



GROSSBRITANNIEN-ZENTRUM  
Centre for British Studies



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2007



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



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## CONTENTS

The Centre for British Studies	2
The Centre in 2007	3
Master in British Studies	4
Course Description	4
M.B.S. Students	6
Teaching	8
Student Voices	10
Internships	11
M.B.S. Theses	12
M.B.S. Activities	13
Alumni	14
Teaching at other Faculties	16
Research	17
Current Research Projects	17
Publications	18
Conferences and Workshops	19
Events	21
Highlights	21
The Year's Activities	23
Public Relations	27
Public Lectures	28
Fellows	30
Honorary Fellows	30
Fellows	30
Staff	31
Academic Staff	31
Administrative Staff	34
Librarian	34
Student Assistants	34
Facilities	35
The Library	35
Reference Library	35
Computer Room	35
Common Room	35
Our Website	35

## THE CENTRE FOR BRITISH STUDIES

The Centre for British Studies at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin was set up in 1995 as a teaching and research institute with a broad interdisciplinary agenda.

The goals of the Centre's work are:

1. To offer a Master in British Studies as a postgraduate degree. This 18-month Master course gives students the opportunity to add competence in British Studies to qualifications acquired in their first degree. It prepares them for positions in firms and public institutions with strong links to the United Kingdom or other English-speaking countries. The course includes a three-month internship with a business, public institution or other organisation in Britain. The Centre also involves practitioners from German and British companies, the media, and the arts in its Master programme.

2. To carry out comprehensive research programmes focusing on Britain's special position as a pioneer within the modern world. For centuries, Britain has had a distinctive and often formative influence on Europe and the world in areas as diverse as politics, science, history, economics, law, language, literature, and the media, and she still continues to make a decisive contribution to global development.

3. To provide – in the heart of Berlin and close to Germany's political centre – a forum for lectures, seminars and conferences on Anglo-German topics of general interest.



Concentrating on the task ahead

The Centre for British Studies is an independent academic institute within the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. As a 'Zentralinstitut' it operates like a small faculty. It has its own budget, is largely responsible for appointing its academic and non-academic staff, and for running its Master in British Studies course.

Important decisions are taken by the Centre's Council (Institutsrat), which consists of the Centre's three professors and one representative each of the other academic staff, the non-academic staff, and the students. The Centre is headed by its Director, who is also responsible for the day-to-day management. In practice, most issues are discussed and decided upon at weekly staff meetings. The Centre is assisted by an Advisory Board that consists of highly distinguished personalities from universities, business, and public institutions in the UK and in Germany.

The bulk of the Centre's financial resources is allocated by the university. The allocation covers the costs for staff and operational expenses. The Centre also receives 1% of the total university library's budget for its own library.

There are, however, some pressing financial needs which cannot be met by the university. The award of grants to students on a means and merit test, which has been vital for attracting excellent students with modest economic backgrounds, has only been possible through the generous support of donors, in particular, the German Academic Exchange Service and the Alfred Toepfer Foundation. Thanks to the European Commission's Erasmus Placements Programme most of our students receive financial support during their internship in Great Britain.

The Centre has also been successful in attracting funding for its research, publications and lecture series, in particular from the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the British Council, the *Stiftung Luftbrückendank*, the German Historical Institute, London, and CMS Hasche Sigle.

## THE CENTRE IN 2007

2007 has definitely been a year of decisions. At the beginning of the year we decided that it was time for a strategic discussion and revision of all of our activities. So we found a quiet little hotel outside Berlin and retired there for three days to find our bearings for the future. We had three major reasons for making the extra effort. First, my retirement in September 2008 and the need to respond to the demand of the university to provide a concept for filling the expected vacancy. Second, our participation in the Excellence Initiative with an interdisciplinary project of our own, and thirdly, the upcoming re-accreditation of our M.B.S. course. Another problem that had been worrying us for quite some time was the Centre's premises in Jägerstrasse which had to be given up since the university had sold the building to the federal government for one of its ministries.

To cut a long story short: As to my retirement we have achieved what we consider the best solution: with record-breaking speed and efficiency the selection committee under the expert guidance of Professor Eisenberg proposed Professor Gesa Stedman for the post. The university made her a very generous offer and she has accepted it. Professor Stedman will take up the appointment as of April 1st 2008, so there will be an overlap of one semester for which the university will provide extra funds.

After a number of last-minute and rather dramatic turnabouts we now have a solution for our premises problem. At the beginning of April 2008 we moved to Mohrenstrasse 60, Quartier 110, which is just two blocks south of where we have resided happily for more than 12 years. Again the university has been generous and we have space enough for all our needs.

Although the university and the research cluster on „Security and Risk“, of which we were a part, were shortlisted as part of the *“Exzellenzinitiative”* they failed to get final approval, but the research activities it had initiated in the Centre continue to prove beneficial. We have a very lively research colloquium and a stimulating environment for our junior researchers. The reaccreditation of our M.B.S. degree course takes place in 2008 and we are confident that the outcome will be positive.

There have also been changes in the Centre's junior staff. Barbara Simpson left us to take up a position with a think tank in Switzerland. Rita Gerlach, who has contributed so much to the Centre's placement scheme, and to our PR activities, left us at the end of her contract in February 2008. Her Ph.D. thesis on theatre funding in Germany and Britain is finished and we hope she will stay in Berlin. Her position has been filled by Dr Georgia Christinidis who has a Ph.D. from Oxford.

One pleasant surprise was the offer of the *Stiftung Luftbrückendank* to support our activities with €5000 each semester. We will use the money to fund our lecture series and strengthen our academic links with British universities. In the winter semester 2007/2008 we invested part of it in the organisation of a conference with all our regular guest lecturers to discuss the overall design of the course, to identify overlaps and weaknesses and discuss necessary adjustments. We also invited the Cambridge historian Adam Tooze for our first “Luftbrückendank-Lecture” in January 2008.

“Change begets change” as Charles Dickens once rightly observed and this is how it should be.

As always I am optimistic!

Jürgen Schlaeger

Director



From left to right: G. Dannemann, J. Schlaeger, G. Christinidis, S. Zöllner, E. Thalheim, C. Smith, R. Wenzlhuemer, G. Stedman, C. Radke, J. Ennen, S. Müller, M. Stauch, C. Eisenberg

## MASTER IN BRITISH STUDIES

### Course Description

Our postgraduate Master course started in 1999 and has developed into a resounding success. The quality of applicants for the 25 places available every year has risen constantly. After a longer experimental phase of this unique Master programme, for which we initially had no blueprint and very little experience, we put the finishing touches to it in 2003 and had it formally accredited by the Accreditation Agency AQAS. The accreditation committee's report was full of praise and confirmed that, in all major respects, we had taken the right decisions. Altogether it is an exhilarating experience to work with bright young people from more than a dozen countries with more than a dozen different first degrees. The magnitude of the challenge in teaching such a heterogeneous group is easily compensated by the degree of pleasure all teachers derive from the experience.

### Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the M.B.S. course are

- to enable students to add competence in British Studies to qualifications acquired during their first degree course
- to prepare students for positions in businesses, organisations and institutions which require in-depth knowledge of the United Kingdom and the way it works
- to promote cross-cultural understanding, communication and mobility
- to teach them interdisciplinary methods and approaches, enabling them to think and work contextually
- to provide students with an understanding of the characteristic features and the transformations of British identities and institutions in a European perspective.

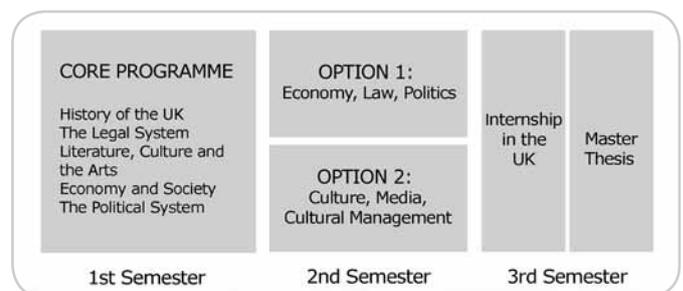
### Admission

Applicants should have a very good first university degree. Furthermore, candidates are required to have a very good knowledge of English (as shown e.g. by a TOEFL score of 100 in the internet-based test) and a working knowledge of German. Applications must be submitted by 30th April of the year in which the applicant intends to start the course. Applicants should use the application form available from the Centre's website. Interviews for selected candidates usually take place in June. Places are allocated early in July. The course starts in October.

### Course Structure

The postgraduate degree course in British Studies is an interdisciplinary teaching programme. It consists of a two-semester Certificate Phase followed by a six-month Master Phase. Having successfully completed the Certificate Phase, students receive a "British Studies" certificate. After successful completion of the entire course, students are awarded the degree "Master in British Studies" (M.B.S.).

The Certificate Phase comprises about 30 weeks of teaching, divided into two phases of roughly equal length. The first phase ("Core Programme") consists of a series of teaching units which are compulsory for all students. In the second phase ("Options Programme") students can choose one out of two options. They have to attend on average about 20 hours of classes per week. During the Master Phase students will spend 3 months with a firm or institution in Britain (internships). In the remaining three months they are expected to write their M.B.S. thesis. The entire course is taught in English.



### Core Programme

The Core Programme consists of three teaching modules. At present its teaching units (lectures, seminars, project work etc.) cover the following topics:

#### Module 1: Introduction

- Research Skills
- Presentation Techniques
- Current Affairs
- Business and Academic English

#### Module 2: Law, Politics, Economy, and History

- The English Legal System
- Constitutional Law
- British History
- Special Aspects of Economic, Social and Political History
- Political Institutions
- Economic Structures
- Social Structures

### Module 3: Literature and Culture in the UK

- A Cultural History of Literature in English
- Contemporary British Literature in Context I
- A Cultural History of the Arts
- Patriotism, National and Regional Identities
- Contemporary Britain: Myths, Trends, Fashion, Policies



The pleasure of research

### Options Programme

The Options Programme allows students to specialise by choosing one out of the following two options:

#### Option 1

#### Economy, Law and Politics

comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

##### Module 1: Accompanying Module

- Current Affairs
- Business and Academic English
- Workshop Transcultural Management
- Workshop Project Management

##### Module 2: Economy

- Economic Geography
- Industrial Organisation
- The Welfare System
- The Financial System
- Media Markets
- Marketing

##### Module 3: Law

- Contract Law
- Tort Law
- Commercial Law
- Media Law

### Module 4: Politics

- Centralism and Regionalism
- British Foreign Policy
- British Domestic Policy
- British International Relations

#### Option 2

#### Culture, Media, and Cultural Management

comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

##### Module 1: Accompanying Module

- Current Affairs
- Business and Academic English
- Workshop Transcultural Management
- Workshop Project Management

##### Module 2: High and Popular Culture

- Literature, Culture, and the Self
- Contemporary British Literature in Context II
- Popular Culture in Contemporary Britain
- Theories of Culture
- Film in the UK: Past and Present

##### Module 3: British Media – Past and Present

- Media Theory and Media Studies
- The Public Sphere in Modern Times
- The Media in Consumer Society
- Media Law

##### Module 4: Cultural Management

- Cultural Management
- Cultural Economics
- Cultural Policy and Funding
- Marketing
- The Literary Field in the UK



A problem shared is a problem halved

**M.B.S. Students****Class 2006/2008**

No.	Name	Nationality	First Degree
1.	Ackermann, Kirsten	Germany	English and Politics
2.	Ala-Kurikka, Marika	Finland	English Philology, Politics, and Economics
3.	Altuner, Özlem	Turkey	English Language and Literature
4.	Amiroğlu, Serda	Turkey	English Language and Literature
5.	Angelova, Diana	Bulgaria	Integrated Social Sciences
6.	Binte Sulaiman, Suhaila	Singapore	English Literature and Theatre Studies
7.	Bröckerhoff, Aurélie	Germany	English, Social Psychology, Anthropology
8.	Disanto, Sara	Italy	English, German, Culture and Language Mediation
9.	Dmitrieva, Anna	Russia	English, German
10.	Haralamova, Tanya	Bulgaria	English, American Studies
11.	Heinz, Constanze	Germany	Media Design
12.	Jacobs, Ioana	Romania	Law, International Relations
13.	Kammel, Ira	Germany	Political Sciences
14.	Köszegi, Silvia-Susana	Romania	English and German Language and Literature
15.	Liu, Yun	China	English and International Trade
16.	Lüdenbach, Judith	Germany	European Studies
17.	Nabiyeva, Komila	Uzbekistan	English Philology, Language and Literature
18.	Nowakowska, Natalia	Poland	English Philology
19.	Roecker, Tim	Germany/UK	European Studies
20.	Schmieder, Veronika	Germany	English and German Studies
21.	Ürgün, Elif	Turkey	English Literature
22.	Wojnilko, Anna	Poland	Philology and English Studies
23.	Zaperta, Emilia	Poland	English Philology
24.	Zeković, Merita	Bosnia-Herzegovina	English Philology and Literature
25.	Zhang, Jingyuan	China	English Major

## Class 2007/2009



No.	Name	Nationality	First Degree
1.	Ávalos, Etna	Mexico	Communication Studies
2.	Berger, Juliane	Germany	History of Art
3.	Cao, Yun	China	English
4.	Chairopoulou, Elizabeth	UK / Greece	English
5.	Exarchou, Maria	Greece	English Language and Literature
6.	Feitsch, Victoria	Germany	Theatre Studies, Drama, and Performance Studies
7.	Floren, Julia	Germany	English Studies and Law
8.	Foepl, Sabine	Germany	Management and German
9.	Friebel, Helena	Germany	Literature, and Culture and Media Studies
10.	Goredema, Prue	Zimbabwe	Journalism and Applied Linguistics
11.	Guan, Wei	China	English Language and Literature
12.	Karagöl, Jessica	Germany	European Studies
13.	Korepanova, Julia	Russia	Translation and Translation Studies
14.	Kostadinova, Stanislava	Bulgaria	English Philology
15.	Kotlarz, Malgorzata	Poland	Applied Linguistics
16.	Kovale, Oksana	Latvia	English Philology
17.	Kropaite, Zivile	Lithuania	English Philology
18.	Kurushina, Ekaterina	Russia	English and German Philology
19.	Letsiaha, Nina	Belarus	English Language and Literature, and German
20.	Peretyagina, Tamara	Russia	International Relations
21.	Samsonova, Maria	Ukraine	Philology
22.	Shteyn, Anastasia	Russia	Aesthetics and Art Business
23.	Tkach, Ganna (Anna)	Ukraine	Arts in Philology
24.	Uluşık, Fatma Barçın	Turkey	English Language
25.	Zuccotti, Francesca	Italy	Culture and Language Mediation (English and German for Tourism Management)

## Teaching

### Core Programme 2006/2007 (Winter Term)

Subject	Lecturer
<i>Module 1: Introduction</i>	
English for Special Purposes	Elizabeth Stern, Cultural Management Consultant, Berlin
Academic Writing Workshop	Barbara Simpson
Transcultural Management	Dr Ursula Nguyen, Educational Sciences, Humboldt-Universität
Presentation Techniques	Christian Handke/ Olin Roenpage, UMS Consulting
Project Management	Rita Gerlach
Current Affairs	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
<i>Module 2: Law, Politics, Economics, and History</i>	
Political and Economic History	Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
Empire and Commonwealth History	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
The British Economy	Dr Pikay Richardson, Manchester Business School
The English Legal System:	
A Historical Introduction	Prof Dr Helmut Weber
Social Stratification	Dr Gerry Mooney, The Open University in Scotland
Constitutional Law	Marc Stauch
Political Institutions	Marc Stauch
<i>Module 3: Literature and Culture in the UK</i>	
The History of English Literature	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
Contemporary English Literature: Poetry	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
National Identity	Rita Gerlach
Contemporary Britain	Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Bonn

### Options Programme 2007 (Summer Term)

#### Option 1: Economics, Law and Politics

Subject	Lecturer
<i>Module 1: Accompanying Module</i>	
Workshop: Project Management	Rita Gerlach
Current Affairs	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
Business English	Elizabeth Stern, Cultural Management Consultant, Berlin
<i>Module 2: Economics</i>	
Economic Geography	Dr Sebastian Kinder, Geography, Humboldt-Universität
The UK Financial System	Christian Handke
Marketing	Lynn Parkinson, City University London
Media in the UK	Dr Hugh Mackay, The Open University in Wales
<i>Module 3: Law</i>	
Contract Law	Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann
Tort Law	Marc Stauch
Commercial Law	Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann
Media Law	Marc Stauch
<i>Module 4: Politics</i>	
Centralism, Regionalism, Devolution	Prof Paul Carmichael, University of Ulster
Political Parties and Interest Groups	Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Bonn
Politics at the Centre:	
Government, Administration and Elections	Prof Paul Carmichael, University of Ulster
British International Relations	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer

**Option 2: Culture, Media and Cultural Management**

Subject	Lecturer
<i>Module 1: Accompanying Module</i>	
Workshop: Project Management	Rita Gerlach
Current Affairs	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
Business English	Elizabeth Stern, Cultural Management Consultant, Berlin
<i>Module 2: High and Popular Culture in the UK</i>	
Culture and the Self	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
Theories of Culture	Barbara Simpson
The Contemporary Novel	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
Contemporary Drama	Barbara Simpson
Film in the UK – Past and Present	Prof Dr Gesa Stedman
<i>Module 3: British Media – Past and Present</i>	
The Media in the UK	Dr Hugh Mackay, The Open University in Wales
The Public Sphere and Popular Culture	Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
The Media in Consumer Society	Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
Media Law	Marc Stauch
<i>Module 4: Cultural Management in the UK</i>	
Cultural Policy and Funding in the Cultural Sector	Dr Andrew Feist, City University London
Cultural Economics	Christian Handke
The Literary Field	Barbara Simpson
Marketing	Lynn Parkinson, City University London

**Core Programme 2007/2008 (Winter Term)**

Subject	Lecturer
<i>Module 1: Introduction</i>	
English for Special Purposes	Alison Singer, Freelance Lecturer of Business English
Academic Writing Workshop	Sandra Müller
Transcultural Management	Grit Kümmele, Trainer, Instructor, Translator, Berlin
Presentation Techniques	Christian Handke/ Olin Roenpage, UMS Consulting
Project Management	Rita Gerlach
<i>Module 2: Law, Politics, Economics, and History</i>	
Political and Economic History	Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
Empire and Commonwealth History	Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
The British Economy	Dr Pikay Richardson, Manchester Business School
The English Legal System:	
A Historical Introduction	Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann
Social Stratification	Dr Gerry Mooney, The Open University in Scotland
Constitutional Law and	Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann/ Marc Stauch
Political Institutions	
<i>Module 3: Literature and Culture in the UK</i>	
The History of English Literature	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
Contemporary English Literature: Poetry	Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
National Identity	Rita Gerlach
Contemporary Britain	Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Bonn

## Student Voices

For me the first four months were quite interesting and challenging. There are always new things to learn and new problems to tackle. The study is intensive and the parties are always exciting. (Wei)

Having taken courses in the areas of politics, law, history and culture helped me gain a much better perspective into evaluating the contemporary events in Britain. I also consider it a great chance to be a student here, being surrounded by many different people from various backgrounds and in a friendly atmosphere. (Barçin)

This programme offers a unique chance to study in a multi-cultural environment. I am gaining a lot of precious experience here, theoretical and practical. The subjects we learn cover a large range of topics relating to Great Britain, enlarging our understanding further. At the same time, many theoretical models and research methods are also involved to optimize the studies. I learn much more than expected before. And I highly recommend this programme to all who are interested in the relevant fields. (Yun)

The months have passed very quickly, what with busy lesson schedules, a flurry of presentations and the exams coming in quick succession. There is a great working atmosphere in our all-gal international group which makes the heavy workload easier to bear. (Elizabeth)

Studying at GBZ is really great. I have enjoyed every moment so far. I found everything above the standards; teaching staff, studying materials and methodology, to name the few. The course also introduced 24 new friends into my life - my groupmates. I can honestly say every moment spent within and outside the class was full of excitement, adventure and importance. (Oksana)

I have learned a lot about the different students' cultures. Some of us have been really helpful - explaining problematic issues discussed in class, revising material covered and preparing for the exams in small groups. Juliane took us on a tour around Berlin. And we could exchange useful information about the German bureaucracy and everyday life. (Gosia)

The first four months were a challenge and a discovery, not just of new academic things, which was of course useful, but of different sides of the self as well. This first semester seemed to have taken several things out of the mist, so to say, in every sense of this - professionally, personally and academically. As for me it was a really interesting interdisciplinary combination of subjects which due to its flexibility and diversity provides a high level of practical potential for a useful application in life. (Anna)

We thought that we were well received at the GBZ, everybody was very approachable and it was a very informal atmosphere, because we got the chance to get more in touch with the professors (e.g. Monday lectures and following receptions or the Xmas Party). The course's schedule is stressful and demanding, but the staff was trying to make it easier and enjoyable. We really appreciated the variety of extra-curricular activities the centre offered during the first semester (e.g. visit to museums, movies for free, visit to the British Embassy).

The programme is well structured and the subjects are all interesting. It was also nice to have some external lecturers. As foreign students, me and Etna particularly appreciated Corina's and Catherine's help, because they really took care of us, concerning every day life matters. (Francesca, Etna, Juliane)

We had hardly settled in and were still wet behind the ears and unable to distinguish between our Kuidamm and Cottsdamm, when it was announced that there was an exam in November! It was straight to business - so it was good to have, finally, a well deserved spring vacation. (Prue)

After having lived in the UK for five years I thought I knew what the country was all about, well, to an extent at least. Turns out I didn't have a clue. But that is what I am here for, to learn about the things I did not know before about the country I spent my last two years at school and my first three years at university in, to see the United Kingdom from a different angle, discover its exhilarating culture and people, explore its diversities and last but not least, prepare myself for another, and supposedly entirely different UK experience this autumn. And I have got to say I am hugely enjoying it! (Victoria)

## Internships

### Students' Reports

#### Cheltenham Festivals

Judith Lüdenbach

The internship offered me many opportunities to broaden my knowledge, for example with regard to event management, the publishing industry, contemporary literature and British culture; at the same time, it enhanced my communicative and organisational skills. I very much appreciated working during the actual Festival: it was inspiring to watch all the effort, which the Festival Team put into this huge logistical task in the weeks before, work out perfectly, especially since I had become part of this team throughout my internship.

Generally, the working environment at Cheltenham Festivals is very positive and enjoyable, which helped me to quickly become involved and comfortable within this environment.

#### Jackie Baillie, MSP

Anna Dmitrieva

I estimate my time in Jackie's office as extremely productive and efficient. It certainly triggered my interest in UK politics, particularly in relation to Scotland. Jackie was always supportive and encouraging, ready

to come to my rescue be it a matter of business or private issues.

I highly recommend the placement with Jackie Baillie MSP to other M.B.S. students who wish to experience fantastic Scottish culture, work in a warm and friendly atmosphere, and deepen their knowledge about the workings of British and Scottish political institutions.

#### The Poverty Alliance

Sara Disanto

The choice of doing my internship in a charity/NGO reflected my desire to explore a field of work unknown to me, but very appealing because of the commitment to social issues and the relevance of political and cultural concerns. I wanted to learn how the voluntary sector works, understand its network and its connections to key institutions and the government. My expectations have been completely fulfilled.

Peter Kelly, the Director, developed a plan to improve my knowledge of how a charity is structured, how it is funded and how it co-operates with other organisations. He and my colleagues have been fantastic supporters and the atmosphere was always cheerful and enthusiastic. My main duty, among other projects, was to reasearch public attitudes to poverty in Scotland which included the organisation of a seminar and the writing of a final report.

My internship has helped me to develop new skills and a critical approach to society and institutions.

#### Name of Student

#### Placement Institution

Ackermann, Kirsten	Pearson plc, London
Altuner, Özlem	FT Knowledge, London
Amiroğlu, Serda	The British Council, Edinburgh
Angelova, Diana	Ben Bradshaw MP, London
Bröckerhoff, Aurélie	Counterpoint, London
Disanto, Sara	The Poverty Alliance, Glasgow
Dmitrieva, Anna	Jackie Baillie MSP, Edinburgh
Heinz, Constanze	The Roald Dahl Museum, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire
Jacobs, Ioana	Pauline McNeill MSP, Edinburgh
Kammel, Ira	The EU Commission Representation, London
Köszegi, Silvia-Susana	VisitBritain - Britain & London Visitor Centre, London
Liu, Yun	The Open University in Scotland, Edinburgh
Lüdenbach, Judith	Cheltenham Festivals, Cheltenham
Nowakowska, Natalia	FT Knowledge, London
Roecker, Tim	Robert Walter MP, London
Schmieder, Veronika	Cheltenham Festivals, Cheltenham
Ürgün, Elif	World Travel & Tourism Council, London
Wojnilko, Anna	Ben Bradshaw MP, London
Zaperta, Emilia	Cheltenham Festivals, Cheltenham
Zeković, Merita	The National Trust, Castle Ward, Northern Ireland
Zhang, Jingyuan	Galleries of Justice, Nottingham

## M.B.S. Theses

During the final part of the M.B.S. course the students are required to write their M.B.S. thesis. They must show analytical and critical competence and transfer knowledge and skills acquired in the different modules and courses by focusing on a chosen subject that is explicitly related to the United Kingdom and, if convenient, may also be related to their placement in Britain. The following is a list of topics chosen by the class of 2005-2007.

Name	Thesis Topic
Bashlakova, Darya	Taking English Language Teaching outside the Classroom: Advantages of Field Trips and Study Visits.
Bench, Dmytro	Reforming the UK Pension System in the Context of an Ageing Population and Fiscal Sustainability Implications.
Caban-Kandziora, Joy	A Discussion of UK Television Policy Focusing on the BBC Television Licence Fee and Public Service Broadcasting: The Digital Switchover.
Čečar, Sonja	Blatcherism: How much Thatcherism is in Blairism?
Donovan, Shamus	Acclimatizing to the Future: The Development of Sustainable Tourism and the Response of the Tourism Industry in the United Kingdom.
Durville, Renaud	The Poet in Four Critical Essays by Sir Philip Sidney, Alexander Pope, Edward Young and Percy Bysshe Shelley.
Ivanova, Tanya	British Attitudes Towards Eastern European Enlargement.
Jiang, Chaoqun	International Strategies of Higher Education Institutions in England: A Comparative Analysis Based on Six Case Studies.
Karoukina, Hanna	The Importance of the Recent UK Anti-Ageism Legislation in Tackling the Challenges of the Ongoing Demographic Transformation in the Country.
Mróz, Monika	The New Polish Immigration Wave to the United Kingdom after the Polish Accession to the European Union.
Nietopiel, Katarzyna	Migration to Britain in the 20th Century: The Forming of the Polish Community During and After the Second World War.
Obradović, Tijana	Peter Brook: Changing the British Stage.
Presečan, Tihana	Managed Economic Migration Policy in the UK: An Evaluation of the Fresh Talent Initiative in Devolved Scotland.
Purska, Myroslava	Representations of Identity in Works of Immigrant/Postcolonial Writers in Great Britain.
Singer, Alison	Beyond Four Power Control: The Extended International Presence in Germany, 1945-1950.
Škuletić, Ana	Foreign Cultural Policy: The British Council and the Goethe Institute. An Empirical Analysis of the Organisations' Autonomy with a Case Study of Serbia.
Stankus, Paul	From the Newspapers to the History Books: The Evolution of the Concept of the Indian Mutiny from 1857 to 1957.
Urzhumtsev, Andrey	Reputation-Building Efforts of BP and Shell.
Tang, Feili	National Identity through Synaesthesia? The Nation Brand of Britain.
Vadlja, Kristina	The Democratic Upgrading of British Foreign Policy Making.
von Staden, Bettina	Immigration to London: Hard Facts - Literary Solutions?
Wang, Shu	Equal Pay in the UK.
Yang, Shanshan	Iron Britannia and Moral Britannia: The Falklands War and the War on Terror in Britain's Redefinition of its Post-Empire National Identity and World Role.

This year's best Master Thesis comes from Bettina von Staden. Her paper has been published on the Centre's website <http://www2.hu-berlin.de/gbz> (Working Papers).

## M.B.S. Activities

### Graduation Ceremony and Alumni Day

This year's Graduation Ceremony on 14th May gathered not only the latest group of graduates but also a number of M.B.S. Alumni who came to participate at the Centre's first ever joint Alumni Day and Graduation Ceremony. The usual combination of a Monday Lecture and Graduation Ceremony was changed this year into a format that suits the needs of M.B.S. students, graduates, and alumni better in order to provide them with information on career prospects through lectures, discussions, and informal socializing.

The event was opened with an address by Ben Bradshaw MP (UK Minister for the South West and Minister of Health), who was also awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Centre for British Studies for his longstanding support and friendship. Thereafter, another distinguished guest, Mr Andreas Meyer-Schwickerath, Director of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany, held a short lecture about the activities of the British Chamber of Commerce followed by a round of questions from the audience.



Ben Bradshaw MP receiving his Honorary Fellowship from Prof Eisenberg

Four of the Centre's earlier graduates – Eva Mertins (University of Bayreuth), Stephen Sun (KPMG, Shanghai), Milena Feustel (British Embassy Berlin) and Thomas Schossé (C.H. Beck Verlag) – then spoke briefly about their careers after graduation and informed our present students and graduates about what might await them after successfully obtaining an M.B.S. degree.

The third part of the evening consisted of the official Graduation Ceremony for the M.B.S. class 2005-07, involving lots of hand-shaking by the Director Professor Schlaeger, lots of smiling by the graduates, and lots of clapping by an audience that was composed of a satisfied staff, happy fellow-graduates, proud family members, nostalgic alumni, and inspired current



From left to right: S. Sun, E. Mertins, M. Feustel, T. Schossé

M.B.S. students. The best overall degree result of that class was achieved by Ana Škuletić from Serbia. Congratulations and well done to all of you!

The event was rounded off with a reception that was richer than usual thanks to the graduating class 2007 and their earnings during the Long Night of Academia 2006. As is already a tradition, this little party offered the opportunity to meet fellow students, reminisce about good old GBZ times, exchange news, and, of course, discuss future plans. Graduating students could talk about their first career steps with other alumni, students still on the course could get valuable information on placements, and former students were able to renew old contacts, compare career paths and exchange career advice.

All in all, a successful evening for everybody involved. We would very much like to stay in touch with all our former students. Please keep us posted on your career progress, tell us when you need help or simply say hello when you happen to be in Berlin - with these wishes, Prof Schlaeger finished his welcome address.



Congratulations to the class of 2005-07

## Lecturers' Conference

In December the Centre organized a meeting of all external lecturers in our M.B.S. course. The purpose of the meeting was to bring all lecturers together to talk about their experience with the course and discuss its future. Various M.B.S. courses were analysed and overlaps identified. At the end of this part of the meeting one lecturer summed it up by saying that “we all and each of us has to set a context for all the others.”



We proudly present the external lecturers of the GBZ in front of the new premises in Mohrenstraße

The workshop was also an occasion to address some aspects of interdisciplinary area studies. After a general discussion about the current situation of Area Studies, the participants discussed the various dimensions of the British ‘area’: firstly, the changing relations between England and the ‘Four Nations’; the diversity of the British-European relationship, which differs from those of other European nations; and finally, the relationships of the UK worldwide. All the participants agreed that this diverse character of the British ‘area’ not only concerned foreign relations, but also afflicted internal British relations. The fact that nowadays even the British increasingly speak of ‘England’ instead of the ‘UK’ or ‘(Great) Britain’ can be seen as an expression of the ‘successful’ deconstruction of the British nation through such forms of internal transnationality. In the M.B.S. course it is also necessary that students are made aware of such interdependencies. Our thanks go to the *Stiftung Luftbrückendank* for the generous support of this event.

## Alumni

Up to now, seven classes (some 140 students) have completed the entire M.B.S. course. We are currently teaching the ninth class of students, the eighth class is presently in their last term, either working on their master thesis or doing their internship in Britain.

We are trying to cultivate and keep up contact with our former students through our alumni activities. We have heard from some 100 alumni and presently have regular contact with around 80 (nearly 60% of the total number of former students). Some particularly important benefits of these activities are:

- Monitoring the professional careers of our former students provides us with important information on how to keep improving the M.B.S. degree. It also helps to demonstrate the value of the skills acquired at the Centre.
- We strive to promote our former students’ careers by collecting and communicating relevant job offers.
- We can inform them about academic and cultural events in British Studies.
- Our alumni have proven to be extremely helpful in the organisation of internships for our students and for helping recent graduates to find a job.
- In the long run, we hope that our alumni network will become a pillar of our fundraising activities.

In terms of the careers pursued by our alumni, five main groupings are discernible. The largest group (some 39%) work in the business sector. This can be subdivided into two subgroups: the commercial sector in general (including multinational corporations such as IBM, Google, Coca-Cola, Tesco or Tarmac, and medium-sized or smaller companies), and media and publishing (working in publishing houses such as Beck or Sage or for newspapers). Furthermore, one student has pursued a career in translation.

The second largest group (some 23%) comprises former students who have found a position in the educational sector. They either work as lecturers, teachers, researchers or have found employment in education and research management.

This is followed by a group (some 15%) who have gone into a career in political or government organizations, including in EU institutions, ministries or as members of the diplomatic service.

A fourth group (some 10%) have decided to stay on the academic path. They are either working on a PhD or have joined another master course.

Finally, the last main group (some 7%) works in the area of cultural management.

What pleases us, when analysing these results, is the diversity of employment pursued, and the implication that reading for an M.B.S. opens up new job opportunities. We often hear during admissions that applicants wish to read for a M.B.S. in order to become better teachers or translators, and hopefully that is the case for those that stay on this path. Yet, the majority of those graduates have found jobs in different fields. We would like to see this as evidence that the M.B.S. has opened up new employment prospects or widened academic interests. The quality of many of the

individual jobs that students have succeeded in finding is also very gratifying, especially when one considers that they are still early on in their careers.

As far as geographical distribution is concerned, around a fifth of our graduates stay in the UK or Ireland. A majority will return to their country of origin, but there is also a considerable group of non-German nationals who have stayed in Germany. Others have moved on to third or fourth countries, e.g. those who work with the EU in Brussels or Strasbourg.

For the Centre's staff it is encouraging to frequently receive good news about our former students. We hope we can continue to support them through our Alumni activities and we would like to thank all former students who keep in touch.

## What happened to ...

### Sonja Čečar, Class 2005-07

"I graduated in May 2007. Back then, I did not know what an interesting turn my life was going to take. Shortly after graduation, I was contacted by a German publisher who was interested in publishing my thesis "Blatcherism – How Much Thatcherism is in Blairism". Only two months later, my book was available to a world-wide readership. Since August 2007, I have been working as a PA and coordinator for the Anglo-phone countries in a recruitment agency in Berlin. I have a lot of business contacts throughout the UK and my experience at the Centre proved to be very useful – especially in understanding the UK's business culture. At the moment, I am working from home as I am expecting a baby in mid-March."



Cultivating international relations

### Małgorzata Gacitua-Wojcik, Class 2004-06

"After having completed my internship at the Fairtrade Foundation (London) in 2007, I went to live in Hamburg where I am currently working for bigmouthmedia

GmbH, an internet marketing company. I am training to be an Account Manager and am responsible for the operative support of online marketing projects, creating online campaigns, data analysis, and much more. The online world attracts me as it evolves all the time. My present work perfectly combines the skills I acquired while doing my Master Degrees in Poland and at the Centre for British Studies. Both my degree in Linguistics as well as the M.B.S. gave me a solid preparation for my present job."



The next M.B.S. generation?

### Györgyi Turoczy, Class 2003-2005

"My life has changed in many ways since I left the M.B.S. course. I married an English gentleman and moved to Bochum. I was worried about my imperfect German, but the non-profit organization *Multikulturelles Forum* took me on as a trainee to help with all their transnational projects, while they helped me to improve my German. They finally decided to employ me "properly" in an EQUAL (which is a European Union initiative) project called "Competence and Diversity". It is a co-operation between several projects in Germany, Spain, and the Netherlands on a better integration of migrants in the labour market. My main job is to help the team of co-ordination, translate documents, organize events and conferences. My other responsibility is to find and apply for future EU funding. Working in an international environment requires not only a good command of English but also understanding and tolerance for other cultures and ways of thinking. Having such a colourful mixture of people in our class and living in the UK were great opportunities to practice these skills. My internship in Glasgow at the Scottish Poverty Information Unit also provided a good basis for my current job, as our main project there was part of the same EQUAL programme. However, the real challenge and source of happiness at the moment is my baby daughter, Zsófia. She is simply wonderful. I hope she will not find it too difficult to be half Hungarian, half English, living in Germany, and that she will enjoy the variety and richness of all her different origins and cultures."

## TEACHING AT OTHER FACULTIES

### **Contracts (Comparative Law and Conflicts of Law)**

Professor Dannemann gave this series of lectures at the Humboldt's Law Faculty during the winter term 2007/08. The lectures treated core issues of contract law from a comparative perspective with particular reference to English, German, and French law, and provided an introduction to conflict of law issues (applicable law and jurisdiction) in matters relating to international contracts, with particular emphasis on the Rome Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, and the EU Council Regulation on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

### **State, Finance, and Taxation in Britain, 1689-1815** (*Staat und Finanzen in Großbritannien, 1689-1815*)

From the end of the 18th century, the development of the modern fiscal state, with an efficiently functioning state apparatus, was an indispensable precondition for the growth of the British Empire, as well as for the economic boom at home (industrialisation and the coming into being of the City of London). This seminar, offered by Prof Eisenberg to advanced history students of the Humboldt Universität, examined and critically discussed the present state of research on this period. Where possible use was made of literature and sources allowing comparisons with developments in continental Europe during the same period.

### **British Economic, Social, and Cultural History, 1066-1800** (*Wirtschafts-, Sozial- und Kulturgeschichte Großbritanniens, 1066-1800*)

This series of lectures, held by Prof Eisenberg at the Humboldt's History Department during the winter term, analysed the structural conditions that contributed to the early beginning of commercialisation in England, as it affected the economy, society and culture there. In the process reference was made to the most significant historical milestones along the way, but at the same time deeper trends and connections between phenomena were also emphasised.

### **Technologie seit der Industriellen Revolution: Neuere Ansätze der Technikgeschichte**

Dr Wenzlhuemer taught this course at the History Department of the Humboldt Universität in the winter

term. It focused on the relationship between society and technology and discussed theoretical approaches that try to systematize this interplay. In a second step, examples from several different historical periods and economic sectors were discussed in the light of these theories.

### **Was wäre wenn... – Das Kontrafaktische zwischen Spiel und Methode**

This seminar, held by Dr Wenzlhuemer together with Rayk Meckel at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Universität Luzern, focused on the potential uses and dangers of counterfactual thought in different academic, literary or political settings. Starting with an exploration of the rationale of counterfactual thinking, it then moved on to an in-depth discussion of counterfactuality in alternative history, utopias/dystopias or conspiracy theories. Can counterfactual thinking and writing in all these different settings broaden our horizon and eventually produce different lines of investigation - and maybe even different answers? Or is it merely an intellectual "parlour game" that draws attention away from the established facts?

### **Invention, Innovation, and Inertia: An Introduction to the History of Technology since the 18th Century**

This course by Dr Wenzlhuemer examined the history of technology since the eighteenth century and sought to establish whether and how technological "progress" had an impact on the underlying societies. Does technology drive history? Or is technology after all merely a product of sociocultural and socioeconomic circumstances and demands? These are two of the key questions that guided the analysis of invention and innovation from the eighteenth right up to the twenty-first century. The course took place at the History Department of the Jacobs University Bremen.

### **Arts Funding**

In the summer term 2007 Rita Gerlach taught a seminar on "Arts Funding" at the Europa-Universität Viadrina in Frankfurt-Oder (on the Polish border) for the international students of the postgraduate Master course Arts Management and Cultural Tourism. This seminar, taught in German, discussed how to finance an arts organisation in Germany which includes both public funding sources and fundraising from the private and tertiary sectors. Successful case studies helped to illustrate the theoretical introduction.

## RESEARCH

### Current Research Projects

#### Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger

Prof Schlaeger organised an international conference with participants from Britain, France, the US, and Germany on “The Literary Mind - Literary Scholarship in the Age of the Neurosciences”. The aim of this conference was to use the expertise of literary scholars to test the available mind-models and the theories about how the mind does what it does proposed by the various branches of the neuro- and the cognitive sciences. In addition, the conference confronted contemporary literary theorizing about how literature does what it does with the latest research on how the brain functions, how its architecture is structured, how it uses language and how it has generally organized and reorganized its relationship with its cultural environment. Prof Schlaeger also plans to continue his research of ‘life writing’ and is preparing a major publication on the topic.

#### Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann Existing EC Private Law

Professor Dannemann is one of the founding members of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group). Founded in 2002, this Group currently consists of some 50 legal scholars from most EU member states. The Acquis Group aims to achieve a systematic arrangement of what already exists in Community law in the area of private law. The Acquis Group bases its work on this *acquis communautaire* of private law rules and aims to distill from this principles and rules which will help to define the common structures of an emerging Community private law.



The Acquis Group's Redaction Committee's meeting at the Centre

Within this group, Professor Dannemann heads both the Redaction Committee and the Terminology Group. In 2007, the Acquis Group published the first part of its work: “Principles of the Existing EC Contract Law (Acquis Principles), Contract I: Pre-Contractual Obligations. Conclusion of Contract. Unfair Terms”, with Sellier publishers, Munich. Further information can be obtained at: <http://www.acquis-group.org>.

#### Unjust Enrichment and Restitution

Professor Dannemann is currently working on a monograph which places the German law of unjust enrichment and restitution in a comparative context, with a particular focus on English law. Oxford University Press has agreed to publish the book.

#### Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg British History

Professor Eisenberg is continuing work on a monograph on the rise of the market society in England which covers the period from 1066 to 1800. This research starts with an analysis of the medieval foundations of land, capital, and labour markets and then reconstructs the interactions of market exchange with other developments in the early modern period. Among these developments are the rise in population, urbanisation, and the transport revolution, the state of production, finances, the culture of commerce, and the cultural industries. One main point of discussion is the question whether England's market society was really already on its way to becoming an industrial society.

#### Sandra Müller

Sandra Müller is currently doing research on “Cultural Exchange Theory and Contemporary British Novels”, her PhD project that will show the importance and applicability of cultural exchange theory for literary studies and vice versa. The project concentrates mainly on 21st century novels written by authors with a migration background.

### External PhD Researchers

#### Sara Berendsen

*Trusts im Internationalen Privatrecht.*

#### Florian Dupuy

has completed his PhD on “*Les attentes des parties en droit comparé des contrats*” within a joint doctoral degree programme between the HU and the Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris II), and has been awarded the top grade of „*avec mention très honorable et les félicitations unanimes du jury*“.

**Aike Hasenheit**

*Die Innenhaftung bei Partnership und Personenhandels-gesellschaft.*

**Andriy Ilyuk**

Non-Performance and Remedies in European Contract Law. A Comparative Analysis of the Acquis Principles, the Draft European Civil Code, and the Common Frame of Reference.

**Ronald Kaduk**

*Der preußische Dandy. Rezeption und Transfer eines Londoner Gesellschaftsphänomens in Berlin.*

**Stephen Love**

European Contract Law as Implemented in France, Germany and the UK.

**Maik Martin**

Public Inquiries: *Anatomie einer Common Law-Institution.*

**Klaus Nathaus**

has completed his thesis on *‘Vereine im deutsch-englischen Vergleich. Das Beispiel der Industriestädte Essen und Sheffield 1919-1939’* (Organised Sociability. German “Vereine” and English Clubs in the 19th and 20th Centuries). The dissertation analyses the development of social and leisure clubs in Germany and England in the 19th and 20th centuries. It shows that German “Vereine” were controlled and – to a growing extent – subsidized by the state, whereas English associations were shaped mainly by market influences. The organizational framework had effects on the social relations within and around the clubs, which the thesis then explores. The overall conclusion is that – contrary to widespread positive notions of voluntary associations – the organizational form was often used as an instrument of social control and exclusion. It was only when trivial but highly involving purposes like sports, music making, gardening or amateur theatre became the sole purpose of voluntary organizations that sociability, the social exchange between people regardless of their wealth or status, evolved.

**Stephan Schwanke**

Endless Leisure? Australian Surf Culture from 1945 Onwards.

**Florian Stärk**

Minimum Capital and Creditor Protection: the UK Limited Compared to Other Forms of Companies.

**Reet Tamme**

*“Global Golf.” Transnationale and lokale Mechanismen der Verbreitung des Golfsports 1900-1914 und 1990-2006.*

**Ruti Ungar**

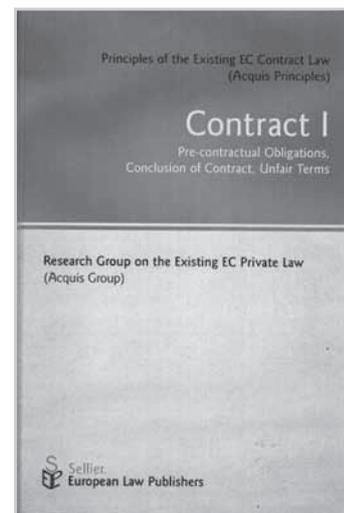
*Boxen in England im 18. und frühen 19. Jahrhundert.*

**Sandra Vivian Wagner**

*Verbraucherschutz bei Kaufvertragsabschluss im Internet nach englischem und deutschem Recht.*

**Publications**

DANNEMANN, G. (co-ed.). *Principles of the Existing EC Contract Law (Acquis Principles), Contract I: Pre-Contractual Obligations. Conclusion of Contract. Unfair Terms.* Prepared by the Research Group on Existing EC Private Law (Acquis Group). Munich: Sellier, 2007.



Authored or co-authored the following contributions to this volume:

- . “Consolidating EC Contract Law: An Introduction to the Work of the Acquis Group”, xxiii-xxxii.
- . “Consolidating EC Contract Law Terminology: The Contribution of the Terminology Group” (together with S. Ferreri and M. Graziadei), xxxiii-xl.
- . “Glossary” (together with S. Ferreri, M. Graziadei and I. Maier), 307-311.

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

EISENBERG, C. “From Political Ignorance to Global Responsibility: The Role of the World Soccer Association (FIFA) in International Sport during the Twentieth Century.” *Journal of Sport History* 32 (2005): 379-393 (publ. April 2007).

---. “German Gymnastics’ in Britain, or the Failure of Cultural Transfer.” S. Manz, M. Schulte Beerbühl, J.R. Davis (eds.). *Migration and Transfer from Germany to Britain 1660-1914*. Munich: K.G. Saur, 2007. 131-146.

---. "Aus der Geschichte lernen - aber was? Neuere Literatur zum Fußball in der Zeit des Nationalsozialismus". *Archiv für Sozialgeschichte* 47 (2007): 569-578.

---. "Zum Spannungsverhältnis von kommerzieller Massenkultur und Arbeiterkultur. England aus deutscher Perspektive." H. Kaelble, and M. Kirsch (eds.). *Selbstverständnis und Gesellschaft der Europäer. Aspekte der sozialen und kulturellen Europäisierung im späten 19. und 20. Jahrhundert*. Frankfurt/M.: Peter Lang, 2007. 299-318.

GERLACH, R. "Ghosts, Secrets, and Lies". Review. "Robert Harris. *The Ghost*." *Hard Times* 82 (2007): 59-60.

HANDKE, Ch., together with Ruth Towse. *Economics of Collective Management of Copyright / Análisis Económico de las Sociedades de Gestión de Derechos de Autor*. Madrid: Ediciones Autor, 2007.

---. "Economics of Copyright Collecting Societies" (with Ruth Towse). *International Review of Intellectual Property and Competition Law* 38.8 (2007): 937-957.

---. "Guest Editor's Introduction." *Review of Economic Research on Copyright Issues* 2006 4.2 (2007): 1-3.

---. "Indies im Aufwind - Der Umbruch am Tonträgermarkt und sein Verteilungseffekt." B. Schneider, and S. Weinacht (eds.). *Die Musikwirtschaft - aus der Perspektive der Medien. Reihe: Praxisforum Medienmanagement Band 7*. Munich: R. Fischer, 2007.

---. Report for MIDEMNET Forum / MIDEM 2007, for the Music Information Center Austria (mica) and the EU-Project DMET - Digital Music Education and Training, submitted 26 March 2007, 6 pages.

---. Guest Editor of the *Review for Economic Research on Copyright Issues* 4.2 (2007).

MAIER, I. "Glossary" (together with G. Dannemann, S. Ferreri and M. Graziadei). *Principles of the Existing EC Contract Law (Acquis Principles), Contract I: Pre-Contractual Obligations. Conclusion of Contract. Unfair Terms*. Prepared by the Acquis Group. Munich: Sellier, 2007. 307-311.

SCHLAEGER, J. "Quo vadis, Anglistik? Recent Trends in and Challenges for English Studies." A. Nünning, J. Schlaeger (eds.). *English Studies Today: Recent Developments and New Directions*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2007. 7-22.

---. "The Future of English Studies in Europe." A. Nünning, J. Schlaeger (eds.). *English Studies Today: Recent Developments and New Directions*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2007. 223-239.



WENZLHUEMER, R. "The Dematerialization of Telecommunication: Communication Centres and Peripheries in Europe, 1850-1920." *Journal of Global History* 2.3 (2007): 345-372.

---. "The Development of Telegraphy, 1870-1900: A European Perspective on a World History Challenge." *History Compass* 5.5 (2007): 1720-1742.

---. "Indian Labour Immigration and British Labour Policy in Nineteenth-Century Ceylon." *Modern Asian Studies* 41.3 (2007): 575-602.

---. "Telecommunications: History." Christine Rider (ed.). *Encyclopedia of the Age of the Industrial Revolution, 1700-1920*. Westport CT: Greenwood, 2007.

## Conferences and Workshops

### Research Colloquium

In the winter term 2006/07 and summer 2007 the colloquium not only served as a platform for discussing research projects but also for introducing and analysing key area studies concepts and methods.

#### Barbara Simpson

Censorship and Creativity

#### Rita Gerlach

Funding Quality Theatre in Germany and the UK

#### Christiane Eisenberg

*Kommerz, Kultur, Kommerzkultur. Eine Einführung in die britische Geschichte*

(work in progress)

**Gerhard Dannemann**

## Comparison

The paper discussed comparison as a method of interdisciplinary research in area studies. It distinguished between different methodological functions (heuristic, descriptive, analytical, and paradigmatic, following Heinz-Gerhard Haupt and Jürgen Kocka), different typical purposes (e.g., establishing causal links, particular practical purposes such as harmonization, import of problem solutions, choice between countries, or the mere desire to increase understanding).

Types of comparison can be distinguished i.a. according to whether they are synchronous or diachronous, total or partial, asymmetric or symmetric, convergent or divergent (following Jürgen Osterhammel).

Whether comparisons focus on similarities or on differences is influenced by the purpose of a comparative enquiry, and depends on particular stages into which most comparative enquiries can be divided, including selection (research question, sources, areas), structure (country report or topical), description (core issues, disciplinary and interdisciplinary context, results), and analysis (explaining differences and similarities, finding “blind spots” or functional equivalents, and discussing the possibility of transfers).

**Christiane Eisenberg**

## Cultural Transfer Analyses

Researchers from the areas of social and cultural history as well as contemporary social studies have recently extended the concept of cultural transfer in two directions. Firstly, they are not interested solely in the transfer between cultures, but also in the transfer of cultures. Secondly, they do not restrict their studies to textual analysis but work within a broader cultural concept which also comprises practices, systems of action and institutions.

Their principal aim is to show how such complex relationships take root, i.e. they try to reconstruct how the recipient actors select fragments from the ‘foreign’ import, adapt them, and add them to their ‘indigenous’ culture to produce something new which changes traditions. This is why scholars are interested in the quality of the new cultural constellation within the social structure of the recipient society, the consequences and side-effects of the meeting between the cultures, the dynamics of development and the feedback effects.

Seen in these terms cultural transfer studies become case studies of historical and social change, since the meeting between cultures can be regarded as a source of innovation and a potential “driving-force of history”.

**Jürgen Schlaeger** (Chair)*Die Raumperspektive*

Discussion of the article of Hannes Siegrist, “Perspektiven der vergleichenden Geschichtswissenschaft. Gesellschaft, Kultur und Raum”, Hartmut Kaelble, Jürgen Schriewer (eds.), *Vergleich und Transfer. Komparatistik in den Sozial-, Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften*, Frankfurt/M. 2003, 305-340.

**Christian Handke and Roland Wenzlhuemer**

## Quantification

In the colloquium on 3 July 2007, Christian Handke and Roland Wenzlhuemer spoke on the use of quantitative methods in area studies research. After a brief definition of quantification and an introduction to the most widely used statistical methods, they contrasted the hermeneutic potential of quantification with possible pitfalls. Both pleaded for an increased but careful use of quantitative methods in area studies and emphasized the gains of combining quantitative and qualitative methods in interdisciplinary research.

**Andreas Eckert**

## Seminar für Afrikawissenschaften, HU Berlin

*Methodenprobleme einer regionalwissenschaftlichen Afrikaforschung*

Andreas Eckert outlined the challenges African area studies are facing against the backdrop of a widespread colonial perception of Africa as a continent without history, and as a “container” with clearly defined geographical and cultural boundaries.

**Margrit Pernau**

## Zentrum Moderner Orient, FU Berlin

*Translokazität*

The concept of „translocality“ focuses on the relationship between spatial flows and social or cultural change in non-European regions. This relationship is seen as a field of tension, involving entanglements at a variety of scales, from small to global. Thus the paper aimed at opening up the discussion on global history to a variety of regional and local levels of analysis in order to strengthen non-European perspectives.

**Annual Congress 2007****Society for Economic Research on Copyright Issues (SERCI)**

Within the framework of the Centre for British Studies’ research on Cultural Industries, the Centre hosted

the annual congress of the ‘Society for Economic Research on Copyright Issues’. The congress was fully booked with well over 90 participants from 18 different countries. It attracted 48 academic researchers who presented 27 papers. A special session on Thursday, 12 July was devoted to the economics of copyright collecting societies.



SERCI conference in the Senate Hall of the Humboldt-Universität

The invited guest lecturer of the SERCI Annual Congress 2007 was Prof Richard G. Lipsey, who spoke on „Technological Transformations, IPRs and Second Best Theory“. Another 47 professionals from the public or private sector attended the congress. Participants included representatives of the following organisations, among others: the European Commission, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Copyright Board of Canada, GVL/*Gesellschaft zur Verwertung von Leistungsschutzrechten mbH* (Germany), *Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband e.V.* (vzbv)/Federation of German Consumer Organisations, and the German Federal Ministry of Justice.

SERCI is supported by the long-term sponsors Sociedad General de Autores y Editores (SGAE) that co-finances SERCI via its Fundación Autor and Microsoft Corporation. The local sponsors of the SERCI Annual Congress 2007 were the law firm CMS Hasche Sigle, the collecting society *Gesellschaft zur Verwertung von Leistungsschutzrechten mbH* (GVL) and the *Verband unabhängiger Tonträgerunternehmen, Musikverlage und Musikproduzenten* (VUT). The special session on Copyright Collectives was sponsored by the Copyright Board Canada. Further information on the Soci-

ety for Economic Research on Copyright Issues Annual Congress 2007 – including the complete programme and all papers presented at the event – are available at: <http://www2.huberlin.de/gbz/Events/SERCIAC2007Eng.htm>



## EVENTS

### Highlights

#### Student Project: Eccentric Britain

“It has now become something of a tradition for the Centre’s students to present a project at the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*, the “Long Night of Academia”, and this year was no exception. The motto was “Eccentric Britain – Exzentrisches Britannien”, and the class of 06-08 presented the more off-beat side of their object of study, the country that gave the world Monty Python and cucumber sandwiches.

The M.B.S. students’ project used different techniques to present the more eccentric side of Britain. These included biographies that visitors could find in glass balls hanging from the ceiling or a calendar of events like cheese rolling (chasing a rolling cheese down the hill in case you’re wondering) in decorated boxes. There was a viewing section, where the Berlin public could see sections from some cutting-edge modern comedy programmes. Meanwhile the culinary section provided some corresponding drinks and food, including the (in)famous fried Mars bars.



Fried Mars bars - try before you judge

To help the visitors remember what they had learnt, including information about the Centre for British Studies and the M.B.S. course, there was a quiz and prizes donated by sponsors. One of the sponsors, Christoph Tophinke, even took the opportunity to present some British fashion from his Chelsea Farmers Club shop. Visitors also had the opportunity to dress up in appropriate fashion, for example as Mr Bean or as a football fan, and to have their photo taken with the GBZ’s very own Spice Girls – something that quite a few members of staff were tempted to do, too! Overall the “*Lange Nacht*” also aims to offer something for families, which was done with a children’s corner, with face painting and drawing for the younger visitors.

This year's event was particularly successful, with the number of visitors to the HU's main building rising to over 4600, thus contributing to a new record number of attendees for the "*Lange Nacht*" overall.

Besides helping to raise the profile of the Centre for British Studies, the students also benefited from and enjoyed the experience of managing such a project in a big team. For all involved "Eccentric Britain" was a resounding success."

Tim Roecker  
(M.B.S. student and Project Manager)



Spice up your professor

## British-Berlin Seminar

The British-Berlin Seminar is a two-day seminar jointly organised by the British Forces Germany, the Bundeswehr, and the Centre for British Studies. Its aim is to strengthen links and enhance mutual understanding between the British Forces and German political, military, commercial, and academic fields, and to provide a forum for discussing important issues and controversies bearing upon the military.

In 2007 the 27th Seminar, which took place from 6-7th December, focused upon the problem of rebuilding civil society in regions following military intervention, with particular reference to Afghanistan and Iraq, and allowed for the exchange of information and viewpoints between the military and other key participants in the rebuilding process.

## Comments of an M.B.S. student:

"The British-Berlin Seminar presented an interesting insight into current international proceedings, especially in present crisis areas. The emphasis was laid on the roles of Britain and Germany and of organisations, such as the THW, the German Police, *Médicins sans Frontières* and the German television station ZDF, all involved in managing and reporting on conflicts.



Participants of the 27th British-Berlin Seminar

The combination of the following factors made the experience of this Seminar unique and valuable:

- 1) the presence of German and British experts in such spheres as foreign politics, the media, and academia;
- 2) the possibility of direct communication with the specialists in workshops and discussions;
- 3) the comparative analysis of concepts in British and German foreign politics and a detailed deliberation on historical and contemporary cases of conflict management which helped increase the understanding of these areas."

Ekaterina Kurushina



M.B.S. students in a BBS workshop

## The Year's Activities

### January

Prof Schlaeger attended the New Year's Receptions of the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*, the British Embassy, and the Humboldt-Universität. \* He also, as a member of the Board of Trustees, attended the 75th anniversary of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung* in Hamburg. \* The Centre hosted the sixth meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group). Prof Dannemann chaired this meeting. \* Prof Schlaeger and Rita Gerlach attended the Official Opening of the "*Jahr der Geisteswissenschaften*" in the Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin. \* Prof Eisenberg attended a conference on "*Das Deutsche Kaiserreich in der Kontroverse - Probleme und Perspektiven*" at the *Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung*. \* Rita Gerlach and Christian Handke attended the conference "New Directions in Research: Substance, Method and Critique", organised by the Cultural Industries Research Seminar, Royal Society of Edinburgh. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the funeral of Prof Wolfgang Iser, chairman of the "Foundation Committee" for the Centre 1993-95 (see also Annual Report 2006).

### February

Prof Dannemann chaired the seventh meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group), held at the University of Torino. \* The Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland, H.E. Mr David Donoghue, visited the Centre. \* The staff of the Centre met at a strategy conference in Templin. \* The Rt. Hon. Mr Bill Rammell, MP for Harlow, visited the Centre. \* Rita Gerlach presented her work in progress under the title "Funding Quality Theatre in Germany and the UK" at the Centre's research colloquium.

### March

Prof Schlaeger attended a dinner in London given by the German Ambassador in honour of the Shakespeare-Prize winner in 2006, the opera singer Bryn Terfel. \* He also attended the St Patrick's Day reception of the Irish Ambassador in the Palais am Festungsgraben in Berlin. \* The chairman of the *Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft*, Gebhard von Moltke, visited the Centre. \* Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on the development of modern sports at the *Gustav-Lübcke-Museum* Hamm, on the occasion of the exhibition "*SportGeist*". \* Catherine Smith and Rita Gerlach presented the M.B.S. at a Humboldt-Universität stand at the study fair "*Studieren in Berlin und Brandenburg*" that took place in Berlin's town



Catherine handing out M.B.S. information

hall. \* Christian Handke attended the public hearing on the creative industries of the *Enquete-Kommission Kultur* in the *Bundestag*. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the Board meeting of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung*. \* Prof Dannemann gave a paper on "Emerging themes in the law of delict" at a conference on Avant-project for a reform of the French Civil Code, held at the Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford. \* He also co-chaired the Plenary Meeting of the Acquis Group, held at the Sorbonne, Paris. \* Prof Schlaeger took part in the interviews for the *Alfred Toepfer* grants scheme. \* Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on the history of sport on the occasion of the "*Bucurius Gespräche*" at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw. \* Rita Gerlach attended the conference "New Frontiers in Arts Sociology. Creativity, Support, and Sustainability", organised by ESA Research Network Sociology for the Arts in Lüneburg and Hamburg. She gave a paper on "Does State Support Sustain Creativity? British and German Theatre Compared". \* Prof Schlaeger attended a dinner at the residence of the British Ambassador Sir Michael Arthur. \* Dr Wenzlhuber went to London for a month in order to do some library and archival work at Birkbeck College, at the British Telecom Group Archives, Holborn, and at the National Archives, Kew. His research stay was funded by the *DAAD*.

### April

Prof Schlaeger went to a conference in Hamburg in preparation of the *Siggener-Zeit* programme of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung*. \* He also met with the president of Humboldt-Universität to discuss his retirement and the options for filling his position. \* Rita Gerlach and Barbara Simpson took the M.B.S. students to Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" at the *Schaubühne* theatre. \* Rita Gerlach helped organise the 2nd Workshop of the Association for the Study of British Cultures hosted by the Centre.

## May

Prof Schlaeger attended the 10th anniversary of the *Stiftung Brandenburger Tor* in the *Max Liebermann Haus*. \* He also attended the Annual Conference of the *SAES* in Avignon. \* Major General Melvin and Chief Liaison Officer of the British Forces in Berlin Colin Gordon visited the Centre to prepare the next British-Berlin Seminar. \* Rita Gerlach and Christian Handke attended the 4th Annual Creative Industries Conference “*Kultur- und Kreativwirtschaft in Europa – Kohärente Politik in einer globalisierten Welt*” in Berlin. \* The annual conference of the German Association for the Study of British History and Politics (ADEF) focussed on “Journalists as Transnational Political Actors in Britain and Germany”. Prof Eisenberg chaired one of the sections. \* Prof Schlaeger took part in the accreditation of foreign language degrees at the University of Göttingen. \* The Centre celebrated its first Alumni Day on the occasion of the Graduation Ceremony.



M.B.S. graduates enjoying their success

Christian Handke presented a paper on “Surveying Innovation in the Creative Industries” at the 5th International EMAEE Conference on “Globalisation, Services and Innovation: The Changing Dynamics of the Knowledge Economy” at Manchester Metropolitan University. \* Dr Wenzlhuemer did archival work at the archives of the *Swiss Post-, Telefon- und Telegrafverwaltung* (PTT) in Berne, Switzerland (funded by DFG Travel Funds). \* Prof Schlaeger and Rita Gerlach attended the Panel “*Geisteswissenschaften trifft Feuilleton*” in the official programme of the “*Jahr der Geisteswissenschaften*” at the Maxim-Gorki-Theater, Berlin. \* Christian Handke participated in the ESF Exploratory Workshop on “Rethinking Added Value in the Creative Industries: Combining Theory and Empirical Data” at the University of Art and Design Zurich, Switzerland.

## June

Prof Dannemann gave a presentation on “The Acquis Group and the consolidation of EC Contract Law” to the law faculty meeting, Humboldt-Universität. \* He chaired one session of a symposium on “Towards a Convergence of German and French Law?”, held jointly by the HU, the Chamber of Notaries at Berlin, the Association Capitant des Amis de la Culture Juridique Française, and the Interdepartmental Chamber of Notaries at Paris. \* The Centre hosted a meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany – Regional Steering Committee. \* Prof Schlaeger visited the Rolls Royce factory in Dahlewitz with members of the BCCG. \* He also attended the annual dinner of the German Chamber of Commerce in London. \* Prof Dannemann presented a paper on “Common Law Based Contracts Under German Law” to a Workshop on Anglo-American Contract Models at Åsgårdstrand, organised by the University of Oslo. \* Rita Gerlach and Christian Handke attended the 3rd Conference on Cultural Policy Research in the German-speaking Countries “*Kulturpolitik Heute*”, *Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung*, Berlin. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the Leibniztag in Berlin. \* Rita Gerlach attended the meeting of the Board of the Association for the Study of British Cultures in her capacity as treasurer. \* The Centre’s Advisory Board met for its annual meeting in order to be updated on the Centre’s and the M.B.S. activities and to discuss future projects. \* Prof Schlaeger took part in an accreditation at the Technical University Darmstadt. \* Rita Gerlach supervised the students’ project presentation at the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*.



“People Balls” depicting eccentric Britons

## July

Prof Schlaeger gave a lecture on “The Birth of the Self in Early Modern Autobiographical Writing” for the *Herrig’sche Gesellschaft*. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the Board meeting of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung* in Hamburg. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the CISLE-Conference on “Literatures in English: Ethnic, Colonial and Cultural Encounters” at the University of Barcelona and gave a lecture on “Seamus Heaney’s Postcolonial Lessons”. \* Having written their last exam the M.B.S. students could enjoy their end-of-term party



End-of-term party: no more exams!

untroubled. The weather was marvellous and so was the food the students and staff had organised themselves. After completing the Berlin part of the course the students were ready to apply their theoretical ‘wisdom’ and prove their worth by doing their practical internships in the UK. \* Together with Ruth Towse, Christian Handke presented a paper on “Regulating Copyright Collecting Societies” at the Society for Economic Research on Copyright Issues Annual Congress 2007 at the Humboldt-Universität. Christian was the local organiser of this event.



SERICI conference

## August

On the occasion of the “Year of the Humanities” (*“Stars treffen ihre Geistesgrößen”*) Prof Eisenberg met the goal keeper of the German national football team, Jens Lehmann. Their discussion was chaired by Eckhart Fuhr, *Die Welt*. \* Prof Schlaeger took part in the biannual conference of the International Association of University Professors of English at Lund (Sweden) and gave papers on “Selves for the 21st Century” and on the “Ethical Dimension of Cognitive Poetics”. \* Dr Wenzlhuemer spent some more weeks in London to do library and archival work. This stay was again funded by a DAAD Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. \* Prof Eisenberg met the director of the German Historical Institute in London, Andreas Gestrich, in order to discuss the organisation of a joint con-

ference on “Cultural Industries and Cultural Politics: Britain 1750-2000” in May 2008. \* Prof Schlaeger organized, together with Prof Bettina Gruber (Bochum University), a seminar on “The Birth of the Modern Self – Subjectivity between Literature and Religion” for the European Forum Alpbach in Austria.

## September

The Centre for British Studies hosted the 8th meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group). Professor Dannemann chaired this meeting. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the Annual Conference of University Teachers of English at Münster University. \* Prof Dannemann also attended the McGill Round Table on Legal Education 2007 on “The Foundations of a Cosmopolitan Legal Education”, McGill University, Montreal. \* Rita Gerlach attended a workshop on *“Image durch Kooperation”* at the German weekly quality newspaper *Die Zeit* in Hamburg. \* Marc Stauch attended the Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars, at the University of Durham, England and held a presentation on economic loss in German tort law.

## October

Prof Schlaeger took part in a meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany. \* He also attended the Board meeting of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung* in Hamburg. \* Prof Dannemann co-chaired the Plenary Meeting of the Acquis Group, held at the Jagellonian University, Krakow. \* Prof Schlaeger attended the conference on “Europe and Islam” organized by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. \* Christian Handke was guest lecturer at the professional training seminar *“Management im Kunstmarkt / Modul II: Wirtschaftstheorie und Recht im Kunstmarkt”* of the Freie Universität Berlin. \* As usual the new students took up their M.B.S. studies in the middle of October.



The first contact seems to go well

## November

Prof Schlaeger took part in an accreditation at the University of Oldenburg. \* The Centre hosted a series of lectures on Irish Studies by Professor Margaret Kelleher, Director of the Institute for Research in Irish Historical and Cultural Traditions, NUI Maynooth, “Non-elite Bilingualism: the Case of Nineteenth-Century Ireland” and Professor Ruairí Ó hUiginn, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, “Celts, Celtomania, Keltologie, Celtic Studies” as part of the e-learning Celtology-Project chaired by Prof Schlaeger, and funded by the:



**Ambasáid na hÉireann**  
**Embassy of Ireland**  
**Botschaft von Irland**

Prof Dannemann chaired one session of a symposium on “Private Law Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”, held at the Humboldt-Universität in honour of Professor Rainer Schröder on the occasion of his 60th birthday. \* Sandra Müller officially joined the Centre. \* Prof Eisenberg participated in the board meeting of the project “*Carl-Diem-Biographie*” (funded by the German Olympic Sports Association, DOSB) in Münster. \* Prof Schlaeger took part in the conference “Solo-Performances”, organized by the Freie Universität, and gave a paper on “Auto-Dialogues: Performative Creations of Selves”. \* Rita Gerlach and Sandra Müller attended the official award ceremony of “*Kulturmarke 2007*” by Agentur Causales in Berlin. \* Sandra Müller attended a congress on “*Herausforderung Kulturwirtschaft – Kulturpolitische Antworten und Strategien*” in Berlin. \* Rita Gerlach and Sandra Müller attended the 18th birthday of the student newspaper *Unaufgefordert* at the Humboldt-Universität. \* Rita Gerlach gave a paper at the 18th British Cultural Studies Conference “High Culture and/versus Popular Culture”, University of Salzburg. \* Prof Eisenberg participated in a conference on “*Turnen und Sport in der Körpergeschichte der Klassischen Moderne*” which took place in Münster. \* Prof Schlaeger went to a Board meeting of the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung* in Hamburg.

## December

Dr Wenzlhuemer presented a paper on “London in the Global Telecommunication Network of the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Century” at the Globalising Urban Histories conference in Cambridge, UK. \* Prof Schlaeger gave the opening remarks of this year’s British Berlin Seminar. \* Marc Stauch submitted his PhD dissertation on medical negligence law in England and Germany. This is due to be published as a book

by Hart Publishing in summer 2008. \* Prof Eisenberg took part in a workshop at the German Football Association (DFB) in Frankfurt/Main which discussed the idea of a national football museum. \* Prof Schlaeger went to a meeting with the *Alfred Toepfer Stiftung* scholars in Hamburg. \* Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on “British Studies as Area Studies” at the M.B.S. Lecturers’ Conference. \* The Centre organised a panel discussion on “Britain after Blair” celebrating the launch of *Hard Times Magazine*.



The Panel members and their audience

The year 2007 was rounded off with our traditional Christmas Party. As usual, the director of the Centre was not only responsible for the seasonal greetings but also for a good supply of *Glühwein*. The highlight of the evening, however, was the “*Schrottwichteln*”, a German Christmas activity, where everybody had to bring a wrapped gift that is completely worthless. Every participant could then draw a number and was given one of the “precious” gifts.



Wei Guan being very happy about - well, what is it?

## Public Relations

### Jahr der Geisteswissenschaften

The Centre was partner in the “Year of the Humanities” funded by the Federal Ministry of Education in order



to promote the importance of the humanities. Besides focusing on interdisciplinarity and area studies in the Centre’s research colloquium and Monday Lectures, this partnership led to a real media highlight:

In the series of talks “Stars treffen ihre Geistesgrößen”, Prof Eisenberg was one of six renowned academics meeting their popular equivalents: on 25 August 2007 she and the famous keeper of the German national football team, Jens Lehmann, were interviewed by Eckhart Fuhr of the daily newspaper *Die Welt* at the German Historical Institut (*Deutsches Historisches Institut/ DHI*) London. This was advertised full page and featured in a full-page article.



Jens Lehmann and Prof Eisenberg

### Media Contributions

The academic staff at the Centre are becoming more and more indispensable as commentators and analysts of contemporary British politics and topical events in the various fields of their expertise.

Gerhard Dannemann was interviewed by *Deutsche Welle Television*, ‘People and Politics’, on plans of the EU Presidency to toughen and harmonise the criminalisation of racial hatred in January. In May and June he gave live interviews to the TV news channel *1 Extra Aktuell* on Tony Blair’s resignation announcement and its likely consequences and on Gordon Brown taking over as Prime Minister. *HR inforadio* interviewed him in August on the meeting between Chancellor Angela Merkel and Prime Minister Gordon Brown, and the

*Deutsche Universitäts-Zeitung* asked him about higher education reforms in the UK. *HR inforadio* asked for his comments twice in September: first on the relationship between the UK and the US on the occasion of the withdrawal of British troops from Basra and secondly on the Labour Party Conference. Last but not least, in October Prof Dannemann gave an interview on the higher education teaching quality review in England to the “*Wirtschaft and Wissenschaft*” magazine.

History professor Christiane Eisenberg was interviewed by the *Auslandsdienst des Polnischen Rundfunks* about modern sport while she attended the “*Bucerius Gespräche*” at the German Historical Institute (DHI) in Warsaw. In December, the TV programme *WDR II* (“*Zeitzeichen*”) interviewed her on the founding of the Independent Labour Party on 13th/14th January 1893, which was aired on 13 January 2008.

In February, Director Jürgen Schlaeger was interviewed on devolution by the newspaper *Hamburger Abendblatt*. His appearance at the farewell ceremony of Sir Peter Torry, former British ambassador, was commented on in the Berlin daily *Der Tagesspiegel* in June. Later that month, Prof Schlaeger was interviewed on Tony Blair’s resignation by Ingo Kahle RBB’s radio programme „*Zwölfzweiundzwanzig - Zu Gast bei Ingo Kahle*“. In *Der Tagesspiegel* of 12 December, the director commented on the HU president’s reform plans.

Christian Handke’s research project was mentioned in an article by the *Internet Magazin* in July. During that month, the Annual Conference of the Society for Economic Research on Copyright Issues (SERCI) was covered by several articles in the *Internet Magazin* and *Telepolis* as well as on the website *golem.de*.

GBZ Fellow and former staff-member Prof Helmut Weber was interviewed by *br-iNFO* (radio *Hessischer Rundfunk*) about the Union of England and Scotland - or Scotland’s independence on 30 April.

### The Centre and the M.B.S.

The Master in British Studies-programme was mentioned in the Anglistik/ Amerikanistik-profile of the *CHE-Hochschulranking* in *ZEIT Studienführer* 2007/08 and *www.das-ranking.de*. In November 2007 the M.B.S. was also described in the article “*Deutscher Master*” in the student magazine of the Humboldt-Universität *Unaufgefordert*. The Alumni-programme of the Centre was featured in the *HUMBOLDT* newspaper on 10 May 2007: „You say goodbye and I say hello - *Erfolgreiche Alumni-Arbeit am Großbritannien-Zentrum*”. The Monday Lectures and events were regularly announced on the Humboldt pages in the *Berliner Zeitung* and in *Der Tagesspiegel*.

## Public Lectures

### English in Ireland: A New Look at Swift's Early Satirical Verse

**Professor Andrew Carpenter**

Head of School of English and Drama, University College Dublin

**8 January**

Professor Andrew Carpenter is Professor of English and Head of the School of English and Drama at University College Dublin. His main research interest is Irish verse in English from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and he has published widely on this area as well as on the work of Jonathan Swift. Professor Carpenter is a Member of the Royal Irish Academy.

Some of Swift's best early satirical verse was written while he was chaplain to the Lord Justice and was living in Dublin Castle in 1699-1700. In this lecture, Professor Carpenter took a new look at the best of the Dublin Castle poems, "Mrs Harris's Petition", and considered the contexts of the composition of this highly entertaining text.

### European Security and Defence Policy

**Robert Walter MP**

MP for North Dorset

**7 February**

Robert Walter is Conservative MP for North Dorset and Chairman of the Defence Committee of the Assembly of the Western European Union, the Inter-Parliamentary European Security and Defence Assembly.

As the debates in the Bundestag authorising the recent German-led EU Force in the Congo demonstrate, no soldier from a European state is going to be deployed in a conflict situation without the express approval of his national government or parliament. Any talk of a supra-national European Army deployed by Brussels is extremely premature. Military force deployments in the EU will continue to be made, as they are for NATO and the United Nations on an intergovernmental basis amongst willing nations.

*I am always made so welcome  
So this evening is a pleasure to  
Share my thoughts on this  
Subject so important to all  
Europeans.*

*Robert Walter*

### Churchills Begegnungen mit Deutschland

**Prof. Dr. Peter Alter**

Universität Duisburg-Essen

**21 May**

Peter Alter is professor emeritus of modern and contemporary history at the University of Duisburg-Essen and the author of the biography "Winston Churchill. Leben und Überleben" (2006). From 1976 to 1994 he was research fellow and deputy director of the German Historical Institute in London. The lecture was hosted in co-operation with the *Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft* and took place in the *Heilig-Geist-Kapelle* of the School of Business and Economics of HU.

### What the German and British Education Systems Can Learn From Each Other

**David Willetts MP**

Conservative MP for Havant, Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Skills

**4 June**

David Willetts is Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Skills and has been the MP for Havant since 1992. He was Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions from 2001-2005 and has worked at HM Treasury, and the Number 10 Policy Unit. He served as Paymaster General in the last Conservative Government. David Willetts has also written widely on economic and social policy. His book on *Modern Conservatism* was published by Penguin in 1992.

This Monday Lecture discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the German and British education systems and how they are capable of meeting the challenges of globalization and the demands of a knowledge-based economy.

This event was organised in co-operation with the *Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft*.



David Willetts

## Zukunftsperspektiven für Regionalstudien / Area Studies

Professor Jürgen Schlaeger

25 June

The organisation, aims and objectives, as well as future perspectives of area studies have been the focus of extensive debates and detailed analyses for quite a while now. The *Wissenschaftsrat*, the *Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften* and the *Wissenschaftskommission Berlin* have published papers on the subject or have commented on discussions about the humanities. This lecture concentrated on the status quo of discussions and on the role of British Studies in a possible future scenario.

## Did Orwell Only Get the Date Wrong? The Politics of Surveillance and Privacy in the UK

Professor Andreas Busch

Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

9 July

Prof Busch teaches in the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford (where he is also the Director of the MPhil in European Politics and Society), and is a Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford. His main research interests are in the areas of comparative government and public policy, UK and German politics, and political economy.

In his book *1984*, George Orwell – some 60 years ago – described a society under total surveillance and ruled by “Big Brother”. This vision created the powerful symbol of a dystopia that must never become reality, and has reverberated in popular culture ever since. The lecture took its starting point from allegations by a number of reports, officials, and NGOs that the UK is on the way to become a “surveillance society”. The country is (in)famous for having more than 4 million CCTV cameras watching over British citizens’ every move, but there are many more ways in which citizens’ privacy has come under threat, and many of them are the result of conscious political decisions. After having described and analysed these, the lecture concluded by putting the UK development into a broader perspective and asking whether it is really unique.

## Knowledge and Ethics: Perspectives from Africa

Professor Henrietta Moore

London School of Economics

10 October

Henrietta Moore is Professor of Social Anthropology at the London School of Economics and served as Director of the Gender Institute at the LSE from 1994-1999. This lecture was hosted in cooperation with the Centre for Modern Oriental Studies / *Zentrum Moderner Orient* (ZMO).

Prof Moore spoke about the development of a specific ethics of religious engagement in an African society in the context of global Christianity and its incorporation into development strategies and knowledge transfer. The question of how this ethics of engagement creates new spaces for agency and subjectivity for young women and men was central to Prof Moore’s talk.



Henrietta Moore

## Britain and Germany: Which is Better Governed?

Sir Paul Lever KCMG

19 November

From 1966 to 2003 Sir Paul Lever was a member of the British Diplomatic Service. From 1997 to 2003, he served as Ambassador to Germany. He is currently the Chairman of the Royal United Services Institute, and chairs the Advisory Board of the Centre for British Studies.



Sir Paul (left) and Gebhardt von Moltke

This lecture was hosted in cooperation with the *Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft* and took place in the *Heilig-Geist-Kapelle* of the School of Business and Economics of HU.

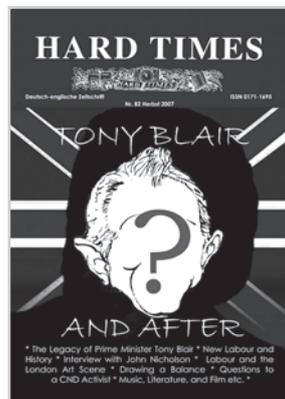
In his talk, Sir Paul looked at the differences in the political systems of Britain and Germany and he offered an array of brilliant thoughts on and insights into the consequences of these differences for the quality and nature of public administration and the ability of the electorate to get across its views and concerns.

## Britain after Blair

Panel Discussion celebrating the launch of *Hard Times* Nr. 82

10 December

Tony Blair shaped British politics for more than ten years. During this time, Britain's political, economic, and social landscape changed considerably – for better or worse. As soon as Blair, reluctantly, announced his forthcoming resignation, political analysts started debating what would be different when Brown took over and how long it would last.



Having arrived in the post-Blair age, it was time to discuss the merits and failures of the Blair governments and to look to the challenges ahead – for Gordon Brown but also for British politics in general.

Chair: Dr Sebastian Berg, TU Chemnitz; Panel: Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Prof Paul Carmichael, University of Ulster, Dr Gerry Mooney, Open University in Scotland, Christian Thode, Universität Oldenburg.

This lecture was hosted in cooperation with *Hard Times Magazine*.



Sebastian Berg, Christian Thode and Gerry Mooney  
(from left to right) deep in discussion

## FELLOWS

### Honorary Fellows

SIR CHRISTOPHER MALLABY GCMG GCVO

BEN BRADSHAW MP, Parliamentary Secretary and Minister for the South West and Health Minister

PROF DR ULRICH BROICH OBE

### Fellows

DR BERND BECKER

PROF PAUL CARMICHAEL

DR HUGH MACKAY

DR GERRY MOONEY

PROF GESA STEDMAN

PROF HELMUT WEBER, LLB

Newly appointed Fellows in 2007:

ANDY FEIST

After a brief spell as a historical researcher, Andy Feist joined the independent Policy Studies Institute (PSI) where he first specialised in cultural research. During his seven years at PSI, he became co-founder and editor of the quarterly statistical journal *Cultural Trends*. In 1992, he was appointed Senior Policy Analyst with the Arts Council of England. Since 1997, he has been undertaking research at the Home Office, but continues to keep up his research and teaching interests in the arts and cultural field. Andy was Honorary Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Arts Management, City University, London, between 1999 and 2004. His cultural research interests focus on employment in the arts, cultural industries, and arts policy making. Andy is also a keen non-professional horn player.



## LYNN PARKINSON

Lynn Parkinson is a marketing lecturer who has worked with Manchester Business School, the University of Warwick, and Cranfield School of Management for several years, working on UK degree programmes in the UK and in international centres. Lynn also worked as a consultant to public and private sector organisations, such as the Cabinet Office, The Post Office, the BBC, HBOs, Abbey, Edrington Group - from government policy issues to Scotch Whisky. She has published on general marketing topics, and also on services marketing, technology, and customer relationships and brand management. Lynn is a Scot by birth, but has lived in Harrogate, England for many years.



## Dr PIKAY RICHARDSON, BSc, MSc, PhD

After finishing his PhD in 1989, Dr Richardson was appointed to a full-time lectureship position at the Manchester Business School, The University of Manchester, United Kingdom, until September 2006, when he took early retirement from the School. He is an experienced graduate management school lecturer and educator, with over 17 years of teaching and supervising MBA and PhD students in the UK, USA, Germany, France, India, China, and Ghana. For 18 months between 2000 and 2002, he was Research Professor and Academic Director for Executive Programmes at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, New Jersey, USA. On top of his work as a lecturer of graduate students, Dr Richardson has many years of experience in the design and delivery of short executive development programmes for different classes of managers and executives in the UK and overseas. He does consulting work for many companies in the UK, Ghana, and India,

where for many years he was a consultant to the UK Government's Department for International Development. Dr Richardson is well-travelled and has lived and worked in many countries. He is currently on a short-term assignment as Professor of Business at the Faculty of Business, University of Botswana.



## STAFF

## Academic Staff

## British Literature and Culture

Director

**Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, MA (Oxon)**

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 Constance from 1976-95, and visiting professor at the University of California, Irvine, and at Fudan University, Shanghai. Professor Schlaeger was also Visiting Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was *Prorektor* at Constance 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 is now a member of the board. He is also a Fellow of the English Association and a member of the steering committee of the British Chamber of Commerce in Berlin-Brandenburg. He has published widely on literary theory, life-writing, Romanticism, and literary anthropology. He is co-editor of the *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)* and of the *Journal for the Study of British Cultures*.

**Prof Dr. Gesa Stedman**

Professor of British Literature and Culture. Studied English, French and Film/Theatre Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Warwick. PhD (Humboldt-Universität) in 2000, *Stemming the Torrent: Victorian Discourses of Emotion*. 'Habilitation' (Humboldt-Universität) in 2005. Professor of English and American Literature, Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen, 2005-2008. Co-editor of the *Journal for the Study of British Cultures* and chief co-editor of the Anglo-German magazine *Hard Times*. Research interests include the history of emotions, cultural exchange studies, in particular between England and France, British film and film historiography, as well as gender history, the literary field in the UK, France and Germany. Gesa Stedman is also interested in higher education teaching, the reform of graduate and doctoral studies, and has recently joined the commission for a family-friendly university.

**Dr. Georgia Christinidis**

Lecturer and researcher in literary and cultural studies. Studied English, German, and Spanish Literature in Konstanz, Freiburg, and Oxford. Obtained both her

masters degree and her doctorate from the University of Oxford, supported by scholarships from the *Studienstiftung* and the German Academic Exchange Service. Her doctoral dissertation investigates “The Concept of Cultural Agency from Modernism to Cultural Studies”. From 2006, she taught for New College, Oxford, until she joined the Centre in April 2008. Her current research interests are conceptions of cultural value and cultural agency, identity formation and the Bildungsroman, and the novelist Angela Carter. She currently teaches ‘Contemporary British Drama’ on the M.B.S. course. Georgia is also part of the admissions committee, looks after the Centre’s IT equipment and co-organises the Monday Lectures.

### **Rita Gerlach, Diplom-Kulturwirtin**

Lecturer and researcher in literary and cultural studies. Studied International Business and Cultural Studies at the University of Passau and worked in Moscow, London, and Paris before joining the Centre in October 2001. Currently completing her doctoral thesis as part of the Centre’s research project “Commerce and Culture”. Working title: “The British and German Theatre Systems: Funding Quality Theatre”. In 2006, Rita’s teaching included ‘British Theatre: Funding, Producing and Enjoying’, ‘Project Management’ (supervising the students’ project at the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*), and ‘National Identity’. Her research interests are: drama, the arts, cultural policy and management, intercultural communication, national identities. Among other tasks at the Centre she is responsible for press and public relations.

### **Sandra Müller, Diplom Wirtschafts-Anglistin**

Lecturer and researcher in literary and cultural studies. From 2001-2007 she studied English, Spanish, Economics and Business Studies at the Justus Liebig-University Gießen. In 2003 she spent a semester in Milwaukee, USA, and completed her Diploma in 2007 with her thesis on cultural exchange in contemporary British novels. Sandra joined the Centre’s team in October 2007 and is currently doing research for her doctoral thesis on “Cultural Exchange and the Contemporary British Novel” (working title). On the M.B.S. course she teaches ‘Academic Writing’, ‘Project Management’ (with Rita Gerlach) and ‘The Contemporary British Novel’.

### **Barbara Simpson, MA**

Lecturer and researcher in literary and cultural studies from 2005-07. From 1996-97 she studied Philosophy and Politics at the University of Warwick and then

Philosophy with English and French Literature at the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg. In 2001-02 she obtained a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for the Université de Nice/Sophia Antipolis, and completed her M.A. in 2004 with a Master Thesis in philosophy on “Attention as a Problem in Phenomenology”. Practical experience includes project administration for a film retrospective in Berlin and Potsdam (Filmverband Brandenburg e.V.), an internship with the Arts and Creative Industries Department at the British Council Berlin, and at the Press and PR Department of ARTE G.E.I.E. in Strasbourg. Barbara joined the Centre’s team in April 2005 and taught ‘Contemporary Drama’, ‘Theories of Culture’, and ‘Academic Writing’. Barbara left the Centre in June to take up a job as project manager and personal assistant at the think tank “Brainstore” in Switzerland.

## **British History**

### **Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg**

Deputy Director of the Centre. Professor for British History. 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 (University of Bielefeld) in 1986-97 and holding a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., in 1987-88, she became assistant professor at 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 a research unit on ‘*Gesellschaftsvergleich*’ at the history department of Humboldt-Universität, and joined the Centre for British Studies in 1998. Prof Eisenberg is Chairwoman of ADEF (*Arbeitskreis Deutsche England-Forschung/ German Association for the Study of British History and Politics*).

Her main books on Britain and British history are: *Deutsche und englische Gewerkschaften. Entstehung und Entwicklung bis 1979 im Vergleich* (1986); *English sports und deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939* (1999); (ed.) *Parliamentary Cultures. British and German Perspectives / Parlamentskulturen. Deutsche und britische Perspektiven* (2001); (ed., with Arnd Bauerkämper) *Britain as a Model of Modern Society? German Views* (2006).

In 2007 she was invited to join the European Board of the International Journal of the History of Sport as well as the advisory board of the national football museum which the German Football Association (*Deutscher Fußball-Bund*) plans to build.

**Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer**

Lecturer and researcher in social and economic history since April 2005. Born 1976. Studied History and Communication Science at Salzburg University, Austria, and graduated in 1999 with a Master Thesis on postcolonial conflicts in Bihar, India. Doctoral studies in history on the economic and social development of the British Crown Colony Ceylon during the late 19th century. Research stays in the UK, India, and Sri Lanka. Roland obtained his PhD at Salzburg University in April 2002. Worked as a researcher at the Centre for Modern Oriental Studies in Berlin in 2003/2004. Roland, who is currently working on “Continuity and Change in the History of the Information Society”, teaches ‘British International Relations’, ‘Current Affairs’ and ‘Empire and Commonwealth History’ on the M.B.S. programme. Among other tasks at the Centre he has taken over the multimedia project, looks after our IT equipment, and is responsible for fundraising and sponsoring. In September 2006 Roland took up an Honorary Research Fellowship at the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Birkbeck College, London.

**British Legal, Economic and Social Structures****Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann, MA (Oxon)**

Professor of British Legal, Economic, and Social Structures. Studied law at Freiburg i.Br. and Bonn. Taught German and English law at Freiburg (Assistant Lecturer 1988-91), at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (Fellow in German Law) 1991-94, at University College London (Visiting Lecturer, then Lecturer) 1992-95, and at the University of Oxford 1995-2002 (University Lecturer, then Reader in Comparative Law), where he was also a Fellow of Worcester College from 1995-2002. Dr jur. Freiburg i.Br. 1994, ‘Habilitation’ Freiburg i.Br. 2002. Joined the Centre of British Studies in 2003. Has published widely, in particular on the English and German legal systems, contract, tort, restitution, and private international law. Founder and general editor of the Oxford University Comparative Law Forum and the German Law Archive, founding member of the Acquis Group (European Research Group on Existing EC Private Law), chair of the Group’s Redaction Committee and Terminology Group, and Fellow of the Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford. On the M.B.S. programme, he teaches ‘The English Legal System’, ‘Contracts’, and ‘Commercial Law’, and co-teaches ‘Political Institutions and Constitutional Law’. He is also Chair of Admissions and Examinations at the Centre.

**drs. Jens Ennen, Master of Economics**

*Doctorandus der Economischen Wetenschappen.* Lecturer and researcher in British economy. Studied International Economic Studies (IES) at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of Maastricht University, the Netherlands. Graduated in 2006 with a Master thesis on the evaluation of wage subsidy regimes in the US and the UK. Erasmus studies at Audencia, Ecole Supérieure de Commerce (ESC) Nantes Atlantique, France, and exchange programme at Université de Liège, Belgium. Completed a Minor in European Studies at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Maastricht University. Worked as a freelance lecturer in Business and (Business) English/French in Cologne. He started working at the Centre in January 2008 and teaches ‘Current Affairs’ and ‘The UK Financial System’. Research interests are the labour market of the UK, economics of the Welfare State, public policy evaluation, and economic history. Jens is in charge of alumni relations.

**Christian W Handke, MA**

Lecturer and researcher in political science and economics from 2003 till 2007. Christian holds a B.A. (Hons.) in European Studies from the University of North London, UK, and an MA in Science, Technology, and Society from Linköping University, Sweden. He studied also in Spain and in Chile. Christian is writing his doctoral thesis on innovators in the phonogram industry. On the M.B.S., Christian taught the ‘UK Financial System’ and ‘Cultural Economics’. Christian also took care of the Centre’s website and was responsible for the alumni network. Christian left the Centre in October to take up a post as Assistant Professor in the Department for the Study of the Arts and Culture at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

**Marc Stauch, MA (Oxon)**

Lecturer and researcher in law and politics. Marc graduated from Oxford in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics in 1989, and then studied law, qualifying as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales in 1993. He lectured law in England at The Nottingham Trent University and the University of Leicester. His specialist interest is in medical law: he is the co-author of a popular English student textbook on the subject and has recently completed his doctoral thesis on “Medical Negligence Law in England and Germany”. On the M.B.S., Marc teaches ‘Law of Torts’, ‘Media Law’, and the ‘Introduction to Political Institutions’. He is responsible for the organisation of the student work-placement programme, and for editing the *Alumni Newsletter*.

## Administrative Staff

### Catherine Smith, BA (Hons.)

Foreign language secretary to the director Professor Schlaeger. She started working at the Centre in March 1996 shortly after it was opened. She is responsible for managing the office of Professor Schlaeger and his team, and provides secretarial and clerical support for their teaching and research activities. Her responsibilities also include the organisation of Professor Schlaeger's appointments and commitments, together with looking after guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, appointments, events, and the Monday lectures. She keeps all office systems and procedures running smoothly, answers general enquiries, maintains office records, and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre's affairs. In December Catherine successfully completed her Open University studies in the History of Art with a BA Honours degree. Congratulations!

### Corinna Radke, MA

Foreign language secretary to Professors Eisenberg and Dannemann. Studied English and Spanish at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and in Madrid. Apart from taking part in the management of the Centre's daily affairs and helping the students with their problems and enquiries, she is responsible for the co-ordination of the Centre's guest lecturers and organises the teaching schedules for the M.B.S. course. She represents the Centre in the Berlin International Studies Network (BISS), which meets regularly to discuss the special needs of international Master courses in Berlin. Corinna is furthermore responsible for the co-ordination of the Erasmus Placement Programme that offers financial support to students going abroad for an internship. Other activities include preparing the manuscripts of conference proceedings and supervising their publication. Finally, she edits the Centre's Annual Report.

### Sylvena Zöllner

Administrative officer at the Centre. Sylvena is a qualified administration and finance clerk, and has been working at the Centre since July 1996. She is responsible for administering the Centre's finances, for the supply of office material, technical equipment, and everything else needed by the Centre. She helps with the organisation of conferences by taking care of catering arrangements, and by providing the necessary technical equipment. Her responsibilities also include the filing of all documents and records for our Master degree, calculating the final Master mark, and preparing the final Master 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 the 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 then been busy establishing 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 2007 the following part-time student assistants supported the Centre:

### Cem Arsiray

Law

### Antje Bayer

English and Sports

### Keywan Ghane

Law

### Karolina Golimowska

English, German Literature, Media Science

### Katrin Levin

Media Technology

### Irene Maier

Law

### Claudia Müller

English and Spanish

### Oliver Pal

Media Technology



Goodbye to the old place in Jägerstraße

## FACILITIES

### The Library

The main library of the Centre is situated in the *August-Boeckh-Haus*, Dorotheenstraße 65. 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, economics, and law, philosophy, sociology, art, and the media. At present, the library holds approximately 25,400 volumes and 8,000 items of electronic material. It still is continually expanding, thus offering the latest publications covering these subjects. This guarantees that the library presents a unique and excellent up-to-date opportunity for research in British studies in Germany.

The Centre's library is technically and logistically linked to the main library of the HU with its computerised administration system. It is conveniently situated within easy walking distance of the Centre in Mohrenstraße, and provides all the technical and personnel requirements of a modern research library. Students and guests are able to make use of the reading and working areas, most of which are suitable for using personal notebook computers. The library's OPAC can be accessed on two terminals so that catalogue information is easily available at all times.

In 2006, the Centre's library inaugurated its electronic library system. With her or his personal online account the reader is now able to renew the loan period or to place a reservation for a book that is not yet available. She or he will now also receive important information and overdue notices directly from the library.

Although our library is still developing and a lot remains to be done – and donations are very welcome – we believe that our library provides valuable research facilities for teachers, students, and the general public.



The Centre's Reference Library in Mohrenstraße

### Reference Library

The Centre's reference research unit in Mohrenstraße offers reference works in all disciplines relevant to the teaching and research at the Centre for British Studies, together with reading and video facilities. The British Embassy has generously helped to set up this reference research unit.

In June 1997, the then British Ambassador Sir Christopher Meyer CMG presented the Centre with a book donation of DM 26,000 for the reference section.

### Computer Room

In the new building in Mohrenstraße the Centre provides a spacious combined computer and reading room for its students. 10 personal computers with internet access and several printers help them to do their research. It also allows them to keep in touch with friends and family who, in many cases, live a long distance away.



The computer room in the new building

### Common Room

On the ground floor of the Mohrenstraße building the Centre has a Common Room with sofas and armchairs for the students – a place of their own where they can enjoy a cup of tea. Here they can meet after class for group work and discussions or simply relax and have a chat about either personal matters or the events of the day.

### Our Website

Via its website the Centre is able to provide information for people from all over the world. They can find contact details, learn about the goals and the structure of the Centre, and access useful data on the Centre's history. Up-to-date information is provided about current activities and, of course, about the M.B.S., such as the course outline, admission requirements, and details on the application procedure. Statistics show that the majority of our students made their first contact with the Centre and the course via our website.

<http://www2.hu-berlin.de/gbz>

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Donations can be made payable to the following account:  
Berliner Bank AG, BLZ 100 200 00,  
Account No. 438 88 88 700, Project No. 82000080 GBZ

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Layout by Katrin Levin and Corinna Radke

In April 2008 the Centre moved to its new premises:



**MOHRENSTRASSE 60**  
**10117 BERLIN**