robust analytical concept of the institution. Professor Wacquant then introduced a rigorous sociological concept of the ghetto as a socio-spatial institution with the twin mission of isolating and exploiting a dishonored group. The categories he developed apply to such diverse institutions as the Jewish ghetto of Renaissance Europe, the black American ghetto of the Fordist United States, and the reserved districts of the Burakumin in post-Tokugawa Japan; they differ from the nineteenth-century American notion of the "ghetto" that designated residential concentrations of European Jews in the Atlantic seaports and extended during the Progressive era to encompass all inner-city districts wherein exotic newcomers gathered, including African Americans fleeing the Jim Crow regime of racial terrorism in the South. This kind of "ghetto" referred to the intersection between the ethnic neighborhood and the slum, where segregation was believed to combine with physical disrepair, overcrowding, criminality, family breakdown, and pauperism. This notion contracted rapidly after World War II under the press of the civil rights movement and now signified mainly the compact and congested enclaves to which African Americans were forcibly relegated as they migrated into the industrial centers of the North. European social scientists then popularized the concept as the fear of the "Americanization" of the metropolis swept the continent in the face of postcolonial immigration and postindustrial economic restructuring. Professor Wacquant then developed his own model by revisiting the ghettos of the European renaissance, special districts where the city's political and religious authorities consigned the Jewish population, first to attract, then to control it. The ghetto served as a space that maximized the material profits extracted from its stigmatized population and minimized intimate contact with it at the same time. While this seclusion led to overcrowding, housing deterioration, excess morbidity, and mortality, it also supported institutional flowering and cultural consolidation, visible in markets, business associations, charity and mutual aid societies, or places of religious worship and scholarship. The renaissance ghetto already contained the four elements that constitute the institution today, according to Wacquant's model: stigma, constraint, spatial confinement, and institutional parallelism.

Thus Wacquant's model views the ghetto not only as a place where the sword of the dominant majority is omnipresent but also as an organizational shield and cultural crucible for the production of a unified identity that can result in resistance and eventually revolt against seclusion. He also proposed that the best analogy for the ghetto are not districts of dereliction but other forms of forcible containment, such as the prison, the reservation, and the camp. Finally, Professor Wacquant pointed to the connections between ghettoization, segregation, and poverty and proposed an ideal-typical opposition between ghetto and ethnic cluster that helps to compare the fates of various stigmatized populations and places in different cities, societies, and epochs.

HCA BOOK LAUNCHES

In the academic year 2014-15, the HCA continued to present the work of its associates with several book launches.

This year's series of book launches started on November 18, 2014, with a book by HCA and Marsilius Kolleg Visiting Professor Matthew Sutton, who introduced his new publication *American Apocalypse*, hot off Harvard University Press. American evangelicals have been waiting for the world to end for a long time. Their apocalypticism has inspired evangelistic crusades, moral reform movements, and generations of political activism. *American Apocalypse* traces this history of American evangelical apocalypticism from the end of the nineteenth century to the present day. It proposes a revised understanding of American evangelicalism, focusing on the urgent expectations of the end of human history. If you want to understand modern evangelicalism, Professor Sutton argues, you have to understand its End Times theology. At the book launch, HCA research associate Daniel Silliman discussed the main points of *American Apocalypse* with the author. Asked why he picked the topic in the first place, Professor Sutton responded that one of the main questions that initially sparked his research was why fundamentalists and their evangelical heirs are so skeptical of the state and critical of the federal government, especially in the context of the recent health care debates. Based on the apocalyptic theology that developed in the 1880s and 1890s, radical evangelicals believe that all nations are going to concede their power in the End Times to a totalitarian political leader. Professor Sutton also emphasized that while apocalypticism was a fairly radical and unconventional idea in the nineteenth century, it has become central to fundamentalists and evangelicals today. In fact, the belief that there is going to be a Rapture and Jesus is going to come back is what separates evangelicals more than anything from other Protestant groups and greatly affects how they live their daily lives. Believing the world is rapidly moving to its end affects how evangelicals vote, how they structure their education and that of their children, how they understand the economy, how they treat global



Daniel Silliman and Matthew Sutton

events, and how they look at organizations like the United Nations. Professor Sutton then gave a broad outline of this theology: Instead of the idea that Christians are building the kingdom of God on earth, the earth is on a quick, slippery slope descending to the End Times – hell. Yet, the practical effect of this expectation is not indifference; rather, evangelicals, far more than many other Christians, believe they have a responsibility to act as vehemently, as radically, and as urgently as possible. *American Apocalypse* also revises the standard narrative of white evangelical history as a great withdrawal from society in the 1920s and then a reengagement in the 1950s, leading to the religious right of the 1980s. Rather, fundamentalists stayed involved in politics and social reform. For example, most of them were very critical of the New Deal. For Americans who were actively looking for signs of the coming Antichrist in the context of the 1930s, Franklin D. Roosevelt had all the markings of someone setting the stage for the End Times. Professor Sutton also looked at what the anticipated apocalypse meant for African-American evangelicals. While they had the same sense of anxiety and hope for Jesus's Second Coming, for them one sign of the coming tribulation was lynching. They did not see the Antichrist coming out of the New Deal, but as an extension of racist state governments. They expected a different kind of leader to bring a different kind of peace and a different kind of justice. Professor Sutton's final point in this discussion was that apocalypticism shaped modern evangelicalism, and particularly Billy Graham, more than most scholars believe. For example, Graham's famous 1949 revival in Los Angeles began just days after Harry Truman announced that the Soviets had tested an atomic bomb, indicating the End Times. Post-war evangelicalism got bigger, broader, and more inclusive, with some leaders preaching a respectable, moderate apocalypticism and others preaching a radical populist apocalypticism that harkened back to the first third of the twentieth century. Yet the apocalyptic never left. It is now assumed by hundreds of millions of Americans that the Rapture is a real thing and that Jesus is coming back. Naturally, the fascinated audience in the HCA Atrium had many questions and the discussants gladly took the opportunity to continue the conversation over a drink.

The next book launch on December 9 gave the audience some clues about what academics do in their spare time. Some of them write juvenile literature and author, for example, detective novels for the iconic series "Die drei ??? (The Three Investigators)." HCA associate Michael Kühlen introduced his book: *Die Drei ??? und die weiße Anakonda*. At the HCA, Michael Kühlen at the time worked for the project "Patterns of Economic Policy Advice in Germany and the United States with a Special Focus on the World of Work." Before joining the HCA, he served as a legislative assistant to Congressman Rush D. Holt, as a senior policy advisor to the Bertelsmann Foundation's CEO, and as editor, author, and translator for various publishing houses. Michael Kühlen explained that the extremely popular juvenile mystery series for children "The Three Investigators" originated in the USA. The original was translated into German, and after its discontinuation in the U.S. in the 1990s, German authors added new episodes. "The Three Investigators" are brought to their audience in the form of novels, movies, and audiobooks; the latter are particularly popular in Germany. Michael Kühlen's novel has a special format: It allows readers to actively take part in the story by choosing different story threads at certain junctions in the book. The readers or, on that night, the HCA audience decide which course the case was about to take: How do the three investigators react when a valuable reptile is stolen right under

their eyes? Who can they trust? And should Justus really put on his good shirt? Michael Kühlen guided his audience through a case in which the investigators have to solve the mysterious theft of a particularly valuable anaconda and face many difficulties before they can solve the case. After the reading, the author answered questions and explained, for instance, the rules that all authors of the series must adhere to: No fatalities, drugs or drinking are taboo, and sex is also off limits. Michael Kühlen also described the colorful and diverse fan culture. Following the question and answer session, Michael Kühlen signed many books for his fans, and the HCA invited the audience to converse with the author over a glass of wine or juice.

Michael Kühlen



At the first book launch of the new year, four HCA Ph.D. students presented their work in progress on January 20. Maria Diaconu, Eva-Maria Mayer, Maarten Paulusse, and Styles Sass talked about the essays they contributed to the book *The United States as a Divided Nation: Past and Present*. "In No One We Trust: Memorialization and Communicative Pathologies in Amy Waldman's *The Submission*" by Maria Diaconu deals with a dystopian alternate history: A non-practicing Muslim architect wins the blind jury project competition for the memorial at Ground Zero. His proposal is a memorial in the shape of a garden. For the methodology of her essay, Maria Diaconu referred to Jürgen Habermas and Jacques Derrida as important philosophers in the time of terror. In her talk about commemoration and the culture wars, her work emphasizes the architecture of commemoration, and, in this case, the relationship between the garden and democracy. The garden memorial proposed by the fictional character includes a potential Islamic element, a mix of modernism and Islamic art. Called the "garden of flags," the memorial exudes a static view of the past and national self-representation, which includes patriotism, "the state of exception," and "autoimmunity." Maria Diaconu concluded that the novel itself performs the cultural work of 9/11. The next essay presented was "9/11 Securitized? The Crisis as a Unifying Moment in U.S. History" by Eva-Maria Mayer. She proposed that a crisis can unify a nation and focused on the avoidance of future losses in policy debates, which made U.S. public opinion and elite opinion accept greater levels of risk. Her approach centered on the prospect theory developed by Kahneman and Tversky. It holds that when information is encoded as either positive or negative it affects the actor's risk attitude. The results of her research show that the framing

of 9/11 had a rallying effect in Congress and that loss framing is a major independent variable in the causal explanation for a congressional rally. She concluded that presidents have greater success in obtaining the passage of laws in Congress by using loss framing. Maarten Paulusse then presented his essay "Bridging the Divide: The Occupy Movement as a Site for Experiments in Religious Pluralism." He started his talk with some definitions: According to those definitions, religion is a process of giving values that engage a divine higher power; spirituality is a process of giving values that engage the "scared self;" and religious pluralism is some kind of affirmative attitude toward religious and spiritual diversity. Maarten Paulusse then talked about the broad coalition the Occupy Movement created and its experiments with new forms of religio-political activism. To bridge the generation gap he suggested that closing the gap between "religious" and "secular" and striving for unity was a good strategy. As a conclusion he stressed that many activities aimed at "closing ranks" within progressive activist circles, and that progressive activ-

Maria Diaconu, Eva-Maria Mayer, Maarten Paulusse, and Styles Sass



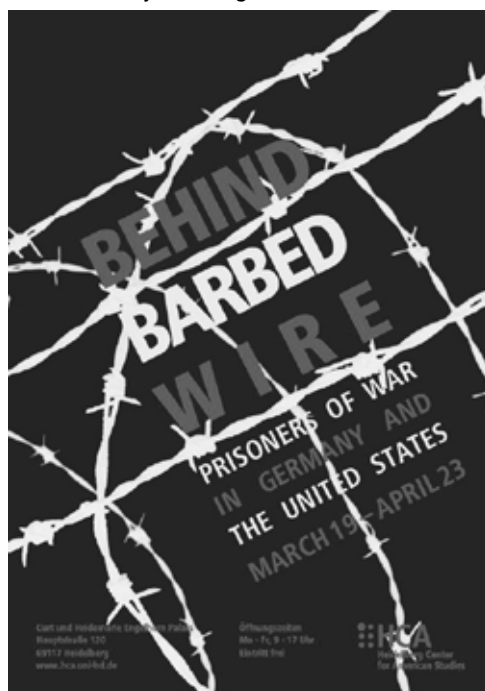
ists were not afraid to welcome religion and spirituality to the public sphere. Maarten Paulusse summarized that new forms of religio-political activism, for example altars, satire, performances, or Internet "memes," have the potential of crossing the religious-secular divide within American society. The final presentation of the book launch was Styles Sass' essay "No Country for Old Visions: The 2008 and 2012 Presidential Campaign Narratives." After analyzing the campaign rhetoric of Barack Obama and Sarah Palin and presenting bar charts of different popular vote percentages, Sass concluded that there was something like a "civil war" going on in America, a battle among rival factions within the Republican Party, and that the Old South is losing ground. A candidacy of Hillary Clinton in 2016 would add the next episode to the Democratic Party's narrative of progress by expanding the presidency to include woman; the United States today is clearly no country for old visions.

We are looking forward to presenting new work of HCA associates in the new academic year.

EXHIBITION: "BEHIND BARBED WIRE: PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES"

March 19 to April 23, 2015

Shortly before the commemoration of the end of World War II, an exhibition at the HCA shed light on a particular group of soldiers. During World War II, more than two million Americans fought in Europe. About 90,000 of them ended up in German prisoner of war camps, whereas about 370,000 German POWs were interned in the United States. The exhibition "Behind Barbed Wire" illustrated their lives on both sides of the Atlantic. More than forty panels showed the capture, life in the camps, the return home as well as acts of reconciliation after the war. While all POW experiences revolve around issues of war and peace, justice under arms, human rights, and international reconciliation, the everyday experience in the camps could not have been more different. Many American POWs only survived with food and medical supplies from the Red Cross, whereas German soldiers were often sent out to harvest crops, build roads, lay city sewers and construct housing. In the Midwest, many of their supervisors could still speak German, and some even found relatives or former neighbors among the interned. On the other hand, more than half of the American POWs in Germany came from the Midwest, and many of them had German roots. The exhibition documented several cases that illustrate this entangled history: Some farmers sent CARE packages to POWs' families after the men returned, many exchanged letters or cards after the war, and many POWs happily revisited the U.S.; it is estimated that about five per cent of German POWs eventually emigrated to the United States. In the American camps, German soldiers witnessed democracy and individual freedom, and some of them returned to actively participate in the founding of the German post war democracy. The third part of the exhibition explored one of the least known subchapters of U.S. World War II history, the internment of approximately 11,000 German resident aliens and German-Americans; more than 2,000 of them were shipped back to Germany during the war in exchange for German-held U.S. nationals, and more were deported after the war. The exhibition opened with a talk by Professor Jörg Seiler, president of the "Verein Spuren," the German auxiliary of the St. Paul-based project "Traces," which conceptualized and realized the exhibition. Professor Seiler emphasized in his opening speech that "by telling history we live history in order not to become prisoners of our own or a collective fate." On opening night and during the following five weeks, many visitors found themselves in engaged debates in the Atrium.



NORBERT RÖTTGEN: "JENSEITS VON SPIONEN UND SANKTIONEN – GIBT ES EINE TRANSATLANTISCHE AGENDA FÜR DIE ZUKUNFT?" (HCA TRIFFT...)

In its series "HCA trifft..." the HCA welcomed Dr. Norbert Röttgen for a lecture and discussion on February 10. Norbert Röttgen is currently the chairman of the Bundestag Foreign Relations Committee. He was Federal Minister for the environment, nature conservation, and nuclear safety from 2009 to 2012; he received his doctorate in law from the University of Bonn and has been a member of the CDU since 1982. In his lecture, Dr. Röttgen characterized foreign policy as the being and domestic policy as the well-being of nations. But what does all this have to do with transatlantic relations? The CDU politician sees the disintegration of the Ukraine and the first treaty of Minsk in 2014 as a historic turning point which opened a third historic chapter after the end of the Second World War. The first chapter, the Cold War, ended in 1991. The second chapter was the post-Cold War era. Many politicians, including himself, had assumed that the horrors of the twentieth century would be a thing of the past. A war in Europe was not conceivable; we were encircled by friends. But the Ukraine conflict ended this security of the European peace order. The Ukraine crisis is not a bilateral conflict; it is about a state exercising power over other states. In this context, Röttgen referred to Vladimir Putin's claim to a so-called "New Russia." According to this definition, Russia is everywhere Russians live. The biggest strength of the West is its unity whereas Putin – and ISIS – want to divide. Russia's hegemonic claim is also directed towards its domestic policy; the expansion of ISIS, on the other hand, relies on ideology and religion, an exclusive combination of traditional claims to power and fanaticism. The CDU politician emphasized that nowadays everybody's safety is immediately threatened. Such attacks are about the globalization of power and the diffusing of power and war. We are affected, threatened, and acting at the same time. Undoubtedly, the security policy frame has changed, and the transatlantic relationship is again as important as during the Cold War. However, a rejuvenation of transatlantic relations must aim at peaceful conflict solution. Unfortunately, the current situation

Norbert Röttgen



in the United States is difficult, in particular because of the legacy of the Bush years and a general weariness of foreign policy issues. For Norbert Röttgen, this is a wake-up call for a European foreign and security policy, but we have a long way to go. He described the political situation of many states as a political sclerosis; the domestic political coherences must converge and result in a European security policy. In the ensuing discussion with HCA Founding Director Professor Detlef Junker, Dr. Röttgen once more turned to Russia's hegemonic understanding of security, which Putin also assumes for the West. The Russian president strives for a position of power in Europe, and since his domestic legitimation is based on Russian nationalism, he constantly has to "feed" this sentiment. Röttgen sees the discussion over arms supplies for Ukraine as a threat for western unity. In his view, they would increase the cost of war for Putin, but on the other hand, would also accelerate the conflict. The chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee argued, however, in favor of a long-term financial support. Asked whether Putin would dare to attack a NATO state, Norbert Röttgen did not mince words: "I am sure that Putin would not like to trigger Article 5, the mutual assistance clause. However, I think that provocations from a Russian side are still in the cards." He reminded the audience how Putin blackmailed Ukraine in 2005 by switching off its gas supply. But at the same time the politician emphasized mutual dependence because Russia would like to sell the gas that Europe needs. After the lecture, Dr. Röttgen stood ready for further questions and discussions with the audience.

RHEIN NECKAR FORUM FÜR TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC ISSUES

"DO WE NEED TTIP? FREE TRADE WITH NORTH AMERICA – ANALYSES AND CONTROVERSIES"

On Friday, February 6, the HCA continued its series Rhein Neckar Forum for Transatlantic Economic Issues with a panel debate on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, better known as TTIP. In cooperation with the Transatlantic Business Council, six panelists informed about, analyzed, and discussed recent developments in the proposed partnership: Matthias Kruse, Managing Director International at the Rhein-Neckar Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK), Dr. Beate Scheidt, expert for macro-economics and international economic policy at the IG Metall executive board, Dr. Isabel Feichtner, junior professor for law and economics at Frankfurt University, Hanno Woelm, policy director, Transatlantic Business Council, Jan von Herff, Senior Manager Trade & Industry Policy BASF, and Ernst-Christopher Stolper, Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND) and former undersecretary for economics in Rhineland-Palatinate. The opponents and supporters advanced their positions on the podium in groups of two. The first couple discussed "investor protection by court of arbitration methods." Isabel Feichtner was skeptical about TTIP, seeing in the proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) the specter of a "gunboat diplomacy" if enterprises can sue states. In her opinion, only states that export capital have an advantage here. She pointed out that a court of arbitration is meaningless between two highly developed economies. She would like to see a settlement of the different political and legal interests as the focus of the TTIP negotiations. Jan von Herff applauded the process of juridification and the elimination of military force as a means to protect investments. Moreover,

investor protection encompasses both small enterprises and multinational groups, since both are in danger of an unjust treatment if they invest abroad. He also welcomed that this time and for the first time, the contracts are negotiated from the E.U. point of view. This has only been

The participants of the Rhein Neckar Forum and their audience



possible since 2009. Primarily he sees in TTIP a bigger market entry for investors. The next couple discussed “harmonization of standards”. Dr. Scheidt stressed that TTIP is about the reduction of regulations, both concerning trade and the adjustment of standards. The latter can lead to cost saving and increasing demand, which could provide growth. Regulatory cooperation, however, could also lead to greater restraints; the democratic process could be undone, the opportunities to ensure better environmental, health, or consumer protection could diminish. Agreements would no longer have to be reached only among the E.U. partners, but now in addition with the USA as well. Dr. Scheidt considers the pressure on work and social standards that could result from TTIP a clear disadvantage. Matthias Kruse, however, emphasized how important exports are for German companies in particular. The U.S. is one of the most important markets. It is important for companies to expand into growth economies and even better if those economies adhere to the same standards as their own country. Through standard adjustment, TTIP will result in lower costs for companies and investors abroad. Hanno Woelm of the Transatlantic Business Council pointed out that TTIP was not about a veto power for the E.U. or the U.S. but rather about more transparency. Who sets the norms? Who will if the West does not? If we do not set the standards, someone else will. For him, the prospect of more and better-paid jobs for the German middle class is a strong argument for TTIP. Finally, Ernst-Christoph Stolper stressed that TTIP is not about the reorganization of international norms but about the adjustment of standards. The latter is a sign for a well-operating economy. He is suspicious, however, because in questions of liability, the E.U. operates on the precautionary principle, whereas the U.S. applies a postcautionary principle. After the participants of the panel discussion had advanced their different positions, a lively debate with the audience followed.

PANEL DISCUSSION: "THE EAGLE, THE BULL, AND THE BEAR: ARE THE USA, EUROPE, AND RUSSIA COLLIDING?"

On July 14, the HCA staged a panel discussion about current foreign policy issues. John Deni from the Strategic Studies Institute (USA); Inna Melnykovska from the Freie Universität Berlin; Martin Thunert from the Heidelberg Center for American Studies; and Simon Weiß from the Political Science Department of Heidelberg University discussed the Ukrainian crisis. Tobias Endler from the HCA moderated the discussion and started out with a quote by Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security adviser to U.S. President Jimmy Carter: "There is already another Cold War." What exactly does the Ukrainian crisis mean? How could things come to a head? And what are possible solutions? Inna Melnykovska began by taking a look at the current tense situation in the Ukraine and the renewed fighting that has once more escalated. She then turned to the problem of internally displaced persons. It is difficult to determine their actual number since only a few of them are registered, but the Ukrainian population is very supportive. She also pointed out that the Ukraine will develop an additional crisis, since political and economic reforms have not been properly implemented. The GDP has gone down last year by eight per cent, which results in a difficult situation for much of the population. What role does Russia have, from the point of view of the Ukraine? Simon Weiß emphasized that the situation is new for both sides. Many Russians find themselves on different sides of the dispute; not everyone favors Putin. However, this mood is not comparable to that during the Maidan movement. Russia relies on the Minsk II process, an agreement from February about the de-escalation of the war in Eastern Ukraine. Many already doubted immediately after it was signed that a cease-fire could be implemented and heavy weaponry removed. John Deni doubted that the conflict was high on the foreign policy agenda of the State Department. For the U.S., the main relevance of the Ukraine lies in the European context. The U.S. is primarily worried about sovereignty, border protection, and inter-European alliances, not about economic support. The Americans are assuming that European borders are stable; Putin has shown that this is not the case. The Ukrainian crisis has given "insecurity" a new meaning. Martin Thunert emphasized that there is no monolithic position



The participants of the panel discussion and their audience

about the Ukrainian conflict in the U.S.; the opinion of the Obama administration often differs starkly from public opinion. According to him, President Putin pursues expansionary politics in his second term of office. Support of the separatists is not understood as preparing a takeover but rather as overturning the European project and a permanent destabilization. This is the only way to prevent a closer association between Ukraine and the European Union. So what is next? Simon Weiß juxtaposed the general accusation of expansionism with the concept of the so-called "new foreign countries," a zone that Russia would consider privileged. The Ukraine is the most important country in this zone. There are no attempts to invade any of those countries. The core states of NATO draw a red line and their respective populations stand behind them, even if they may consider an eastward expansion of NATO undesirable. There is a certain readiness on behalf of the U.S. to station missiles in Eastern Europe, which in turn alarms Russia. It sees NATO as the main problem here. Inna Melnykovska emphasized that the Ukraine is surprised that NATO is supposed to be the main problem. All this is about the fact that Russia suddenly violates international law. In the Budapest Memorandum Russia assured Ukraine, among other things, that it would recognize its sovereignty and existing borders and would support the country. Melnykovska agreed that the protests had many reasons, internal and external, which were often evaluated in different ways. The reason why a small protest became a big one is internal and had nothing to do with the European Union. Nevertheless, the Ukraine has gone substantially forward; it has elected a new president and the parliament will not go on a summer break this year. Many Ukrainians consider the Russian gas supply as some kind of drug that hinders economic development. In the end, all participants of the discussion agreed that a stronger association of the Ukraine with the European Union will be unlikely. The U.S. is against a NATO expansion that would include the Ukraine, and an association with the west is no substitute for the present Russian economic relations with the Ukraine.

THE PERFORMING ARTS CLUB OF THE HCA: "THE POET EMILY DICKINSON"

June 11-12, 2015

The HCA's Performing Arts Club was founded as a student initiative in May 2014. Directed by Ida Bahmann and Hanna Konradt, the group started out with improvisation and exercises for body and voice to approach literary texts. At the beginning of the winter term 2014-15, the Performing Arts Club decided to stage a play which would be performed during the summer semester. Because all group members were female, they decided to commit to the work of a female American author. Because of the many facets of her work, the Performing Arts Club chose Emily Dickinson for inspiration. In her poetry, Dickinson deals with topics such as religion, nature, pain, and death. The in-house production focused on selected poems and letters. Every actress portrayed a different, sometimes contradictory aspect of Dickinson's poetry: Religious Emily; or Emily in pain, who is angry at the world; or nature-loving Emily, who still refuses to leave her room. These different Emilys also stand for different parts of Dickinson's life. The production premiered on



The members of the HCA's Performing Arts Club (l. to r.): Ina Bahmann, Kim Braun, Hannah Aeterna Borne, Hannah Konradt, Mona Beisel, Marie Harnau; Not pictured: Maria-Claudia Scheckeler

June 11 in the Theater im Romanischen Keller to a sold-out audience. On the following day, the second and last performance also attracted many visitors. In general, the feedback was very positive and the Performing Arts Club would like to start a new project in the coming academic year

MEDIA COVERAGE

During the past year, reports on the HCA and its activities, as well as contributions by its faculty and staff have appeared in the following media:

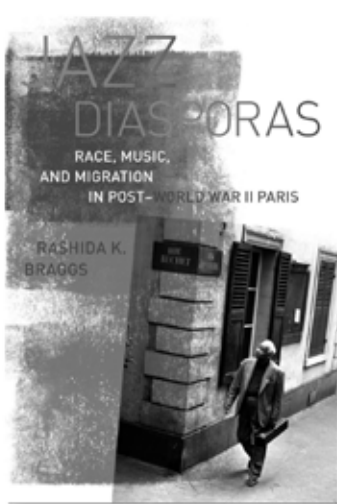
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HCA ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW

FROM UC PRESS



Jazz Diasporas

Race, Music, and Migration in Post-World War II Paris

RASHIDA K. BRAGGS

At the close of the Second World War, waves of African American musicians migrated to Paris, eager to thrive in its reinvigorated jazz scene. *Jazz Diasporas* challenges the notion that Paris was a color-blind paradise for African Americans. On the contrary, musicians—and African American artists based in Europe like writer and social critic James Baldwin—adopted a variety of strategies to cope with the cultural and social assumptions that greeted them throughout their careers in Paris, particularly in light of the cultural struggles over race and identity that gripped France as colonial conflicts like the Algerian War escalated. Through case studies of prominent musicians and thoughtful analysis of personal interviews, music, film, and literature, Rashida K. Braggs investigates the impact of this post-war musical migration. Examining a number of players in the jazz scene, including Sidney Bechet, Inez Cavanaugh, and Kenny Clarke, Braggs identifies how they performed both as musicians and as African Americans. The collaborations that they and other African Americans created with French musicians and critics complicated racial and cultural understandings of who could play and represent “authentic” jazz. Their role in French society challenged their American identity and illusions of France as a racial safe haven. In this post-war era of collapsing nations and empires, African American jazz players and their French counterparts destabilized set notions of identity. Sliding in and out of black and white and American and French identities, they created collaborative spaces for mobile and mobilized musical identities, what Braggs terms “jazz diasporas.”

Rashida K. Braggs is Assistant Professor in the Program of Africana Studies at Williams College. She has trained in performance studies, mass communication, English, and theater studies.

Music of the African Diaspora

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Amerikastudien American Studies

**Special Issue: Religion and the
 Marketplace**

A Quarterly

Volume 59, Number 2, 2014

Scholars of the United States have long found that any number of important aspects of American Culture, politics, and public life can be better understood if religion is taken into account. Serious examinations of religious beliefs and practices have yielded deeper and more nuanced understandings of American foreign policy, free labor market practices, labor movements, and the history of immigration. The

essays collected in this special issue of *Amerikastudien* use the framework of religion and the marketplace to look at shifting religious landscapes as analogous to capitalist economies; investigate tangible intersections between business and consumer practices and religious beliefs and practices; and study the interdependencies between the development of religious beliefs or rhetoric and the evolution of capitalist mentalities or economic theories.

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Demnächst im Handel



Tobias Endler, Till Karmann,
Martin Thunert, Simon Wendt (Hrsg.)

Zeitenwende 9/11? Eine transatlantische Bilanz

Die Terrorangriffe vom 11. September reißen die USA aus ihrem scheinbaren Zustand der Unverwundbarkeit. Fünfzehn Jahre später zieht *Zeitenwende 9/11?* Bilanz: Stehen die Anschläge von 2001 wirklich für eine radikale Abkehr von allem, was bis dato galt, oder sind sie als Katalysator anzusehen, der Entwicklungen entscheidend verdichtet und beschleunigt hat? Die Auseinandersetzung um eine effektive Terror-Bekämpfung und die richtigen Lehren aus der Katastrophe reißt auf beiden Seiten des Atlantiks bis heute nicht ab und gewinnt vielmehr durch die jüngsten Ereignisse in Paris noch einmal an Brisanz.

Zeitenwende 9/11? bietet Hintergrundwissen und fundierte Erklärungsansätze aus der Geschichts-, Politik-, Religions- und Kommunikationswissenschaft, aber auch von Spitzenpolitikern wie Frank-Walter Steinmeier und Peter Struck.

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