

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



WHAT IS THE CENTRE FOR BRITISH STUDIES?

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

We were founded in 1995 after the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification 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 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.

On 2 June, Ben Bradshaw MP asked the question "Brexit, Could It Happen?" to a packed audience. History answered that question: yes, it can.



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THE CENTRE IN 2016

The EU referendum on 23 June and the momentous decision that the UK will leave the European Union also dominated the Centre's agenda in 2016. A Monday Lecture series in the summer term which already had focused on the UK, its regions and its relationship with the EU was spontaneously extended to a panel discussion on 5 July on the fallout of the referendum, leading to another Brexit-focused Monday Lecture series in winter term 2016/2017. Packed audiences listened to and debated presentations by academic colleagues, politicians, diplomats, and business people, including three members of our Advisory Board (see pages 42ff).



Throughout the year, the lecture series on Brexit pulled the Berlin crowds

The Centre's staff were also flooded with demand for our expertise from media (see page 52), academic institutions, and policy makers. It goes without saying that Brexit affected both teaching and research. For example, our Berlin-Britain Research Network, which held a conference on 'Agency and Austerity' in April, has refocused its work on the likely impact of Brexit (page 24).



The Berlin-Britain Research Network discussing issues of 'Agency and Austerity'

While Brexit has placed the Centre in the spotlight of public attention, we also have to prepare against long-term negative consequences in teaching and research cooperation with the UK. Were Britain to drop out of the ERASMUS scheme, visa for UK internships for our master students could also become difficult, thus threatening a vital component of our course. And Britain leaving the European Research Council could significantly reduce British-German research cooperation for all academic institutions, including the Centre.

Not everything at the Centre revolved around Brexit in 2016. Highlights include our annual Keynote Lecture by Prof Sir Christopher Clark, Cambridge, on "Sleepwalkers vs. Warmongers. The 1914



Prof Dannemann
and Prof Sir
Christopher Clark

Debate Revisited" (page 40), a visit by the new British Ambassador, Sir Sebastian Wood and by Prof Sabine Kunst, the new President of the Humboldt-Universität (page 51).

More good news: our Berlin Graduate School of British Studies received a very positive evaluation and was made a member of the Humboldt Graduate School. We plan to expand this into a larger *Graduiertenkolleg*, involving five faculties and other partners in Germany and the UK, and have just submitted a grant application (page 36). We have also made good use of the new DAAD-

financed Cambridge research hub with two research projects involving the Centre and Cambridge University (page 30). For the first time in eight years, we used a GBZ staff retreat conference to plan ahead for our future teaching and research activities, and our position within Humboldt-Universität, where another structural reform may be threatening our faculty-like position as an independent *Zentralinstitut*.



The Centre's PhD students successfully monitoring themselves in peer group sessions

Our flagship in teaching remains the unique MA British Studies course, which new readers in particular will find explained, starting on page 4. We continue to attract students from all over the globe, including the United Kingdom, who come to Berlin as the only place where "all things British" in the areas of literature, culture, history, sociology, law, economy, and politics are taught in an interdisciplinary and practice-oriented master course.



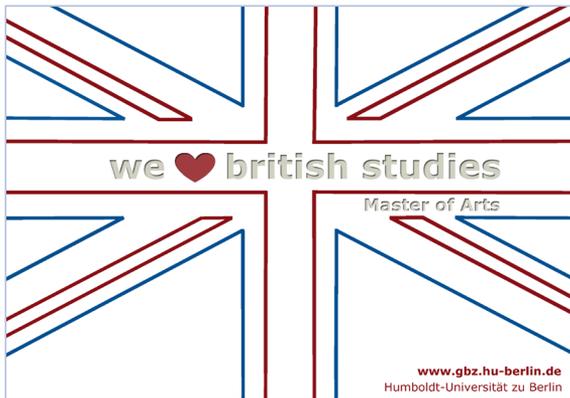
MA British Studies students

In 2016, we had to say goodbye to two staff members, history lecturer Dr Erik Spindler and law lecturer Ali El-Haj. We were fortunate to replace them with Felicia Kompio and Dr Sam McIntosh. A warm welcome to them and all other new arrivals, good luck and *Auf Wiedersehen* to all who left us in 2016!

Gerhard Dannemann
Director

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 placement 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.

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.



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 "M.A. British Studies"

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 about 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.



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

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)

MA British Studies Students

Class 2015-2017

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Akyüz, Alican	Turkey	English Language and Literature
2. Andreeva, Anastasia	Russia	Public Relations, Foreign Languages, German
3. Bargmann, Jaqueline	Germany	European Studies
4. Daubney, Christopher	Australia	Business, Finance and Banking
5. Deacy, Charlotte	UK	History and Welsh History
6. Egitton, Cory	USA	Art History and Education
7. Eichenauer, Annemarie	Germany	Social Sciences and Intercultural Relations
8. Fleck-Hansl, Philipp	Germany	English Philology and Comparative Literature
9. Khristina, Mariia	Russia	Foreign Languages: English, German
10. Krauße, Lara-Marie	Germany	International Journalism
11. Lescher, Alexandra	Germany	English and American Studies, Political Science and Administration



Name	Country	First Degree
12. Mancini, Gaia	Italy	European and US American Languages, Literatures and Cultures
13. Mittelhaus, Mari	Germany	Business and Cultural Studies, Anglophone Studies, Business
14. Monteith, Amber	Canada	History and International History
15. Perminova, Svetlana	Russia	English Philology
16. Popović, Danica	Serbia	Drama and Creative Writing
17. Porter, Benjamin	UK	English Literature
18. Pyykkö, Sonja	Finland	Comparative Literature
19. Scharf, Dorit	Germany	English Studies
20. Schmiede, Ricarda	Germany	English and American Studies, German Language and Literature
21. Singer, Sarah	USA	Creative Writing, Philosophy and Religious Studies
22. Tóth, Selim János	Germany	International Technical Communication
23. Ullah, Rabea	Germany	Anglophone Studies
24. Walter, Miriam	Germany	English and American Studies
25. Wiggenhauser, Jana	Germany	International Cultural and Business Studies



Class 2016-2018

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Balakshiy, Yuliya	Kazakhstan	Foreign Languages
2. Barth, Taylor	USA	Science in Psychology, Biology, Social Work
3. Beaumier, Sacha	New Zealand	Sociology and English
4. Bolhuis, Elvira	Ukraine	Management Marketing
5. Chornoivanenko, Viktoriia	Ukraine	International Law (European Law)
6. Dafilis, Ann-Katrin	Germany	English and American Literature, Culture and Linguistics
7. Dibirov, Ismail	Russia	Jurisprudence and Translator, Interpreter English
8. Feng, Minying	China	Translation and Interpreting
9. Freitas Ornelas, Ana Carolina	Brazil	Audiovisual: Film, Radio and Television Studies
10. Freytag, Franziska	Germany	English and American Studies, Linguistics
11. Garcia, Brittany	USA	Science in International Business
12. Hinz, Leonore	Germany	English and American Studies, Linguistics
13. Hübinger, Anne	Germany	English Philology, Media, and Communication Studies
14. Keenan, Monika	Australia/UK	Performing Arts
15. Khusaenova, Diana	Russia	Linguistics
16. Kilian, Eva-Maria	Germany	German and English Studies
17. Kutsovol, Anastasiia	Ukraine	Publishing and Editing
18. Messow, Sandra	Germany	English, Business Administration
19. Moon, Angelique	USA	Communication Studies
20. Nüchter, Lena	Germany	Ancient History, English Philology
21. Petrova, Karina	Russia	International Economics
22. Rahimi, Maryam	Iran	English Literature
23. Šašková, Klára	Czech Republic	International Area Studies

Name	Country	First Degree
24. So, King Hang Ricker	Hong Kong	English Studies
25. Turlybekova, Maiya	Kazakhstan	Political Science
26. Von Linde-Suden, Leonie	Germany	English and Italian
27. Wells-Rhoden, Phillip	Canada	Political Science
28. Zhang, Jianhui	China	English, Finance, and Investment
29. Živković, Katarina	Serbia	English Language, Literature, and Culture



Teaching

Example

Literature Workshop: Shakespeare

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman, Marianne Graffam

This year's Shakespeare workshop focused on *Macbeth*. The students examined the play's universal themes and drew parallels to our current political and social situation. The words on the page came alive through various drama exercises including improv, rituals as well as the use of props and sound. Furthermore, the students explored possible stagings and performed key scenes to the group.



Learning by playing: getting the feel for Shakespeare by staging famous scenes



Further Activities

Visit to the British Embassy

The 2016 visit took place on a very cold November morning, with a guided tour of the embassy building, taking in the permanent objets d'art, a short overview of the building's history and the various departments housed there. As this was Remembrance Day, we experienced how the embassy observes and remembers past and present victims of conflict with a traditional two-minute silence at 11 a.m. Afterwards, the newly appointed Head of Communications, Simon Wells, took time to talk to us about current world events and especially about the new US presidency; the dominating theme of Brexit – and the consequences thereof; and his working days at the embassy, which provided inspiration and ideas for work placements for our new students.



Graduation Class 2014-2016

Due to job commitments and travel problems, not all successful graduates were able to make the journey to Berlin. However, for those that could be there this was a proud moment with a genuine sense of achievement. Prof Stedman congratulated class 2014-16 on their success, wished them well and reminded them to keep in touch with the Centre.

For the Centre's staff it was also a special moment, as this group was the first to officially complete the new MA in British Studies (and not the former Master in British Studies, MBS). Having been the first to accomplish the reformed study course with additional teaching in the third semester, they were very helpful in evaluating the new format and in helping us to further improve the course.



This year's Christmas Party took place after the Graduation, something which has become an annual GBZ tradition. It is a good opportunity to pause for a moment and look back on the first part of the academic year. Due to the new course structure three generations of students were present: the new graduates, the in-between 'third-semester' class who have either just been to or are about to leave for their placements, and the first-year students who started in October. There were many topics of conversation, but also the opportunity to enjoy a mug of mulled wine, try something exotic from the bring-your-own buffet or even shake a leg to some Christmas or other music. Students, staff, and guests enjoyed the evening and looked forward to a well-deserved break.



Celebrating the end of the year 2016

SPOTLIGHT

Student Project

Back to the Present: Moments that Made Modern Britain

Last June, the MA in British Studies class of 2017 presented “Back to the Present: Moments that Made Modern Britain” at the 2016 *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*.

The event examined current themes in British society, politics, and culture and linked them to the moments in history that influenced them. Through exhibitions, lectures, and activities, the event traced the progress of these moments to demonstrate their impact on modern day Britain. The night focused on the themes of immigration, race, gender, and the welfare state, in a post-World War Two timeframe. The event explored aspects of the *Windrush* and race in the UK; it examined the miner’s strike of the 1980s in relation to the LGBT movement; discussed the influence of the Spice Girls and their impact on feminism; looked at Harry Potter and race relations; and explained contemporary issues concerning the NHS. The night featured talks from guest speakers Jeff Cole on “Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners – A History of Solidarity” and Alexandra Kunz on “Representation of Racial Diversity in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter.”

But the event was not only an academic exploration. It was also a cultural one. To immerse them in British culture, the event invited visitors to sample tastes of Britain such as sweet scones, and even held the Great Marmite vs. Vegemite Debate. Visitors tested their British knowledge at fun but challenging pub quizzes. They participated in a raffle from which 70% of the proceeds went to Ban Ying, a charity supporting women and fighting human trafficking. All in all, the event donated €260 of proceeds to charity.

Taking a shot at the Iconic Photo Booth





The audience enjoying one of several performances – dances, lectures, a pub quiz – on the stage of the HU Senate Hall

Visitors also celebrated the Queen’s 90th birthday with “her majesty” herself (that is, a wonderful fancy dress mask), complete with a round of the Happy Birthday song and a beautiful cake. Visitors learned about the (then upcoming) Brexit vote and had the chance to vote in a mini-referendum, the majority voted remain, at a rate of almost 4 to 1. They could even participate in a prop-filled photo booth, Scottish dancing workshops, and British-themed craft making and face painting – fun for people of all ages!



From left: Do you or don't you like Marmite?; Jeff Cole, a British LGBTQ activist; an exhibition on decisive moments in British history flanked the event

The event was made possible by generous sponsors and donors, as well as by the Centre for British Studies.

The class of 2017 are happy to say that the event was a success, due to the efforts of the class as a whole, with the help of professors, staff, and dedicated volunteers. After many months of preparation and careful planning, the PR, finance, content, design, food, and craft teams came together to create an informative, entertaining, and family-friendly event that we will always remember fondly. And we already look forward to attending next year’s *Lange Nacht!*

Jaqueline Bargmann, Philipp Fleck-Hansl, and Sarah Singer
(project managers)

Celebrating with ‘Her Majesty’



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'.

Reports

Philipp Fleck-Hansl

National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh



'Ex-Berliner' GBZ students meeting up in London to exchange placement stories

Internships are all about scanning documents and preparing coffee? – well, apparently I can't handle the photocopier and don't understand the difference between weak, medium, and strong tea. I was a curatorial intern at the National Museums Scotland and for me it was more about exhibitions, objects, and research. Located in the historic Old Town of Edinburgh, the museum sticks out: one building a classical Victorian museum, with beautiful Crystal Palace inspired galleries, the other a contemporary Scottish architectural statement. At the Department for Scottish History and Archaeology, my work reflected the typical duties of a curator, even though I sometimes felt like a detective: I inspected surfaces, with eyes wide open for details, and rummaged archives and libraries just to find traces, a missing link; I unravelled (and enjoyed) the drama around the succession to the English Throne after James VI of England and I of Scotland, and along the way became a semi-expert on ivory and ivory carvings, because it's the pet subject of a keeper of another department. My colleagues further stressed the importance of discoveries, so I had non-work-related field trips to Scottish cities, lochs, and Highlands, to the Atlantic and the North Sea, to fellow friends in Britain and Ireland. Edinburgh is surely an old and sometimes beautiful town, and it's always nice to see different places and familiar faces.

Danica Popović

Political Studies Association, London

The Political Studies Association is a professional organisation for academics, postgraduates, students, and school teachers of political science, as well as people involved with professional politics. As they organise many events (conferences, lectures, seminars, workshops, and competitions), most of my work consisted of helping with event organisation. Occasionally, the work would be more research-based as I would be asked to source a speaker at a certain event, which would give me an

opportunity to learn more about the work of academics in a particular field of politics. The placement was a great opportunity to gain a diverse professional experience, as my tasks were quite varied, and gave me a good insight into several future career possibilities. Of course, one of the greatest perks is that you get to meet a lot of very interesting people (including practising politicians), have insightful conversations and attend academic events like lectures, which can feed very well into the studies at GBZ (for example, this year the organisation published an academic report on Brexit).



Danica met Prof Carmichael, her GBZ guest lecturer, at a PSA Awards Ceremony

Class 2015-17	Institution
Akyüz, Alican	The Open University in Wales, Cardiff
Andreeva, Anastasiia	New Island Books, Dublin, Ireland
Bargmann, Jaqueline	Glasgow Film Festival, Glasgow
Daubney, Christopher	Carers Trust Wales, Cardiff
Deacy, Charlotte	Harewood House Trust, Leeds
Egitton, Cory	The Little Museum of Dublin, Ireland
Eichenauer, Annemarie	Birmingham City Council, Birmingham
Fleck-Hansl, Philipp	National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh
Khristina, Mariia	Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, London
Krauß, Lara-Marie	Ben Bradshaw MP, House of Commons, London
Lescher, Alexandra	Jackie Baillie MSP, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
Mancini, Gaia	Gallery 46, London
Mittelhaus, Mari	Cheltenham Festivals, Cheltenham
Monteith, Amber	The Poverty Alliance, Glasgow
Perminova, Svetlana	Glasgow Film Festival, Glasgow
Popović, Danica	Political Studies Association, London
Porter, Benjamin	IndieBerlin, Berlin
Pyykkö, Sonja	Exberliner Magazine, Berlin
Scharf, Dorit	Tern TV, Glasgow
Schmiede, Ricarda	Metal Culture, Liverpool
Singer, Sarah	Experience Scotland, Dalkeith
Tóth, Selim János	Political Studies Association, London
Ullah, Rabea	Ben Bradshaw MP, House of Commons, London
Walter, Miriam	Birmingham City Council, Birmingham
Wiggenhauser, Jana	Bath Literature Festival, Bath

MA Theses

Class 2014-16	Thesis Title
Chekalova, Maiya	The Networks of Contemporary British Artworks
De Cock de Rameyen, Jade	The Question of the Narrative in Intermedial British Cinema. Ben Rivers, <i>Two Years at Sea</i>
Eremenko, Irina	Between two Unions: The Relation between the UK's Devolved Administrations and the EU in the Light of Brexit
Gasparyan, Lilit	International Law and the UK's Military Intervention in Syria
Hake, Laura	Agatha Christie: Queen of Crime – Chronicler of Social Change?
Hallmann, Anna Lena	Representations of the European Migrant Crisis 2015 in the British Media: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Broadsheet News
Huber III, Melvin	The British Sector: An Examination of the British Influence on "Space" and "Place" in Divided Berlin
Koca, Nazli	Recent Referendums in Britain and Turkey. A Study of the Public Understanding of Democracy
Krüger, Carina	Broadcasting Rights and the English Premier League
Kruk, Uliana	Early Entrepreneurial Activity in the Era of Brexit
Ponomarenko, Anna	British-Ukrainian Political Cooperation in the Field of Anti-Corruption Reforms
Sagimuldina, Nagima	The Legal Aspects of British Foreign Policy
Shah, Mala	British Overseas Voting Rights and the Question of the 15-Year Rule: An Out-Dated Inequality?
Sharafi, Seyed Reza	National Well-Being in the UK: Has the Government Got it Right?
Silveira Leite, Diana	Ultimate Romantics Across the Atlantic: British Influence on Brazilian Romantic Poetry
Sprockhoff, Katharina	Branding Britain - An Analysis of National Identity, Economic Policy and Public Diplomacy in the UK's GREAT Campaign
Suchkova, Irina	Between Conflict and Cooperation: National Identity and Perception of the Self and the Other in British-Russian Relations
Tabagua, Anni	Vivienne Westwood and the Punk Movement
Teggi, Diana	Living and Dying in Older Age in a Nursing Home Setting: Conversations with Seven Residents
Varago, Rubina	Italian Prosecco in the UK
Xu, Mingsong	Minorities in the Contemporary British Bildungsroman

Alumni

Graduates from the Centre have moved on to work in different fields and institutions, such as media and publishing, translation, performing arts, research/academia, teaching, NGOs, political organisations, education management, and private sector management. Alumni of the Centre for British Studies can be found in many different countries, including the UK, Germany, Bulgaria, Ireland, Turkey, China, Austria, Spain, Denmark, Mexico, and the United States.

The Centre puts a lot of emphasis on staying in touch with its alumni. We will continue in our two-fold endeavour of keeping track of what our former students are doing, while regularly sending out information about the activities at the Centre. However, we are currently working on shaking things up a bit and you will hear about our new ideas in a little while.

To get in touch with the Centre's new Alumni contact person, please write to Felicia Kompio: felicia.kompio@hu-berlin.de

What happened to ...

Jeanne-Marie Gaebler

Class 2011-2013

I graduated from the Centre in 2013 having chosen the Culture and Media option. After interning at the Marketing and Communications department of National Museums Scotland, I wrote my thesis on marketing concepts in the arts. I was offered the position of marketing director for a small publishing company in Berlin straight after graduating. In 2015 I came back to Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin – I am now part of the team Friend- and Fund-raising, which belongs to the university's Press and Public Relations Office.

As the Central Alumni Coordinator I am responsible for communicating with former students and staff and building a network that helps both our alumni as well as current university members. Want to be part of that network and give back to HU? Then send me an e-mail: alumni@hu-berlin.de



Jeanne (photo © Matthias Heyde)

THE CENTRE'S STAFF TEACHING AT OTHER FACULTIES

Lectures: International and Comparative Contract Law

Prof Dannemann gave this series of lectures at the Humboldt's Law Faculty during the winter terms 2015/16 and 2016/17. The lectures treat core issues of contract law from a comparative perspective with particular reference to 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 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.

The Financial Revolution 1660-1760. An Introduction to the Social and Cultural History of Money

This seminar was given by Prof Eisenberg at the HU History Department. The foundation of the Bank of England in 1694 was a decisive date of the so-called Financial Revolution, which took place in Britain at the turn of the seventeenth to the eighteenth century. Against the backdrop of imperial expansion, this stock company exercised the management of war-related government debts, which, after the Glorious Revolution, could be contracted by Parliament through tax revenue. This is a well-researched story. By way of contrast, the fact that the Bank of England immediately issued a new type of banknote has not yet been explored, although it also has had a wide range of social, cultural, and political effects. The participants of the seminar analysed the changing routines of payment and the perceptions of the economy by eighteenth-century Britons and, in discussing interpretations provided by the new research direction "Social and Cultural History of Money", they contributed to their own understanding of capitalism.



RESEARCH

Conferences and Workshops

Literature Seminar: Brit Crime – A New Golden Age of Crime Writing?

For the second time, the Centre for British Studies co-hosted the British Council Literature Seminar, which took place at the *Senatssaal* and the *Grimm-Zentrum* of Humboldt-Universität. British crime writers Philip Kerr, Val McDermid, Jake Arnott, Sophie Hannah, Bethan Roberts, and Kate Summerscale presented the audience with recent work, their ideas about crime and crime writing, and about genre fiction in general. The general public was present for the readings and interviews with Philip Kerr and Val McDermid, and took a lively part in discussions. Participants were able to join workshops and discuss with the authors different aspects of the writing processes - this being a very popular part of the seminar. A book table was provided by Marga Schoeller Bücherstube, and the Centre's students had the chance to meet and talk to authors as well. As part of the Centre's teaching programme on Narratives of Crime, the Literature Seminar was a great success.



Brit Crime: culprit/producer (Val McDermid) and victim/consumer (Corinna Radke)



Gripping panel discussions with the authors, enjoyed by a thrilled audience

Workshop on Online Platforms

The Research Group on the Law of Digital Services, which is co-organised by Prof Dannemann, met at the Centre from 26-27 February 2016 for work on a 'Discussion Draft of a Directive on Online Intermediary Platforms'. This has since been adopted by the European Law Institute as one of their research projects, and published in the *Journal of European Consumer and Market Law* (EuCML) 5 (2016), 164-169.

Writing 1900: Mapping Europe

In late May 2016, the research network Writing 1900 met for the second time on Gut Siggen, which is run by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation. In a series of impulse lectures, discussions, talks, and walks the group developed its new agenda for the coming years. The emphasis lay on the new topic, creating an interactive map of literary and cultural Europe around the turn of the nineteenth century. We began by looking at relevant theoretical concepts (the regional/the national, mapping, Europe, cultural exchange, comparative literary studies, cosmopolitanism etc.) and how they would shape the new project.

Then we proceeded to an analysis of other people's internet-based research activities, in order to find best-practice models and also in order to avoid certain pitfalls by learning from others. Further new formats such as an exhibition, key terms for the interactive map, and a re-cap of our past activities were also topics which we covered. The long walks, the sunny weather, and the productive discussions helped to give everyone a sense of achievement and hope for the future.

On the basis of the Siggen discussions, Gesa Stedman and Clément Dessy are currently developing a large funding bid for the mapping Europe project, while Philip Bullock, Stefano Evangelista, and Gesa Stedman have recently finished editing a special issue on literary spaces and communities for the *Forum of Modern Language Studies* (OUP), based on earlier meetings of the network in Berlin and Oxford, which will be published in summer 2017.



Room for fruitful discussion: The Alfred Toepfer Foundation offers academics an opportunity to concentrate on their joint research topic

The Literary Field Kaleidoscope

Together with Dr Sandra van Lente, Gesa Stedman developed and launched a new outreach project, entitled The Literary Field Kaleidoscope. It is a website which features a blog, interviews, articles, statistics, and a student's corner, focusing on the literary field in the UK, with comparison to Germany and France. Visits to the London and Frankfurt bookfairs are featured, recent and not-so-recent fiction is reviewed, and guests and students write about many different aspects of the literary field for the website.

In addition to the website, Sandra van Lente and Gesa Stedman organize regular readings and other events centred on the book and the literary field. The project was launched during the British Literature Seminar. In 2016, poet Frances Leviston and crime writer Denise Mina read from their works and discussed them with the audience. During the festive season, the Literary Field Kaleidoscope featured a podcast Advent's calendar, with spoken poems, parts of stories etc. providing a daily literary input to the website's followers. It can be accessed here: www.literaryfield.org



Denise Mina talking to students and signing her books



Prof Stedman interviewing poet Frances Leviston

ADEF Junior Workshop

The 8th ADEF (*Arbeitskreis Deutsche England-Forschung* – German Association for the Study of British History and Politics) Workshop for young academics took place at the Centre for British Studies in October 2016, and was organized by Christoph Nübel (Bundeswehr Centre for Military History and Social Sciences, Potsdam) and Tanja Skambraks (Mannheim University). The topics under discussion were broad, among them the materiality of rolls in the British financial administration during the thirteenth century, literary reflections on captive narratives in the sixteenth century, and British policy on Iran in the 1950s. Among the questions discussed were which topics and methods form the subject of British history. Since the ADEF was founded the research foci have broadened significantly. Now Great Britain's role in the world seems to be at the centre. Many projects research the consequences which Britain's influence and presence had for perceptions and experiences of societies in history.

SPOTLIGHT

Berlin-Britain Research Network Conference: Agency and Austerity

The first large conference organized by the Berlin-Britain Research Network took place in April. Gesa Stedman, Hugh Mackay, and Marius Guderjan as co-ordinators of the network organized the meeting together with Corinna Radke. It was funded by the Excellence Initiative as part of the KOSMOS programme. Members of the Centre's Graduate School also helped with the running of the conference.



Keynote Lecture: Dr Rebecca Bramall

Members of the research network spoke as well as keynote speakers and guests. Prof Mike Savage from the London School of Economics opened the conference with a paper on austerity and class, while Dr Rebecca Bramill, University of the Arts, London, continued with a keynote the next day on the complexities of austerity and tax evasion discourse. Other topics covered were: Counteracting Austerity through the Social Investment Market?; Cuts in the Cultural Sector; Austerity as Means of Re-Distributing Power and Control in Media; Public Protests and Austerity; Localism in a Time of Austerity; and Austerity and Housing.



Keynote speaker Prof Mike Savage (middle)

All participants, students, guests, and colleagues from Humboldt-Universität's social sciences department agreed on the productive nature of the conference. A publication based on the conference and edited by Hugh Mackay, Marius Guderjan, and Gesa Stedman is currently being planned. The network's next conference will shift the emphasis to the connection between austerity and Brexit, and will take place in the autumn of 2017.

From left: Rebecca Bramall with students from the Centre; continuing the discussion; Allan Cochrane giving a talk on localism in austerity times



Strategy Meeting

During a smaller network meeting in October 2016, again funded by KOSMOS, the core members of the network decided on the future activities of the network.

Two funding applications have been developed by members of the network, one focusing on social inequality and European (dis)integration for the European Training Network funding line as part of Horizon 2020, with Dundee University as lead university and the Centre for British Studies Culture and Literature Department as a beneficiary. The second funding application for a smaller research grant concentrates on disenfranchisement and populism in the UK and Germany as part of the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung's funding line for interdisciplinary research projects. This project was developed by Marius Guderjan, Adrian Wilding, and Gesa Stedman.



Discussing the future of the Network:
M. Guderjan, G. Stedman, I. von Rosenberg, H. Mackay, A. Cochrane, C. Morelli, A. Wilding (from left)

With both these applications, the research network has expanded its thematic range, while still remaining faithful to its original conception as a critical, interdisciplinary network. By focusing on doctoral training and younger academics, the Centre's research base will be broadened both thematically and in terms of the numbers of doctoral and postdoctoral researchers working on interdisciplinary British-Studies topics with a contemporary and critical focus.



Funded by Future Concept resources of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin through the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal Government and its Federal States.

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 to the Humboldt-Universität some 10,000 personal documents relating to Francis Mann, 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 will allow him to take off the summer term 2017 for a close reading of the some 12,500 documents, for writing an article on the main findings, and for preparing a more substantial grant application in cooperation with partners and other researchers from Humboldt-Universität (including Prof Eisenberg for the Centre), the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, and i.a. the Universities of Cambridge and Oslo. Prof Dannemann also attended the 39th F.A. Mann Lecture, delivered by Shami (now Baroness) Chakrabarti, 7 March 2016, Lincoln's Inn, London, and a workshop in Cambridge on 16 November on future research on Francis Mann, organised by Jason Allen, Cambridge, who will join the Centre of British Studies as Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow as of September 2017.

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 *Journal of European Consumer and Market Law* (Eu-CML) 5 (2016), 164-169. The European Law Institute adopted this as one of their current research projects and appointed Prof Dannemann as co-reporter. The Centre for British Studies hosted a drafting workshop which took place on 26 and 27 February.

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

“Local government and EU legislation: implementation, multilevel governance, subsidiarity and litigation”, presented at ‘Implementation and Judicial Politics: Conflict and Compliance in the EU Multi-Level System’, a conference held at the *Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin*, 3-4 March 2016 (joint presentation with Marius Guderjan). * “*Wissenschaftliches Plagiat*”, presented at ‘*Von der Simulation zur Imagination: Grenzen "historischer Authentizität"*’, *Werkstatt-Gespräch* of the *Leibniz-Forschungsverbunds "Historische Authentizität"*, *Leibniz-Institut für Europäische Geschichte*, Mainz, 1 July 2016. * “Legal implications of Brexit”, presented at ‘Round Table on the Fallout of the Brexit Referendum’, *Centre for British Studies*, *Humboldt-Universität*, 5 July 2016. * “*Außenpolitik, Wirtschaft und Arbeitsmarktentwicklung in Großbritannien nach dem Brexit*”, presented at ‘*Was nun? Die Europäische Union nach dem Brexit*’, *Schloss Herrenhausen*, 8 November 2016. * “The F.A. Mann Nachlass Project”, at *F.A. Mann Workshop*, *Cambridge*, 16 November 2016.

Other Conference Attendances

‘New Rules for Contracts in the Digital Single Market – What’s in it for Consumers and Businesses in Europe?’, *European Law Institute*, *Vienna*, 21-22 January. * Hosted and chaired a workshop of the *Research Group on the Law of Digital Services*, *Centre for British Studies*, 26-27 February 2016. * Chaired the 2nd Conference on ‘Platform Services in the Digital Single Market’, *Cracow*, 7-8 April 2016. * ‘*La Mondialisation: Journées Internationales Münster/Berlin*’, *Association Henri Capitant des amis de la culture juridique française*, *Berlin*, 27 June 2016. * *Society of Legal Scholars*, *Annual Conference*, *Oxford*, 5-8 September. * Workshop on ‘European integration and the transformation of the state in Europe’, *Cambridge*, 8 September (*DAAD Cambridge research network*). * Panelist in “*Der Brexit ist eine mittlere Katastrophe!*”, discussion panel organised by the *Hochschulrektorenkonferenz* (*Association of German Vice-Chancellors*) in cooperation with *Santander Bank*, *Berlin*, 30 September 2016.



2016 was a busy media year for Prof Dannemann who appeared on numerous TV and Radio news

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg



Waddling out as a lame duck: a defaulter on the Stock Exchange was warned off his playing field in the 18th century

In the first three months of 2016, Prof Eisenberg enjoyed a sabbatical financed by the Excellence Initiative and worked intensively on her book on "The Sporting Spirit of Capitalism. A Study on Markets and Competition". This study examines the perception of practices of interaction in markets and sport between the eighteenth and twenty-first centuries and the suggestions for contemporaries to use these interactions for the development of competitive strategies. The book is well on its way to being completed, with surprising findings which led to more in-depth research than expected. It has turned out that the shaping of cognition by the interaction of sport and financial market activities, which in the planning stage were assumed to have happened in the twentieth century, started already in the early eighteenth century – to the effect that a more detailed first chapter had to be written. Prof Eisenberg gave presentations on her research on several occasions, including a workshop on 'Cooptation as a Strategy of Managerial Recruitment', DFG Research Group at Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main, 22 January 2016, and a conference on 'What did New Public Management do to Sport?', History Department, University of Stockholm, 23 September 2016.

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman



Gesa Stedman was shortlisted for the Humboldt Teaching Award for the interdisciplinary course she taught together with Jessica Fischer 'Narratives of Crime.'

Prof Stedman continued to work on her long-term project of a study of anglophone travellers to Berlin from the late nineteenth to the middle of the twentieth century. She co-edited a special issue on a related topic, literary spaces and communities, together with Philip Bullock and Stefano Evangelista, with whom she co-leads the research network Writing 1900. Its conference in May on Gut Sigger led to the development of a new funding bid for an interactive map of literary activities around 1900 which is currently being finalized.

As part of her activities as founder and co-leader of the Berlin-Britain Research Network, Gesa Stedman helped to develop two funding bids on European (dis)integration and disenfranchisement, her responsibility resting with the cultural section. Here, her particular interest lies on the creation of new 'others' and their representation, but also on the effects that austerity politics and Brexit may have on the cultural sector. Finally, Gesa Stedman put together a team of interested colleagues both from Humboldt-Universität and beyond for a funding bid for a DFG Graduate Training Group (*Graduiertenkolleg*) on "Britain – Cultural Exchange, Migration, and Commerce" which is currently under review.

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, CBE

The book project "The Rise and Fall of the Written Self" is part of HU'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 fifteenth to the twenty-first 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 then use the evidence to re-examine the validity of the 'individualization postulate' that has been central to so many studies of Western modernization processes.



Professors Dannemann and Schlaeger at the Keynote Lecture 2016

Prof Dr Margrit Schulte Beerbühl

Prof Schulte Beerbühl, who stood in for Prof Eisenberg during her sabbatical, has been pursuing two research projects. She has been working on 'The Hamburg Speculation Bubble of 1799 and its Global Impact'. Another subject, which she has been developing for some time, is the history of German chocolate firms. She edited a special edition in *Food & History* on "The global expansion of cocoa and chocolate: diffusion, industrialisation, mass production and advertisement" in 2015. In cooperation with the Chocolate Museum in Cologne, she prepared an exhibition on the history of forgotten chocolate firms along the lower Rhine between Emmerich and Bonn (ca 1850 to 1970) which opened in spring 2016.

Dr Marius Guderjan

In 2016, Dr Marius Guderjan was particularly active in working on the British EU referendum and on the UK's devolution arrangements. This included the KOSMOS Dialogue 'Devolution in the UK', funded by the university's Future Concept through the Excellence Initiative, which brought various experts in the field of regionalisation and devolution to Berlin for the purpose of academic exchange, workshops, and public lectures.

With the support of KOSMOS Dialogue, Marius organised the lecture series 'The Future of the UK: Between Internal and External Divisions' during the summer term, which served as the basis for an edited book with the same title, published by the Centre.

In spring 2016, Marius published together with Prof Lee Miles in the *Journal of European Integration*. He was elected as the co-chairman of ADEF (German Association for the Study of British History and Politics). As co-leader of the Berlin-British Research Network on Critical Austerity Studies, Marius has also been in-





Mairus (left) discussing a funding application with Gesa Stedman and Adrian Wilding

involved in the network's annual conference 'Austerity and Agency' and subsequent meetings. In September, Marius presented a paper at the annual UACES (University Association of Contemporary European Studies) at Queen Mary University London. Together with Chris Bickerton, Fellow of Queens' College Cambridge, he organised a first workshop on 'European Integration and State Transformation' held at the University of Cambridge, funded by the DAAD as part of the new Cambridge Research Hub for German Studies. He further presented a joint paper with Prof Dannemann for the workshop 'Implementation and judicial politics: conflict and compliance in the EU multi-level system' at the Berlin Social Science Centre (WZB); participated at the scenario workshop seminar 'The UK and the EU in 2030' by the Europäische Akademie Berlin, and talked about 'The Future of Regional and Local Autonomy in the UK and the EU' during a conference of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP).

Dr Sam McIntosh

Earlier this year Sam completed and was awarded his PhD by City University, London. His thesis was entitled 'Open Justice and Investigations into Deaths at the Hands of the Police or in Police or Prison Custody'. Sam spent the last three years of the PhD at The University of Vienna as a visiting PhD student under the supervision of Prof Manfred Nowak. In June of this year Sam had his article "Taken lives matter: open justice and recognition in inquests into deaths at the hands of the state" published in the *International Journal of Law in Context* 12.2, 141–161. Sam is continuing his research into Coroners and Coroners' Inquests, and non-retributive and non-compensatory justice forms. He is also working on preparing a funding application for a project that looks into the deaths of unsettled migrants and refugees in Europe. After joining the Centre for British Studies in December of this year, Sam will also be putting together a project that will be the subject of his *Habilitation* (or "Second Book").

Ali El-Haj

Ali El-Haj has been researching the migration of legal norms and the normative principles that underpin these migrations. Research he has conducted has been published in the book chapter 'The Relationship between International Law and National Law in New and Amended Arab Constitutions', in R. Grote, T. J. Röder, eds, and A. M. El-Haj, assistant editor, *Constitutionalism, Human Rights and Islam after the Arab Spring*, OUP, 2016. Ali attended

various conferences, workshops and lectures in the past year – including ‘Global Constitutionalism and Critical Theory’ in Berlin – and delivered a class on international children’s rights in a local Berlin high school. He is the Assistant Editor of the *Oxford University Comparative Law Forum*. The theme for the 2016 Humboldt Award for Good Teaching was “Research-Oriented Courses”. The courses that fall under this category are those that inspire students to conduct research or encourage them to reflect on their research. Across the university’s entire repertoire of courses offered, 69 nominations were made for the Award, out of which Ali was nominated and shortlisted for ‘Mooting’, ‘Human Rights – Law and Literature’, ‘Constitutional Law and Political System’, and nominated for the same award with respect to ‘Commercial Law’.

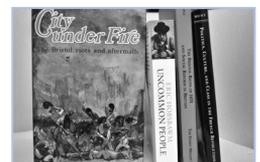
Jessica Fischer

Jessica Fischer’s research project “Narratives of Neoliberalism. Agency after 9/11 in Selected British Debut Novels” investigates contemporary literature in the light of neoliberal discourses. It focuses 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 2016, Jessica Fischer took part in the *Arbeitskreis Cultural Studies* (January), organised a public talk with the writer Jessica Mann, supported and attended the British Council Literature Seminar in Berlin (January), collaborated with international creatives in Berlin (art, design, architecture, dance), chaired and/or helped to prepare the sessions of the Interdisciplinary Reading Group of the Berlin Graduate School for British Studies, participated in the Berlin-Britain Research Network conference ‘Austerity and Agency’ (April), presented her current research project in the British Studies Research Colloquium (July) and attended the annual conference of the German Association for the Study of British Cultures (November).



Felicia Kompio

Felicia joined the Centre in October. She is currently working on her PhD thesis on urban political participation in early nineteenth-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 (Centre for British Studies). Felicia gave presentations of the concept and early stages of her PhD research at the '8th Junior Workshop of the German Association for the Study of British History and Politics' as well as the '4th Annual Workshop of the Association for Studies in Belgian History'.

Sofia Permiakova

As a member of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies, Sofia started working on her PhD thesis on British women's war poetry in May 2015. Her work focuses on the complex reasons behind women's exclusion from the war poetry canon. 2014 marked the centenary of the outbreak of World War I; 2015 commemorates 70 years since the end of World War II. As a part of memorial culture, war poetry reappears on those special occasions: put into a new context, it has a potential of being revised. Still at the initial stage of her research, Sofia is now focusing on finding the grounds for such a revision through giving a detailed account of the aesthetic wealth of women's war poetry. In 2016 she also attended numerous workshops organized by the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies. Sofia stood in for Johanna Zinecker who spent a research year in London.

Reet Tamme

During her stay at the Centre, Reet has continued the work on her PhD thesis "*Wissenschaft und race relations. Repräsentationen von Multiethnizität in Großbritannien, 1950-1980*". The aim of this project is to shed light on the role of the social sciences in the process of massive social change in Britain due to post-war immigration. It examines how the social sciences construct the knowledge on the constitution of society and how this discourse shapes social practices. Reet presented her research project at the British Studies Research Colloquium in the summer term. She replaced Dr Erik Spindler during his leave of absence.



Johanna Zinecker

Johanna's PhD research examines artistic production on mental health and madness in the UK context, utilizing approaches from across the Critical Medical Humanities, Disability, and Cultural Studies. In 2015 Johanna was granted the Caroline von Humboldt International Research Award, a funding line of the Excellence Initiative, which allowed her to continue her PhD research in the

UK for the academic year 2015-16 and to expand her academic network. Based at King's College in London, Johanna conducted intensive fieldwork across the UK and participated in a number of conferences and academic workshops, at King's College and elsewhere, such as a presentation of her project in the Medical Humanities MSc Programme and a publication for the programme "Are you feeling better?", organized by the Cultural Institute. Johanna conducts her PhD as part of the Joint PhD Programme between Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and King's College London, supervised by Prof Eveline Kilian (English Studies, HU Berlin) and Prof Brian Hurwitz (English Department and Centre for the Humanities and Health, KCL, London). She is also an associate member of the Berlin Graduate School for British Studies and participates regularly in the Interdisciplinary Reading Group of the Centre as well as in the Research Colloquium organized by Prof Kilian (English Studies) at HU Berlin.

Visiting Researchers

Prof Patricia Springborg

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

In 2016 Patricia Springborg published a co-edited special issue of the *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* on "Early Modern Materialism", proceedings of the Mainz conference on Materialism (2014), in which she also has an article, "Hobbes' Materialism and Epicurean Mechanism", 814-35. She also published articles on "Mary Astell's Critique of Marriage Practices", in Susan Bruce and Katherine Smits, eds, *Feminist Moments: Reading Feminist Texts*, pp. 27-33, and an overview of Astell's writings for *Fifty-One Key Feminist Thinkers*, Lori Marso, ed., 16-21. She has two long articles in press, "Curiosity, Anxiety and Religion in Thomas Hobbes" and "Hobbes and the Politics of Ecclesiastical History", in volumes of proceedings from previous conferences at the Accademia dei Lincei in Rome (2015), and the European Hobbes Society Workshops in London (2014). She presented papers on "The EU, Cartel Parties and Cartel Capitalism" at the ECPR General Conference, Charles University, Prague, September 7-11; and at two successive conferences at KU Leuven: 'Hobbes on war and peace and the "Security Dilemma"' to the European Hobbes Society First Biennial Conference, September 21-22, and "Hobbes on Personation and Representation" to the Workshop 'The Polysemy of Political Representation: Historical and Theoretical Approaches', Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven, September 22-23.



Bruno Leipold



Bruno enjoying his stay

Bruno Leipold is a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for British Studies for the winter semester 2016-17. He is a political theorist and historian of political thought currently completing his DPhil in Politics at the University of Oxford. His research explores Karl Marx's relationship to the republican tradition of political thought. During his time at the Centre he researched Marx's interactions with various republican exiles in London in the early 1850s, who had fled there after the failure of the 1848 Revolutions. He is particularly interested in how various continental republican ideas were transmitted into English radical circles, especially in the writings of George Julian Harney, William James Linton and Ernest Jones. While at the Centre, he also taught the Oxford Union Style Debating Class to the MA in British Studies students.

Astrid Millung-Christoffersen



Astrid busy at her desk

During her research stay in Berlin Astrid spent an enjoyable and productive time at the Centre for British Studies at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. She would like to thank the Centre's staff very much for their hospitality and hopes to see everyone again. The project she is working on is: "The impact of the Europeanization of property law – with special reference to movable property". Astrid wanted to visit Humboldt-Universität in order to get access to the law libraries in Berlin, get a better feeling for German property law and how this works together with European property law. During her stay she studied the legal framework, preparatory work, literature etc., and returned to Aarhus University, Denmark with a bag full of books about "*Sachenrecht*".

Doctoral Students

Culture and Literature Department

Supervision by Prof Gesa Stedman

Jessica Fischer: "*Erzählungen des Neoliberalismus. Eine Analyse der Handlungsmöglichkeiten nach dem 11. September 2001 in ausgewählten britischen Debütromanen.*"

Jennifer Jacob: "Effects of priorities in science policy on grant evaluation and research: A comparative study of funding agencies and their relation to policy-makers and scientists in Germany and the UK". Co-supervised by Prof Dannemann and Prof Schlaeger.

Melanie Neumann: "Recent British and Irish Migration to Berlin – A Case of Lifestyle Migration?"

Sofia Permiakova: "Women on War, or War on Women? Representation of War in British Women's Poetry and Women's Position in the War Poetry Canon".

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: "A Literary Perspective on European Cultural Policies in the UK, Ireland and Germany – The European Union Prize for Literature".

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

Firas Amr: has handed in and successfully defended his doctoral thesis entitled "*Der 'Charakter' des deutschen Feindes. Eine Analyse der britischen Propaganda und Psychologischen Kriegsführung im Zweiten Weltkrieg*". The dissertation is available via <http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/dissertationen/amr-firas-2015-06-23/PDF/amr.pdf>.

Sebastian Schlund: has handed in and successfully defended his doctoral thesis entitled "*'Behinderung' überwinden? Die Geschichte des organisierten Behindertensports in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (1950-1990)*" at the University of Kiel. Supervised by Prof Gabriele Lingelbach, co-supervised by Prof Eisenberg.



Doctoral students joining the Centre's reading group sessions

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

Reet Tamme: "*Wissenschaft und ‚race relations‘. Repräsentationen von Multiethnizität in Großbritannien, 1950-1980*". Supervised by Prof Gabriele Metzler (Humboldt-Universität).

Law Department

Supervision by Prof Gerhard Dannemann

Jens Brückerhoff: has submitted a PhD thesis on the law of maritime salvage in comparative law and in the conflict of laws.

Robert Ficht: is writing a PhD thesis on "Statutory control of unfair contract terms in business contracts".

Arne Gutsche: is writing a PhD thesis on "Conceptions of contract as a question of national identity".

Richard Marter: successfully defended his PhD thesis on "The review of standard contract terms in collective proceedings in Germany, France and England" (in German).

Farida Valiullina: is revising a complete draft of her PhD thesis on "The Dialogue of the Courts in Europe: Interactions between the Strasbourg Court, the Luxembourg Court and the Courts of ECHR Member States".

Berlin Graduate School of British Studies (BGSBS)

2016 was another busy year for the Centre's Graduate School – the highlight being an extensive evaluation by the Humboldt Graduate School. Prof Stedman, as speaker, wrote a report on the successes and problems of the school. In June an evaluation committee (including the HGS director and officials from the HU) came and visited the Centre. Based on the report they asked questions about how things worked out and what challenges the Graduate School had to overcome. They also spoke to the PhD students and were highly impressed by their lively input. In the end, the committee congratulated the BGSBS on their obvious success and decided to make it a full member of HGS, with no extra requirements to be fulfilled. Receiving the status of full membership was an important step on its way to becoming a proper Research Training Group, financed by the DFG (German Research Council).

Another big accomplishment in this regard was the submission of a draft proposal to the DFG to establish such a training group. In this, the Centre



Getting thoughts on paper: writing sweatshop

works together with several academics from other HU faculties, thus strengthening ties with these departments. The topic of the planned graduate school is "Britain (Dis)Connected: Transfer, Migration, Commerce". Should the draft proposal be successful, a full proposal will be submitted. But the prospect of hosting a fully-fledged and properly financed graduate school for British Studies outweighs all the hard work this includes.

In 2016, the PhD students continued to write their dissertations. Some went to conferences to exchange ideas and get inspiration in their field of study, others have gone to the UK to conduct interviews and collect the necessary data for their thesis. All of them have taken several courses during the year, for example on the chances and challenges of an interdisciplinary PhD project or on good academic practice. Again, the writing process itself was an important focus of workshops and courses, e.g. in a so-called writing sweatshop, thus equipping the students with the skills needed to research and write an interdisciplinary PhD project.

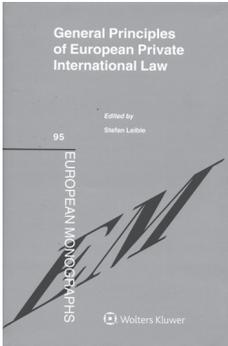


Humboldt-Meile:
intellectual as well as
physical team spirit

PhD Student Report on Their Success Team / FARMS

It is probably fair to say that none of us were too excited about the so-called Success Team workshop: a peer mentoring format consisting of eight introductory sessions lead by a coach, Dr. María Machón, after which we were to fend for ourselves on a regular basis. For us, it all sounded very much like American motivational-training, a bit like those nineties fitness training videos – but for academia! However, the first session turned out quite ... well... successful, so much so that we were actually starting to look forward to the rest. We got to know each other better and learnt to better envision our goals and articulate the steps to be taken and how to deal with obstacles along the way, both in our academic and private lives. From then on the sessions provided structure to our sometimes chaotic PhD lives and we also learnt how to best support one another. After the workshop with our coach María Machón officially ended in December last year, we decided to continue with regular meetings on our own. Now, we are always looking forward to the next Success Team meetings or FARMS (Forum for Advanced Research Motivation and Support), as we have lovingly called it, to see how the others are progressing, what challenges they had faced in the past weeks, how they overcame those challenges or whether we could brainstorm solutions, and how we might help each other on our journey towards the PhD.

Publications



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---. "Ist Großbritannien nach dem Referendum auf dem Weg zurück zur Wahldiktatur?" [After the Referendum: Is the UK Heading Back to Elective Dictatorship?] *Der Tagesspiegel*, 25 June 2016.

---, and Christoph Busch, Hans Schulte-Nölke, Aneta Wiewiórowska-Domagalska and Fryderyk Zoll. "Discussion Draft of a Directive on Online Intermediary Platforms". *Journal of European Consumer and Market Law (EuCML)* 5 (2016): 164-169.

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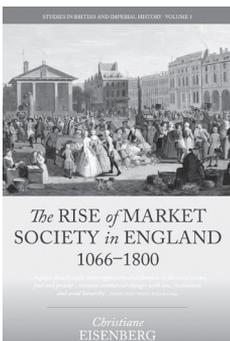
EISENBERG, CH. *The Rise of Market Society in England, 1066-1800*. Berghahn: Oxford, 2016. Paperback reprint.

SCHULTE BEERBÜHL, M. "Interconnecting Trade Regions: International Networks of German Merchants in the Eighteenth Century". *Merchants and Trade Networks in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, 1550-1800*. Manuel Herrero Sanchez and Klemens Kaps, eds. London: Routledge, 2016. 171-195.

STEDMAN, G., and Sandra van Lente. *The Literary Field Kaleidoscope*. Online: www.literaryfield.org, 2016.

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---. "Painstaking Research, But Not Such a Good Read – Sarah Waters *The Paying Guests*", *The Literary Field Kaleidoscope*. Online: www.literaryfield.org, 2016.

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GUDERJAN, M. *The Future of the UK: Between Internal and External Divisions*. Berlin: Centre for British Studies, 2016.

---, and Lee Miles. "The Fusion Approach – Applications for Understanding Local Government and European Integration". *Journal of European Integration* 38.6 (2016): 637-652.

MCINTOSH, S. "Taken Lives Matter: Open Justice and Recognition in Inquests into Deaths at the Hands of the State". *International Journal of Law in Context* 12.2 (2016): 141–161.

EL-HAJ, A.M. "The Relationship between International Law and National Law in New and Amended Arab Constitutions". *Constitutionalism, Human Rights and Islam after the Arab Spring*. R. Grote, T.J. Röder, eds, and Ali El-Haj, assistant editor. Oxford University Press, 2016. 763-794.

---, assistant editor, R. Grote and T. J. Röder, eds. *Constitutionalism, Human Rights and Islam after the Arab Spring*. Oxford University Press, 2016.

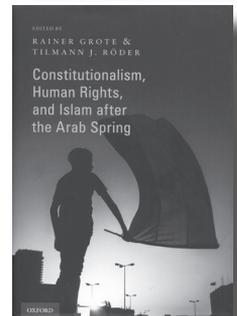
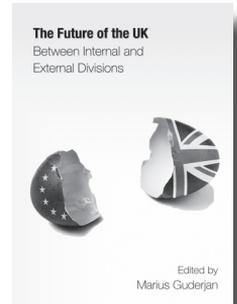
ZINECKER, J. "Visionaries at Work." *Are you Feeling Better?* F. Williams, ed. Cultural Institute, King's College London, 2016. 24-27.

Visiting Researchers

SPRINGBORG, P. "Hobbes's Materialism and Epicurean Mechanism". *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 24.5 (2016): 814-835. Guest editor with Falk Wunderlich of this special issue on "Early Modern Materialism".

---. "Mary Astell's Critique of Marriage Practices". *Feminist Moments: Reading Feminist Texts*. Susan Bruce and Katherine Smits, eds. London: Bloomsbury, 2016. 27-33.

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Library

There is a small reference library available in Mohnenstraße 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 with its computerised administration system. 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 35,000 volumes and 8,000 items of electronic material.

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.

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

EVENTS

Keynote Lecture

Sleepwalkers vs Warmongers The 1914 Debate Revisited

Prof Sir Christopher Clark

Regius Professor of History, University of Cambridge

14 November

Each year the Centre for British Studies brings a highly distinguished speaker to Berlin, in order to make a larger audience more acquainted with British themes, controversies and perspectives, but also with specific aspects of British-German Relations. The 2016 Keynote Lecture was given by the historian Sir Christopher Clark, the 22nd Regius Professor at the University of Cambridge. Sir Christopher is a specialist on German history and has published broadly, particularly on Prussia. On the occasion of the centenary of the First World War, his book "The Sleepwalkers. How Europe Went to War in 1914" was particularly well-received by both fellow historians and the general public; it also set the topic for the Keynote speech.



Prof Sir Christopher Clark

communicated with one another, despite the fact that they all had a similar mentality. According to the author, each of them was a “sleepwalker”, characterized as “watchful but unseeing, haunted by dreams, yet blind to the reality or the horror they were about to bring into the world”.

In this speech, Sir Christopher recalled the anti-European atmosphere in Britain engendered by the media and politics during the years he was working on his book. He made it clear that this experience contributed to his decision to choose an international approach. He then discussed the pros and cons of such an approach to meet the requirements of the First World War as a genuinely global event and explained his deliberate abstention from analysing in greater



The *Senatssaal* was packed, and the audience asked quite a few questions

detail the question of guilt and responsibility. He also elaborated on the positions of his critics, among them eminent German historians, who did not at all agree that the guilt question is “fruitless” because it only reinforces the “narrative of inevitability”.

Sir Christopher’s continuing passion for his topic resulted in this Keynote Lecture being, from the point of view of the audience, both entertaining and providing ample food for thought.

The keynote lecture was followed by a lively reception



The book is the first monograph that intentionally avoided anchoring the analysis in a specific national history, but observed the outbreak of war from an international perspective. The reader is taken on a trip to locations all over the world, and can therefore comprehend why in July 1914 politicians in various countries scarcely

communicated with one another, despite the fact that they all had a similar mentality. According to the author, each of them was a “sleepwalker”, characterized as “watchful but unseeing, haunted by dreams, yet blind to the reality or the horror they were about to bring into the world”.

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SPOTLIGHT

Brexit

A Momentous Year in British Politics

by Dr Marius Guderjan

The UK's relationship with the EU has never been an easy one. Large parts of the British population and its leaders have always been suspicious of the idea of pooling sovereignty and integrating with other member states beyond economic cooperation. And yet, despite some forebodings, the outcome of the referendum came as a harsh surprise. Across the UK 51.9 per cent voted for Leave and 48.1 per cent for Remain. Cameron's successor Theresa May has announced in October that the British Government will trigger Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union in March 2017, starting the official negotiations about the terms of Brexit. This affects our students and ourselves professionally and personally. These are exciting times for scholars of British studies, and we believe that our good relations to the UK can be maintained.



Dr McGarvey on Scotland, the UK and the EU

In the light of the British referendum on 23 June, the Centre organised a series of public lectures and discussions during the academic year 2016.

Immediately after the referendum, the Centre hosted a spontaneous panel discussion 'Brexit: What Future for Britain, Germany and Europe'. The public talks were very well attended and included prestigious speakers, such as Labour MP Ben Bradshaw, Nick Leake from the British Embassy, Rachel Launay, Director of the British Council Germany, Prof Pauline Schnapper from the University of Paris Sorbonne Nouvelle and Prof Paul Carmichael from the University of Ulster.

Prof Paul Carmichael responds to Ben Bradshaw's question: "Brexit - Could it Happen?"



The lecture series coincided with the KOSMOS Dialogue 'Devolution in the UK' bringing experts to Berlin to give workshops and public presentations. Dr Marius Guderjan successfully applied for the KOSMOS Dialogue, funded by the university's Future Concept of the Excellence Initiative, for the purpose of a methodological and theoretical exchange between junior and international senior academics from various disciplines. Consequently, he invited Magnus Lindh from Karlstad University, Prof Paul Cairney from the University of Stirling, Dr Neil McGarvey from the University of Strathclyde and Arjan Schakel from the University of Maastricht to the Centre who participated in fruitful discussions.



Prof Pauline Schnapper on the Referendum Campaign



KOSMOS Dialogue: Dr Guderjan with Magnus Lindh, Karlstad University

The KOSMOS Dialogue and lecture series also allowed us to follow the recommendations of our advisory board to produce an edited book on the recent political developments in British politics: 'The Future of the UK: Between Internal and External Divisions' was published in October by the Centre.

The conditions of the UK leaving the EU are still open to speculation. Although the British Government announced a 'hard' Brexit that would take the UK out of the Single Market in order to limit immigration, it has not produced a clear strategy yet. It remains to be seen what role Parliament will take in the negotiations with the EU and when Article 50 will be triggered. Furthermore, the Scottish government has started to push for a new independence referendum, as unlike England and Wales, Scotland voted largely to remain in the EU.

The Future of the UK

Between Internal and External Divisions



Edited by
Marius Guderjan

Through our public events and our engagement with various media, we clearly witness a strong interest in the path that the UK has taken among a wider public. It is a significant part of the Centre's research and outreach agenda to follow the UK's developments and to promote the awareness and discussion about its future and its relations with the EU. Therefore, we decided to continue our lecture series 'The Future of the UK: Post-Brexit Referendum' during the winter term and beyond from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Monday Lectures

Britain Counts: Knowledge Production in Censuses and Survey Research from the Nineteenth Century to the Digital Age

PD Dr Kerstin Brückweh

Department of History, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen

6 January

Kerstin Brückweh presented the main results of her recently published book *Menschen zählen* (Oldenbourg/de Gruyter, 2015), in which she analyses British censuses and surveys from the early nineteenth century until today's digital age, focusing on actors, methodology, social classifications, and questions about race, ethnicity, and disabilities. This history of the methods underlying the huge project of counting people also sheds light on current discussions about Big Data. Kerstin Brückweh is a lecturer at the Seminar for Contemporary History at the University of Tübingen, and she is project leader at the *Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung* Potsdam. Her main fields of interest are the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



PD Dr Kerstin Brückweh

Comparing and Contrasting the Europeanisation of Regions: Asymmetrical Patterns of Regional Action in Sweden and England

Magnus Lindh

Karlstad University, Sweden

21 April

Subnational actors have long been overlooked as potential agents with a capacity to influence the trajectory of supranational political processes of European integration. Magnus Lindh argued that studies of regional action at the domestic level in critical cases, such as Sweden and England, give us a better position to understand the highly complex patterns of European integration, and



Magnus Lindh not only gave a public lecture, he also offered a workshop within the KOSMOS Dialogue format 'Devolution in the UK'

allow us to be more critical of the assumptions that underpin classical integration theories such as neo-functionalism and liberal intergovernmentalism.

Magnus Lindh is a lecturer in Political Science at Karlstad University, Sweden.

Is Britain Going to Leave the EU? The Referendum Campaign and the Crisis of British Democracy

Prof Pauline Schnapper

British Politics, University of Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle

23 May

David Cameron's promise to renegotiate the terms of British membership and organise an in/out referendum rested on a double gamble. The first one was that he would achieve a successful negotiation in Brussels. The second is to convince a majority of British voters to support staying in the EU. This is made difficult by the long-standing anti-EU political culture in the UK, the divisions in the Conservative Party, and a crisis of British democracy. The outcome of the referendum was therefore hard to predict. Pauline Schnapper is Professor of British Politics at the University of Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle. Her latest book *Britain and the Crisis of the European Union* (2015), co-authored by David Baker, provides an in-depth analysis of the UK's relations with the EU.

With a response by Dr Marius Guderjan, British Politics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.



Prof Pauline Schnapper

Brexit, Could it Happen? An Overview

THE RT. HON. BEN BRADSHAW MP

Labour MP for Exeter

2 June

The possibility that Britain could vote to leave the EU on June 23rd was always real. Ben Bradshaw talked about the referendum campaign until then, on the arguments that have been used for staying in the EU and for leaving it, and on the implications for Britain, Europe, and the rest of the world. Ben Bradshaw has been MP for Exeter since 1997. Between 2001 and 2010 he served as a Minister in a number of departments including Health, the Foreign Office, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and, from 2009 to 2010, as Secretary of State in the Cabinet for Culture, Media and Sport.

With a response by Prof Dr Paul Carmichael, Social Sciences, University of Ulster.



Ben Bradshaw MP, Prof Dannemann and Prof Carmichael discussing the (then) possibility of a Brexit

The lively discussion continued at a reception



The Future of Scotland in the UK: Does the Popularity of the SNP Make Independence Inevitable?

Prof Paul Cairney

Politics and Public Policy, University of Stirling

15 June

The vote to remain in the UK, in the Scottish independence referendum in 2014, did not settle the matter. Nor did it weaken the pro-independence party, the Scottish National Party. Major constitutional change remains high on the agenda, particularly during the run-up to the referendum on the UK's exit from the EU. This lecture highlighted the tendency for limited public and parliamentary scrutiny of substantive policy issues when they are viewed through a constitutional lens. Paul Cairney is Professor of Politics and Public Policy at the University of Stirling, UK. His research interests are in comparative public policy. He published *Scottish Politics* (2013), *Handbook of Complexity and Public Policy* (2015), and *The Politics of Evidence-based Policymaking* (2016).

With a response by Dipl.-Pol. Wolfgang Goldbach, Comparative Politics, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg.



Wolfgang Goldbach and
Prof Paul Cairney

Scotland, the UK and the EU: Ever Loser Unions?

Dr Neil McGarvey

Government and Public Policy, University of Strathclyde

29 June

The September 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum and the 2016 UK EU Referendum are re-defining Scotland's place in the UK and its place in the EU. This lecture examined what impact the EU Referendum on 23rd June will have on the UK's future within Europe and on Scotland's position in both unions. Dr Neil McGarvey is Associate Dean of the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. He has published widely in the field of local politics, Scottish politics, and intergovernmental relations. He is the co-author of the leading textbook *Scottish Politics* (2013).

With a response by Prof Sandra Schwindenhammer, International Politics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Dr McGarvey also held
a workshop in the
KOSMOS Dialogue scheme



Brexit: What Future for Britain, Germany, and Europe?

Panel Discussion

5 July

The United Kingdom's imminent departure from the European Union is seen by many as the most dramatic development in Europe since the fall of the Wall. At a time where the UK and Europe are in turmoil and rifts have opened between generations and regions in the UK, the country was during the summer without a properly functioning government or opposition. The outgoing government appeared to have no plan B, the Brexiteers no plan A, while Labour relived its leadership battle. What did that mean for the future of the UK and of Europe, and for Anglo-German cooperation in politics, economics, culture, and higher education? The Centre for British Studies spontaneously invited the public to a special panel discussion on the Brexit fallout.



Even though the panel was a spontaneous afterthought and advertised at short notice as a special event in reaction to the surprise Brexit result, they spoke to a packed room



Panelists were (from left): Prof Gerhard Dannemann, Director of the Centre for British Studies and Professor for English Law, British Economy, and Politics; Nick Leake, Head of the EU and Economic Section, British Embassy, Berlin; Rachel Launay, Director, British Council, Berlin; Dr Hugh Mackay, retired Head of Faculty Staff, Faculty of Social Sciences, Open University Wales.

The discussion was chaired by: Prof Jürgen Schlaeger, Senior Professor for British Literature and Culture, Centre for British Studies (middle).

Devolution in the UK: Moving towards a Dissolved or Strengthened Union?

DR ARJAN SCHAKEL

Research Methods, University of Maastricht

13 July



Dr Arjan Schakel

The UK has always been perceived to be a union with room for Scotland and Wales to adjust national policy towards regional preferences through government offices. With devolution both nations obtained their own representative institutions and the authority to decide upon policy by themselves. By placing the UK in a comparative perspective, Arjan Schakel demonstrated that devolution is incomplete and that the nations lack in shared rule. Once shared rule mechanisms are put in place, nationalism and the secessionist threat will decline.

Arjan H. Schakel is Assistant Professor at Maastricht University. His research interests encompass the fields of federalism, multilevel governance, regional elections, and regional parties. He is co-author of the book *Measuring Regional Authority* (2016).

With a response by Dr Stephan Bröchler, German Politics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Brexit: The Potential Economic Impact

Dr Ulrich Hoppe

Director General

German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce, London

7 November



Dr Ulrich Hoppe

How does the decision of the British electorate to leave the European Union impact on the economy? As it is yet unclear what kind of relationship the United Kingdom wants to establish with the European Union, Ulrich Hoppe discussed various scenarios. Dr Ulrich Hoppe is Director General of the German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce. He holds a *Diplom-Betriebswirt* from Hochschule Bremen, an MA degree in International Business from the University of Reading, and a Doctorate in Governance from Queen's University in Belfast. The

German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce is a business to business organisation of some 750 British and German member firms. Its mission is to promote trade and investment between the UK and Germany. Dr Hoppe is furthermore a longtime member of the Centre's Advisory Board.

Dr Hoppe's talk was followed by a reception, and the Centre's students took the opportunity to ask more questions and discuss his lecture in more detail



A Fusion Perspective on BREXIT Crisis Management: Reflections on a Single Market outside the Single Market?

Prof Lee Miles

Crisis and Disaster Management, Bournemouth University

12 December

Prof Miles examined the implications of the UK vote in 2016 to leave the European Union from a crisis management's point of view. The lecture outlined the challenges of UK withdrawal from the European Union in the coming years and established a number of scenarios from the perspective of fusion if the main terms of references focus on being outside the Single European Market. Lee Miles is Professor of Crisis and Disaster Management at Bournemouth University Disaster Management Centre, UK, and Professor of Political Science at Karlstad University, Sweden. He has directed three major research centres specialising in EU affairs at the Universities of Hull, Liverpool and Loughborough.



Prof Lee Miles

For their generous support of its lecture series, the Centre would like to thank the:

Future Concept resources of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin through the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal Government and its Federal States



Stiftung Luftbrückendank



Visitors at the Centre

Advisory Board



Sir Paul Lever (right): former Ambassador to Germany and Head of the Advisory Board

In 2016 the Centre's Advisory Board met for their annual meeting on 3 June. One of the main points of discussion was the HU Faculty Reform and the future of the GBZ as an independent and permanent body within the university. The Board expressed its willingness to support the Centre and to appeal to the president of the university by writing a letter in which they would stress the Centre's uniqueness, its remarkable success and its importance for the promotion of German-British relations. Other topics on the discussion agenda were the Centre's research activities, including the writing of big funding bids, its public lecture series focussing on the Brexit, and the MA in British Studies course. As is the custom the Board took the time to speak to the students and gave their feedback to the teaching staff. At the end, the Board's head, Sir Paul Lever, congratulated the Centre on its impressive record.

Jessica Mann

On 9 February, the well-known author Jessica Mann visited Prof. Stedman and Jessica Fischer's seminar 'Narratives of Crime' in order to discuss "The Autobiographical Crime Novel: a Contradiction in Terms?". In 2014 the Humboldt-Universität archive had received c. 10,000 documents from the estate of her father, the renowned German-British lawyer F. A. Mann. Prof. Dannemann will analyse the written documentation to retrace how F. A. Mann has coined legal theory and practice which is still in use today.

Prof Linda Colley

The renowned historian Prof Linda Colley, University of Princeton, paid a visit to the Centre on March 9th. In the run-up to the Brexit referendum, unsurprisingly, the discussion was less concerned with ques-



Linda Colley visiting the Centre

tions of British history than the present, and both sides, Prof Colley and her Berlin colleagues, put the situation into perspective. Furthermore, they discussed the possibilities for cooperation and for a possible longer stay in Berlin by Linda Colley.

First Visit of the British Ambassador to Berlin, Sir Sebastian Wood KCMG

On 19 April, Sir Sebastian Wood, British Ambassador in Germany since August 2015, visited the Centre for British Studies together with Ulrike Hillemann-Delaney, Deputy Head of Science & Innovation. Inevitably, the discussion with staff and students of the Centre focused on the upcoming EU referendum, where Sir Sebastian had played an important role in the deliberations between the UK and the German governments.



Sir Sebastian

First Visit of Prof Dr-Ing Dr Sabine Kunst, President of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

On 26 September, Professor Sabine Kunst, President of Humboldt-Universität since May 2016, visited the Centre for the first time. In a meeting with staff and students, Prof Kunst acquainted herself with teaching and research at the Centre and discussed the procedure for the ongoing structural reform of the University.



LSE and UCL Information Session

On 10 November, representatives from two leading British universities, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and University College London (UCL), held a public information session for prospective students at the Centre. The event was an opportunity for interested students to find out more about studying in the UK, and included a presentation about studying in London and an opportunity to meet alumni from both institutions.

Public Relations

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

In terms of PR, the year 2016 was a blessing for the Centre for British Studies. With the Brexit referendum, the institute became an important intersection for experts sharing their knowledge and the media or general public interested in UK / EU politics. The Centre organised a series of events and lectures related to this decisive moment in British and European history. We worked closely with the main press and public relations office of Humboldt-Universität to communicate general information about the referendum and possible consequences. Our academic staff answered specific questions by the TV, press and radio: Dr Guderjan was interviewed by BHeins, i24 News, Radio Dreyeckland, and Sat.1. Prof Dannemann was interviewed by BR2, Deutsche Welle, Deutschlandradio , N-TV, Spiegel Online, SWR 2, Tagesschau24, Tagesspiegel, Tagesthemen, for example. They were also asked to comment on the Queen's 2016 Speech on 18 May (Houses of Parliament) and on the appointment of Boris Johnson as well as Theresa May.

Prof. Dannemann, as a member of VroniPlag Wiki, gave interviews about plagiarism (e.g. Deutschlandradio Kultur, FAZ, Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung, N24, NDR, Neue Presse, Spiegel Online, Tagesspiegel, WDR 5 Leonardo, Zeit Online) informing i.a. the debate about Germany's defence minister Ursula von der Leyen.

The British Council Literature Seminar, co-organised by the Centre for British Studies at the beginning of the year, was mentioned by various media (e.g. The Guardian). Additionally, it reached the public through Twitter, Facebook, and Youtube, as well as through a live stream. The Literary Field Kaleidoscope, launched at the Literature Seminar, has a growing readership actively following the Centre's literary and cultural activities.



FELLOWS

Honorary Fellows

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

We are deeply saddened by the news that Prof Dr Ulrich Broich OBE, mentor and honorary fellow of the Centre, passed away on 24th of January 2017. Our thoughts are with his family.

Fellows

Prof Paul Carmichael
Prof Valentine Cunningham
Dr Stefano Evangelista
Andy Feist
Dr Hugh Mackay
Dr Gerry Mooney
Dr Carlo Morelli
Lynn Parkinson
Dr Pikay Richardson
Dr Steven Truxal
Prof Dr Helmut Weber, LLB
Prof Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
Dr Adrian Wilding

STAFF

Academic Staff

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann, M.A. (Oxon) **Director**

Professor of English Law, British Economy and Politics, Director of the Centre. 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 (University Lecturer, then Reader in Comparative Law, 1995-2002), where he was also a Fellow of Worcester College from 1995-2002. Dr jur Freiburg i.Br. 1994, *Habilitation* Freiburg i.Br. 2002. Prof Dannemann joined the Centre for British Studies in 2003. He 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-organiser of the Research Group on the Law of Digital Services. 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 Gesa Stedman **Deputy Director, Dean of Studies**

Professor of British Culture and Literature, Deputy Director of the Centre. 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.

Prof 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. She is a member of the advisory board of the *Journal for the Study of British Cultures*, of which she was a co-editor for many years. Prof Stedman sat on the jury of the Humboldt-Universität Graduate School for scholarships for post-docs and early-stage researchers from 2014-2016. Prof Stedman is also a member of the jury for the Humboldt Travel Awards. She is deputy head of the Committee for a Family-Friendly University, and advises HU's International Strategy Unit in an unofficial capacity. She is Dean of Studies at the Centre and Spokesperson of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies.

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg

Head of Exams and Admissions

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.

The Centre's staff (from left): J. Zinecker, F. Kompio, Ch. Eisenberg, C. Smith, E. Thalheim, G. Stedman, S. McIntosh, G. Dannemann, M. Guderjan, C. Radke, J. Fischer



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 'Life-Writing and Identity Construction Past and Present'.

Prof Dr Margrit Schulte Beerbühl **Visiting Professor**

Professor of History at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf. She stood in for Prof Eisenberg who was on a sabbatical, and taught 'The History of Migration to and from Britain (17th to 20th century)'. Her *Habilitation* was recently published in English under the title of *The Forgotten Majority: German Merchants Globalization and Naturalization (1660-1818)* (Berghahn, 2015). She has published widely on the history of migration, economic failure, and consumption. She currently focuses on the worldwide speculation bubble of 1799 for which she received a scholarship by LOEWE-Schwerpunkt 'Außergerichtliche und gerichtliche Konfliktlösung' ('Extrajudicial and Judicial Conflict Resolution') of the Goethe University Frankfurt in 2013/4. In the last few years, her interest has focused on the history of chocolate and chocolate firms. She has edited a special volume on the history of chocolate in *Food & History* in 2015 and co-organized an exhibition with the Chocolate Museum in Cologne on "The History of Rhenish Chocolate Firms (ca 1850 to 1970)" in 2016. From April till September 2016 she was a research fellow at the *Historisches Kolleg* in Munich. Since October she has returned to Düsseldorf. In cooperation with the LVR *Institut für Landeskunde und Regionalgeschichte*, Bonn, she has started an online-project on 'the Rise and Decline of Rhenish Chocolate Companies Between c. 1850 and 1970'.

Dr Marius Guderjan

Lecturer and researcher in British Politics. Marius' teaching responsibilities include the 'UK's Constitutional Law and Political System', 'Analysing British Politics', and 'British International Relations'. 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. 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, Euro-scepticism, the welfare state, and social policy.

Dr Sam McIntosh

Lecturer and researcher in Law. Sam was awarded his PhD in law by City University, London, in April 2016. He spent three years of his PhD as a visiting student at Vienna University under the supervision of Professor Manfred Nowak. Sam holds an LLM in Public International Law (with distinction) from Edinburgh University, and an MA (joint honours) in Spanish and European History, also from Edinburgh University. Sam qualified as a lawyer in England and Wales and 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 cases against the police and prison authorities, and on inquests into deaths in custody or otherwise at the hands of the state. After leaving legal practice, Sam worked as a Teaching Fellow at the University of Reading where he gave lectures to law students and took tutorials in Criminal Law, Tort Law, and Constitutional and Administrative Law. He also worked for over three years as a part-time Research Assistant on the 'Law, Terrorism and Right to Know' project at Reading University. This project ex-



New member of staff:
Sam McIntosh

plored 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 co-teaches the following modules: 'The Coercive State', 'Mooting', and 'Constitutional Law and the Political System'.

Ali El-Haj, LL.M (Cantab)

Lecturer and researcher in English law. Ali M. El-Haj joined the Centre for British Studies in 2013. He attended Vienna International School (VIS) throughout his school years and holds an LL.M in public international law from Cambridge University and an LL.B (Hons) in law from University College London (UCL). His main research interests are in constitutional law and public international law. Prior to joining the Centre, Ali worked as a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law and, thereafter, the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law. In the 2015/2016 winter semester, Ali taught 'Constitutional Law and the Political System', 'Mooting', 'British Identity: British Humour' and 'Law and Culture'. In the 2016 summer semester, he taught 'Human Rights – Law and Literature' and 'Commercial Law'. Apart from his teaching work at the Centre, Ali was a member of the Admissions and Examination Committee. The latter interviews select candidates to the MA in British Studies programme. He was also the Alumni contact person and, in that capacity, has introduced the revamped Alumni Newsletter. Ali left the Centre in September 2016 and is currently completing his compulsory military service in Vienna, Austria, at the Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management of the National Defence Academy (*Landesverteidigungsakademie*), where he, among others, conducts research on legal developments in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

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

is writing her PhD thesis about fictional narratives of neoliberalism. She is also interested in postcolonial studies, contemporary art and dance. This year Jessica Fischer taught 'Interdisciplinary Project Seminar I: Narratives of Crime' with Prof Stedman, 'Interdisciplinary Project Seminar II: Self, Society and Well-Being' with Dr Guderjan and Reet Tamme, 'Contemporary Art Novels' with Prof Stedman, 'Week 1 Project: Finding Poetry', and 'Advanced Seminar: Postclassical Narratology'. She 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, Jessica 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.

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, where she finished her MA studies in early 2016. Her research interests include the cultural history of politics, the history of revolutions, European urban history, and the history of European communication networks in a transnational perspective. In October 2016 she joined the Centre for British Studies and is currently teaching 'Academic Writing', 'Discourse Analysis' and co-teaching 'Commerce and Culture in British History'. Felicia has taken over as the Centre's Alumni contact person and is in charge of the Alumni Newsletter.



New member of staff:
Felicia Kompio

Sofia Permiakova, MBS

Lecturer and researcher in British culture and literature since August 2015. Sofia studied English philology with a focus on poetry translation at Perm State National Research University, Russia. In 2013, she moved to Berlin to study for her Master degree at the Centre for British Studies; and in October 2015, her Master thesis, "Women at War: Representation of War in British Women's War Poetry of the First World War", written under the supervision of Prof Gesa Stedman, won the Humboldt Prize. Before joining the Centre for British Studies, Sofia worked on various cultural projects, mainly art festivals and theatre productions, in Russia and Glasgow, Scotland, and taught English at Perm State National Research University. She has also been working as a freelance

book critic for the Russian magazine *Afisha*. As a member of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies, she started working on her PhD thesis on British women's war poetry in spring 2015. Her research interests include gender studies, linguistics, and textual analysis. In the winter semester 2015/2016 and the summer semester 2016, she taught a practice-led course 'Cultural Project Management', and co-taught 'Advanced Cultural Management' with Prof Stedman, as well as several workshops on poetry and poetry analysis. In the last winter semester Sofia taught the 'Advanced Project Workshop' as a transdisciplinary elective module.

Reet Tamme, MA

In 2016 Reet worked at the Centre as lecturer and researcher in British History and Society. Prior to that she was a researcher at the Collaborative Research Centre "Representations of Changing Social Orders" and a member of the Unit for the History of Western Europe and Transatlantic Relations at the Humboldt-Universität. Currently she is finishing her PhD-Thesis on the social science discourse on race and ethnicity in Britain, 1950-1980. This research project is carried out at the History Department of the Humboldt-Universität. Reet taught 'Academic Writing', 'Application Skills' and 'Discourse Analysis' in the winter term and jointly with Dr Guderjan and Jessica Fischer the interdisciplinary course 'Self, Society and Well-Being' in the summer term. Additionally, she was one of the Centre's internship co-ordinators.

Johanna Zinecker, MA

Joined as lecturer and researcher in British Culture and Literature in 2013. Johanna's main interests include visual arts in interdisciplinary contexts, mental health culture, and the history of psychiatry as well as feminist and queer culture, ethics, and theory.

She studied English and American Studies, and Modern German Literature at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the University of Manchester. Since 2005, Johanna has worked in the field of art and culture in various roles. From 2008 to 2012 she worked in the curatorial team of the department of Visual Arts at the *Haus der Kulturen der Welt* in Berlin. Here she helped to create a number of large-scale international exhibitions, artistic productions, and publication projects on versatile contemporary topics, including *Architecture and Ideology* (2012),



The Centre's junior academic staff

Floating Food (2011), *On Rage* (2010) and *Rational / Irrational* (2008). Beyond academia, Johanna is volunteering in researching and building community inclusion in Berlin and has trained in Non-Violent Communication, both in Berlin and London. After returning from her research leave (2015-16), Johanna took up teaching on the MA British Studies programme. She is project leader for the Centre's annual event at *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften* and responsible for coordinating the work placement scheme, together with Dr Guderjan.

Visiting Researchers

Prof Patricia Springborg

Patricia Springborg (D Phil Oxon) held a personal chair in Political Theory in the Department of Government before being appointed Foundation Professor in Political Science the PPE programme in the School of Economics of the Free University of Bolzano (2007-13). Elected to the Australian Academy of the Social Sciences in 1999, she has been a stipendiary fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars in Washington DC, the *Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin*, the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Uppsala, was a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at St. John's College, Oxford, and the recipient of a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Award in International Peace and Security, taken up at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. She has published four books, four edited books and over 70 articles in international refereed journals and edited collections.

Administrative Staff

Corinna Radke, MA

Corinna Radke studied English and Spanish at Humboldt-Universität and in Madrid (funded by Erasmus), as well as passing a two-year further education course on public administration. 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'. In 2015, she actively supported the implementation of the new regulations within the Master course. 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 the organisation of 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 equal opportunities officer.

Catherine Smith, BA (Hons)

Catherine studied humanities with history of art at the Open University. She is foreign language secretary responsible for the respective director. Her duties include co-ordinating visiting arrangements for guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, events, as well as the Lecture series, and the recently formed Berlin Graduate School of British Studies at the Centre. Apart from managing the office, she supports the Centre's teaching and research activities, co-ordinates the MA British Studies admission



interviews, assists with the editing of research papers, the translation of German texts into English, and is there to advise guests and students.

Happy collaboration:
Gesa and Catherine

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

Evelyn Thalheim

Graduated from the *Fachschule für wissenschaftliches Bibliotheks- und Informationswesen Berlin*. Worked as a qualified librarian in various scientific institutions, among them the university library of Humboldt-Universität, *Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR* and *AG Strukturelle Grammatik* at the Max Planck Institute. She joined the Centre in 1996 and has since been busy expanding a library that serves the Centre's special British Studies interests. A milestone in her work for the Centre's library was the administration of a donation of 10,000 books by the British Council, including the registration of the library's new collection in the OPAC provided by the British Council.

Student Assistants

In 2016 the Centre was supported by the following student assistants:

Alexandra Buchanan, Law

Patrick Daus, History

Esmé Ellis, English Literatures

Stefan Jooß, Industrial Engineering and Management

Christoph König, Law

Sophie König, European Literatures

Madalina Luca, Law

Julia Peter, European Literatures

Thore Podlich, Gender Studies

Helpful and friendly: the Centre's student assistants



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