Großbritannien-ZentrumCentre for British Studies





ANNUAL REPORT 2014

WHAT IS THE CENTRE FOR BRITISH STUDIES?

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

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

We offer:

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

Our popular Master's course lasts 2 years and includes a 3-month placement in the UK.

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

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







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THE CENTRE IN 2014





Graduation 2014

These changes required some restructuring and additional tasks. Happily we could fall back on the support of Professor Jürgen Schlaeger, the founding director of the Centre, who has been assigned Senior Professor. Furthermore, we were able to welcome Dr Marius Guderjan, who joined the Centre after completing a PhD at Manchester Metropolitan University. Marius is a political scientist whose expertise comprises not only British politics, but also European integration.

2014 was, once again, a year during which the Centre hosted a considerable number of public lectures. Particular highlights were two events addressing the Scottish referendum. Shortly before Scottish residents went to the polls, a panel discussion took place in which academics and campaigners from both sides of the arena took part. After the failure of the 'Yes' supporters, one of their campaigners, Dr Gerry Mooney from the Open University in Edinburgh, gave a spirited explanation of what he thought might happen next. On both occasions, the discussions were highly controversial. By far the largest audience of 2014 was attained with Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum, who held the annual

Prof Eisenberg and students during a public lecture



Keynote Lecture. To a fascinated audience, he elaborated on some unconventional and, in some ways, even provoking thoughts about "German History for an English Speaking Public". The subsequent discussion of this richly illustrated lecture continued afterwards at the reception.

Last but not least, 2014 was a busy year of research for the academic staff. Most colleagues are in the middle of their PhD and other projects, others were able to complete their work successfully. Dr Daphné Bolz was affiliated to the Centre as a Marie Curie Scholar (2012-2014). Her research concentrates on Anglo-German sporting relations and cultural transfer in the interwar period. Daphné also defended her 'Habilitation' at the Université de Strasbourg, enabling her to leave us with additional academic honours. We wish her the best of luck for her future academic career. Apart from Daphné, our long serving colleague Sandra van Lente defended her PhD thesis successfully. She has, in the meantime, taken up a position with the Humboldt-Universität's administration, where she is responsible for the Berlin Equal Opportunities Programme.

Future research was also put into preparation last year, after the Humboldt-Universität archive received the literary estate of the renowned German-British lawyer Francis A. Mann, a German refugee, who, since the 1930s, had a most distinguished career in the areas of English, German and international law. The Centre's law department plans to use this as a framework for an interdisciplinary research project, to pursue several fundamental topics of F. A. Mann's works for legal historical and contemporary points of issue. Finally, the interdisciplinary Berlin-Britain Research Network held its inaugural meeting in September 2014. The research programme on critical austerity studies will be undertaken by economists, political scientists, cultural studies specialists, historians and lawyers from both Germany and the UK.

All changes and events which took place in 2014 mirror the particular dedication of the GBZ's academic staff. They also mirror the continuing commitment of many persons working in the background, who also play a large part - a point which cannot be praised enough. Among these are the members of the Advisory Board presided over by Sir Paul Lever, whose support helps to guarantee the smooth running of the international M.A. British Studies and the placement programme, as well as helping to overcome any political or administrative problems which might arise. In 2014, we welcomed two new Board members, Rachel Launay, Director of the British Council and Professor Andreas Gestrich, Director of the German Historical Institute in London. Among the Centre's administrative staff, Corinna Radke, Catherine Smith, and Sylvena Zöllner as well as our student assistants deserve a special mention, who tirelessly organised, improvised and were actively involved in all events mentioned. Through their warmth and personal commitment, all of them played a crucial part in making the Centre what it is: a pleasant place to work and study in. Many thanks indeed!

Christiane Eisenberg



Berlin-Britain Research Network speakers Gesa Stedman and Hugh Mackay

M.A. BRITISH STUDIES

Course Description



Our postgraduate Master course started in 1999 and has become a resounding success. In 2014 the Humboldt-Universität put new study regulations into effect, and the Centre used this opportunity to reform the Master in British Studies. The 90 ECTS course has been abandoned. We now offer a 120 ECTS course with more choice, a work placement of 3 months and a writing period of 6 months for the M.A. thesis. Furthermore, advanced study seminars are on offer (which may alternatively be substituted by any other HU seminar). The M.B.S. has become an M.A. in British Studies.

What we offer is a unique learning experience due to the international students with different first degrees, the interdisciplinary study programme which combines theory and practice, and the personalised tutorials whose aim is to foster early-stage independent research.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the 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 firms and institutions which deal with the United Kingdom or other English-speaking nations
- to provide students with an understanding of the characteristic features and the transformations of British identities and institutions in a European perspective
- to teach students interdisciplinary methods and approaches, enabling them to think and work contextually
- to provide students with the competence to acquire and integrate knowledge independently and to make research-based decisions
- to provide students with competence in cross-cultural understanding, communication, and mobility.



Admission

Applicants are required to have a very good first university degree in any subject. Furthermore, candidates need to speak very good English. The application must contain proof of proficiency in the form of an ETS TOEFL certificate (minimum score of 600 for the

paper-based test, 250 for the computer-based test, or 100 for the internet-based test), or an ETS TOEIC test (minimum score of 800), or a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (any grade), or a Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (grade A or B), or an IELTS test (level 7.0). A working knowledge of German is highly advisable.

Applications must be submitted by 30th April of the year in which the applicant intends to start the course; applicants should use the application form available on the Centre's website. Interviews for selected candidates usually take place in June, with places allocated early in July. The course starts in October.

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

Course Structure

The postgraduate degree course in British Studies is an interdisciplinary teaching programme. The course lasts 2 years and consists of a one-year Certificate Phase followed by a Master Phase which also lasts a year. Having successfully completed the Certificate Phase, students receive a "British Studies" certificate. After successful completion of the entire course, students are awarded the degree "Master in British Studies" (M.A.B.S.).

The Certificate Phase comprises about 30 weeks of teaching, divided into two phases of about equal length. The first phase consists of a series of lectures and seminars which are compulsory for all students. In the second phase students can choose three out of six options (see course outline below). Students have to attend an average of at least 20 hours of classes per week. These may include suitable classes taught in other departments.

During the Master Phase students take part in advanced seminars including 'transdisciplinary optional modules' which can be chosen from any other master programme. Furthermore, they spend 3 months with a firm or institution in Britain. The final part of the Master Phase is dedicated to writing a 6-month Master Thesis.

The course is taught in English.



Modules of the Course

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

a) Compulsory Modules

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

b) Compulsory Elective Modules

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

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

c) Compulsory Elective Modules at Other Departments

External optional modules may be chosen from any other master programme that offers such modules.

Modules for Students of Other HU Programmes

Students from other HU master programmes can attend the following modules:

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



M.A. BRITISH STUDIES

Course Outline

1st Semester

Module 1	Module 2
5 ECTS	5 ECTS
Introductory Module	History

Module 3	
10 ECTS	

Law, Economics, Politics

Module 4		
10 ECTS		
Interdisciplinary Project I		
(including		
Culture and Literature)		

2nd Semester

Module 5	
6 ECTS	
Career Skills	

Module 7*	Module 8	Module 9	Module 10	Module 11	Module 12
8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS	8 ECTS
Interdis- ciplinary Project II	Economics and Ma- nagement	Politics and Society	Law in Context	Media, His- tory, and Culture	Culture and Litera- ture

^{*}Choose three out of Modules 7-12.

3rd Semester

Compulsory Electives*		
Module 14	Module 15	
5 ECTS	5 ECTS	
Advanced Seminars - Theory and Research	Advanced Project Workshop	
	Module 14 5 ECTS Advanced Seminars - Theory and	

Module 15
5 ECTS

Advanced Project Workshop

Work Placement in the UK (three months)

Module 13

4th Semester

30 ECTS

M.A. Thesis
(six months)

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

Students

M.B.S. Class 2013-2015

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Besson, Léa	France	English
2. Boersma, Margje	Nether- lands	Arts, Culture and Media; International Business
3. Evans, Kathryn	UK	Fine Art
4. Falko, Irina	Russia	International Relations
5. Gimranova, Aysylu	Russia	Specialist Teaching Foreign Languages
6. Gonzalez, Maeva	France	Journalism and Psychology
7. Gorelova, Natalia	Russia	Area Studies: Western Europe, Interpreter/Translator English and German
8. Granderath, Cordula	Germany	English Philology and Theatre Studies
9. Grundler, Maja	Germany	English and Cultural Studies
10. Huang, Kuan	China	Business English (International Business Law)
11. Kapranova, Ekaterina	Belarus	Pedagogy, History of Pedagogy and Education
12. Krogzeme, Kitija	Latvia	English Philology
13. McArthur, Kimberly	Australia	Psychology and Economics; Bachelor of Laws
14. Meier, Wiebke Marie	Germany	Comparative Literature
15. Miranda, Renata	Brazil	Journalism
16. Mishina, Ekaterina	Russia	Translation and Translation Studies



Name	Country	First Degree
17. Miszta, Elżbieta Anna	Poland	International Relations
18. Nureeva, Luiza	Russia	English and French
19. Permiakova, Sofia	Russia	English Philology
20. Plötz, Sophie	Germany	English and American Literature and Philosophy
21. Plotnykova, Olga	Ukraine	Technical Translation English/French
22. Prella, Simon	Germany	Political Science, English and American Studies
23. Qi, Suxiao	China	English Language and Literature
24. Sadokha, Irina	Belarus	Linguistics and Translation (English and Swedish)
25. Samavati, Sina	Iran	Film and Television
26. Sharafi, Seyed Reza	Iran	English Language (Literature)
27. Sprockhoff, Katharina	Germany	Geography and Regional Studies of Asia and Africa
28. Strümpel, Nadine	Germany	Cultural Studies and English Studies
29. Tsyvchyk, Yuliya	Ukraine	Philology, English
30. Walcott, Axelle	France	Applied Foreign Languages (English and Spanish)
31. Weintraub, Marat	Israel	Art History and Philology
32. Zalaldinova, Anita	Russia	English Language and Literature



M.A. British Studies Class 2014-2016

Name	Country	First Degree
1. Chekalova, Maiya	Kazakhstan	Interpretation Russian/English, English/Russian
2. De Cock de Rameyen, Jade	Belgium	Languages & Literatures (French and Romance)
3. Eğir, Hafize	Turkey	Management in Education
4. Eremenko, Irina	Russia	Linguistics
5. Gasparyan, Lilit	Armenia	European Political and Administrative Studies
6. Glage, Dana	Germany	English/American Studies
7. Hake, Laura	Germany	Translation English/French
8. Hallmann, Anna Lena	Germany	International Business Management/ International Business
9. Huber III, Melvin	USA	International Politics & History
10. Khryanina, Elena	Russia	Public Relations & Journalism
11. Koca, Nazlı	Turkey	English Language & Comparative
		Literature
12. Kocharian, Anna	Russia	Foreign Languages
13. Krüger, Carina	Germany	Library & Information Science, Musicology
14. Kruk, Uliana	Ukraine	English Language & Literature
15. Levi, Daniel	Israel	Film & Television
16. Ponomarenko, Anna	Ukraine	English Studies & German, Chinese, World Literature
17. Sadrmousavi, Elyar	Iran	Business Administration, Software Engineering, Computer Application
18. Sagimuldina, Nagima	Kazakhstan	International Law
19. Schmiede, Ricarda	Germany	English, American & German Studies
20. Shah, Mala	UK/ Germany	French Language, Literature, Philosophy, Cinema, International Law
21. Sharafi, Seyed Reza	Iran	English Language (Literature)
22. Silveira Leite, Diana	Brazil	English & History with Liberal Arts
23. Sprockhoff, Katharina	Germany	Geography
24. Suchkova, Irina	Russia	Philology, English and German Teacher
25. Tabagua, Anni	Russia	Linguistics English
26. Teggi, Diana	Italy	Foreign Languages & Literature
27. Varago, Rubina	Italy	English & German Literatures & Linguistics, Communication
28. Xu, Mingsong	China	English & Applied Linguistics



Teaching

Examples

The Literary Field in the UK

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman



DAVID WALLPOLE

Once the students had grappled with Pierre Bourdieu's theory of cultural production as a field of tensions and had adapted the concept for the UK literary field, things got practical in this course. The students invented two writers and their books, designed covers and wrote blurbs for these novels, and enacted an editorial conference with different roles (sales manager, marketing person, editor etc.) and discussed potential readers and audiences. We also visited the English-language branch of *Marga Schoeller Bücherstube* to find out how an independent bookshop

works, practiced book review writing, heard about literary prizes both in the UK and around the world, and discussed the phenomenon of the reading group on the basis of the TV series "The

Book Group". The changing role of books in the media was a topic of student-led activities – analyzing the TV sitcom "Black Books", bookshows on Youtube and the prize ceremony of the Bailey's Prize for Women's Writing. Some of the visual outcomes of this course can be seen on this page.







Interdisciplinary Project: Modernist Art

Jessica Fischer

As part of the interdisciplinary module 'World War One: How It Changed the Way We Think', the students were introduced to a group of young artists who had been students at the Slade School of Art in London between 1908 and 1914: David Bomberg, Dora Carrington, Mark Gertler, Paul Nash, and C. R. W. Nevinson.

Each of these artists showed new features in their artworks after they had seen Roger Fry's exhibition "Manet and the Post-Impressionists" in 1910. They seemed to distance themselves from the lessons of their drawing teacher, Henry Tonks, who praised the great names of the Western art historical canon (Titian, Rubens, Velázquez and Ingres, as well as Raphael, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, Piero della Francesca). Instead, they became interested in the works of Continental modernists like Manet, Cézanne, van Gogh, Gauguin, Matisse, Severini, or Picasso and – to a certain degree – in the ideas of the Italian Futurists.

In the first session of the seminar, a comparison between the Slade students' early works and later productions allowed insights into their individual artistic developments and their variety of aesthetic practices. And it showed that their artistic "crisis" preceded the crisis caused by the Great War.

In the second session, a visit of the exhibition 'Weltenbruch — Die Künstler der "Brücke" im Ersten Weltkrieg 1914-1918' in the Brücke Museum (Berlin) helped students to understand better that not (only) the Great War caused changes in the arts. Investigating the original works of Brücke members Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Erich Heckel, Karl Schmidt-Rottluff, and Max Pechstein, for example, revealed how they had already experimented with "unusual" sujets and techniques at the very beginning of the 20th century. Artists in most of the European metropolises had used, or picked up, features of Cubism, Expressionism and Futurism before the war. However, it was the perception/reception of the artworks which changed. In Great Britain, viewers were more ready to engage with new themes and techniques after the war. Before, there was a stronger resistance to influences from the Continent such as post-impressionist ideas.

The third session connected these findings with the concept of 'modernism': it provided definitions of the concepts of 'modernity', 'modernism', and 'modern'. It related these abstract terms to their historical context and contemporary art works, and to other fields of culture, for instance, literature. Furthermore, it introduced a more theoretical, meta-level discussion on 'World War One: How It Changed the Way We Think'.







Further Activities

Excursion to Dresden

Having spent a semester studying the First World War in an interdisciplinary course, a group of students and lecturers took a day trip to Dresden in March, to visit the *Militärhistorisches Museum der Bundeswehr*. We were taken on a guided tour of this striking museum, which focused on the First World War and its representations. Thereafter, we strolled through Dresden on a sunny afternoon while discussing the exhibition and our reactions to it: a most enjoyable and stimulating way to mark the end of the teaching term.





Annual Visit to the British Embassy

On Thursday, 20th November the new GBZ students were invited to a guided tour in and around the British Embassy. This included getting a general overview of the building's history, the various embassy departments and the permanent art such as sculptures by Anish Kapoor, Tony Cragg and Peter Sedgley. The tour was followed by a talk about current political issues, especially Britain's role in the EU and its possible withdrawal from the EU, with William Gatward. Head of Press. Public and Political Affairs.



Graduation Class 2012-2014

On 17 December the official graduation of the M.B.S. class 2012-2014 took place. Quite a few graduates were able to attend and it was a touching moment when they received their final certificates. It was again a very successful group – among them Caroline Döring, who, with a final grade of 1.0, is the best graduate ever at the Centre.

In her address, Prof. Eisenberg acknowledged the effort it took to complete such a challenging programme. She pointed out that the students have not only become experts in British Studies, but that they have also coped admirably with a new country and city, strange institutions and foreign cultural values.

Some graduates were accompanied by their families and it was nice to see how proud they were in the face of such an impressive result. Everyone drank a toast to the fresh M.B.S. alumni and wished them well for their personal and professional future.



Caroline Döring











After the official part the current class as well as friends and colleagues joined the graduates and the Centre's staff for the annual Christmas party.



SPOTLIGHT

Student Project

The Pleasure of Leisure - A Regency Ball with Jane Austen

What an experience the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften* event was! It started as a hugely daunting task, and ended in a great success. As the topic of our 'edutainment' event we chose one of the most interesting eras in Britain's cultural history – the Regency Period. We focused on the works and biography of one of the most notable authors of the period, Jane Austen, and created 'The Pleasure of Leisure – A Regency Ball with Jane Austen'. This topic, the timing of which co-

incided with the 200th anniversary of the publication of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, was intended to use the famous author's works as a window into the society on which she wrote, and in particular their leisure pursuits, the food they ate and the clothes they wore. This topic also allowed us to examine the contemporary relevance of centuries' old works through the many film adaptations and fan fiction interpretations of Jane Austen's work.



A great success: many people came to see this project

As a starting point we had plenty of challenges to overcome. Firstly, the 2014 Lange Nacht was a month earlier than usual, which left us with a very short time for preparation, most of which fell during our exam and essay period and the long semester break, when many people were not in Berlin. That of course required some very tight scheduling and strict time management, in order to com-



Student lectures critically explored Jane Austen's period

plete things on time. Secondly, we started with a zero budget, which made any long-term planning almost impossible. And lastly, not everyone in the class was a Jane Austen fan – in fact some positively disliked her works and the characters she portrayed. So it was a great challenge for the three elected project leaders – Margje, Marat, and Kim – to organise the many different aspects of the project and to find a way to include everyone in the process of creating the event. Some found their natural abilities and talents fitted easily into certain fields – finance, PR, technical assistance, graphic design, or fundraising, whilst others tried several roles before finally choosing their field.

After working on the project for several weeks in which each group started to create and develop ideas within their groups and the wider concept of the Regency Period, everyone found some tasks of their interest. Graphic design and PR started working on

our posters and flyers, as well as contacting the press and targeting groups of people that might be interested in the event. Fundraising contacted every British or German firm that was somehow connected to our Jane Austen topic, and after a slightly slow start, they raised more than enough for the event to take place.

The content groups dealt with the visualisation of the Jane Austen-style ballroom and the realisation of the event's programme, which included two thematic exhibitions, short lectures held by students and professors, a video installation and music performances by the Embassy Singers and The Scottish Country Danc-



Cheers to Jane

ing Society of Berlin. Guests were also entertained by quizzes, Regency tea and sandwich tutorials, and could get their own portrait as Elizabeth, Emma

or Darcy done at the postmodern Photo Booth. Children were welcomed in the Kids' Corner, and adults were encouraged to explore the naughty Gentlemen's Corner. And of course, everybody could enjoy themselves in the 'Jane Aust-Inn' bar, while watching the events happening on stage.

The night itself was a great success, and our full programme presented by Kim and Marat and our lovely hostesses all clad in Jane Aus-



Gentlemen's Corner

ten attire transformed our event into a true Regency-era country dance. With incredible team spirit we all worked very hard to make this event happen, learned a lot about the culture of the Regency period, and were very pleased with the results. We were also able to start a fund, so that subsequent years' classes will have money with which to begin their projects. No doubt this was one of the most outstanding parts of our first course year.

Kimberly, Margje and Marat (Project Managers)



Work Placements

Name	Institution
Boersma, Margje	Cheltenham Festivals
Falko, Irina	The Little Museum of Dublin
Gimranova, Aysylu	European Documentation Centre, Cardiff
Gonzalez, Maeva	Robert Walter MP, London
Gorelova, Natalia	St Chad's College, Durham University
Granderath, Cordula	Lyme Park, House and Gardens, National Trust
	Bath Festivals, Literature Festival
Grundler, Maja	Fahamu Refugee Programme, Oxford
Kapranova, Ekaterina	Jackie Baillie MSP, Edinburgh
Krogzeme, Kitija	Pearson plc, London
McArthur, Kimberly	Harewood House Trust, Leeds
Meier, Wiebke Marie	The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre,
	Great Missenden
Miranda, Renata	Pearson plc, London
Miszta, Elżbieta	Ben Bradshaw MP, London
Permiakova, Sofia	Glasgow Film Festival
Plötz, Sophie	National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh
Plotnykova, Olga	Wisconsin in Scotland, Dalkeith
Qi, Suxiao	Confucius Institute, University of Central Lancashire
Sadokha, Irina	The Henry Jackson Society, London
Samavati, Sina	Tunafish Media, Manchester
Strümpel, Nadine	Birmingham City Council
Walcott, Axelle	Sarah Boyack MSP, Edinburgh
Weintraub, Marat	Ben Bradshaw MP, London
7 1 1 11 1 1 1 1 1	The Lesbian and Gay Foundation, Manchester
Zalaldinova, Anita	European Documentation Centre, Cardiff







Placement experience snapshots of class 2012-14 (from left): Xenia posing on the red carpet at the Cannes film festival on behalf of her placement provider, the Salt Company, Thomas campaigning in Edinburgh with Jackie Baillie MSP, and Masha visiting London while doing her placement with Cheltenham Festivals

Reports

Maja Grundler

International Refugee Rights Initiative, Rights in Exile Programme

International Refugee Rights initiative RIGHTS IN EXILE PROGRAMME

Rights In Exile is an NGO making available resources for le-

gal assistance providers who are helping refugees find protection all over the world. This internship is an amazing opportunity for learning about refugee law and asylum policy and I was able to expand and apply the knowledge gained during the M.B.S. law courses. I attended several court hearings (bail, asylum and judicial review), took testimonies of asylum seekers and their relatives, attended lectures and seminars at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford as well as workshops, conferences and talks in London, Oxford and other cities. I also helped to develop the organisation's global legal aid network by researching and recruiting refugee NGOs and experts to list on the website. In addition I developed the web page about female genital mutilation as a ground for seeking asylum, a topic I find very interesting and thus decided to make it the subject of my M.B.S. thesis.



Maja during her placement in Oxford

Axelle Walcott

Sarah Boyack MSP, The Scottish Parliament

I got the opportunity to work for Sarah Boyack MSP in Edinburgh. It was a very exciting time to work for her as my placement started three weeks before the Scottish independence referendum which gave me the opportunity to be involved in the campaign 'Better Together'. At the Parliament, I was in charge of producing briefings, responding to invitations and helping with the organisation of cross-party groups' meetings. After the referendum, the parliamentary secretary left the office and, for a while, I was given most of her duties. I was in charge of the day -to-day running of the parliamentary office and, as Sarah decided to stand as a candidate for the leadership of the Scottish Labour Party, it became a challenging duty. I was managing Sarah's very busy diary, dealing with her inbox, responding to gueries from constituents, as well as being in charge of the organisation of events and meetings. During the internship, I acquired a wide range of skills and I learned the importance of strong organisational and time management skills. Working at the Scottish Parliament gave me a very good insight into the world of politics and I feel lucky to have met very interesting people.



Axelle (second left) with Sarah (middle) and her 'Better Together' campaigning team

M.B.S. Theses

Name	Thesis
Angelova, Antoaneta	Narrating Diversity of Contemporary British Society in Zadie Smith's Novels "White Teeth" and "NW"
Anikieva, Anna	Property and Collection Acquisitions by The National Trust: the Main Characteristics, Details, and Effects on British Society and Culture
Baryzhikova, Evgenia	In Which Ways Can the Cultural Programme of London 2012 Serve as a Model for Future Olympics?
Chizhikov, Egor	British Capitalism and Urban Development since the 1970s
Colta, Alexandra-Maria	Documenting Reality. The Impact of a Human Rights Film Festival in Scotland Through Activism and Cultural Democracy.
Döring, Caroline	The British Film Industry and Hollywood: Joint Venture for British Heritage Films with a Case Study of Jo Wright's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (2005)
Duke, Anthony Roland	The British Childcare System since the Start of the 21st Century: From the Perspective of the Child, the Parent and the State
Ezgin, Okhan	Black Contributions to British Popular Music. Artistic and Cultural Aspects
Faizova, Ellina	Prospects and Challenges for the Environmentally Friendly Car Market in the UK
Fisenko, Anastasia	A Sexual "Revolution"? Sexual and Gender Identities in Great Britain in the 1960s
Goldschmidt, Hanna	The Creative Industries in the United Kingdom and Germany. 'Valuing Culture' in a Growing Sector: An Analysis of Political Discourse and Academic Discussion
Hanchar, Katsiaryna	The Labour Party as People's Party: To Which Extent is the Contemporary Labour Party the "People's" Party?
Hulsey, Sasha	Barriers to Healthcare Access for Female Asylum Seekers and Refugees in England: 1999–Today
Jacob, Jennifer	The Impact of Funding Methods for Higher Education Research in the UK and Germany. Academic Freedom and the Prioritisation of Research
Jovic, Isidora	Screen to Stage Adaptations in the UK – Musical Adaptations of Films
Kalbitz, Thomas	The Rocky Road to Independence: The Scottish National Party in 2013/2014. Scrutinising the Success of the SNP and its Struggle with Public Support and the Press in

Name	Thesis
	the Light of the Independence Referendum of 2014
Kovkhuto, Yury	The Influence of E-Commerce on Businesses and Costumers in the UK. Amazon vs. eBay
Kulikova, Maria	Amateurism in British Football from the Beginning to the Present: Remnant of the Past or a Promising Future?
Lobig, Sophie	Reconnecting Politics with its Citizens. The New Labour and Coalition Government's Policies on Citizenship Education and Its Potential for Counteracting Anti-Political Sentiments in England
Maletz, Christian	European Affairs in Birmingham – Incentives for City–University Collaboration
Mehring, Clara	Anti-Austerity Movements in the UK: Popular Protest and the Impact of the New Media
Nurlanov, Marat	The Future of Devolution in the UK: A Case for Federalism from a Comparative Perspective
Panfilova, Kseniia	Independent British Film Marketing
Putova, Taisiya	Self-Help and Voluntarism in the Big Society: The Revival of a Victorian Concept?
Rogovaia, Irina	Significant Changes in Print Media and Radio Broadcasting in Britain over the last 10 Years
Sabyanina, Olga	Paradise Lost: An Ecocritical Reading of Postcolonial Islands in <i>Reef</i> by Romesh Gunesekera and <i>The Hungry Tide</i> by Amitav Ghosh
Sarkar, Tathagata	The Right of Social Protest Groups to Assemble: A Comparison of Restrictions Imposed by Law and Police Operations in the UK and in India
Shamotko, Anastasiya	Labour and Coalition Governments' – Labour Immigration Policy since 1997. Continuation of a Trend or a New Quality of Policy?
Shcherbakova, Anna	Marketing in the Airline Industry: A Comparative Analysis of the Strategies and Effectiveness of Low-Cost and Full-Service Airlines with the Case Studies of British Airways, Ryanair and easyJet
Shea, Christopher	The Function of Edgy Theatre: Why Public Bodies Fund Small Theatres in London and Berlin, and What it Means for the Arts
Werner, David	Progressivism and Reaction: Same-Sex Marriage in Scotland and the United States

Alumni

Many graduates from the Centre have moved on to work in different fields and institutions, such as, media and publishing, translation, performing arts, research/academia, teaching, NGOs, political organisations, education management and private sector management. Alumni of the Centre for British Studies can be found in many different countries, including: the UK, Germany, Bulgaria, Ireland, Turkey, China, Austria, Spain, Denmark, Mexico, and the United States. The Centre puts a lot of emphasis on staying in touch with its alumni. This is a two-fold endeavour: (1) the Centre is interested in keeping track of what our former students are doing; and (2) the Centre regularly sends out information about the activities at the Centre and career prospects.

To get in touch with the Centre's Alumni contact person, please write to Ali El-Haj: ali.el-haj@hu-berlin.de







From left: Gerry Mooney edited a publication on *Poverty in Scotland*, to which two M.B.S. alumni, Caroline and Lisa, each contributed an article. Hengxin visited the Centre and told us about her career in Spain. And these are two very new alumni, Sophie and Anastasia, at this year's Christmas party

What happened to ... Inga Waage, Mateusz Fafinski

Class 2011-2013



Two former students who remained in Berlin have recently founded their own independent publishing house, Roland Press (http://rolandpress.de). They have also started a discussion series on publishing and bookselling from different perspectives. Their panelists range from publishers, authors and booksellers to translators, critics and academics in the field. Their first event was called "Pride and Publishing" and was aimed at examining, among others, whether pride in past success has caused stagnation. The event was held on 24 June at the Literaturhaus Lettrétage in Kreuzberg. More information is available on www.rolandtalks.com and on their event site on Facebook.

Tobias Schrank

Class 2009-2011

The "post-graduation job hunt" was a total success: I was able to stay in Berlin since I found a job here that somehow belongs to the grand field of "something with media". More specifically, I work in the international department of a collecting society administering the international exchange of royalties for actors and musicians. The interdisciplinary approach of the MBS was a great preparation for the diverse tasks at hand in my position, not to forget the fantastic experience of working abroad as an intern.

TEACHING AT OTHER FACULTIES AND UNIVERSITIES

Lectures: International and Comparative Contract Law

Prof Dannemann gave this series of lectures at the Humboldt-Universität's Law Faculty during the winter term 2013/14. The lectures treat core issues of contract law from a comparative perspective with particular reference to English, German and French law, and provide an introduction to conflict of law issues (applicable law and jurisdiction) in matters relating to international contracts, with particular emphasis on the EC Regulation on the 'Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations', and the EU Regulation on 'Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters'.

Explaining the Striving for Achievement: Historical and Sociological Approaches (Reading Seminar)

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Max Weber's birth-day (1864-1920) the course, organised by Prof Eisenberg for the Humboldt-Universität's History Department, started with a close reading of "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism" (1904/05). Students analysed the context of German economic and cultural history which shaped Weber's work in a situation when the differentiation of academic disciplines such as sociology, economics and history was still incomplete. They also analysed Weber's personal background, his methods of analysis and the way of representing the narratives, finding out biases, misunderstandings, flaws and insufficient arguments. In the second part students introduced to each other more recent approaches to reinvigorate this field of research, with a particular view to cover developments of modern capitalism that Weber could not foresee.

RESEARCH

Conferences and Workshops

Berlin-Britain Research Network Critical Austerity Studies



In September 2014, the Berlin-Britain Research Network, initiated by Prof Gesa Stedman and Dr Hugh Mackay (OU Wales), had its first meeting. A group of 15 academics from Germany and the UK came together to discuss the content and format of a new research network focussing on austerity, aiming to explore the phenomenon and its consequences for British society from an interdisciplinary approach. Lively discussions took place about which topics to include and what disciplines to involve, as well as about the organisation and the structure of the net-

work. More information on the project with the subtitle 'Critical Austerity Studies' can be found in the spotlight on page 32 and on the website www.gbz.hu-berlin.de/research/berlin-britain-research-network.



International researchers setting up a new network in order to discuss 'Critical Austerity Studies'

ADEF Junior Workshop

The 6th Junior Workshop of the German Association for the Study of British History and Politics (ADEF), which took place from 11-12 September, was hosted by Prof Eisenberg and organized by Tanja Skambraks (Universität Mannheim) and Benjamin Schröder (Humboldt-Universität). Nine PhD students from all over Germany and the UK presented their projects on British, comparative, and transnational history and political science. Contributions covered a wide range of topics both chronologically and methodologically: from stock market participation under Thatcher to the iconography of Elisabeth I, from the Investiture Controversy to the discourse on Europe in the New Labour Years. Discussion was just as animated as in past years.

Meeting of GBZ Guest Lecturers

Reforming the M.B.S.: M.A. British Studies

A year ago, the Humboldt-Universität implemented overarching Study and Exam Regulations to which all the university's programmes were required to adjust their regulations. Therefore, and because after 15 years the M.B.S. needed a new coat of paint, the Centre's academic staff reformed the Master course, had it approved officially by the relevant HU committees and introduced it to the external GBZ lecturers in September 2014, just before the first student cohort started to study under the new rules. The day began with a description of the outline of the (now) M.A. in British Studies. The lecturers were able to ask guestions and to try and position their course within the overall scheme of the programme. In the afternoon, the panel was divided into working groups that discussed issues such as co-teaching opportunites, researchbased learning, new assessment methods, student streaming or trouble-shooting master theses. In the end, an agenda was set with new procedures on how everyone is to be kept informed and how all lecturers can communicate among each other.







International Seminar in Sports History

On 3 December 2014 Daphné Bolz, who had been working in an EU project at the Centre, organised an international seminar in sports history in Strasbourg with Prof Jean Saint-Martin. They invited Philip Dine from the National University of Ireland at Galway to present his book *Sport and Identity in France: Practices, Locations, Representations* (Berlin, Peter Lang, 2012). The event was financed by the GBZ through the Marie Curie Funding and by the research centre Équipe de Recherche Sport et Sciences Sociales (E3S – EA 1342) at the University of Strasbourg. Prof Richard Holt (Leicester) and Prof Teresa González Aja (Madrid) were present at this event which was also supported by the research centre CETAPS (EA 3832) from the University of Rouen.



Daphne (right) with her mentor Christiane Eisenberg

SPOTLIGHT

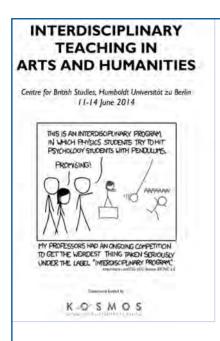
Workshop: Interdisciplinary Teaching in Arts and Humanities

The Centre for British Studies has been engaged in interdisciplinary teaching since the foundation of its Masters' course, and members of staff have built up respectable expertise in the matter. To draw on this strength, and to reflect on and further develop interdisciplinary practices, a workshop took place in June 2014. Fourteen participants from universities in the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Canada, the Netherlands, Poland, and of course Humboldt-Universität itself presented twelve courses taught at BA and/or MA level. Some common themes emerged from an astounding diversity of courses presented.

Michael Savage (Valencia College, Orlando) very convincingly outlined the importance of establishing the classroom as a safe environment in which to think, to speak, and to question assumptions, sketching some of the ways in which this might be done. The Centre's course on the First World War was the subject of Johanna Zinecker's presentation, in which she was assisted by one of our students, Natasha Gorelova, who vividly described her own learning process here, and the temporary discomfort it entailed. Given that learning cannot stop at the classroom door, Peter D'Sena (Higher Education Academy) presented a course designed to foster non-discriminatory practices, while Victoria Bishop Kendzia (HU Berlin) showed some very hands-on tools she uses to encourage students to change the way they engage with the world around them.

Some courses very explicitly address disciplinary traditions, and encourage students to confront their expectations of what the course might contain. For example, Cassandra Sciortino (University of California, Santa Barbara) juxtaposed fields which are rarely related to each other in her course on 'Art as Cultural Diplomacy', while Rebecca Pinner's (University of East Anglia, Norwich) course deliberately started from what might appear to be the more whimsical end of





medieval literature: 'Medieval Monstrosities'. David Green's (Harlaxton College, Lincolnshire) presentation on 'British Studies' naturally had the full attention of in-house staff, and touched on how to deal with students' existing knowledge and interests.

Monika Baár's (University of Groningen) narrative of the genesis of her course on human-animal relations provided a good illustration of the notion that lecturers continue learning even as they teach, as did the reflections which Julia Poertner and Sharon Woodill (Dalhousie University, Halifax) shared on their emerging course on 'Versions of Utopia'. Geoff Gilbert (American University of Paris) and Anna-Louise Milne (University of London Institute in Paris) commented on their experience of co-teaching and of supervising a very small cohort of students.

All participants doubtlessly started out from the premise that bridging the cultural and intellectual gaps between disciplines is a worthwhile endeavour, but the point was made especially strongly by Adam Izdebski (University of Krakow), who covers more disciplines, a longer time period and a larger area than most other participants put together in his course on the environmental history of Byzantium, 50 BC to AD 1800. Frederik Pedersen (University of Aberdeen) reported from an equally ambitious course, 'Oceans and Society', which quite literally covers most of the world's surface, and many of the university's disciplines. Unusual cross-disciplinary connections were also the subject of the Keynote Lecture, delivered by Dasniya Sommer on the subject of 'untangling cultural knots', which touched upon gender studies, philosophy, dance, and yoga.

The organiser, Dr Erik Spindler, is especially grateful to the Kosmos programme of Humboldt-Universität and to the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, who generously supported the workshop and enabled participants to come to Berlin for what appears to have been a stimulating and rewarding few days.









Current Research Projects

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann

F. A. Mann (1907-1991)

In 2014 the Humboldt-Universität archive received *c.* 10,000 documents from the estate of the renowned German-British lawyer F. A. Mann. This project will analyse all the written documentation in order to retrace how F. A. Mann has coined legal theory and practice which is still in use today. For further information please see the spotlight on page 34.

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 consists of some 50 legal scholars from some 20 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. Within this group, Professor Dannemann heads both the Redaction Committee and the Terminology Group.

Plagiarism

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

Further Activities

"Regional Competence: The United Kingdom", German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn, 5-6 February, presenting a paper on "Die aktuelle gesellschaftliche und politische Situation in Großbriannien". * "Europe's place in the changing world: Global Hub or Museum?", 64th Königswinter Conference, King's College Cambridge, 27-29 March. * "Hugh Beale and the Common European Sales Law". Symposium to celebrate Hugh Beale's 66th birthday, Lincoln's Inn, London, 23 May. * "Marital Maintenance", Institute of Notary Law, Humboldt-Universität, 13 June. * "Current Issues in the Law of Succession", Institute of Notary Law, Humboldt-Universität, 4 September. * UK-Germany Round Table on the Future of Research, co-organised by the British Council and the German Academic Exchange Service, Royal Society, London, 27 October.

Deutschland und Europa.' German Academic Exchange Service, Berlin, 11-13 December, presenting a paper on "F.A. Mann: Emigrant und streitbarer Vermittler". * 2nd DCFR Warsaw International Arbitration Moot 2014, Warsaw, 12 December, presenting a paper on "The DCFR: a Model for Modern Codification in Terms of Drafting Style, Density, Use of Open Terms, Language and Terminology?"

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg

Professor Eisenberg's summer sabbatical was spent drawing up a concept for a monograph on "The Sporting Spirit of Capitalism". In particular she used her time to analyze the interaction between the rise of financial markets and modern sport in England in the 18th century.

In this monograph Professor Eisenberg will be dealing with the question how sport contributed to the rise and stabilization of what is called *Leistungsethik* in German and what seems to be a generalized mentality of working people at the turn of the 20th to the 21st century. In particular, she aims to find out how this specific aspect of the sporting spirit, that came up in a financial market context, is adapted to labour markets for both industrial and service workers; furthermore, how it has been changing under the impression of the more recent development of global markets for media rights and other immaterial commodities.



The sporting spirit of Capitalism

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman

At the beginning of the year, Gesa Stedman gave a lecture at the Freie Universität Berlin. The paper focused on the contemporary literary field in the UK. An amended version was published in *Hard Times* 94 (2013, 2-5).

Gesa Stedman continued work with the international research network "Writing 1900", which she runs together with Dr Ste-

fano Evangelista (Trinity College, Oxford) and Dr Philip Bullock (Wadham College, Oxford). The group is currently preparing a special issue of the *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, which will publish the results of the last two meetings of the network – one held in Berlin in 2013, and one held in Oxford in 2014. "Writing 1900" has its own website, which can be found here: www.writing1900.org



Together with Dr Hugh Mackay (Open University) and Corinna Radke, Gesa Stedman organized a new interdisciplinary and international research network which will concentrate on contemporary Britain. The "Berlin-Britain Research Network: Critical Austerity Studies" has members from the UK and from Germany. In its initial phase, it will study austerity politics from an interdisciplinary perspective. Many guest lecturers who teach on the M.A. (British Studies) and a number of our Fellows are also members of the new research network. The first meeting was funded in part by the International Office of Humboldt-Universität.

Gesa Stedman has also set up a doctoral programme for the Centre's younger researchers. It concentrates on the particular needs of PhD candidates with an interdisciplinary research project. The funding will be provided by the Humboldt-Universität's excellence funds and will run for three years. The Centre intends to enlarge the project and apply for further funding to make the doctoral training programme a more permanent element of the Centre's research activities.

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger The Rise and Fall of the Written Self

The book project is part of Humboldt-Universität's 'Zukunft-skonzept' and is designed to reconstruct the main forces and parameters in the development of life-writing in English culture from the late 15th to the 21st centuries. Based on a broad range of sources from libraries in Oxford, Cambridge and London the book will analyse the most significant changes in expressing and constructing selves and then use the evidence to re-examine the validity of the 'individualization postulate' that is central to so many studies of the Western style modernization processes.



Dr Marius Guderjan

Since he started working at the GBZ in August 2014, Dr Marius Guderjan has been involved in various research activities relating to the study of European integration and devolution. *L'Europe en Formation* has published his article on 'The European Social Model – Public Support Through Social Investment?' in their special summer issue 'Which Future for the European Social Models?'. Another article with the title 'Fusing Localities in England and Germany? – European Integration of Local Government' is currently under review for *Local Government Studies*. Marius

is also working on a series of collaborative papers on local government and European integration, reconfiguration of English (sub-)regions, regional capacity-building and Euroscepticism.

For the Annual UACES (University Association of Contemporary Studies) conference this September in Cork/Ireland, Marius organised two panels and presented two papers. He also participated in the Open Days Master Class during the 12th European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels in October.

Marius is currently in the process of designing his new research project as part of his intended 'Habilitation'. This will focus on new concepts to understand policy-making and implementation across various levels in the light of devolution processes.

Dr Erik Spindler

Dr Spindler has been pursuing two research projects, broadly defined: first, and for a number of years now, he has been working on Dutch-speaking immigrants in late medieval England (and he is pleased to say that he is making good progress towards completing the monograph). A second strand has been developing more quietly for some time (a couple of years, or most of Dr Spindler's life, depending on how one measures it), namely historical and pedagogical approaches to gender and sexualities. Dr Spindler spent some time in 2014 attending workshops, conferences, and training events in that field, and developed a new course on the history of sex education in British schools, 1914-2014.



Ali El-Haj

Ali El-Haj is researching the methods of the migration of constitutional ideas – using a multi-dimensional approach – and the normative principles which underpin these migrations. From 11 to 13 September, he attended a conference on Constitutionalism, Religious Freedom and Human Rights: Constitutional Migration and Transjudicialism Beyond the North Atlantic, at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research of Bielefeld University. At the conference, he was the discussant for a paper, entitled: 'The 1979 Iranian Constitution And The Constitutional Migration of Religion—State Relations'. From 4 to 6 June, he participated in a conference on 'Constitution Writing, Religion and Human Rights' in Bielefeld.



SPOTLIGHT

Berlin-Britain Research Network: Critical Austerity Studies

The inaugural meeting of the new Berlin-Britain Research Network took place in September 2014. Sociologists, lawyers, cultural studies experts, historians, economists and political scientists from the UK and from Germany met in Berlin to discuss interdisciplinary approaches to austerity. Austerity is understood not only as economic measures, but rather as an ideology, a political mind-set with far-reaching consequences for British politics, society, the economy and culture. Impulse papers from various disciplines sparked off a lively discussion which was continued during a working boat-trip in the afternoon. The future structure of the network, its website, its focus on critical austerity studies, topics to be explored at the next meetings were discussed and planned during this session which ended with a dinner. As part of the Centre's research activities, the Network on Critical Austerity Studies will foster interdisciplinary debate and dialogue, welcomes scholars from different stages in their careers and will be linked to the new Graduate School for British Studies and used to intensify research contacts both within Humboldt-Universität and with partners in the UK.

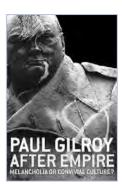


Working Boat Trip: The members of the new network discussed the name and shape of the network, formats and ways of communication, and plans for future activities outside the university premises on an old Spree barge called "Gisela"

Jessica Fischer

For her research, Jessica Fischer went to London for one week in April. She discussed her PhD project on 'Contemporary British Asian Novels' with other scholars at the *Arbeitskreis Cultural Studies* in Hildesheim in July, and participated in the Centre for British Studies' interdisciplinary reading group.

In May and November Jessica Fischer attended the conferences 'Postcolonial Justice' of the Association for Anglophone Postcolonial Studies, and 'European Britain,' the annual conference of the German Association for the Study of British Cultures in Hanover. In June she took part in the workshop 'Interdisciplinary Teaching in Arts and Humanities,' in September in the first meeting of the Berlin-Britain Research Network, and in December in the courses of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies, all of them taking place at the Centre for British Studies.



Johanna Zinecker

Johanna continued her PhD Research on mental health culture and artistic practice in Great Britain. She undertook a number of research trips to the UK to explore potential materials and contexts first hand. This included attending the postgraduate conference 'Alternative Psychiatric Narratives' at Birkbeck College London (May 2014), a ten day research visit at 'The Anxiety Festival' in London (June 2014), research in the special collections at the Wellcome Library London (June 2014) as well as attendance of the 'Disability Studies Conference' Lancaster (September 2014). In September, Johanna was accepted by the Joint PhD Programme with King's College London and is supervised there by Prof. Brian Hurwitz, Director of the Centre for Humanities and Health. She also presented her PhD project at the postgraduate forum of the Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of British Cultures in Hanover (November 2014). Johanna is an active member of the Berlin Network Disability Studies, a cooperation between Humboldt-Universität and Alice-Salomon Hochschule Berlin and regularly presents her work at the PhD colloquium of Prof Dr Eveline Kilian, chair of English Cultural History at Humboldt-Universität.

Further, Johanna delivered a presentation at the Interdisciplinary Teaching Workshop organized by Erik Spindler at the Centre (June 2014) and took part in the Teachers Conference as well as the inaugural meeting of the Berlin-Britain Research Network, both organized by the Centre for British Studies in September 2014.

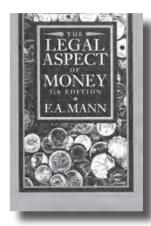


SPOTLIGHT

Research Project: F. A. Mann (1907-1991)

"Of all my learned friends, Francis Mann is the most learned of all. Long ago, as a young man, he came from Germany. Since then, he has become the head of an important firm of solicitors: and at the same time the exponent of a wealth of literature in the world of legal knowledge."

This is what Lord Denning, one of the best known judges and lawyers of the 20th century, famously remarked about an alumnus and former academic staff member of Humboldt-Universität's law faculty, who, together with his colleague and wife Lore Mann (née Ehrlich) fled racial persecution in Germany in 1933. Anne Kriken Mann, widow of their son David, has kindly donated some 10,000 personal documents to the Humboldt-Universität Archive. Professors Dannemann and Eisenberg are presently working on a grant application for a research project which aims to unlock the secrets from these documents, in particular letters which Francis Mann exchanged with the good and the great of his time. His correspondents include the majority of the sen-



ior judiciary of the UK, many internationally leading academics and legal practitioners, well-known business people and politicians, but also the political scientists Ernst Fraenkel and Friedrich Hayek, nobel laureate in economics. The documents have already been painstakingly listed by two student assistants, Daphne Brunkhorst and Alexander Malek, who have been kindly paid for by Anne Kriken Mann.



Martin Thomas and Anne Kriken Mann

A commemorative event marking this handover took place on 21 November 2014. The leading tribute to Francis Mann was paid by Lord Collins of Mapesbury, retired judge at the Supreme Court, who began his glittering professional career by working with Francis Mann for the law firm of Herbert Smith, before becoming a partner of this firm and eventually one of the top twelve judges of the United Kingdom. Lord Collins presented a moving account of Fritz Mann's (as he then was called) upbringing and early career in Germany, the emigration to London, the

difficult process of starting a career in legal practice, Francis Mann's postwar role in the denazification of German law, and the long list of achievements during a most distinguished career between legal practice and legal scholarship, between English, German and international law.





From left: Martin Thomas welcoming the audience as representative of the Mann family; Prof Dannemann with Lady and Lord Collins; the Berlin Chamber Ensemble

Welcoming addresses were presented by Professor Dannemann for the Centre, Professor Waldhoff as Dean of the Law Faculty, Professor Degkwitz as the University Librarian, Dr. Schultze as Head of the University Archive, Nick Pickard as Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy, Berlin, and Jonathan Scott as Senior Partner of Herbert Smith Freehills, the main sponsors of this event.

Grandson Martin Thomas welcomed the audience on behalf of the Mann family, who were present with 14 members, including well-known author Jessica Mann, daughter of Francis and Lore. The Berlin Chamber Ensemble led by Martin Funda performed the First Movement of Schubert's String Quartet in G major, kindly arranged for by Mann's grandson Richard Thomas and paid through his foundation. The event ended with a public reception.



Visiting Researchers

Prof Patricia Springborg

Emerita Professor of Political Science from the University of Sydney and from the School of Economics, Free University of Bolzano In 2014 Patricia completed her project for the Centre for British Studies, Humboldt-Universität, on "Hobbes, Donne, and the Virginia Company: Terra Nullius and 'the Bulimia of Dominium'". The article was accepted under that title for the *History of Political Thought*, September 2013, for vol. 26.1 (2015), 1-52, in press.

Together with Prof. Falk Wunderlich she edited the "Mainz Conference Proceedings on Materialism" for a special issue of the *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*. She furthermore wrote a 10,000 word article on "Hobbes as a Renaissance Philosopher" for the forthcoming volume of *The Encyclopedia of Renaissance Philosophy*, ed. Marcus Sgarbi, Springer Verlag.

Dr Daphné Bolz

Sciences du Sport et Education Physique, Université de Rouen

In 2014 Daphné pursued her Marie Curie research project on 'The cultural transfer and the diffusion of physical education and sport in Europe, 1918-1945: the Anglo-German case'. In 2014, she undertook some research trips to London, Birmingham and Cologne; she gave papers at international seminars and congresses in Crewe (UK), Paris (France) and Edessa (Greece) and published an article on this topic in Sport in History.

She also wrote her 'Habilitation' that she defended at the University of Strasbourg on 2 December. Her memoire was entitled: La politisation des corps et des esprits en Europe de la fin de la Première Guerre mondiale aux débuts de la Guerre froide. Italie – Allemagne – Angleterre. The commission consisted of: Philip Dine (Galway), Teresa González Aja (Madrid), Richard Holt (Leicester), Jean Saint-Martin (Strasbourg), Alfred Wahl (Strasbourg).

This year she finished the preparation of two special issues on international sports history for the scientific journals *Stadion* and *European Studies in Sports History* (both co-edited with Florence Carpentier), which were published in October and December 2014.

In 2014 Daphné started supervising (with Jean Saint-Martin) doctoral student Lisa Cardin who is working on the history of handball and who gained a prestigious three-year doctoral fellowship from the École Normale Supérieure.



Berlin Graduate School of British Studies

In 2014 the Centre for British Studies, under the auspices of Prof Stedman, applied for a graduate school with the Humboldt Graduate School and succeeded in securing support from Excellency Funds of the university.

As befits such a small institution as the Centre, the "Berlin Graduate School of British Studies" is remarkably small. But small can be beautiful and it has been noticed in the past that it is easier to start on a smaller scale and then grow rather than working top-down. The first three scholarships have been allocated: Jennifer Jacob, Melanie Neumann and Tathagata Sarkar, all three graduates from the Centre for British Studies. Furthermore, a number of other doctoral students with external funding or lectureships will be joining the group from now on.

The programme will focus its efforts on the challenge of writing an interdisciplinary doctoral thesis in British Studies. The staff will provide a context of research and advice and a tailor-made programme of courses designed exclusively for its doctoral students. Interested master students may join them for particular workshops, the hope is to encourage some of the students on the M.A. British Studies to join the graduate school after graduating. There is every intention of enlarging the graduate school and to make it a structural long-term feature of the Centre's work, and with the help of the first generation of doctoral students the staff will develop this programme and make it grow.



The first scholarship holders of the Centre's Graduate School: Melanie Neumann, Jennifer Jacob and Tathagata Sarkar

Doctoral Students

Culture and Literature Department

Jennifer Jacob

has started writing a PhD thesis on "The Politicization of Higher Education Research: The Humanities at the Crossroads".

Melanie Neumann

has started writing a PhD thesis on "A New Wave of Immigration to Berlin? – The Increase in Migration from Britain and Ireland to Berlin, its Effects and Shortcomings".

Sofia Permiakova

has started writing a PhD thesis on the representation of war in British women's poetry after finishing her M.B.S. in spring 2015.

Tathagata Sarkar

has started writing a PhD thesis on "The Right to Expression of Social Protest Groups: A Comparison of Restrictions Imposed by Law and Police Operations in the UK and in India".

Sandra van Lente

Has successfully defended her doctoral thesis entitled "Cultural Exchange in Selected Contemporary British Novels". She now manages the *Berliner Chancengleichheitsprogramm*, an equal opportunities programme for women in higher education.



She's made it: Sandra and Prof Martin Klepper, Head of the Exam Committee, toasting her success

History Department

Firas Amr

is writing a thesis on "Möglichkeiten und Grenzen der Propaganda. Ein Vergleich des deutschen und britischen Umgangs mit Feindbildern im Zweiten Weltkrieg" (working title).

Sam Noble

is writing a PhD thesis on "The Vilification of Radicalism and the Revolutionary Debate in 18th Century Political Prints" (working title).

Stephan Schwanke

is writing a PhD thesis on "Endless Leisure? Australian Surf Culture from 1945 Onwards"

Law Department

Jens Brückerhoff

is writing a PhD thesis on the law of maritime salvage in comparative law and in the conflict of laws.

Robert Ficht

is writing a PhD thesis on "Statutory Control of Unfair Contract Terms in Business Contracts".

Arne Gutsche

is writing a PhD thesis on "Conceptions of Contract as a Question of National Identity".

Richard Marter

is writing a PhD thesis on "The Review of Standard Contract Terms in Collective Proceedings in Germany, France and England".

Maik Martin

is writing a PhD thesis on "Public Inquiries: *Anatomie einer Com-mon Law-Institution*".

Christopher Schuller

is writing a PhD thesis on "Trusts and Human Rights".

Farida Valiullina

is writing a PhD thesis on "The European Court of Human Rights in Dialogue with Other Courts. Interactions between the Strasbourg Court, the Luxembourg Court and the Courts of ECHR Member States".

Zoé Jacquemin

is writing a PhD thesis on "Payer, réparer, punir. Etude des fonctions de la responsabilité contractuelle en droits français, allemand et anglais".

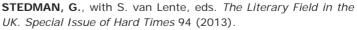
Publications

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Library



The Centre's library is technically and logistically linked to the main library of Humboldt-Universität with its computerised administration system. It provides excellent working and research opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public.

The library's main areas of collection are those of the relevant disciplines involved in British Studies, i.e. British literature and culture, history, and political science, economy, and law, philosophy, sociology, art, and the

media. At present, the library holds approximately 28,600 volumes and 8,000 items of electronic material.

The Centre's library is a modern research library that is continually expanding, thus offering the latest publications covering relevant subjects. This guarantees that the library presents a unique and excellent up-to-date opportunity for research in British Studies in Germany.

Please note that the Centre's library is situated in the

August-Boeckh-Haus Dorotheenstr. 65

whilst a small reference library is available in Mohrenstraße 60 to be used on the spot by the Centre's students and staff.

EVENTS

Keynote Lecture

German History for an English-Speaking Public

Neil MacGregor
Director, The British Museum London

12 November



The Keynote Lecture at the Centre for British Studies marks the start of each academic year, giving us a wonderful opportunity to greet our new students. This year the Keynote was the Centre's contribution to a year of jubilee celebrations for German-British relationships which covered very different events

such as the enthronement of a German king in England in 1714 and the joint German-British campaign against Napoleon in 1814. No one could combine these heterogenic events better than Neil MacGregor, the director of the British Museum, with his lecture on "German History for an English-Speaking Public".

The lecture was closely linked to his current exhibition at the British Museum Germany: Memories of a Nation, an exhibition accompanied by a Radio 4 series and a book, all of which have attracted a lot of attention in the German press.

The appeal of MacGregor's richly illustrated lecture lay not only with the fact that he has set himself a huge didactic and intellectual task in trying to present several centuries of German history in a digestible fashion, but he also managed to entertain and enlighten an audience of more than 200 people. Furthermore, and most importantly, the speaker succeeded in something which comparative historiography otherwise only achieves with the help

of dense and heavy books: a defamiliarization of accustomed patterns of thinking and the opening up of new perspectives. With his view on various, often well-known objects, he allowed the audience to see with new eyes, thus developing rich material for the discussion at the end of the lecture, something which was energetically pursued by many during the reception thereafter.



Monday Lectures

Labour Rules and Coercion: Britain and the Indian Ocean, 18th-19th Centuries

Prof Alessandro Stanziani

École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris

20 January



In his lecture, Alessandro Stanziani discussed the definitions, practices, and legal constraints on labour in Britain, Mauritius Island and the Indian Ocean in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries with a focus on the interconnections and transfers of definition and practice of wage labour between England and the Colonies in the Indian Ocean region.

Alessandro Stanziani is full professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), and senior researcher (directeur de recherche) at the Centre National des Recherches Scientifiques (CNRS). He publishes internationally in peer-reviewed journals, has also edited ten books and is the author of five, among which are the most recent Bâtisseurs d'Empires. Russia, Inde et Chine à la croisée des mondes (2012), Rules of Exchange. French Capitalism in Comparative Perspective (2012) and most recently Bondage. Labor and Rights in Eurasia (2014).

Reforming the United Kingdom Parliament

Prof Dawn Oliver

LLD Barrister, FBA Emeritus Professor of Constitutional Law, Faculty of Laws, University College London

8 May

Since 1996, the UK government – which can usually control Parliament if it enjoys a majority – has had to accept the House of Commons' right to impose individual responsibility on ministers. Since the 'Wright reforms' of 2010 backbench MPs have become more autonomous and assertive in relations with the government



and in select committees. The unelected, appointed House of Lords is a constitutional anomaly. And yet it performs very well in, for example, the scrutiny of bills for constitutionality and human rights. In other countries these functions are commonly exercised by extra-parliamentary bodies. In the UK, these functions have been successfully institutionalised in the select committee arrangements in the House of Lords, with positive effects. Dawn Oliver gave a succinct overview of these intricate legal and political issues.

'Mixing Memory and Desire': Memorializing the Great War in Germany and Britain

Adrian Barlow

Former Director of Public and Professional Programmes, Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge

27 May

Few things reflect more powerfully than war memorials the conflicted relationship, the similarities and differences between Britain and Germany during the 20th century. This illustrated lecture on British and German war memorials and cemeteries of the Great War contrasted the political, historical, and aesthetic pressures that shaped the expression of memory and memorialization in each country from 1914 onwards.

Adrian Barlow was Director of Public and Professional Programmes at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education until 2011. He is the current President of the English Association and series editor of *Cambridge Contexts in Literature*. His recent publications include *World and Time: Teaching Literature in Context* (2009) and *Extramural: Literature and Lifelong Learning* (2012).



This lecture was organised together with the Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft

UK Politics and Media Following Revelations of Mass Surveillance

Stephen Evans
BBC Berlin correspondent

5 June

The practice of mass surveillance is not a recent phenomenon. Yet the discovery of the interception of online communications – including claims of "mass collection, storage and analysis of emails" – has led to some reactions, especially from



civil society groups, which claim that a clear legal framework governing these alleged activities is lacking.

This lecture looked at some of the reactions to the practice of mass surveillance on the political sphere and in the media. Is the reaction in the British media different from the reaction

in the German media, the German political class and ordinary German people?

Independent Scotland? Causes and Consequences.

A Panel Discussion

23 June

On Thursday 18th September 2014 people resident in Scotland were able to vote in the Scottish Independence Referendum. To the question: should Scotland be an independent country? a majority of just 55.3% said "no". However, 44.7% of the voters were in favour of independence. Depicted as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity by Nationalists, Unionists tended to highlight the risks of shaking up a highly beneficial state structure. All campaigners agreed though that the result of this referendum is of immense significance not only for the way Scotland is governed, but also for the future of the United Kingdom.

The experts on the panel were Prof Klaus Stolz, Technical University Chemnitz (Chair), Prof Jim Gallagher, CB, FRSE, Nuffield College Oxford, Dr Gerry Mooney, The Open University in Scotland, Angus Robertson MP and Prof Helmut Weber, Centre for British Studies.



The British Literary Marketplace: Prizes for All?

Prof Claire Squires

Publishing Studies, English Studies, University of Stirling

24 June

The lecture analysed the current state of the British literary marketplace, putting a particular focus on the proliferation of literary prizes. At a time when the Man Booker has opened its doors to U.S. writers, and the Folio Prize has been awarded for the first time in order to address what its organisers perceived as the declining standards of the Booker, what do literary prizes tell us more generally about publishing, writing and reading in the UK?

Claire Squires is Professor of Publishing Studies, and Director of the Stirling Centre for International Publishing and Communication at the University of Stirling. She is a judge for the Saltire Society Literary Awards and Publisher of the Year Award.

A Tribute to F. A. Mann (1907-1991)

Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLD, FBA
Former Justice of the United Kingdom Supreme Court

21 November

This event marked the beginning of a new research project that aims to analyse 10,000 personal documents from the lawyer and legal scholar F. A. Mann. Welcoming addresses and a tribute by Lord Collins of Mapesbury, a colleague and friend of F. A. Mann, followed by a



performance of the Berlin Chamber Ensemble made this a memorable evening. Further information on page 34.

The Love of Strangers: Literary Cosmopolitanism in the English Fin de Siècle

Dr Stefano Maria Evangelista

CUF Lecturer and Tutorial Fellow, Faculty of English, Trinity College, University of Oxford

3 December

Cosmopolitanism, derived from the Greek for 'world citizenship', offers a radical alternative to the ideology of nationalism, asking individuals to imagine themselves as part of a community that goes beyond national and linguistic boundaries. How can litera-



ture be 'cosmopolitan'? The lecture explored this question with reference to the British 1890s.

Stefano Evangelista teaches English literature at Oxford University, where he is a Fellow of Trinity College. His publications include books on Oscar Wilde, the poet A. C. Swinburne, and the Victorian reception of Greek classical antiquity. Since 2013, he has also been a Fellow of the Centre for British Studies. His current work on literary cosmopolitanism is funded by the AHRC.

After the Scottish Independence Referendum: What Now for the Future of the UK?

Dr Gerry Mooney

Senior Lecturer in Social Policy and Criminology, The Open University in Scotland

1 December



In September 2014 the long anticipated Scottish Independence Referendum ended in the rejection of Scottish Independence and support for the argument that Scotland should stay within the United Kingdom. At the same time the Referendum opened up a wide-ranging set of questions which are now – and will continue – to shake the foundations of the UK to its very core. Looking ahead, are we facing more uncertainty and the gradual but inevitable disintegration of the UK?

Gerry Mooney is Senior Lecturer in So-

cial Policy and Criminology, Faculty of Social Sciences, The Open University in Scotland, and Visiting Professor in Scottish Studies, University of Wisconsin, River Falls and Fellow of the Centre for British Studies. He has written widely on issues relating to Scottish society, Scottish devolution and on a range of issues and subjects from social policy and social welfare, poverty and inequality through to criminology and criminal justice, urban studies, industrial relations and social and geographical inequalities and divisions in the modern city.



The Centre would like to thank the *Stiftung Luftbrückendank* for generously supporting its lecture series.

Other Events

Humboldt-Universität's Children's Party "All Hands on Deck"

At this year's Humboldt-Universität's "Kinderfest", the GBZ took its youngest visitors on a journey through the history of British piracy, where they encountered not only historical figures such as Sir Francis Drake but also literary ones such as Captain Hook. Before setting sail and embarking on this adventure, the youngsters were welcomed by GBZ staff – dressed in traditional pirate outfits, of course. They were encouraged to familiarise themselves with British piracy in a number of



interactive ways: large posters informed about the golden age of piracy (which spanned from the 1650s to the 1730s), the motivation for expeditions abroad and the Queen's role in supporting freemasonry, the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and much more. The children also learnt about the story of the two most famous female pirates, Anne Bonny and Mary Read, and were thus made aware of an often neglected aspect of the history of piracy. Finally, classic pirate activities, such as making an eye patch, solving crossword puzzles and learning essential English pirate vocabulary, such as "Old Salt" – the name for an experienced sailor – and its counterpart "Landlubber", prevented a possible mutiny.

Visitors at the Centre

HU Press and Public Relations Office

In February the new Head of the Press and Public Relations Office of Humboldt-Universität, Hans-Christoph Keller, visited the Centre as part of his introductory round through the university. The Centre works closely with the Office in order to properly advertise its M.A. course or to publicize relevant information about public lectures and other events at the Centre. However, communication can still be improved, and strategies to do this were part of the discussion. Another topic was Humboldt's corporate identity ambitions – always a difficult undertaking when re-structuring the Centre's website or renewing its poster and leaflet design – as happened in 2014. All in all, however, participants of the meeting agreed that cooperation between both institutions is very good and will continue to be so in the future.



Advisory Board

This year the Centre's Advisory Board held its annual meeting on 26 May. After listening to the Centre's manifold activities the members discussed the following topics: the structural changes of Humboldt-Universität (Fakultätsreform) and its possible implications for the Centre, the reformed M.A. in British Studies and its consequences for teaching and researching at the Centre, the situation of PhD students, internal or external, at the GBZ, the possibility of including alumni more comprehensively, and the or-



ganisation of the Centre's 20th anniversary in May 2015. At the end of the day, Sir Paul Lever congratulated the staff on another successful year, emphasized the uniqueness of the Centre with its interdisciplinary and international approach and confirmed the Board's support should it be needed.

Director British Council Germany

On 20 November, the new Director of the British Council Germany, Rachel Launay, visited the Centre. Links with the British Council have always been close and it is important for both sides that the good relationship continues, whilst opening up further possibilities of cooperation. We thanked Rachel again for the vital support the British Council gives our students in obtaining a visa for their placement. Without the British Council acting as overarching sponsor, none of the non-EU students would be able to go to the UK. A new collaboration is the Literature Seminar in January 2015, where six leading British writers, who operate across genres, will discuss "Form in Tensions". On a more general note, it was debated how the British Council is perceived in Germany and

how this has changed over the years. It was good to get to know the new director and to introduce the Centre and its staff to Rachel Launay, who is also a member of the Centre's Advisory Board.



Public Relations

The Centre for British Studies attracted the public through its multidisciplinary 'Monday Lecture' series, the Keynote Lecture with Neil MacGregor (Director British Museum, London), a panel discussion on the causes and consequences of an independent Scotland, a lecture and concert in honour of F. A. Mann, and other events. These were announced through emails, posters, the university's and the Centre's websites, as well as in social networks, like *Facebook*, on which the institute launched a new profile this year. The M.A. British Studies gained particular attention, for example by *rbb Radio*, through the student project "The Pleasure of Leisure – A Regency Ball with Jane Austen" at Berlin's *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*.

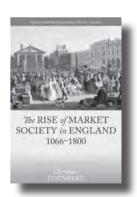
Prof Dannemann's contributions to the debate about plagiarism appeared in various media channels throughout the year: on the radio, on TV or in newspapers. The former German Secretary of State for Education Annette Schavan continued to be of major interest but, interestingly enough, even one of the professors who helped to identify plagiarism committed by politicians in the past was now accused of ignoring the guidelines of good academic practice. Prof Dannemann was consulted as an expert on these cases and on plagiarism in general, for example by *Tagesschau, Münstersche Zeitung, Westfälische Nachrichten*, as well as *3sat*. On the relationship between the UK and the EU, he was interviewed by *20 Minuten* and *Fluter*. Prof Dannemann and Prof Weber gave interviews to *n-tv*, *hr-info*, and *Spiegel Online* about the Scottish referendum.

On 6 November Prof Eisenberg gave an interview to *CNN International* (London) about football and the First World War. On 10th April, her book *The Rise of Market Society in England 1066-1800* (2013) was presented at a meeting of publishers, which was organised by the *Max Weber Stiftung* and the *Stiftung Geisteswissenschaften International* at the German Historical Institute London; the meeting discussed "How to Provide Food for Thought and Make Translations Profitable". Professor Eisenberg's book had received a grant from the *Stiftung Geisteswissenschaften International*, and became the first contribution to the series "Studies in British and Imperial History", which was founded to introduce translated books by German researchers to an English-speaking readership.

Prof Stedman gave an interview on the impact of Shakespeare's works on the English language, which was broadcast by *rbb Inforadio*. She was also interviewed by the journalist Nina May, who partly based her article on "chick lit" in the *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung* on the interview with Prof Stedman.

Most interviews, articles and press releases can be found at the Centre's webpage:

www.gbz.hu-berlin.de



SPOTLIGHT

The Scottish Referendum

by Marius Guderjan

On 18 September this year, the UK's very existence was challenged by a referendum on Scotland's independence. After the success of the Scottish National Party (SNP) in 2011, the Coalition Government gave people who live in Scotland the opportunity to vote on their future inside or outside the UK. We all know the outcome of the referendum: 55.3% of the votes said 'No' to a Scottish exit and only 44.7% of the people voted with 'Yes'. Remarkable was the high election turnout of 84.6%.

At the heart of the Yes campaign was the claim to gain sovereignty over policies related to welfare, economy, tax revenues, public services, healthcare, energy, EU membership, nuclear energy and oil resources. Although Scottish identity re-emerged over the last decades, pro-campaigners emphasised that the referendum was not about nationalism but about self-determination, enabling more socialist policies than the market liberalisation and austerity measures imposed by Westminster. Better Together, the No-campaign, argued that Scotland relies on a joint economy, pension system, military and the Pound Sterling.

The Centre for British Studies hosted two events discussing the referendum. On 23 June, representatives from different camps participated in a panel discussion on 'Independent Scotland? Causes and Consequences' chaired by Prof Klaus Stolz (Technical University Chemnitz). Speakers were Angus Robertson (MP for the SNP), Prof Jim Gallagher (former Director-General in the Cabinet Office, Nuffield College Oxford), Dr Gerry Mooney (Open University Glasgow) and Prof Helmut Weber (Centre for British Studies). During a passionate debate, both independence supporters and opponents presented their views on the referendum.

Following the referendum, Dr Gerry Mooney was invited once more to talk about 'What now for the Future of the UK?' on 1 December. His reflections on past and future developments made clear that the Scottish question is far from be-







The panellists (from left): Gerry Mooney, Jim Gallagher, Klaus Stolz, Helmut Weber, Angus Robertson



Finishing off a warm summer evening with further heated discussions during an otherwise amiable dinner

ing settled. In Gerry's words: 'The Referendum opened up a wide ranging set of questions which are now – and will continue – to shake the foundations of the UK to its very core.'

In order to keep the UK together, David Cameron offered Scotland a last minute deal on maximum devolution by which more powers on taxation and welfare policies would be transferred. A day after the vote,

the Smith Commission was set up to come up with suggestions about potential competencies that can be devolved. On 27 November, the Smith Commission published its recommendation on transferring powers on income tax, increased VAT revenues and borrowing capacities, electoral procedures, social benefits and on licensing oil and gas extraction.

However, whilst the SNP argues that these powers are not enough (since they do not include significant welfare provisions), the major parties in England say that this would be too much devolution. At the same time, English devolution has moved into the spotlight of the political debate. This concerns not only David Cameron's proposal to introduce English votes for English laws in Parliament but also a push to give more powers to English local authorities.

The general election in May 2015 will have a strong impact on the Union's future. The SNP is expected to win a majority of the Labour seats in the Westminster Parliament, and dissatisfaction with the outcome of the devolution process will reinforce the calls for another referendum. We are surely facing exiting times and we will pay close attention to what kind of United Kingdom we will get in the future.



FELLOWS

Honorary Fellows

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

Fellows

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



Quite a few of our Fellows took part in this year's lecturers' meeting, among them (from left): Hugh Mackay, Paul Carmichael, Steven Truxal and Lynn Parkinson

STAFF

Academic Staff

Director Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg

Professor for British History. She studied history and social sciences at Bielefeld University, where she obtained a Dr. phil. in 1986. After working as a research associate at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Bielefeld in 1986-87 and holding a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ, in 1987-88, she became assistant professor at the History Faculty of the University of Hamburg where she completed her 'Habilitation' in 1996. She deputised for the Social History Chair at the University of Bielefeld, worked in the research unit *Gesellschaftsvergleich* at Humboldt's history department, and joined the Centre for British Studies in October 1998.



She has published widely, in particular on the social and cultural history of Britain and Germany as well as on methodological problems of historical comparisons and the history of cultural transfers. Her main books on Britain are: Deutsche und englische Gewerkschaften. Entstehung und Entwicklung bis 1875 im Vergleich (1986); 'English sports' und deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939 (1999); Englands Weg in die Marktgesellschaft (2009), translated as The Rise of Market Society in England, 1066-1800 (2013). Prof Eisenberg is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. The Max Weber Stiftung reappointed her as a member of the Academic Adivsory Board of the German Historical Institute London. In 2014, she was elected to the Editorial Board of Sport in History, the leading British journal in this field of research. In October 2013 she took over the position of Director of the Centre for British Studies for a second time.

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

Professor of English Law, British Economy and Politics, Dean of Studies and Deputy Director of the Centre. Studied law at Freiburg i.Br. and Bonn. He 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. in 1994, and 'Habilitation' Freiburg i.Br. 2002.



Prof Dannemann joined the Centre for British Studies in 2003. He has published widely, in particular on the English and German legal systems, contract, tort, unjust enrichment, private international law, and also on standards of good academic practice. He is the founder and general editor of the *Oxford University Comparative Law Forum* and the *German Law Archive*, a founding member of the Acquis Group (European Research Group on Existing EC Private Law), and chair of the Group's Redaction Committee and Terminology Group. He is a Research Fellow of the Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford. On the M.A. British Studies programme, he teaches 'English Legal System', 'Contracts', and 'Commercial Law', and co-teaches "Constitutional Law and Political System'. Professor Dannemann is on sabbatical during the winter term 2014/2015.

Prof Dr Gesa Stedman



Gesa with colleague and GBZ Fellow Dr Stefano Evangelista

Professor of British Culture and Literature. Studied English, French and Film/Theatre Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Warwick. Received scholarships from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the *Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes*. After a period as a visiting graduate student at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, she completed her PhD on the Victorian discourses on emotion at Humboldt-Universität in 2000. Research periods in Paris, Oxford, and London, supported by the *Deutsches Historisches Institut*, led to her 'Habilitation' on 17th-century Anglo-French cultural exchange at Humboldt-Universität in 2005. Gesa Stedman was Professor of English and American Literature, at Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen from 2005-2008 and was appointed Professor of British Culture and Literature at the Centre for British Studies in 2008.

She was a 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 leads the 'Writing 1900' network as well as the 'Berlin-Britain Research Network'. She is the spokesperson of the Centre's new graduate school. She is a member of the Committee for a Family-Friendly University at Humboldt-Universität. In addition, she acts as an unofficial advisor to the Internationalisation Strategy Unit of Humboldt-Universität. As head of the admissions and exams committee, Gesa Stedman is responsible for selecting and interviewing the new students.

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, CBE, FEA

Senior Professor of British Literature and Culture. Studied History, Philosophy, Russian, and English at Würzburg and Cologne, and English at Oxford. He was professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Konstanz from 1976-95, and visiting professor at the University of California, Irvine, at Fudan University, Shanghai and also Visiting Fellow of Corpus Christi College. Oxford. He was dean and pro-vice-chancellor at Konstanz and Chairman of the German Association of University Teachers of English, board member of the European Society of English Studies, and chair of the Shakespeare-Prize Kuratorium of the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung in Hamburg. He is now chairperson of its board. He is also a Fellow of the English Association. In 2009 he was made an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He has published widely on literary theory, life-writing, Romanticism, and literary anthropology. He was co-editor of the Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL) until 2010 and is currently writing a book about 'Life-Writing and Identity Construction Past and Present'.



Jürgen with two of his former 'junior' staff: Gesa Stedman and Marion Müller

Dr Marius Guderjan

Lecturer and researcher in British Politics. Marius' teaching responsibilities include the UK's political institutions and foreign relations. Before he joined the GBZ in August 2014, Marius worked as a senior research assistant at the Policy Evaluation and Research Unit at Manchester Metropolitan. He was involved in various projects including the FP7 Myplace and MyWeb studies, the successful Horizon 2020 application InnoSi (Innovative Social Investment) and Enabling Digital Railway.

In 2013, Marius obtained his PhD at Manchester Metropolitan University for the thesis 'When Europe meets the local level - a fusing multilevel compound?'. His thesis explored European integration of local government in England and Germany by applying a conceptual framework based on the Fusion approach. Prior to his PhD. Marius completed an MA in European Politics (Research) with distinction at the University of Liverpool and studied Social Science with an emphasis on politics at the University of Cologne. Current research activities examine policy-making and implementation across European, national, regional and local levels of government. Particularly, devolution in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales has significant implications on the overall system of governance in the UK. Further research interests include European integration, Europeanisation, international relations, local and regional government, political attitudes and participation, Euroscepticism, welfare state and social policy.



Marius (left) with longstanding guest lecturer Adrian Wilding

Dr Erik Spindler

Lecturer in history. Dr Spindler holds degrees in history from the universities of Durham, Dublin, Louvain-la-Neuve, and Oxford, as well as a teaching degree (also from Université catholique de Louvain). Prior to coming to Berlin, he was postdoctoral researcher at Université Libre de Bruxelles. The current academic year is Dr Spindler's fourth year at the Centre for British Studies, where he teaches on a range of interdisciplinary courses: 'Academic Writing' (together with Jessica Fischer), a course on the First World War, and, in the second semester, courses on gender and social history. A particularly joyful innovation this year has been the introduction of tutorials, and the resulting ability to interact with smaller groups of students (also, since it would seem polite to offer refreshments when students come for a tutorial in one's office, Dr Spindler enjoys quipping that he is literally putting the 'tea' into 'teaching').

Ali El-Haj, LL.M. (Cantab)



Ali (left) with Erik, former staff member Marc Stauch, and Corinna

Lecturer and researcher in English law. Read law at University College London (UCL) and public international law at the University of Cambridge. Worked from 2011 to 2012 as a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law and, in 2013, at the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law. He is writing his PhD thesis on the methods of migration of constitutional ideas – using a multi-dimensional approach – and the normative principles which underpin these migrations. He co-teaches 'Constitutional Law and Political System' and 'English Legal System' during the winter

term (2014/2015) and has taught 'Tort Law' and 'Law and Culture' in the previous summer term (2014) of the M.B.S. programme.

Jessica Fischer, M.A.



Jessica (middle) with students

Lecturer and researcher in Literary and Cultural Studies. Jessica studied English, History of Art, European Cultural Studies, and Cultural and Social Anthropology at the University of Freiburg, the Freie Universität Berlin, and University College London. As a member of the Berlin Graduate School of British Studies, she is writing her PhD thesis on British Asian debut novels published after 9/11. She follows new directions in postcolonial studies, and investigates contemporary art and its contexts. In addition, Jessica Fischer is a member of the German Association for the Study of British Cultures, the Association for the Study of the New Litera-

tures in English, and the advisory board of *Hard Times* magazine. This year she taught 'Contemporary Developments in the UK: Post-ethnic Fiction?,' 'Literary Theory,' 'Contemporary British Literature in Context: Postcolonial Britain,' 'Academic Writing' (with Dr Spindler) as well as 'Modernist Art' in the interdisciplinary project 'World War One: How It Changed the Way We Think' (with Prof Stedman, Dr Spindler and J. Zinecker) on the M.A.B.S. programme.

Johanna Zinecker, M.A.

Lecturer and Researcher in British Culture and Literature. Her chief interests are in mental health and the history of psychiatry, as well as in feminist and queer culture and theory. Johanna has a professional background as cultural producer, project manager and curator in the field of art and culture, in which she has been active since 2005, both in Germany and in the UK. After studying English and American Studies and New German Literature at Humboldt-Universität and the University of Manchester, she turned her attention fully to cultural producing and arts programming. Through this, she gained professional expertise in an interdisciplinary context while working as a project coordinator and assistant curator at the department of Visual Arts at Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin from 2008 to 2012. There, she helped to realize a number of large-scale international exhibition and publication projects on various contemporary topics. In 2014 Johanna taught the practiceled course 'Cultural Project Management' as well as a seminar in cultural studies entitled 'All the Rebel Women?: Feminist Art and Activism in the UK'. In the winter term 2014/15, she co-taught an interdisciplinary project seminar on WWI, exploring in her contributions the history of war-induced mental health issues in connection to gender and literary representations thereof. Together with Erik Spindler, Johanna is also in charge of coordinating work placements and has organized a Placement-Provider Meeting.





A different perspective: Johanna (left) and Erik (right)

Visiting Researchers

Prof Patricia Springborg

Patricia Springborg (D Phil Oxon) held a personal chair in Political Theory in the Department of Government before being appointed Foundation Professor in Political Science the PPE programme in the School of Economics of the Free University of Bolzano (2007-13). Elected to the Australian Academy of the Social Sciences in 1999, she has been a stipendiary fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars in Washington DC, the *Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin*, the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Uppsala, was a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at St. John's College, Oxford, and the recipient of a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Award in International Peace and Security, taken up at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. She has published 4 books, 4 edited books and over 60 articles in international refereed journals and edited collections.

Dr Daphné Bolz

Daphné spent 2014 at the GBZ as a Marie Curie IEF Fellow and will remain until January 2015, when she will return to her post as an associate professor (maître de conferences) in Sports Sciences at the University of Rouen, France. She had previously been a Research Fellow at De Montfort University, Leicester (UK) in 2006-2009. She wrote her doctorate (Strasbourg/FU Berlin, 2005) on the political and aesthetic aspects of sports architecture in Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany, which was published as *Les Arènes totalitaires*. Fascisme, nazisme et propaganda sportive (CNRS, 2008). Since 2006, she has also been working on interwar and post-war British sports history and she currently focuses on international influences in the area of sport and physical education in Europe. Daphné is General Editor of the journal *European Studies in Sports History* and has been the General Secretary of the European Committee for Sports History (CESH-site.eu) since 2009.

Administrative Staff



Corinna Radke, M.A.

Corinna studied English and Spanish at Humboldt-Universität and in Madrid (funded by Erasmus), as well as passing a two-year further education course on public administration. Apart from taking part in the management of the Centre's daily affairs and helping students with their problems and enquiries, she is responsible

for the co-ordination of the Centre's guest lecturers and organises the teaching schedule for the M.A. British Studies. In this context, she prepares courses on the HU's e-learning platform 'Moodle'. In 2014, she supported the study committee in the process of adapting the Master course to the new HU regulations. Corinna coordinates the Erasmus Placement Programme that offers financial support to students doing a work placement abroad. Since November, she also supports scholars of the newly founded Berlin Graduate School of British Studies and co-ordinates its diverse activities. Other responsibilities include the organisation of conferences and other events as well as preparing the manuscripts of conference proceedings and supervising their publication. Finally, she edits the Centre's annual report. Corinna is the Centre's equal opportunities officer.

Catherine Smith, B.A. (Hons.)

Studied Humanities with History of Art at the Open University. Catherine is foreign language secretary responsible for the respective director. Her duties include co-ordinating visiting arrangements for guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, events, as well as the Lecture series and the recently formed Berlin Graduate School of British Studies at the Centre. Apart from managing the office, she supports the Centre's teaching and research activities, co-ordinates the M.A. British Studies admission interviews, assists with the editing of research papers, the translation of German texts into English and is there to advise students.



Catherine (right) with student assistant Alexandra

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. She helps with the organisation of conferences by taking care of catering arrangements and the necessary technical equipment. Her responsibilities also include the filing of all records for our Master degree, calculating the final Master mark, and preparing the final Master certificates.

Sylvena introducing herself to the new group of students



Librarian

Evelyn Thalheim

Graduated from the Fachschule für wissenschaftliches Bibliotheksund Informationswesen Berlin. Worked as a qualified librarian in various scientific institutions, among them the university library of Humboldt-Universität, Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR and AG Strukturelle Grammatik at the Max Planck Institute. She joined the Centre in 1996 and has since been busy 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 2014 the following student assistants supported the Centre:

Patrick Daus

History

Christoph König

Law

Julia Peter

European Literatures

Thore Podlich

Gender Studies

Alexandra Prohm

Law

Christina Rücker

Anglophone Literatures and Cultures

Sophie Thiele

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Martha Catherine Turewicz

Comparative Literature



Always there to help: Thore, Julia, Patrick, Sophie, Alex and Christoph

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Cover photo: British Studies students presenting 'The Pleasure of Leisure – A Regency Ball with Jane Austen' at the *Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften*.

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