

Großbritannien-Zentrum
Centre for British Studies



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Oxford-Berlin Partnership

WHAT IS THE CENTRE FOR BRITISH STUDIES?

The Centre for British Studies at Berlin's Humboldt-Universität is a unique academic institution offering interdisciplinary postgraduate study in English in the capital of Germany.

We were founded in 1995 after the fall of the Berlin Wall and German re-unification in recognition of the UK's important role in Germany and Berlin after World War II and during the Cold War.

We offer:

- An interdisciplinary international Master degree in British Studies
- The Berlin Graduate School of British Studies for interdisciplinary PhD projects with a focus on the UK
- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research opportunities in subjects relating to the UK
- A forum for a range of public debates, lectures and events on topical British and academic issues

Our popular Master course lasts two years and includes a 3-month placement in the UK.

Our course aims to provide students with a good general overview of Britain's past and present while offering a range of options to study in more depth.

Our students, graduates, and staff are drawn from all over the world giving the Centre a stimulating international atmosphere.



The successful class 2016-18 graduated with excellent results in December

CONTENTS

The Centre in 2018	2
MA British Studies	4
Course Description	4
MA British Studies Students	8
Teaching	12
Further Activities	13
Spotlight: Student Project	14
Work Placements	16
MA Theses	18
Alumni	19
The Centre's Staff Teaching at other Faculties	20
Research	22
Conferences and Workshops	22
Spotlight: Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018	24
Current Research Projects	26
Visiting Researchers	32
Doctoral Students	34
Publications	36
Spotlight: Oxford-Berlin Partnership	38
Library	40
Events	40
Keynote Lecture	40
Monday Lectures	41
Spotlight: Book Presentations	46
Visitors at the Centre	48
Public Relations	49
Fellows	50
Honorary Fellows	50
Fellows	50
Staff	51
Academic Staff	51
Administrative Staff	57
Librarian	58
Student Assistants	58
Sponsors	59
Friends of the Centre	59
Obituaries	60
Notes	60

THE CENTRE IN 2018

2018 was a momentous year for the Centre in many respects. It is rare that academics spend much of their time following current affairs as closely as the Centre's staff did. While political decisions are still waiting to be taken, and the outcome of these developments are unknown, we nevertheless concentrated on more academic concerns as best we could.



A lively Monday Lecture series explored the role of “Imagined Economies” in the UK and in general. Two former British ambassadors to Germany graced us with their presence, and presented their respective new books. Sir Christopher Mallaby, Honorary Fellow of the Centre, and former head of the advisory board, and Sir Paul Lever, the current head of the board each talked to a packed room and discussed not only their memories of Berlin, but the current role of Germany and of Anglo-German relations as well.

In May, the German Association for British Studies (AGF) met for their annual conference at the Centre to talk about “Splendid Isolation? Insularity in British History”.

Fostering Anglo-German academic relations was an important feature of our work in 2018. Numerous meetings to further the Oxford-Berlin Partnership into which the three Berlin universities, Charité, and Oxford University had entered, took place at the Centre. Our cooperation with Oxford has increased in the course of the year, with all levels of experience from early-career researchers to old hands involved. In September, the international research network Writing 1900 held the DFG-funded conference ‘Writing Europe 1918-2018’, organised jointly with Oxford colleagues, which kicked off with a public reading by writers Kathrin Schmidt, Cécile Wajsbrot, Rachel Seiffert, and Lina Goralik from Germany, France, England and Russia. They discussed the role of WWI, memorial culture, and war writing in general and linked their own work to classic literary texts from the beginning of the 20th century.



Sir Christopher Mallaby (top) and Sir Paul Lever reading from their books

A further highlight of the close cooperation, in particular between the Centre and The Oxford Centre for Research in the Humanities at Oxford (TORCH), was the public panel debate which the Centre organised. The presidents of Berlin's universities and of Oxford University spoke about the partnership at Humboldt-Universität's senate



The Oxford University Vice-Chancellor (left) in discussion with the other panelists

hall in November 2018. The following Oxford-Berlin Lecture Series in the Humanities and Social Sciences showcased existing and emerging partnerships with joint lectures in the areas of law and sociology, literary studies, and the humanities in general. The series continues into the new year.

In autumn, we had more proof of the continuing interest of young people in the MA British Studies when the largest-ever group of students began their MA at the Centre: we welcomed 39 students from 16 different countries, currently involved in interdisciplinary project work on migration, constitutional law and politics, social structures, economics, as well as history. As ever, they are a wonderfully lively, curious, dedicated and hard-working group who give us as much pleasure as they keep us busy.



Students and staff get to know each other on the first day of the winter semester

In terms of research, many of us were hard at work completing funding bids for research projects, a number of which focus on current topics such as Brexit, the future of the UK, and European culture, in addition to those with a more long-term or historical focus. The results will have to be waited for patiently. Meanwhile, we are very pleased that Dr Sam McIntosh from the Centre's law department was successful with his Volkswagen Foundation funding bid on the fate of refugees who die on European territories. PhD student Arne Gutsche has temporarily taken over Sam's teaching duties while Lena Nüchter, recent MA British Studies graduate, is replacing Johanna Zinecker as long as she is on parental leave. Finally, we have Harrison Tait as a guest of the law department, working on corporate insolvency law, and Dr Gisela Holfter from the University of Limerick who is spending her sabbatical year at the Centre. As a specialist on Anglo-Irish migration and relations, she shares a number of research interests with the Centre's staff, as well as acting as a supervisor to Melanie Neumann's doctoral research project on Irish and English migration to Berlin.

Thus, in spite of the at times slightly discouraging political climate, our students, staff, guests, alumni, and partners are all striving to maintain, build on and expand relations with the UK. In terms of teaching, research, public events, media appearances, and Anglo-German partnerships on all levels, 2018 has been a very successful year for the Centre. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to this success and dedicated their time, creativity, and energy to our work which would not reach the standard it does without this support.

We wish everyone a productive year 2019 and hope you will all continue in our joint endeavour to keep academic exchange with the UK running smoothly.

Gesa Stedman, Director



The Centre's Director with Prof Kunst, the HU President, and Prof Vogel, Director Museum für Naturkunde, at the *Lange Nacht* exhibition of the Centre's students

MA BRITISH STUDIES

Course Description

Our postgraduate Master course started in 1999 and has become a resounding success. In 2014 the Humboldt-Universität's new general study regulations came into effect, and in 2016 the Centre graduated its first generation of Master of Arts (MA) in British Studies after the MBS had been discontinued. We offer a 24-month course (120 ECTS) with compulsory and elective modules, a work place-

ment of three months, and a writing period of six months for the MA thesis. Furthermore, advanced study seminars are available (which may alternatively be substituted by any other HU seminars). What we offer is a unique learning experience due to the international students with different first degrees, the interdisciplinary study programme which combines theory and practice, and personalised tutorials aimed at fostering early-stage independent research.

Never Mind Brexit We Love British Studies

Britain's relationship with Europe is changing.

European businesses and political, financial, and cultural institutions all need experts on Britain fast.

You could be one of them.

www.gbz.hu-berlin.de
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the course are:

- to add competence in British Studies to qualifications the students acquired during their first degree course
- to prepare students for positions in firms and institutions which deal with the United Kingdom or other English-speaking nations
- to provide students with an understanding of the characteristic features and the transformations of British identities and institutions in a European perspective
- to teach students interdisciplinary methods and approaches, enabling them to think and work contextually
- to provide students with the competence to acquire and integrate knowledge independently and to make research-based decisions
- to provide students with competence in cross-cultural understanding, communication, and mobility.

Course Structure

The postgraduate degree course in British Studies is an interdisciplinary teaching programme. The course lasts two years and consists of a one-year Certificate Phase followed by a Master Phase which also lasts a year. Having successfully completed the Certificate Phase, students receive a "British Studies" certificate on request. After successful completion of the entire course, students are awarded the degree "MA British Studies".

The Certificate Phase comprises 30 weeks of teaching, divided into two phases of about equal length. The first phase consists of a series of lectures and seminars which are compulsory for all students. In the second phase students can choose three out of six options (see course outline on page 7). Students have to attend an average of around 20 hours of classes per week. During the Master Phase students take part in advanced seminars including 'transdisciplinary optional modules' which can be chosen from any other master programme. Furthermore, they spend three months on a work placement with a firm or institution in the UK. The final part of the Master Phase is dedicated to writing a six-month Master Thesis.

The entire course is taught in English

Admission

Applicants are required to have a very good first university degree in any subject. Furthermore, candidates need to speak very good English. The application must contain proof of proficiency in the form of an ETS TOEFL certificate (minimum score of 600 for the paper-based test, 250 for the computer-based test, or 100 for the internet-based test), or an ETS TOEIC test (minimum score of 800), or a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (any grade), or a Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (grade A or B), or an IELTS test (level 7.0). A working knowledge of German is highly advisable. Applications must be submitted by 30 April of the year in which the applicant intends to start the course; applicants should use the application form available on the Centre's website. Interviews for selected candidates usually take place in June, with places allocated early in July. The course starts in October.

Admission information, as well as an application form, can be found on our website under "MA British Studies"



MA BRITISH STUDIES

Course Outline

1st Semester

Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4
5 ECTS	5 ECTS	10 ECTS	10 ECTS
Introductory Module	History	Law, Economics, Politics	Interdisciplinary Project I (including Culture and Literature)

2nd Semester

Module 5	Module 7*	Module 8	Module 9	Module 10	Module 11	Module 12
6 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS
Career Skills	Interdisciplinary Project II	Economics and Management	Politics and Society	Law in Context	Media, History, and Culture	Culture and Literature

*Choose three out of Modules 7-12.

3rd Semester

Module 6	Compulsory Electives*		Module 13
5 ECTS	Module 14	Module 15	15 ECTS
Advanced Academic Writing and Debating	5 ECTS	5 ECTS	Work Placement in the UK (three months)
	Advanced Seminars - Theory and Research	Advanced Project Workshop	

*Other HU courses may be substituted for modules 14 and 15.

4th Semester

30 ECTS
MA Thesis (six months)

Modules of the Course

The master course British Studies contains the following modules equalling 120 ECTS credit points:

a) Compulsory Modules

- Introductory Module (5 ECTS)
- History (5 ECTS)
- Law, Economics, Politics (10 ECTS)
- Interdisciplinary Project I (10 ECTS)
- Career Skills (6 ECTS)
- Advanced Academic Writing and Debating (5 ECTS)
- Placement (15 ECTS)
- Master Thesis (30 ECTS)

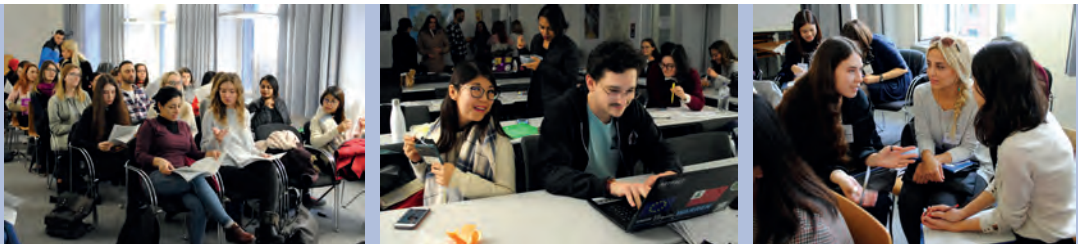
b) Compulsory Elective Modules

Three out of the following six modules have to be chosen:

- Interdisciplinary Project II (8 ECTS)
- Economics and Management (8 ECTS)
- Politics and Society (8 ECTS)
- Law in Context (8 ECTS)
- Media, History, and Culture (8 ECTS)
- Culture and Literature (8 ECTS)

c) Compulsory Elective Modules at Other Departments

Further optional modules may be chosen from either the Centre for British Studies (see below) or from any other master programme that offers such modules.



Modules for Students of Other HU Study Programmes

Here, students from other HU master programmes can attend the following modules:

- Advanced Seminars – Theory and Research (5 ECTS)
- Advanced Project Workshop (5 ECTS)

MA British Studies Students

Class 2017-2019

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Angelevitch, Elizabeta	Israel	Graphic Design
2. Arakelian, Grach	Russia	Modern European History and Culture
3. Arslanyan, Melisa	Turkey	English Language and Literature; Radio, TV and Film Studies
4. Baldandorzhieva, Nadezda	Russia	English and Chinese Philology
5. Bilici, Pelin	Turkey	American Culture and Literature
6. Breithaupt, Tanja	Germany	English and Business Administration
7. Çevik, Halil Ibrahim	Turkey	English Language and Literature
8. Daflis, Ann-Katrin	Germany	English and American Literature, Culture, and Linguistics
9. Galkina, Anastasia	Russia	Russian, Literature and English
10. Grigoreva, Natalia	Russia	Commerce, Foreign Languages English and German
11. Harrison Lambe, Chiara	Ireland	Art History
12. Ho, Chui Yee	Hong Kong	Translation and Interpretation
13. Loève, Youna	France	Cultural, Historical, and Literary Studies of the Anglophone World
14. Nabiullina, Aisyly	Russia	Education: English and German
15. Oehme, Florentine	Germany	German and English Studies
16. De Oliveira, Valdirene	Brazil	Political Communications
17. Park, Joonseok	South Korea	English Education, Philosophy
18. Petcu, Anisia-Elisabeta	Romania	English and German Language and Literature
19. Prado, Natália Cortez do	Brazil	English Language and Literature
20. Riera Morón, Eliana	Venezuela	Modern Languages
21. Scholten, Lotte	Netherlands	English Language and Culture
22. Schörner, Alexandra	Germany	English Studies and Arts
23. Seguro Meyge Vale, Adriana	Brazil	Journalism

Name	Country	First Degree
24. Shimanuki, Yuma	Japan	English
25. Spreckelsen, Theresa	Germany	British and American Studies; Cultural and Social Anthropology
26. Sudas, Darya	Belarus	Philologist, Translator, and Teacher Foreign Languages and Literatures
27. Tosi, Alessandra	Italy	Languages and Cultures for Tourism
28. Wang, Chao	China	English: Foreign Languages and Literatures
29. Zenina, Mariia	Russia	Theory and Teaching Methods of Foreign Languages and Cultures
30. Zhang, Yudan	China	English and International Journalism
31. Zhao, Wan	China	English Studies



Class 2018-2020

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Altuntaş, Emre	Turkey	Translation and Interpretation
2. Babić, Nina	Serbia	Language and Literature
3. Bator, Joanna	Poland	Applied Linguistics German and English
4. Baycan, Tuğba	Turkey	Western Languages and Literatures
5. Bazaeva, Evelina	Russia	Linguistics and Intercultural Communication
6. Berezhnaya, Alina	Russia	Foreign Philology
7. Doostdar, Najmeh	Iran	English Literature
8. Eker, Mehtap	Turkey	English Language and Literature
9. Farooq, Aleena	Pakistan	English Literature and Linguistics
10. Gabysheva, Arina	Russia	English Philology
11. Göze, Hazar Söylem	Turkey	Translation and Interpretation
12. Guo, Yijun	China	English
13. Haddorff, Kelsey	USA	English and History
14. Hebert, Taylor	USA	English Literature, Theatre Arts, Business Administration
15. Hu, Tingting	China	English and German
16. Kaasik, Airi-Kairi	Estonia	Humanities (Art History)
17. Kolyada, Anastasia	Russia	Translation Theory and Cross-Linguistic Communication
18. Kremer, Isabella	Germany	English Philology and Philosophy
19. Lei, Qian	China	English Language and Literature
20. Lewis, Nina	USA	Ethics and Politics
21. Liamina, Polina	Russia	Journalism
22. Li, Xinxin	China	Business English
23. Liu, Zhe	China	Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language
24. Madés, Andrew Hoy	USA	History
25. Mandal, Trisha	India	English, History, Journalism and Mass Communication
26. Nguyen Pham, Anh Thu	Vietnam	English Linguistics and Literature
27. Nikornsaen, Kornhirun	Thailand	German and Russian
28. Pasetti Dornelles, Bruna	Brazil	Iberoamerican History
29. Pkhakadze, Irma	Georgia	Teaching English Language

Name	Country	First Degree
30. Poon, Lee Ling	Hong Kong	English
31. Rydaeva, Anastasia	Russia	Public Relations
32. Sarjehpeyma, Beata	USA	Letters
33. Savić, Nikola	Serbia	English Language and Literature
34. Stoner, B. Robert	USA	History and Philosophy
35. Tevzadze, Nino	Georgia	General Medicine
36. Turan, Tuba	Turkey	American Culture and Literature
37. Wells, DeJon	USA	English and Political Science
38. Zaripova, Aliya	Russia	Linguistics (Interpreting and Translation)
39. Zhang, Xu	China	English



Teaching

Example

Interdisciplinary Project I: Migration

Jessica Fischer and Gesa Stedman

In this seminar we took an interdisciplinary approach to study contemporary British society through the lens of “migration”. We investigated social and literary narratives in order to understand the complexity of the concept of ‘migration’ and to gain a broader perspective on issues like history, nationality, gender, or class in Great Britain. With the help of context-oriented theories to literature we explored the potential of fictions of migration: for example, providing an insight into various social groups, highlighting different definitions of migration, and pointing out political ills.

We started the seminar with a provocative image of a migrant and looked at basic definitions of “migration” which the OED provides. We exchanged personal stories about migration and why migration is relevant to all of us. Thereafter, we embarked on a journey through the winter semester which brought us to

- the question of open borders,
- Stuart Hall’s concept of ‘representation’ (culture, discourse, role of language, power, subject),
- an overview of representations of migrants and migration in British prose literature published after WWII,
- Chris Cleave’s novel *The Other Hand* (2008) and Jackie Kay’s poem “In My Country” (1993),
- narratology,
- myths about UK migration, statistics and a discussion about the difference between fictional and factual texts,
- essays in Nikesh Shukla’s *The Good Immigrant* (2016) and the various ways these British authors narrate migrant identities,
- M.I.A. and Nadine Shah’s video clips,
- Walter Benn Michael’s article “Against Diversity” (2008) and the idea of the migrant subject,
- MABS graduate Jana Wiggerhauser’s findings about migration and society,
- a wide range of tutorial sessions in which students developed their research questions and learned about research methods,
- and a poster exhibition created by the seminar’s participants.



The participants of the ‘migration’ project course evaluating the poster presentations of their fellow students

The aims of the course were to introduce key issues, themes, and ideas in British literature, culture, history, and society, to develop and implement interdisciplinary approaches to a given topic, and to encourage and foster the development of research skills and independent research.

Further Activities

Visit to the British Embassy

On Wednesday 21st November the largest class ever at the Centre was invited to the British Embassy for its annual tour with Astrid Ladd, Team Assistant in the Press Office, and was also given the opportunity to chat to Simon Wells, Head of Communications and Bilateral Relations, about what it is like to be a diplomat and current political issues. Once again, we are thankful for this opportunity, which is often an eye-opener for our international students and, for many, a first contact with a British institution, giving them ideas and inspirations.



In the Embassy's conference 'drum'

Graduation Class 2016-2018

One of the Centre's annual highlights is the graduation ceremony for the class finishing the course. Again, this was a group of students with excellent results. They can really be proud of what they have achieved in the previous two years. We wish them all the best for their future careers and hope to stay in contact via our alumni network. Congratulations!



The official ceremony was then followed by the obligatory Christmas Party with the current groups of students, staff, and friends joining in on the party. Mulled wine, hot toddies, and a delicious international buffet led to happy karaoke singing, chatting, and even a bit of dancing. Afterwards people went off to enjoy a well-deserved break and get some rest and new energy for whatever will come along in the new year.

Anastasia Kolyada (middle) on Facebook:
 "Weihnachtsparty at the Centre – I have been meeting these people everyday for nearly 3 months now and I can only say that I have never had such a warm and friendly atmosphere at a university before.
 Thank you all for being so great!"



SPOTLIGHT

Student Project

Who am I? – Stories of Migration

For this year's contribution to the Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften, the MA British Studies class of 2017-19 invited visitors to join them on a journey to explore how the topic of migration continues to influence the UK, how the matter and its coverage have changed over time, and to learn about the experiences of migrants living in the UK.

As we wanted to create an event rich in variety, we offered different stations, each giving the visitors the opportunity to work with the topic from different perspectives. In order to provide the visitors with insights into an academic approach to the topic, our hard-working content team created a fantastic breadth of informative and engaging content ranging from posters and photographs to interactive exhibits. We encouraged our visitors to become active themselves by sharing their own story of migration on a map, to participate in a sample UK and German citizenship test, and to join our poetry and round table discussions,

which gave visitors the opportunity to approach the topic of migration from a more creative viewpoint. We also offered a Pub Quiz, where we not only questioned the audience about their knowledge of migration but also, thanks to the tireless work of our Fundraising Team, were able to present the winners with great prizes afterwards. The highlight of the evening was a reading from *How I Lose You* by the Paris-born British author and filmmaker Kate McNaughton followed by a discussion with the author.



Anisia Petcu introducing Kate McNaughton (left) and her book *How I lose you*

From left: Share your migration story by pinning your journey across the world with coloured string on the map; the kid's corner is always very popular; as part of the interactive exhibition you could for example virtually visit a refugee camp in Greece, one of the main routes for refugees on their way to Europe





Ann-Katrin Dafnis explains the exhibition to Prof Stedman, the Humboldt-Universität's President Prof Sabine Kunst and the Director Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Prof Johannes Vogel

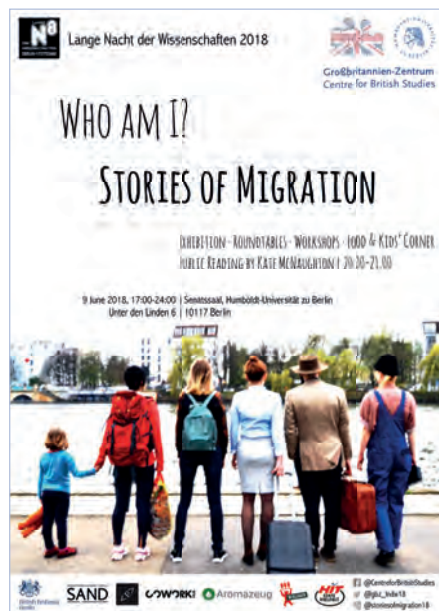
For the younger visitors, our wonderful kids' team had set up a cosy and colourful corner where children could partake in a number of games and activities. And, since we

all know that the surest way to people's hearts (and interest) is through their stomachs, our fabulous food team had racked up a trolley full of home-made delicacies all using spices which immigration brought to the UK such as curry-flavoured sandwiches, basil cheesecake, couscous salad, and cinnamon carrot cakes. Visitors could even indulge in gin and tonic with lemongrass made to order.

All in all our preparation started about six months before the actual event. After the class had decided to split into different groups, focusing on different aspects of the event, the groups quickly started to work on their to-dos individually. As project managers, we each participated in one group ourselves, we were the contact to HU and we tried to keep the bigger picture in focus by acting as the mediators between the groups. Luckily, we only experienced a few incidents, where groups had issues working together and we could solve those quickly by sticking to a working culture with open communication. The event itself went smoothly and no major issues occurred during the preparation and the event itself. The only "negative" aspect was the relatively low number of visitors which, however, was due to external factors, such as hot weather or competing Berlin events, and hence outside of our influence.

The event was made possible by the generosity of our sponsors and donors, and by the help and hard work of everyone involved. We are happy to say that it was an all-round success, and we already look forward to visiting next year's event.

Theresa Spreckelsen and
Tanja Breithaupt (project managers)



Work Placements

The placement scheme has consistently been one of the most popular elements of the MA in British Studies. Students get the opportunity to gain experience in an organisation relevant for their future careers and to 'study the UK on the ground'.

Class 2017-19	Institution
Angelevitch, Elizabeta Arakelian, Grach	Ben Bradshaw MP, House of Commons, London Experience Scotland/Wisconsin Scotland Trust, Dalkeith
Arslanyan, Melisa Baldandorzhieva, Nadezda Bilici, Pelin	Llenyddiaeth Cymru/Literature Wales, Cardiff Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, London Llenyddiaeth Cymru/Literature Wales, Cardiff
Breithaupt, Tanja Çevik, Halil Ibrahim Dafilis, Ann-Katrin Galkina, Anastasia	Glasgow Film Festival Ben Bradshaw, MP, House of Commons, London Birmingham City Council DeMontfort University Leicester: International Centre for Sports History and Culture
Grigoreva, Natalia Harrison Lambe, Chiara Ho, Chui Yee Loève, Youna Nabiullina, Aisyly	Glasgow Film Festival The Little Museum Dublin YMCA Exeter Metal Culture, Liverpool Jackie Baillie MSP, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
Oehme, Florentine De Oliveira, Valdirene Park, Joonseok Petcu, Anisia-Elisabeta Prado, Natália Cortez do Riera Morón, Eliana Scholten, Lotte Schörner, Alexandra Seguro Meyge Vale, Adriana Shimanuki, Yuma Spreckelsen, Theresa Sudas, Darya Tosi, Alessandra Wang, Chao Zenina, Mariia	Glasgow Women's Library Liberal International, Berlin Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere National Trust: Lyme Park, Stockport Cheltenham Festivals: Literature Festival EatFirst, London New Island Books, Dublin Birmingham City Council Birmingham City Council The Open University Wales, Cardiff New Island Books, Dublin Hyde Park Picture House, Leeds Birmingham City Council Birmingham City Council Experience Scotland/Wisconsin Scotland Trust, Dalkeith
Zhang, Yudan Zhao, Wan	European Documentation Centre, Cardiff Oxford Brookes University

Reports

Mariia Zenina

Wisconsin in Scotland, Dalkeith

Living in a castle in a historic town near Edinburgh, exploring Scotland and getting to know its people – that is what my placement was like. I worked as a student assistant for Experience Scotland, which is an education-abroad-programme designed to provide a rich cultural immersion for US students who are willing to get acquainted with various facets of British culture and politics. All students and faculty, including the intern, stay together at Dalkeith House, which serves both as home and a workplace. The atmosphere was friendly and more family-like which helped me to integrate easily: whenever I needed guidance, everyone was ready to help. I organised presentations and workshops for students, helped them with their assignments and assisted with programme operations and administrative tasks. As a result, I got an insight into how such study-abroad-programmes are organised, which is incredibly helpful if you are planning to work in the education sector. Apart from improving my academic writing and teaching skills and my ability to work independently, this placement gave me an opportunity to travel extensively, find friends from all over the world, and boost my self-confidence.



Mariia being visited by the Centre's Fellow and lecturer Dr Gerry Mooney at Dalkeith

Ann-Katrin Dafllis and Alessandra Tosi

West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership in Birmingham

The WMSMP is an organisation that helps local governments to translate Westminster's migration policies and to put them into action. Interning for the WMSMP felt rewarding: working in a small and welcoming team, we were able to learn a lot from our colleagues. On ordinary days, we would organise the upcoming regional meetings and summarise the latest reports on migration for the monthly newsletter. As we grew more familiar with the day-to-day work, we were entrusted with our own research projects which gave us a well-rounded experience of working as a policy officer. Birmingham is not only the second-largest city in England, it is also much more interesting than we first thought. Some of our favourite sights were the canals and Birmingham's Museum and Art Gallery, as well as the Council House. Walking through the city centre shows multiculturalism at its best: from musicians to preachers and markets with food from many different Asian and European cultures, the city is lively and offers something to everyone.



GBZ students meeting up in Edinburgh (above) and Cardiff (below) during their placements



MA Theses

Class 2016-18	Thesis Title
Barth, Taylor	The Use of the Media by the British Royal Family
Beaumier, Sacha	Changing UK/New Zealand Relations between 1962 and 1984.
Bolhuis, Elvira	Ethical Business and Attitudes Towards Animals in Great Britain.
Dibirov, Ismail	Brussels I Recast after Brexit
Freitas Ornelas, Ana Carolina	Streaming Services and Contemporary British TV
Freytag, Franziska	The Influence of Social Media on the Representation of Women in the UK – Combatting Standardised Notions on Instagram
Hinz, Leonore	Austerity, Community and Women
Hübinger, Anne	The End of British Rule – Decolonising Burma
Keenan, Monika	Conservation in the United Kingdom and Germany
Khusaenova, Diana	The Role of Galleries in the Contemporary British and German Art Markets
Kilian, Eva-Maria	Patriotism in Jane Austen. The Conservative versus the Liberal Writer
Kutsovol, Anastasiia	How Have Changes in Media Consumption Changed the News in the British Newspapers in the Last 30 Years?
von Linde-Suden, Leonie	Writing and Mental Health Institutions
Nüchter, Lena	Local Authorities and Immigrant Entrepreneurs
Šašková, Klára	Gender and New Politics in Scotland and Wales: Increasing Women's Participation in the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales
So, Ricker	How Does YouTube Impact the LGBTQ+ Community and its Members in the UK?
Turlybekova, Maiya	Brexit Implications for Irish Tourism
Wells-Rhoden, Philipp	The Immigration Detention of Women in England and Wales
Zhang, Jianhui	Homonormativity and Thatcher's Britain in Alan Hollinghurst's Narratives
Živković, Katarina	Diversity Initiatives in the UK Publishing Industry and the Neoliberal Self: Positioning two initiatives within the wider discourse on diversity, cultural industries and neoliberalism

Alumni

The Centre likes to stay in close touch with its alumni. Last year, to encourage our alumni to celebrate and strengthen the friendships and connections they made during their time at the Centre, we had the first of what we hope will become a regular Alumni Stammtisch. We also provide them with a regular newsletter to keep them up to date on the Centre's activities. We strongly encourage our alumni to keep us informed about where their lives take them after the MA British Studies. Graduates from the Centre have moved on to work in very different fields and institutions, such as media and publishing, translation, the performing arts, research/academia, teaching, NGOs, political organisations, education management, and private sector management.

To get in touch with the Centre's Alumni contact person, please write to Sam McIntosh: sam.mcintosh@hu-berlin.de

Stammtisch 2018

During the summer term, Sam McIntosh organised a Stammtisch for alumni of the Centre for British Studies who live in or near Berlin. We met on a warm Monday evening in June in the Berliner Prater Garden. Here alumni, from a range of graduating years, and staff (including Corinna Radke, Catherine Smith, Professor Eisenberg, Lynn Parkinson, Johanna Zinecker, and Sam McIntosh) caught up and shared a few beers and stories about times at the Centre for British Studies, past and present. The hope is to make the Stammtisch a semi-regular event (perhaps once a term) and to potentially coordinate similar get-togethers in other cities where there are enough alumni resident (most obviously London).



Alumni Stammtisch in a Berlin beer garden



What happened to ...

Maja Grundler
Class 2013-2015



Maja doing a PhD in
refugee law

I graduated from the M.B.S. in 2015 and am currently pursuing a PhD with a focus on refugee law at Queen Mary University of London. In the time that has elapsed between graduation and the beginning of my PhD, I have undertaken another Master's degree in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, gained experience in refugee social work in Berlin and worked as a trainee at the asylum unit of the European Commission's Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs in Brussels. Thus, the area of focus of my studies and work has become that of migration and refugees, and it was the M.B.S. which laid the foundations enabling me to move into this area. The knowledge I gained during this degree, especially in law and politics, as well as my work placement at the refugee legal aid NGO Rights in Exile, helped me to write my M.B.S. thesis in the area of refugee law and has served me well way beyond this. Indeed, I applied for the M.B.S. specifically because I wanted to move my studies into the area of human rights and believed the course's combination of interdisciplinary education, practical experience, and an international environment would be well-suited to this aim. I can now say that this plan seems to have worked out and I would like to say thank you to all staff at the GBZ who supported me in realising this, during the duration of the degree and beyond.

THE CENTRE'S STAFF TEACHING AT OTHER FACULTIES

Lectures: European and International Contract Law

Professor Dannemann gave this series of lectures at the Humboldt-Universität's Law Faculty during the winter terms 2017/18 and 2018/19. The lectures treat core issues of contract law from a comparative perspective with particular reference to EU, English, German and French law, and provide an introduction to conflict of law issues (applicable law and jurisdiction) in matters relating to international contracts, with particular emphasis on EU consumer law, the EC Regulation on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, and the EU Regulation on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

Scenes from a Marriage: England and Scotland since 1707 (Research Seminar)

SoSe 2018

After the failure of an expensive colonial project towards the end of the 17th century, Scotland and its elites were bankrupt. The "Union" with England in 1707, which led to the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament and the sending of deputies to Westminster, therefore took place in the hope of being pulled along by the economic success of their wealthy neighbour. The English, for their part, tolerated the independence of the Scottish legal and educational system and the Church of Scotland.

In September 2014, the Scots voted on their country's independence from the United Kingdom – and decided by a narrow majority to remain. This event gives rise to the question of whether and in what respect the 'marriage of convenience' concluded in 1707 could also be placed on an emotional basis in the course of the past 300 years. What forms of expression has the British element found in Scottish culture? How does one imagine the relationship between Scottish and British identities? How do the region and nation behave in this case?

After an introduction to the state of research and the introduction to relevant manuals, bibliographies, and databases on Scottish (and British) history, the students planned their own projects to investigate these questions. In doing so, they complete important preparatory work for a Master's thesis: finding topics, compiling bibliographies, searching for and processing sources, developing a working hypothesis, writing an exposé. The seminar also provided an opportunity to discuss general questions of research planning and organisation.

Brexit from a Historical Perspective

WS 2018/19

In view of the UK's imminent withdrawal from the EU, historians are confronted with the expectation of taking a stand. This is a challenge in that the event as such is still in the future and can only be speculated on over the longer term. How can historians meet the expectations of the public? What kind of expertise can they contribute?

In the exercise, the statements at hand are analysed with regard to the historical connections that the authors make. Do they take a contemporary, possibly even daily political perspective, or do they look at the *longue durée*? Do they write from a distance or do they position themselves on one or the other side of the debate? Do Brexiteer historians argue differently from Remainers?



Brits Don't Quit
Photo: Duncan Cumming
(CC 2.0)

RESEARCH

Conferences and Workshops

'Splendid Isolation?' Insularity in British History



Annual conference of the *Arbeitskreis Großbritannien-Forschung* (AGF) / German Association for British Studies, 4-5 May 2018

Christiane Eisenberg (HU Berlin), Wencke Meteling (Universität Marburg), Andrea Wiegeshoff (University of Marburg) and Hannes Ziegler (German Historical Institute London) were the convenors of this conference, which was dedicated to an idea that is also frequently used in the Brexit discussion. A first focus of the conference was to reconstruct the underlying mental concepts such as the romantic images of the "White Cliffs of Dover" or the so-called Whig historiography.

A second focus, which Julia Angster (University of Mannheim) introduced with her keynote lecture on "Great Britain and the World in the 19th Century", questioned this one-sided interpretation through a differentiated analysis of the tension between splendid isolation and connectivity that developed during the period of imperial expansion. Several comparative papers pointed in the same direction by drawing parallels between Great Britain and Ireland.

Furthermore, the island situation was discussed with reference to Great Britain as a player in world politics. The final discussion of the conference took this finding as an opportunity to reflect again systematically on the possibilities and limits of British "insularity" under period-specific aspects.

The conference was held at the Centre for British Studies and generously supported by the German Historical Institute London and the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung.

It was preceded by a panel discussion on "*Abschied vom Kontinent? Der Brexit aus historischer und aktueller Perspektive*" organized by the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften and the Max Weber-Foundation.



Oxford-Berlin Graduate Workshop: Literature and Transnational Citizenship

11-12 October

The first Oxford-Berlin Graduate Workshop took place in October 2018, followed by a skype-workshop in December. During the first workshop, faculty and graduates from all three universities involved – Freie Universität, Humboldt-Universität, and Oxford University – had a seminar-style discussion of theoretical texts dealing with intercultural/cross-cultural (literary) exchange. This was followed by project presentations by some of the participants, as well as group work on how to translate individual research projects into exciting activities and exhibitions for a diverse public.



Valuable expertise: Victoria McGuinness and Prof Philip Bullock

Greatly helped by Victoria McGuinness's input on how to address different audiences, based on her experience as TORCH's business manager responsible for such things as the museum nights and public occasions at Oxford University, the different groups developed first ideas on how to engage people from all ages and walks of life.



The participants of the workshop were mainly doctoral students from the Freie Universität, from Humboldt-Universität, and from the University of Oxford: discussions about joint projects went on during breaks

These discussions continued during the skype-meeting, and will be further developed at the next workshop which will take place in Oxford in spring 2019. The results of this extremely productive exchange which allows all the graduates to build an early-career network encompassing not only three universities, but different disciplines and literary periods as well, will be presented to the general public at the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften* in June 2019.

SPOTLIGHT

Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018

International Conference

26-28 September

Centenary celebrations of the end of the World War I in 2018 served as one of the inspirations and starting points for the conference titled "Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018". It was co-organized by academics from the Centre for British Studies and The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), one of the Centre's favourite partners and collaborators.

In cooperation with:



The conference, held at the end of September 2018, was also the fifth Berlin meeting of the international research network Writing 1900.

The conference opened with quite an unusual public reading, entitled "How Has Writing Europe Changed from 1918 to 2018?", which brought together celebrated authors from four countries: Linor Goralik (Russia/Israel), Kathrin Schmidt (Germany), Rachel Seiffert (UK) and Cécile Wajsbrot (France). The authors were invited to read from a classic early-20th-century text from their country as well as from their own work reflecting on World War I, and the topics of memory, identity, and conflict.

The authors and the texts they had selected could not have been more diverse: from the dry, witty prose of Russia's Mariengof to the complexities of Proust, from Seiffert's vivid war prose to the bitter irony of Schmidt's poems. The conversation between the authors which framed the readings covered many complex issues connected to war writing: how each new war pushes the writers and poets to create an entirely new language, and whether the burden to represent the war is possible to carry only for those who experienced it, or for those who heard of it second-hand. The writers also spoke about literary taboos, and whether the depiction of war is one of those minefields where one must tread lightly.

From left: Cécile Wajsbrot, Linor Goralik, Gesa Stedman, Sonya Permiakova, Rachel Seiffert, Kathrin Schmidt



The aim of the conference, which started the following day, was twofold: firstly, to study the ways in which literature reflected European authors' attempts to manage the end of the conflict, reconnect with friends and contacts abroad, and build new bridges across borders; and, secondly, to investigate how a nuanced knowledge of the complex context of Europe in 1918 can help us better understand the present. The conference brought together around 30 researchers from Germany, UK, Russia, Norway, Italy, France and many other countries.



The selection of papers presented by 17 academics covered a broad range of topics and materials as well as regions and countries including Turkey, Russia, Norway, the Balkans as well as England, France, and Germany. Titles included were "English Dramatists and Stage Designers in Post-WWI Germany", "Provincializing Europe? World War I in Letters by Indian Soldiers" and "The End of the Russian Empire and Configurations of National Identity".

Prof Gesa Stedman presented a paper on the perspectives of British women living in Berlin and writing about the city in the aftermath of the war, while Sonya Permiakova delivered a presentation on Paris caught in the liminal space of the Peace Conference in Hope Mirrlees' poem "Paris".

The organisers of this conference: Sonya Permiakova (middle) and Gesa Stedman



The majority of papers given at the conference, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), will be published in a special issue of an international journal.

Funded by the German Research Foundation:



Current Research Projects

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann

F. A. Mann (1907-1991)

Readers may remember from the last Annual Reports that in 2014, Anne Kriken Mann donated some 10,000 personal documents relating to Francis Mann to the Humboldt-Universität, an alumnus and former academic staff member of Humboldt-Universität's law faculty, who, together with his colleague and wife Lore Mann (née Ehrlich) fled racial persecution in Germany in 1933 and went on to become one of the best known legal practitioners and scholars of his age. These documents include letters exchanged with the majority of the senior judiciary of the UK, many internationally leading academics and legal practitioners, well-known business people and politicians. Francis Mann's law firm Herbert Smith Freehills donated some additional 2,500 documents in 2015 and 2016.

In 2016, Prof Dannemann was awarded a grant by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* which allowed him to take off summer term 2017. Together with student assistants Christoph König and Franziska Stamm, Prof Dannemann used this time for a close reading of the some 12,500 documents. The main findings were published in 2018 by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, London. Together with Dr Jason Allen, Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the Centre for British Studies, Prof Dannemann has been preparing a more substantial grant application in cooperation with partners and other researchers from the Humboldt-Universität (including Prof Eisenberg for the Centre), the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, the Max Planck Institute for comparative public law and international law, and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. Prof Dannemann also attended the 41th F. A. Mann Lecture, delivered by the Rt. Hon. Dominic Grieve, QC, MP, 22 November 2018, Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, London.

Research Group on the Law of Digital Services

An international research group on the law of digital services was set up in 2015, including Prof Dannemann and many other key members of the Research Group on Existing EC Private Law (Acquis Group). During 2016, the Group elaborated a full Discussion Draft of a Directive on Online Intermediary Platforms, which was published in 5 Journal of European Consumer and Market Law (EuCML) (2016), 164-169. The European Law Institute adopted this as one of their current research projects and appointed Prof

Dannemann as co-reporter. Prof Dannemann co-presented the state of work and co-chaired a discussion at the ELI Annual Conference in Riga, 6 September 2018.

German Civil Code

Together with Prof Reiner Schulze, University of Münster, Professor Dannemann is co-editing the first English language commentary on the German Civil Code, to be published by C.H. Beck, Hart and Nomos in 2019.

Academic Misconduct

Prof Dannemann is an active contributor and administrator of VroniPlag Wiki, which documents cases of plagiarism in doctoral theses. He gave numerous interviews on plagiarism and appeared on various TV and radio programmes.

Further Activities

Conference Papers and Lectures

“Wie läuft der Brexit - Blockade am Verhandlungstisch?”, Schwarzkopf-Stiftung Junges Europa, Berlin, 9 January * “Formen und Grenzfälle von Plagiaten”, Symposium der Ombudspersonen für Gute Wissenschaftliche Praxis in Deutschland, Berlin, 9 February * “Plagiarism”, 12th IGSSE Forum: ‘Science without Borders’, Technical University Munich, Raitenhaslach, 9 May * “Methodenlehre in England”, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and Private International Law, Hamburg, 30 June * “The Complexities of Brexit in Ten Minutes”, British in Berlin Forum, 31 August * “Draft Model Rules on Online Intermediate Platforms”, European Law Institute Annual Conference, Riga, 6 September * “Drafting Style and Drafting Technique in European Private Law”, ‘Researching European Private Law’, Colloquium in Honour of Reiner Schulze’s Seventieth Birthday, Osnabrück, 18 October * “Rechtliche, wirtschaftliche und politische Aspekte von Brexit”, DAAD-Lektoren-Alumniseminar, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, 20 December.

Other Conference Attendances

Chaired a conference of the European Law Institute Working Group on Model Rules for Online Intermediate Platforms, Osnabrück, 15-16 March * Attended a conference of the European Law Institute on “Digital Revolution”, Treviso, 19-20 April * Chaired two public discussions on “Rights for British Citizen after the Brexit”, British Embassy, 13 August and 18 December * Chaired a lecture and public discussion between Dieter Grimm and Sir Francis Jacob on

the Constitution of European Democracy in Europe (Opening Ceremony of the Academic Year 2018/19, Humboldt European Law School), Berlin, 22 October * Attended an Anglo-German Civil Society Colloquium, Maecenata-Stiftung, Berlin, 25-26 October * Attended the Annual Conference of the Institute of Notary Law, Humboldt-University, on Corporate Decision Making in Company Law, Berlin, 16 November * Attended a conference of the European Law Institute Working Group on Model Rules for Online Intermediate Platforms, Aalborg, 29-30 November.

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg

In 2018 Prof Eisenberg participated in a number of events where she either gave lectures or contributed to discussions. These events included a conference entitled 'Understanding Brexit. Britain and Europe in the Twentieth Century' at the Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Munich, which took place on 19-20 April and where she chaired a panel on "Cherishing the Market – the British Economy"; a colloquium at the German Historical Institute London in honour of Prof Andreas Gestrich, where she gave a lecture on "Form and tact: Georg Simmel's sociability concept"; the World Congress of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport Congress in Münster, where she participated in a panel discussion on "Cultural Perspectives on Contemporary Sport History" on 21 July; and the 52nd Meeting of the *Verband der Historiker und Historikerinnen Deutschlands* in Münster, where she gave a lecture on "The Scottish Independence Referendum of 2014: A Moment of Separatism?" on 27 September. Prof Eisenberg also spent a few days at the British Library to advance her monograph on "The Sporting Spirit of Capitalism", which is currently in progress. The book is scheduled for completion in 2019.



The racy adventures of Tom Galloway the boy jockey ... With twelve ... illustrations, Tom Galloway, 1867

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman

Plans for a new project focusing on European exchange in the wake of World War I are currently under way, following the DFG-funded conference 'Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018' which took place under Gesa Stedman's guidance in September 2018. She continues her research on 'Anglophone visitors to Berlin' in the late 19th and early 20th century, which she will present together with Prof Stefano Evangelista in an exhibition at Literaturhaus Berlin in the autumn of 2020. She continues to write reviews and blog articles on current literary events for The Literary Field Kaleidoscope and has begun a new project on contemporary literature in England and France. The outcome of last summer's



Prof Stedman with Prof Stefano Evangelista

lecture series on imagined economies will be published in a book co-edited with Jessica Fischer, to be published with transcript in spring 2020. Gesa Stedman is also currently co-editing a book with Marius Guderjan and Hugh Mackay, entitled "Contested Britain. Brexit, Agency and Austerity", which will be published by Bristol University Press (spring 2020). Under her supervision, a large funding bid for a research training group (*Graduiertenkolleg*) entitled "Brexit: Britain Dis-Connecting" was submitted to the DFG in December.



Anti Brexit People's Vote March; Photo: David Holt London (CC 2.0)

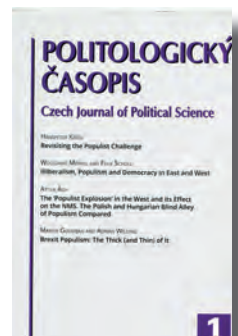
Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, CBE

The book project "Selves in Transit" is part of Humboldt-Universität's Future Concept funded by the Excellence Initiative and is designed to reconstruct the main forces and parameters in the development of life-writing in English culture from the late 15th to the 21st centuries. Based on a broad range of sources from libraries in Oxford, Cambridge, and London the book will analyse the most significant changes in expressing and constructing selves and re-evaluate them in the light of present-day self-perceptions under the influence of the social media. Prof Schlaeger is also co-authoring a book on the significance of 'deep learning' (*Bildung*).

Dr Marius Guderjan

Dr Marius Guderjan continued his research on intergovernmental relations in the UK and Germany as part of his habilitation project and presented his project at various workshops and colloquia (e.g. at the Annual Conference of the German Association for British Studies in May). He has started to work on two forthcoming books: "Contested Britain: Brexit, Austerity and Agency" – an edited collection co-edited with Gesa Stedman and Hugh Mackay to be published by Bristol University Press; and "Local Government in the EU: Completing the Integration Loop?" – a monograph co-authored with Tom Verhelst to be published by Palgrave Macmillan. The latter resulted from a paper on "Local government in the EU: impact, response, mobilisation" given at the European Consortium for Political Research General Conference at the Universität Hamburg in August.

His 2018 publications include a chapter on "Local government in the European Union's Multilevel Polity" in the *Routledge Handbook of International Local Government*, an article in the *Czech Journal of Political Science* on "Brexit Populism: The thick (and thin) of it", written together with Adrian Wilding. Marius has shared his expertise on the UK's departure from the EU with a wider non-academic



audience during training workshops and in a seminar for teachers (at the European Academy Berlin) and a union (*Arbeit und Leben*). Since 2018, he is also a member of the *Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaften* (DVPW), the Political Studies Association (UK), and the ECPR Standing Groups on Federalism and Regionalism and Comparative Political Institutions.

Dr Sam McIntosh

In May 2018, Sam was awarded a one-year research grant from the Volkswagen Foundation under the highly competitive 'Original Isn't it?' funding line, '*Komm! ins Offene...*'. The funding takes Sam full-time and buys out his teaching for the academic year 2018/19 so he can concentrate on his research project which is entitled "Refugee Lives Matter? – Protecting the human rights of migrants and refugees through international and regional obligations to investigate deaths". It will look into the implications of international and regional investigative obligations when it comes to the deaths of unsettled migrants and refugees within or close to the borders of Council of Europe member states. In November 2018, Sam also participated in a separately funded three-week Research Lab at Sydney University's Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre. The Research Lab brought together specialist academics, practitioners, and advocates in a series of workshops, seminars, and master classes, to work through issues around contemporary death investigation.

Jessica Fischer

Jessica Fischer completed her PhD thesis "AGENCY. The Entrepreneurial Self in Narratives of Transformation: Debuting into the Literary Field at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century". The research project investigated contemporary literature in the light of neoliberal discourses. It focused on novels published after 9/11 or 7/7, and specifically, on the forms of agency they construct for British Asian identities in the way the lives of the protagonists are narrated. In addition, Jessica prepared a postdoc project with the working title "ADVENTURE. British Stories and Visuals of Venturing Subjects at the Turn of the Twentieth Century." Furthermore, she attended, for example, the British Council Literature Seminar (January) and the *Anglistentag*, the annual conference of the *Deutscher Anglistenverband* (September). She presented her research at the Centre for British Studies (January) and actively participated in the Writing 1900 Network conference 'Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018' (September 2018) as well as in the

Oxford-Berlin graduate workshop 'Literature and Transnational Citizenship' (October 2018). She collaborated with artists like Abigail Reynolds for the film *Lost Libraries* (August 2018) or Patricia Woltmann and Christina Wüstenhagen for a performance project at KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin (November and December). Jessica Fischer also conceptualised and co-organised the lecture series 'Imagined Economies' with Prof John Clarke, PD Dr Melissa Kennedy, Dr Olivier Butzbach, and Prof Imogen Tyler (summer semester 2018). Together with Gesa Stedman, she is currently producing an edited collection based on the lecture series which will be published by transcript in 2020.



Jessica in "To: my future body", a research project about archiving memories through movement
Photo: Frank Sperling

Felicia Kompio

Felicia continued to work on her PhD thesis on urban political participation in early 19th century Europe. She looks at revolutionary events in three cities around 1830 in order to gain insight into changing practices, their perceptions and both the local and European discourse accompanying this process. Her PhD project thus combines a microhistorical approach and the European perspective as well as urban history and the history of revolutions. It is supervised by Prof Thomas Mergel (Department of History, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Prof Christiane Eisenberg.



3rd Dragoon Guards suppressing the Bristol Riots of 1831

Johanna Zinecker

Johanna continued to work on her PhD, which examines artistic production on mental health and madness in the UK context, utilizing approaches from across the Critical Medical Humanities, Disability and Cultural Studies. The Joint PhD is supervised by Prof Eveline Kilian (English Studies, HU Berlin) and Prof Brian Hurwitz (Centre for the Humanities and Health, King's College London). She participates regularly in research activities at the Centre and the Research Colloquium organised by Prof Kilian. Throughout 2018, Johanna took part in a number of conferences, including '*Zwischen Emanzipation und Vereinnahmung – Disability Studies im deutschsprachigen Raum*' (Humboldt-Universität, Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin).

Visiting Researchers

Dr Jason Allen, LL.M

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Jason Allen is an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow at the GBZ. Since coming to the Centre in September 2017, Jason has presented at a number of international conferences in the UK and Germany, published in leading international journals, spoken to a global law firm in Sydney, and advised the European Parliament ECON Committee in preparation for its meeting with ECB President Draghi (with Prof RM Lastra). His publications over the past year include a conceptual investigation of the British Crown (*Cambridge Law Journal*), an exploration of the interaction between natural and formal languages in the context of 'smart contracts' (*European Contract Law Review*), and a survey of the nature of 'digital coins' as objects of property rights (*European Property Law Journal*). He is collaborating on the Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance/Nomura Research Institute study on the global regulation of 'crypto-assets'. Jason was appointed as a Visiting Fellow at the UNSW Faculty of Law in June 2018. In the coming year, Jason will finish a number of publications with a focus on monetary law, banking and finance, as well as converting his doctoral dissertation (2017, Cambridge University) into a monograph. Jason plans to finish the first volume of Christian von Bar (J.G. Allen trans.), *Common European Property Law* for the Oxford University Press. Pending a successful funding application, Jason plans to continue his research focus on the principles of monetary law.

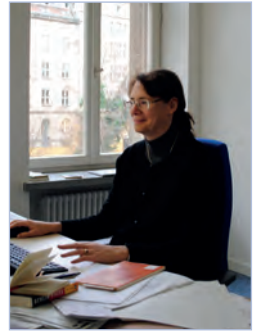
Prof Dr Gisela Holfter

Gisela Holfter studied in Cologne, Cambridge and St. Louis, and worked as an Assistant Teacher in Belfast and as a Lecturer at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, before coming to Limerick in 1996. She is Senior Lecturer in German and co-founder and Joint Director of the Centre for Irish-German Studies at the University of Limerick. Her research interests include German-Irish relations, German literature (19th century to contemporary writing),

Prof Holfter presents her book at the University of Limerick
Photo: Niamh NicGhabhann



exile studies, migration, and intercultural communication. She is a member of the PEN German-speaking Writers Abroad and has published many articles and edited a dozen books, the latest being *German Reunification and the Legacy of GDR Literature and Culture* (with D. Byrnes and J. Conacher, Brill, 2018). Her monographs include *Erlebnis Irland* (WVT, 1996), *Heinrich Böll and Ireland* (CBS, 2011, paperback 2012) and *An Irish Sanctuary: German-speaking Refugees in Ireland 1933-1945* (with H. Dickel, de Gruyter, 2017, paperback 2018). During her time in Berlin she is engaged in a number of projects, ranging from "Fontanes Wanderungen durch die Mark Brandenburg" to connections between the GDR and Ireland as well as European perspectives on Ireland and hopes to make a start on a planned monograph on German migration to Ireland since 1922.



Gisela Holfter at her desk in Mohrenstraße

Prof Patricia Springborg

Emerita Professor of Political Science from the University of Sydney and from the School of Economics, Free University of Bolzano

From 15-16 February, Patricia Springborg delivered a paper on "Hobbes and Roman Law", to the European Hobbes Network Conference, at the University of Padua, Italy. From 14-16 March, she presented "The Anthropological Implications of Hobbes's Materialism", to a Conference on 'Materialism; Words and Power in Hobbes', at the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Santiago de Chile, and on 13 March, she delivered "Thomas Hobbes's Problematic Concept of Liberty", a lecture to the Chilean Think Tank CEP, in Santiago de Chile. From 5-7 April, she presented "Greek into Arabic, Arabic into Latin: Classical Translation and Antiquity Transformation", to a Symposium, 'Reexamining the Axial Age and Axial Civilizations', at the Swedish Collegium, Uppsala, Sweden. On 23 May, she presented "Hobbes and the Liberties of Subjects", to the European Hobbes Network Conference on Leviathan, ch. XXI, at La Sapienza University, Rome. From 5-6 July, she was an invited discussant on "Constitutionalism, Ancient and Modern", at the Global Constitutionalism Scholars' Workshop, Wissenschaftszentrum zu Berlin. And from 16-21 July, she participated in the Summer School in Modern Political Theory, "Bourgeois and Citizen, Political Aspects of Economy," in Grožnjan, Croatia, where she presented a keynote lecture, "The Political Economy of Peace". From 25-28 September, she attended the 21st International History of Concepts Conference, University of Málaga, Malaga, Spain, where she presented "Greek into Arabic, Arabic into Latin", and from 5-6 December, she presents "Hobbes and Roman Law", Invited Paper at the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Santiago de Chile.



Patricia Springborg
Photo: La Tercera/Juan Farias

Harrison Tait



Harry Tait holds degrees in law and history from the Universities of Queensland and Oxford, and was admitted to practice in Queensland in 2014. His doctoral research, supervised by Prof Leslie Green and Dr Kristin van Zwieten at the University of Oxford, concerns the philosophical foundations of corporate insolvency law. In 2016-17 he was a visiting researcher at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, and is a visiting scholar at the Centre for British Studies of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for 2018-19. He teaches legal philosophy at University College London (UCL), where he has been a teaching fellow since 2015, having previously taught at SciencesPo and the University of Oxford.

Doctoral Students

Culture and Literature Department

Supervision by Prof Gesa Stedman, unless otherwise stated

Jessica Fischer: submitted her thesis on “AGENCY. The Entrepreneurial Self in Narratives of Transformation: Debuting into the Literary Field at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century.”

Jennifer Jacob: “Between Independence and Interference: A Comparative Study of Funding Agencies as Intermediaries Between Politics and Science in the UK and Germany”. Co-supervised by Prof Dannemann and Prof Schlaeger.

Melanie Neumann: submitted her thesis on “Recent Irish and British Migration to Berlin – A Case of Lifestyle Migration?”. Co-supervised by Gisela Holfter (University of Limerick).

Sonya Permiakova: “Women on War, War on Women: British Women’s Poetry of the First and the Second World Wars in the Context of Contemporary Commemorative Culture – Exclusion, Reception and Re-conceptualization”.

Tathagata Sarkar: “Peaceful Protest in a Democracy: A Comparative Study of the Legislative and Police Response of the Democratic Governments of India and the UK and its Effect on the Right to Assemble and Expression”. Co-supervised by Prof Dannemann.

Anna Schoon: “European Literature in the Context of European Cultural Policy – The European Union Prize for Literature in the UK, Ireland, and Germany”. Co-supervised by Prof Schlaeger.

Johanna Zinecker: "Entanglements of Artistic Practice and Mental Health in the UK". Joint PhD in English Research with King's College, London, co-supervised by Prof Eveline Kilian (HU Berlin) and Prof Brian Hurwitz (KCL).

History Department

Supervision by Prof Christiane Eisenberg

Felicia Kompio: "Revolution of the Street. Forms of Political Participation in early 19th-Century European Cities". Co-supervised by Prof Thomas Mergel (HU Berlin).

Florian Pauls: "A Cultural Exchange? The British Forces in Berlin and their Relationship to their German Neighbours".

Stephan Schwanke: "Endless Leisure? Australian Surf Culture from 1945 Onwards".

Law Department

Supervision by Prof Gerhard Dannemann

Jens Brückerhoff: successfully defended his PhD thesis on the law of maritime salvage in comparative law and in the conflict of laws.

Petrit Elshani: "State Liability in ICSID Case Law: Grounds of Justification".

Robert Ficht: "Statutory control of unfair contract terms in business contracts".

Arne Gutsche: "European Contract Law and Narratives of National Identity".

Christoph König: "F. A. Mann (1907-1991)".

Katharina Steinbrück: "*Der Umgang mit dem Recht der Europäischen Union in Großbritannien im Rahmen des "Brexits" – Eine rechtsvergleichende Studie zum Verbraucherkreditrecht und dem Umgang mit missbräuchlichen Klauseln*".

The Centre's PhD students had a busy year 2018; Photo in the middle: ifa/Weidenbach



Publications



DANNEMANN, G. "Crowd-Based Documentation of Plagiarism: The VroniPlag Wiki Experience". *Research Ethics in the Digital Age. Ethics for the Social Sciences and Humanities in Times of Mediatization and Digitization*. Farina Madita Dobrick, Jana Fischer, and Lutz M. Hagen (eds). Springer VS, 2018. 45-68.

---, Debora Weber-Wulff, Roland Schimmel. "Nicht mehr als ein Anfang". *Deutsche Universitäts-Zeitung* 05 (2018): 11.

---. Rev. of *Gewinnausgleich. Vergleichende und systematisierende Gegenüberstellung der französischen, niederländischen und englischen Tradition*. Kristin Boosfeld. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2015. *Rebels Zeitschrift für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht* 82 (2018): 203-207.



---, Christoph König, Franziska Stamm. "The Correspondence of Frederick Alexander Mann (1907-1991)". *British Institute of European and Comparative Law* (2018). https://www.biicl.org/documents/2054_letters_of_fa_mann.pdf

Continued as General Editor of the *Oxford University Comparative Law Forum* and of the *German Law Archive*.

OUCFL: new design by Christoph König

EISENBERG, Ch. "Möglichkeiten und Grenzen der Konsumgeschichte: das Beispiel des Sportkonsums." *Neue Forschung zur Kulturgeschichte des Sports*. Andreas Luh, and Norbert Gissel (eds). Hamburg: Feldhaus, 2018. 53-70. (reprint)

STEDMAN, G., "The Accidental and How to Be Both: Ali Smith's Ontological Fiction". *The British Novel in the Twenty-First Century: Cultural Concerns – Literary Developments – Model Interpretation*. Vera and Ansgar Nünning (eds). Trier: WVT, 2018. 297-310.

---. "That Was the Year that Was – The Literary Field in 2017." *The Literary Field Kaleidoscope*. <http://literaryfield.org/reviews-articles/>

---. "Where I'm Reading From – A Multipart Review of Tim Parks." *The Literary Field Kaleidoscope*. <http://literaryfield.org/reviews-articles/>

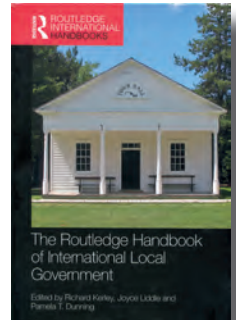
---. "Very happy and pretty groggy – An Interview with the New Directors of Berlin's Literaturhaus." *The Literary Field Kaleidoscope*. <http://literaryfield.org/reviews-articles/>



GUDERJAN, M. "Local government in the European Union's Multi-level Polity." *The Routledge Handbook of International Local Government*. R. Kerley, J. Little, and P. Dunning (eds). London: Routledge, 2018. 394-404.

--- and Adrian Wilding. "Brexit Populism: The thick (and thin) of it." *Czech Journal of Political Science* 1 (2018): 64-81.

MCINTOSH, S. Rev. of *Commissions of Inquiry: Problems and Prospects*, edited by Christian Henderson. *International Comparative Law Quarterly* 67.3 (2018).



Visiting Researchers

HOLFTER, G., Horst Dickel. *An Irish Sanctuary. German-Speaking Refugees in Ireland 1933-1945*. Berlin: Walter De Gruyter, 2018.

SPRINGBORG, P. "Curiosity, Anxiety and Religion in Thomas Hobbes". *La curiosità e le passioni della conoscenza: da Montaigne a Hobbes*. (Proceedings of the international conference, 7-8 October 2015, Rome.) Gianni Paganini (ed.). Roma: l'Accademia dei Lincei, 2018. 293-320.

---. "Hobbes's Absolutist State: Commentary on De cive, chapters 11, 12 and 13". *Thomas Hobbes: De Cive*. Otfried Höffe (ed.). Berlin: Walter De Gruyter, 2018. 131-44.

---. "The Politics of Hobbes's *Historia Ecclesiastica*". *Hobbes on Politics and Religion*. Robin Douglass, and Laurens van Apeldoorn (eds). Oxford: OUP, 2018. 150-166.

ALLEN, J.G. "Wrapped and Stacked: 'Smart Contracts' and the Interaction of Natural and Formal Languages." *European Review of Contract Law* 14.4 (2018): 307-343.

---. "The Office of the Crown." *Cambridge Law Journal* 77.2 (2018): 298-320.

---, and R.M. Lastra. "Virtual Currencies in the Eurosystem: challenges ahead." Prepared for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament as an input for the monetary dialogue of 9 June 2018 between ECON and the President of the ECB.

---. Rev. of *The Guardian of the Constitution: Hans Kelsen and Carl Schmitt on the Limits of Constitutional Law*, by Lars Vinx, CUP, 2015. *Modern Law Review* 81.2 (2018): 361-364.



SPOTLIGHT

Oxford-Berlin Partnership

With the help of funding from both Humboldt-Universität and Oxford University, the Centre for British Studies was able to help foster the Oxford-Berlin partnership. In times of political turmoil with unknown consequences for academia and beyond, it was all the more reassuring and rewarding to concentrate on Anglo-German academic exchange and we gladly invested much of our energy in 2018 to achieve new forms and set up new ties with colleagues from Oxford.



Colleagues from the social scientists and humanities at HU met at the Centre in January, to discuss suggestions and plans on how to foster the Oxford-Berlin partnership and to ensure that future funding would meet the requirements of both early-career and more established academics.

After a number of smaller meetings with key partners from Oxford to develop and plan specific projects, a larger meeting took place at the Centre in March 2018. The Oxford-Berlin Literary Studies Network was founded at this meeting, instigated by Prof Philip Bullock (Wadham College), Prof Stefano Evangelista (Trinity College), and Prof Gesa Stedman (Centre for British Studies). Not only existing academic exchange projects between Berlin and Oxford were presented, but new ties between both Freie Universität, Humboldt-Universität and Oxford were developed, resulting in three further projects throughout 2018 and continuing into 2019.



Prof Philip Bullock (right), TORCH Director, was a frequent guest in 2018, exploring possible ways to foster this partnership

Members of the group sent doctoral students and postdocs to join the Oxford-Berlin Graduate Workshops, the first of which took place at the Centre in October 2018. A series of meetings in Berlin and Oxford will result in a joint project presentation for the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften* in June 2019, show-casing how cross-period transnational literary studies can engage diverse audiences.

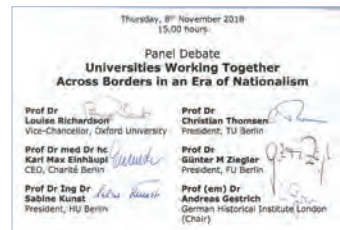
A joint DFG-application for conference funding by the Centre and The Oxford Centre for Research in the Humanities (TORCH) was successful, the conference 'Writing Europe 1918 – Writing Europe 2018' was a productive meeting of literary scholars whose results will be published in a special issue in the near future.

The Centre and TORCH also collaborated in setting up the first Oxford-Berlin Lecture Series in the Humanities and Social Sciences, which began in the winter



The panel (from left): Prof Günter M Ziegler, President, FU Berlin; Prof Dr Ing Dr Sabine Kunst, President, HU Berlin; Prof Andreas Gestrich, German Historical Institute London; Prof Dr Louise Richardson, Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University; Prof Dr med Dr HC Karl Max Einhäupl, CEO, Charité Berlin; Prof Dr Christian Thomsen, President, TU Berlin

semester 2018 and will be continued in 2019. The Centre organised a large public panel debate to kick off the lecture series with all university presidents from Berlin and vice-chancellor Louise Richardson from Oxford. It was chaired by the recently retired director of the German Historical Institute in London, Professor Andreas Gestrich, who sits on the Centre's advisory board. All presidents agreed that the Oxford-Berlin partnership reached beyond Brexit and promised future collaborations between many institutions, including museums and collections. Speakers in the series responded to one another's lectures, or gave joint lectures, and held additional workshops to discuss future projects, thus making the lectures dynamic and aimed at future cooperation.



The Centre's Guest Book

Prof Gerhard Dannemann is involved with the recent plans for cooperation between the newly-formed Law and Society Institute at HU and the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at Oxford.

Finally, Gesa Stedman and Stefano Evangelista are pursuing plans to set up an exhibition on Anglophone writers in Berlin, which is to be shown at Literaturhaus Berlin in the autumn of 2020, and at a later date, at Oxford as well. Drawing on archival material from both Berlin and Oxford, the exhibition will take as its central focus the well-known "Berlin" writer Christopher Isherwood, but will expand this perspective by including lesser-known authors, including women writers.



Most of these events are based on a close cooperation with TORCH (The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities).

<https://torch.ox.ac.uk/>

Wherever possible, the Centre thus actively promotes the partnership on all levels and will continue to do so as it evolves.

Library

There is a small reference library available in Mohrenstraße 60 to be used on the spot by students and staff

The Centre's library is technically and logistically linked to the main library of Humboldt-Universität and its holdings are incorporated in the general library catalogue and discovery system PRIMUS. It provides excellent working and research opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public.

The library's main areas of collection are those of the relevant disciplines involved in British Studies, i.e. British literature and culture, history, and political science, economy, and law, philosophy, sociology, art, and the media. At present, the library holds approximately 36,000 volumes. An extensive range of electronic material is accessible via the discovery system PRIMUS. The Centre's library is a modern research library that is continually expanding, thus offering the latest publications covering relevant subjects. This guarantees that the library presents a unique and excellent up-to-date opportunity for research in British Studies in Germany. In 2018, parts of the libraries signage was changed to bilingual English/German information and English signs for the GBZ part of the library to facilitate access for international users.

Please note that the Centre's library is situated in the
August-Boeckh-Haus, Dorotheenstr. 65

EVENTS

Keynote Lecture

The New Oxford-Berlin Partnership as a Model for Academic Exchange with Post-Brexit Britain

Prof Dr Louise Richardson, Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University

Prof Dr med Dr HC Karl Max Einhäupl, CEO, Charité Berlin

Prof Dr Ing Dr Sabine Kunst, President, HU Berlin

Prof Dr Christian Thomsen, President, TU Berlin

Prof Günter M Ziegler, President, FU Berlin

Chair: Prof Andreas Gestrich, German Historical Institute London

8 November

An exciting moment both for the planned Berlin University Alliance and the Oxford-Berlin partnership: a public panel debate with all the Berlin and Oxford presidents. The participants discussed the future of Anglo-German academic exchange post-Brexit and explained the details of the Oxford-Berlin partnership. The Deputy Head of Mission of the British Embassy in Berlin gave a welcome address at the beginning of the event.



Robbie Bulloch, Deputy Head of Mission, British Embassy Berlin



The keynote audience enjoying a reception at the Senatssaal of the HU main building

Monday Lectures

Youth Receptivity to Radical Rightwing Agendas: A Pan European Perspective

Professor Hilary Pilkington

Sociologist, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

22 January

How can we approach issues of youth extremism in research? What kind of policy responses could be developed from it? Professor Hilary Pilkington presented key findings from survey, interview, and ethnographic research on receptivity of youth to radical rightwing agendas. She focused on the UK but highlighted the benefits of transnational and multi-method research on political attitudes of young people.



Hilary Pilkington is Professor of Sociology and Coordinator of the DARE (Dialogue about Radicalisation and Equality) project. She investigates youth political participation, subculture, activism and extremism. She is the author of the ethnographic study *Loud and Proud: Passion and Politics in the English Defence League* (2016).

Living or Leaving Brexit Britain? Narratives of Transformations, Lost Privileges and the Quieter Everyday

Dr Benedicte Brahic

Sociologist, Department of Sociology, Manchester Metropolitan University

5 February

The Brexit referendum and its consequences pose a potential threat to rights of free movement. This lecture explored the impact of the referendum on migratory experiences by French movers and their responses. Beyond Brexit and its human consequences, this paper sought to contribute to contemporary debates concerned with the precarization of migration.



Benedicte Brahic is lecturer in Sociology at Manchester Metropolitan University. Her research interests concern the 'everyday' micro-expressions of the processes of globalisation, and in particular aspects of migration, relationships, and gender. She currently focuses on how the Brexit process resonates for European movers in the UK.



Why Imagined Economies?

Professor (em.) John Clarke

Sociologist, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The Open University

24 April

We are surrounded by economies – local, regional, national and global economies; industrial and financial economies; real economies, moral economies and economies of affect, to name but a few. In his talk, John Clarke explored what difference it makes to think of economies as imagined. He drew on work from across the social sciences which examined social phenomena as imaginaries.



Professor John Clarke is a member of the Association for Cultural Studies, the UK Social Policy Association and the Academy of Social Sciences. His work has centred on transformations of the welfare state since the late 20th century. He has a long-standing concern with the political, cultural, and organisational changes associated with the impact of managerialism on public services.

Imaginary Economics: Neoliberal Economy and the Arts

PD Dr Melissa Kennedy

Lecturer/Researcher in Cultural Studies, English Literature and Culture, Pädagogische Hochschule, Upper Austria, Linz

2 May

How can we as citizens and as academics think economics and our institutions differently? Melissa Kennedy explored several permutations of 'imaginary economics' in order to reconceptualise the economy and the arts. She looked at how economic realities are based on metaphor, symbolism, imagery, and emotion, packaged as common-sense values that are supported through cultural inculcation. Her aim was to consider how the cultural production of neoliberal capitalism intersects with the academic disciplines of economics, literary, cultural, and media studies.

Melissa Kennedy is Professor in Literature and Culture Studies at the Pädagogische Hochschule, Upper Austria. Her work adds critiques of economic inequality, precarity, and poverty to postcolonial literary study. Her publications include *Narratives of Inequality: Postcolonial Literary Economics* (Palgrave, 2017) and a co-edited collection with Helga Ramsey-Kurz, *Uncommon Wealths in Postcolonial Fiction* (Brill, 2017).



Ebb and Flow of a Not-for-profit Alternative within the Land of Financial Capitalism: British Building Societies 1970-2010

Dr Olivier Butzbach

Economist, Department of Political Science, University of Campania, Italy

28 May

Great Britain is still struggling with the consequences of the 2007-08 financial crisis, which leads us to ask: are alternatives within an isomorphic financial industry possible? Olivier Butzbach answered this question with reference to British building societies and their transformation over the past 50 years.

Olivier Butzbach is a Researcher in Economics at the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli" (Italy). His work is interdisciplinary

and focuses on long- and medium-term transformations of not-for-profit banks in Europe, applying concepts and methods from economics and sociology to the historical emergence, development, and decline of alternative organisational forms in the financial industry.



Stigma Machines

Professor Dr Imogen Tyler

Sociologist, Department of Sociology, Lancaster University

2 July

In 2017, Amnesty International reported a global tendency towards 'angrier and more divisive politics'. Amnesty warned that 'the idea of human dignity and equality' is 'under vigorous and relentless assault from powerful narratives of blame, fear and scapegoating, propagated by those who sought to take or cling on to power'. Stigma is a productive lens through which to understand better these prevailing social conditions of 'division and dehumanization'. Imogen Tyler provided a new historically informed account of the social and political function of stigmatization.



Imogen Tyler is Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University. Her research is concerned with social inequalities, power, injustice and resistance. She published, for example, *Revolting Subjects: Social Abjection and Resistance in Neoliberal Britain* (Zed Books, 2013) and was awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for this.

The Oxford-Berlin Lectures in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Excavations in Homer: Speculative Archaeologies in Alice Oswald's and Barbara Köhler's Responses to the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*

Dr Georgina Paul

Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford

Prof Dr Ulrike Vedder

Department of German, HU Berlin

10 December

The talk examined two recent responses to Homeric epic: British poet Alice Oswald's *Memorial* (2011), which re-works material from the *Iliad*, and German poet Barbara Köhler's poem-cycle *Nie-mands Frau* (2007), which responds to the *Odyssey*. What links these two very different revisitings of Homer's work is a common purpose, which Professor Paul called the poets' 'speculative archaeologies'. Both poets remove layers formed by habituated readings. They consider the Homeric poem's roots in the oral tradition. They also contemplate afresh aspects of it which have become obscured under the tendentious gaze of thousands of years of male-oriented readings.



Georgina Paul (left) with Ulrike Vedder on revisitings of Homer's work



The Oxford Lectures are being funded by the Strategic Initiative Funds of the HU International Strategy Office.

SPOTLIGHT

Book Presentations

In 2018, two long-standing friends of the Centre presented their new books to our audience. Sir Christopher Mallaby and Sir Paul Lever, both former British ambassadors to Germany, captivated their listeners with highly interesting views and anecdotes on Anglo-German relations, in particular in the light of recent political events. While Sir Christopher presented his memoirs of his term of office during the transition period after the end of the Cold War, entitled *Living the Cold War: Memoirs of a British Diplomat*, Sir Paul's book *Berlin Rules: Europe and the German Way* concentrates more on the role of Germany in Europe today.

Both events were co-organised with the Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft (German-British Society), where GBZ alumna Mari Mittelhaus has taken over as events organiser. Lively discussions, chaired by the DBrG's deputy chairman Dr Rupert Graf Strachwitz, were followed by book signings of both authors. As former and current chairmen of the Centre's Advisory Board, they have for many years helped the Centre to realise its goals. On both occasions, the Centre's lecture hall was packed, and past as well as current students and staff, colleagues from the Embassy and the German Foreign Office, and members of the general public took the opportunity of gaining an insight into the workings of the British political system abroad, but also to learn how two experienced diplomats see the future of Britain in Europe in general, and the future of Anglo-German relations in particular.

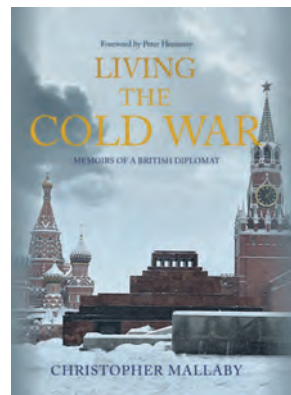
Living the Cold War: Memoirs of a British Diplomat

Sir Christopher Mallaby GCMG GCVO

Former British Ambassador to Germany

5 March

Sir Christopher Mallaby's book was published in October 2017. One centrepiece of his memoir are Sir Christopher's years in Bonn where he served as Ambassador to Germany from March 1988 to December 1992. Being Ambassador in Germany during the Fall of the Berlin Wall and serving in Moscow during the Cuba crisis and again in the mid-1970s, it is not surprising that the Cold War is one of the central themes of Sir Christopher's diplomatic life. He witnessed Khrushchev banging his shoe on the desk at the United Nations General Assembly and was in Moscow during the Cuban Missile Crisis, kept awake by the possibility of death from a US nuclear missile strike.



Sir Christopher Mallaby GCMG GCVO was educated at Eton, Cambridge University, and the Harvard Business School. He was in the British Diplomatic Service from 1959 to 1996. He worked in the British Embassy in Moscow in the early 1960s and again in the mid-1970s. From 1982 to 1985 he was Minister in the British Embassy in Bonn. From 1985 to 1988 he was Deputy Secretary of Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet. He was Ambassador to Germany from March 1988 to December 1992 and to France from January 1993 to July 1996. Since then his work has included various positions as managing director and chairman, including the Centre for British Studies' Advisory Board. Sir Christopher is an Honorary Fellow of the Centre for British Studies.



Sir Christopher signing his book

Berlin Rules: Europe and the German Way

Sir Paul Lever KCMG

Former British Ambassador to Germany, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Centre for British Studies

3 December



In his book Sir Paul examines the leading role which Germany now plays in the European Union. He shows how the country's history has influenced its economic and political structures as well as the policies which it pursues in Europe. He describes some of the challenges which Germany and the EU will face over the coming years and speculates on how a German-led Europe is likely to develop. In his reading at the Centre, Sir Paul elaborated on his view of Germany's role and commented on the most recent developments since the publication of the revised edition of his book in September 2018.

From 1966 until 2003 he was a member of the Diplomatic Service specialising in politico-military and European issues. He served in Helsinki, at the UK Delegation to NATO, at the European Commission

and as Leader of the UK Delegation to the Negotiations on Conventional Forces in Europe. His later postings were as Head of the Overseas and Defence Secretariat in the Cabinet Office and Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee; EU and Economic Director in the Foreign Office; and from 1997 to 2003 Ambassador to Germany. He has an honorary doctorate from Birmingham University and is an honorary fellow of The Queen's College, Oxford. As current Chairman of the Centre's Advisory Board, he visits Berlin and Humboldt-Universität frequently.

Visitors at the Centre



Prof Alastair Buchan with Prof Stedman

Prof Alastair Buchan

As early as 6 February, Prof Alastair Buchan visited the Centre in his capacity as Head of Brexit Strategy at Oxford University. The aim of this meeting was to explore possible forms of support the Centre could give to the Oxford-Berlin partnership. Since then we have been in touch with Prof Buchan on numerous occasions, including during a VIP guided tour of Adlershof for Prof Buchan and during the panel debate comprising all Oxford and Berlin university presidents.

Advisory Board



A welcome visitor: Prof Dr-Ing Dr Sabine Kunst, President of Humboldt-Universität

The annual Centre's Advisory Board meeting took place on 15 June in 2018. Before the meeting began, Sir Paul Lever, Chair of the Board, welcomed the HU President, Prof Sabine Kunst, whom the Board had invited in order to introduce themselves and to stress the importance of the Centre for the Anglo-German academic relations. Prof Kunst also used the opportunity to talk about the envisaged project of an Oxford-Berlin partnership, thereby

acknowledging the value of the Centre's work for fostering this cooperation.

The meeting then turned to the usual update of the Centre's activities and its plans for the coming year. The Oxford partnership was and will be a big issue for the Centre's work. But, of course, other activities are keeping its staff busy, too. The Board also met the current group of students to inquire about their perceptions of the course so far. The feedback that this was the most satisfied group they had ever talked to, reassured the staff in their endeavours to make this course a success.

The Board always meets the current group of students to discuss the MA British Studies course with them



Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub, British Embassy Berlin

Dr Alexandra Stein, Director, Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Germany, and her deputy Sarah Beddoes, visited the Centre on 20 November. Prof Dannemann, Dr Guderjan, and Prof Stedman discussed forms of future cooperation such as a joint lecture series and joint public events. Since then MA British Studies alumna Katharina Sprockhoff has joined their team. Plans are under way for a number of public events, including a possible public lecture by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.



Dr Alexandra Stein

Britta Baron, Director of the HU International Department

On 11 December, the new director of the HU International Department visited the Centre. Prof Stedman and Prof Dannemann explained the Centre's long-standing internationalisation activities as well as giving an overview of its key features, namely the MA British Studies, the international research networks, the graduate school, and the public lecture series. Britta Baron informed them of the coming changes regarding internationalisation at HU. For obvious reasons, the Oxford-Berlin partnership was discussed at length. Finally, both parties agreed to continue the productive cooperation between the Centre and the International Department.



Britta Baron

Public Relations

The Centre has again been a main port of call for public media with regard to expertise in British politics and culture. Prof Dannemann was extensively interviewed about the current Brexit negotiations (e.g. by Bayern 2, BR, dpa, hrInfo, n-tv, SRF 4, *Tagesschau24*, WDR, *Welt* and *Welt TV*) and about British sanctions against Russia (by *Welt*). He was furthermore interviewed about codes of scholarly conduct and cases of plagiarism (e.g. by BR puls, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, NDR, *Neue Presse*, *Spiegel Online*, *Der Tagesspiegel*, WDR) as well as about the royal wedding (by NDR).

On April 20, 2018, Professor Eisenberg gave an interview to *Deutschlandfunk* about the Brexit referendum being a gamble (broadcast on April 25). On 23 August she gave an interview on 'Sport in the German West' for the historical exhibition "Weimar in the West" prepared for the 100th anniversary of the Weimar Republic.

Dr Marius Guderjan was interviewed about the Brexit summit of the EU and the renegotiation of the Brexit contract by SR2 KulturRadio.



Most interviews and articles can be found on the Centre's webpage: www.gbz.hu-berlin.de

Furthermore, the new Oxford-Berlin partnership featured in *Der Tagesspiegel*. The Centre's Monday Lecture series was promoted several times on the main website of Humboldt-Universität and in the newspaper HUMBOLDT, where our new guest researchers were also introduced.

FELLOWS

Honorary Fellows

The Right Honourable Ben Bradshaw, MP
Sir Christopher Mallaby, GCMG, GCVO
Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, CBE, FEA

Fellows

Prof Paul Carmichael
University of Ulster
Prof Valentine Cunningham
University of Oxford
Dr Stefano Evangelista
University of Oxford
Andy Feist
Home Office, UK
Dr Hugh Mackay
The Open University, Wales
Dr Gerry Mooney
The Open University, Scotland
Dr Carlo Morelli
University of Dundee
Lynn Parkinson
University of Bradford
Dr Pikay Richardson
Manchester Business School
Dr Steven Truxal
City University London
Prof Dr Helmut Weber, LLB
Centre for British Studies
Prof Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Dr Adrian Wilding
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

STAFF

Academic Staff

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman

Director

Gesa Stedman, Director, Centre for British Studies, Professor of British Culture and Literature. Studied English, French and Film/Theatre Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Warwick. Received scholarships from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes. After a period as a visiting graduate student at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, she completed her PhD on the Victorian discourses on emotion at Humboldt-Universität in 2000. Research periods in Paris, Oxford, and London, supported by the Deutsches Historisches Institut, led to her 'Habilitation' on 17th-century Anglo-French cultural exchange at Humboldt-Universität in 2005. Gesa Stedman was Professor of English and American Literature at Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen from 2005-2008 and was appointed Professor of British Culture and Literature at the Centre for British Studies in 2008. In addition, she has been a Visiting Fellow of Trinity College Oxford. She co-leads the international research network Writing 1900 (www.Writing1900.org) and is a founding member of the interdisciplinary Berlin-Britain Research Network and of the website and blog The Literary Field Kaleidoscope (www.literaryfield.org). She has published widely on the history of emotions, cultural exchange studies, in particular between England and France, British film and film historiography, as well as gender history, the literary field and contemporary literature in the UK, France, and Germany. Gesa Stedman is the spokesperson of the Berlin Graduate School for British Studies and is a member of the selection panel for KOSMOS applications and for the Humboldt Travel Awards. She also advises the university in international affairs, and acts as deputy head of the Committee for a Family-Friendly University at Humboldt-Universität.



Prof Stedman hosting a strategy meeting for the Oxford-Berlin partnership, with Prof Dr Julia von Blumenthal

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg

Deputy Director, Dean of Studies

Professor of British History. She studied history and social sciences at Bielefeld University, where she obtained a Dr phil in 1986. After working as a research associate at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Bielefeld in 1986-87 and holding a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ, in 1987-88, she became assistant professor at the History Faculty of the University

of Hamburg where she completed her 'Habilitation' in 1996. She deputised for the social history chair at the University of Bielefeld, worked in the research unit *Gesellschaftsvergleich* at Humboldt's history department, and joined the Centre in October 1998.

Prof Eisenberg has published widely, in particular on the social and cultural history of Britain and Germany as well as on methodological problems of historical comparisons and the history of cultural transfers. Her main books on Britain are: *Deutsche und englische Gewerkschaften. Entstehung und Entwicklung bis 1875 im Vergleich* (1986); *'English sports' und deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939* (1999); *Englands Weg in die Marktgesellschaft* (2009), translated as *The Rise of Market Society in England, 1066-1800* (2013). Prof Eisenberg is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the German Historical Institute London. In 2018 she became co-editor of *Sport und Gesellschaft / Sport and Society. Zeitschrift für Sportsoziologie, Sportphilosophie, Sportökonomie, Sportgeschichte*.

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann, MA (Oxon) **Head of Exams and Admissions**

Professor of English Law, British Economy and Politics, Chair of Admissions and Examinations. Studied law at Freiburg i.Br. and Bonn. Taught German and English law at Freiburg (Assistant Lecturer 1988-91), at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law Fellow in German Law) 1991-94, at University College London (Visiting Lecturer, then Lecturer) 1992-95, and at the University of Oxford 1995-2002 (University Lecturer, then Reader in Comparative Law), where he was also a Fellow of Worcester College from 1995-2002. Dr jur. Freiburg i.Br. 1994, Habilitation Freiburg i.Br. 2002. Joined the Centre for British Studies in 2003. Has published widely, in particular on the English and German legal systems, contract, tort, unjust enrichment, private international law, and also on standards of good academic practice. Visiting Research Fellow of the Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford; founder and general editor of the Oxford University Comparative Law Forum and the German Law Archive, co-reporter of the European Law Institute "Draft Model Rules on Online Intermediary Platforms" project. On the MA British Studies programme, he teaches 'English Legal System', 'Contracts', and 'Commercial Law', and co-teaches "Constitutional Law and Political System".

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, CBE, FEA Senior Professor

Senior Professor of British Literature and Culture. Studied history, philosophy, Russian, and English at Würzburg and Cologne, and English at Oxford. He was Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Konstanz from 1976-95, and visiting professor at the University of California, Irvine, at Fudan University, Shanghai, and also Visiting Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was dean and pro-vice-chancellor at Konstanz and Chairman of the German Association of University Teachers of English, board member of the European Society of English Studies, and chair of the Shakespeare-Prize Kuratorium of the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung in Hamburg. He chaired its Board of Trustees from 2011-2015. He is also a Fellow of the English Association. In 2009 he was made an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He has published widely on literary theory, life-writing, Romanticism, and literary anthropology. He was co-editor of the Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL) until 2010 and is currently writing a book about "Selves in Transit" and another one on what 'deep learning' (Bildung) in the sciences and in scholarship can mean today.



From left: Ch. Seuring, S. Zöllner, F. Kompio, G. Dannemann, C. Smith, M. Guderjan, G. Stedman, S. McIntosh, C. Radke, G. Hoflter, Ch. Eisenberg, J. Allen, P. Springborg, J. Fischer, L. Nüchter

Dr Marius Guderjan



Marius in discussion with
Benedicte Brahic

Lecturer and researcher in British Politics. Marius' teaching responsibilities include the UK's constitutional and political system, analysing British politics and British foreign relations.

Marius' habilitation project examines intergovernmental relations in devolved and federal states. In addition, he has a strong interest in the cause and consequences of Brexit. Further research activities include European integration, Europeanisation, international relations, political attitudes and participation, Euroscepticism, the welfare state and social policy. Before he joined the Centre in August 2014, Marius worked as a senior research assistant at the Policy Evaluation and Research Unit at Manchester Metropolitan. He was involved in various projects and applications including Myplace and MyWeb (FP7 funded), and InnoSi (Innovative Social Investment, Horizon 2020 funded). In 2013, Marius obtained his PhD at Manchester Metropolitan University for the thesis 'When Europe meets the local level – a fusing multilevel compound?'. His thesis explores European integration of local government in England and Germany. Prior to his PhD, Marius completed an MA in European Politics (Research) with distinction at the University of Liverpool and studied Social Science with an emphasis on politics at the University of Cologne.

Dr Sam McIntosh



Johanna and Sam in a
staff meeting

Lecturer and researcher in Law. Sam was awarded his PhD in law by City University of London in April 2016. His thesis discussed the principle of open justice in the context of investigations into deaths at the hands of the state. Sam spent three years of his PhD as a visiting student at the University of Vienna. He holds an LLM in Public International Law and an MA (joint honours) in Spanish and European History from the University of Edinburgh. Sam is qualified as a lawyer in England and Wales and has worked at three of the most highly regarded human rights firms in the country. He began his training in the criminal defence department at Imran Khan & Partners and went on to finish his training and work in the civil departments at Bhatt Murphy Solicitors and Hickman & Rose. At both firms he worked primarily on civil actions against police and prison authorities, and on inquests into deaths at the hands of the state. After leaving legal practice, Sam worked as a Sessional Lecturer and then a Teaching Fellow at the University of Reading, teaching criminal law, tort law, and constitutional and administrative law. He also worked as a research assistant on the Law, Terrorism and the Right to Know project at Reading University. This project explored democratic traditions of media

freedom and the contemporary demands of national and international security in the context of terrorism-related court cases. Sam's research interests include domestic and international human rights law, Coroners and the Coroners' courts, open justice and the media's relationship with the courts, transitional justice, the rights of unsettled refugees under Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and recognition theory. Sam teaches and examines on the following courses: 'Constitutional Law' and 'The Political System', 'The English Legal System', 'The Coercive State', 'Mooting and Debating'.

Jessica Fischer, MA

Lecturer and researcher in Literary and Cultural Studies. She studied English, History of Art, European Cultural Studies, and Cultural and Social Anthropology at the University of Freiburg, the Freie Universität Berlin, and University College London. As a member of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies, she has written a PhD thesis about fictional narratives of neoliberalism. This year Jessica Fischer taught the 'Interdisciplinary Project Seminar I: Migration' with Prof Stedman twice and the course 'Novels of Transformation: Making Subjects in the British Bildungsroman'. She was invited as a guest lecturer to the 'Interdisciplinary Project Seminar II: Self, Society and Agency' of Dr Guderjan and F. Kompio. Jessica Fischer is a member of the German Association for the Study of British Cultures, the Association for Anglophone Postcolonial Studies, the Berlin-Britain Research Network, and the advisory board of Hard Times magazine. Before joining the Centre in 2013, she worked freelance for various universities and cultural projects. She is part of the Centre's PR team and cooperates with the main press and public relations office of Humboldt-Universität.



Marius, Sam and Jessica on the first day of the winter semester

Felicia Kompio, MA

Lecturer and researcher in British History. Felicia's research focuses on Britain in a European perspective. She studied History and Political Sciences at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her research interests include cultural history of politics, the history of revolutions and practices of protest, European urban history, and the history of European communication networks in a transnational perspective.

Felicia teaches the 'First Week Project' and 'Academic Writing' and co-teaches 'Commerce and Culture in British History' and, in the summer term, 'Interdisciplinary project: Self, society, and agency'.



Felicia and Jessica in a staff meeting

Lena Nüchter, MA



Lena Nüchter – MA
British Studies graduate
and new member of staff

Lena studied Classics as well as English Language, Literature, and Culture at Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg and Durham University. She came to Berlin in 2016 for the Master in British Studies and completed her Master thesis on “Local Authorities and Immigrant Entrepreneurs: Reviewing the Devolution Revolution in Public Sector Business Support for Disadvantaged Groups”. Aiming to further pursue research at the intersection of economy, policy and society, she is currently preparing an interdisciplinary PhD project on the function and perception of the humanities in the UK and Germany. Her other research interests include gender studies, narratology, and discourse analysis, and she is interested in methodological expansion towards the social sciences. Before joining the Centre for British Studies in November 2018, Lena worked in press, publishing, international communication and event management; and she is a freelance reviewer for *Spektrum der Wissenschaft*. In 2019, she will be teaching the practice-led course “Cultural Project Management” as well as “Theories and Methods in Cultural Studies”; and she is one of the Centre’s academic placement advisors.

Johanna Zinecker, MA

Lecturer and Researcher in British Culture and Literature. Johanna’s main interests include visual arts and cultural production in interdisciplinary and social-political fields, mental health cultures, art and activism, cultural disability and feminist studies as well as cultural policy, in particular in relation to politics of diversity and inclusion. She studied English and American Studies and German Literature at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the University of Manchester. Since 2005, Johanna has worked in the field of arts and culture in various roles, including from 2008 to 2012 as assistant curator at Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin. Beyond academia, Johanna continues her engagement with the cultural sector and has trained in Non-Violent Communication, both in Berlin and London.

Johanna teaches in the area of Cultural Studies on the MA British Studies programme. She also convened and taught the practice-led seminar ‘Cultural Project Management’ in 2018. Other teaching-related roles include academic advisor for student placements in the UK cultural sector. From 2017 Johanna has also been the Equality Officer of the Centre. In this capacity, among other duties, she advises students and staff on related matters and has organized in-house diversity trainings.

Administrative Staff

Corinna Radke, MA

Corinna Radke studied English and Spanish at Humboldt-Universität and in Madrid (funded by Erasmus), and passed a two-year further education course on public administration in 2009. Apart from taking part in the management of the Centre's daily affairs and helping students with their problems and enquiries, she is responsible for the co-ordination of the Centre's guest lecturers and organises the teaching schedule for the MA British Studies. In this context, she prepares courses on the HU's e-learning platform 'Moodle'. Corinna co-ordinates the Erasmus+ Placement Programme that offers financial support to students doing a work placement abroad. She also supports PhD students of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies and co-ordinates its diverse activities. Other responsibilities include co-ordinating funding applications, organising conferences and other events as well as preparing the manuscripts of conference proceedings and supervising their publication. Finally, she edits the Centre's annual report and is the Centre's deputy equal opportunities officer.



Corinna and guest lecturer John Clarke

Catherine Smith, BA (Hons)

Catherine is the foreign language assistant at the Centre. She studied Humanities with History of Art (B.A. Hons.) at the Open University in England. Apart from managing the office, she supports the Centre's teaching and research activities. Further duties include co-ordinating visiting arrangements for international guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, and events. She is also responsible for the co-ordination and organisation of public readings, the public lecture series, and assists with public relations, poster design, and press releases. Catherine also co-ordinates the MA British Studies interviews each year, and is the first point of contact for interested MA British Studies students concerning application and study plans. Other duties include the editing of research papers and publications and translating German texts into English. After the 2016 EU referendum, she is now the proud owner of both British and German passports.



Alumni Stammtisch guests Catherine and Lynn Parkinson

Sylvena Zöllner

Administrative officer at the Centre. Sylvena is a qualified administration and finance clerk, and has been working at the Centre for British Studies since July 1996. She is responsible for administering the Centre's finances, for the supply of office material, technical equipment, and everything else needed. She helps with the organisation of conferences by taking care of catering arrangements and the necessary technical equipment. She also takes care of all financial transactions related to the Centre's activities, including the Centre's various and constantly growing third-party funds. Her responsibilities also include the filing of all records for our Master degree, calculating the students' Master grade, and preparing the final certificates.

Librarian

Christine Seuring

Graduated from the University of Cardiff with a BA in History and English literature as well as from the University of Applied Sciences in Potsdam as a librarian. She worked and lived in Slovakia, Italy, and France and spent the main part of her working life as a librarian at the *Deutsche Kinemathek - Museum für Film und Fernsehen* in Berlin. Christine joined the library in 2017 as successor to Evelyn Thalheim.

Student Assistants

In 2018 the Centre was supported by the following students:

Lorenz Böttcher, Law

Esmé Ellis, English Literatures

Michael Griff, Global History

Stefan Jooß, Industrial Engineering and Management

Madalina Luca, Law

Erika Meibauer, English and German Literature

Sarah Meyer, Law

Adina Reza, English Literatures



From left: Stefan, Michael, Madalina and Adina

SPONSORS

The Centre for British Studies would like to thank the following institutions for their generous support in 2018:

Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung

VolkswagenStiftung, "Original – isn't it?" New Options for the Humanities and Cultural Studies

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

Erasmus+, European Union

Strategic Initiative Funds, HU International Strategy Office

KOSMOS Travel-Awards, Excellence Initiative HU Berlin

Nottingham Law School

Experiment e.V.

Co Work HUB Ltd., Metro Bank, London

Christopher Unwin

FRIENDS OF THE CENTRE

By becoming a Friend and donating a yearly sum of at least € 25.00, you can help support our students, in particular when they go to the UK for their work placement. Your donation will help them to cover living costs and travel expenses, thereby ensuring that they can come to the Centre in the first place, and that they will be able to study rather than hunt for jobs on the student labour market.

Please donate a minimum amount of € 25.00 to the following bank account (it will be tax deductible in Germany):

Förderverein des Großbritannien-Zentrums der HU Berlin

Berliner Volksbank

Account Number 88 48 18 30 09

Bank Number 100 900 00

SWIFT Code: BEVODEBB

IBAN: DE53 1009 0000 8848 1830 09

Sign up for membership today!

For more information, please contact:
corinna.radke@staff.hu-berlin.de

OBITUARIES



Prof Schlaeger
and Sir Nigel in
1995

Sir Nigel Broomfield KCMG

We are mourning the loss of Sir Nigel Broomfield KCMG, a dear friend and mentor of the Centre who passed away on Monday 29th October 2018. As ambassador to Germany 1993-97 he played a prominent role in the process that led up to the establishment of the Centre in 1995, and generously gave advice and encouragement whenever we needed them. We will fondly remember him for his unwavering support and his impressive personality. He will rightly hold a prominent place in the annals of the Centre.



Gebhardt von
Moltke

Gebhardt von Moltke

When Gebhardt von Moltke died on 6 January 2019, German-British relations lost another committed and sincere supporter and mediator. As German ambassador in London (1997-99), organiser of the Königswinter Conferences and chairman of the German-British Society (2003-2013), he encouraged bi-lateral exchange in a variety of fields. He was a long-standing supporter of and frequent guest at the Centre and many fruitful cooperations would not have been possible without his commitment. Our thoughts and condolences go out to his family and friends.

Notes:

ADVISORY BOARD



Chairman

Sir Paul Lever KCMG
Former British Ambassador to Germany

The Rt. Hon. Ben Bradshaw
Member of Parliament for Exeter
Former Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport



Professor Dr Doris Feldmann
Department for English and American Studies
University of Erlangen-Nürnberg

Professor (em) Dr Andreas Gestrich
Former Director
German Historical Institute, London



Dr Ulrich Hoppe
Director General
German-British Chamber of Industry & Commerce

Rachel Launay
Director
British Council Germany



Sir Simon McDonald KCMG, KCVO
Permanent Under Secretary of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Former British Ambassador to Germany

Professor Lyndal Roper
Regius Professor of History
Oriental College, University of Oxford



The Rt. Hon. Lord David Willetts
Executive Chair, Resolution Foundation
Former Minister for Universities and Science

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Großbritannien-Zentrum / Centre for British Studies

Mohrenstraße 60

D-10117 Berlin

Tel.: + 49 (0)30 2093 99040 / 99050

E-Mail: gbz@gbz.hu-berlin.de

<http://www.gbz.hu-berlin.de>

Donations can be made payable to the following account:

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Berliner Bank, Niederlassung der Deutschen Bank PGK AG, BLZ 100 708 48

Account No. 512 620 601

Project No. 82000080 GBZ

BIC/SWIFT: DEUTDEDB110

IBAN: DE95 1007 0848 0512 6206 01

Cover picture: Stefan Jooß

Unless stated otherwise, all photos and text: Centre for British Studies

Layout: Corinna Radke