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Professor Wolfgang Iser,
Chairman of the Foundation Committee of the Centre, died in Constance on the 24th January 2007. He was 80 years old.
The Director Jürgen Schlaeger attended the funeral.

Professor Iser was one of the most influential literary theorists of his generation. In 1967 he moved to the recently founded University of Constance, where, together with Hans Robert Jauss, he created the Constance School of Reader Response Theory. He retired from Constance in 1991, but continued to hold the Chair for English and Comparative Literature at the UC Irvine which he had taken up in 1978. He received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Sofia, Siegen und Bucharest, was member of the Heidelberg Akademie der Wissenschaften and Fellow of the British Academy. In 2005 he was elected ‘Man of the Year’ of his discipline in the United States.

The influence of Wolfgang Iser’ research on the way we read, interpret and understand literary texts has been deep and pervasive. He published a number of books which are historical landmarks in the development of modern literary theory. He was an inspiring teacher and lecturer and fascinated generations of students and colleagues. Until his last hour he worked on another great project, a theory of emergence with which he was trying to bridge the gap between the natural sciences and the humanities. Unfortunately, he was unable to finish this work on what is one of the most fascinating theoretical problems of our time.

He will be remembered as founding father, teacher and friend.
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THE CENTRE FOR BRITISH STUDIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

The bulk of the Centre’s financial resources is allocated by the University. The allocation covers the costs for staff and operational expenses. The Centre also receives 1% of the University Library’s budget for use in the Centre’s own library.

There are, however, some pressing financial needs which cannot be met by the University. The award of grants to students on a means and merit test, which has been vital for attracting excellent students from modest economic backgrounds, has only been possible through the generous support of donors, in particular, the Mercator-Stiftung and the Marga und Kurt Möllgard-Stiftung and, recently, the Alfred Toepfer Foundation. Thanks to the European Commission’s Leonardo da Vinci Programme our students receive financial support during their internship in Great Britain.

The Centre has also been successful in attracting funding for its research and publications, in particular from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the British Council, the German Historical Institute, London, and CMS Hasche Sigle.
THE CENTRE IN 2006

Highlights were again the finishing of the certificate phase by the class 2005 – 2007 and the arrival of 26 new students from all over the world. To celebrate the opening of the academic year we invited Lord Patten, formerly Governor of Hong Kong and European Commissioner and now Chancellor of Oxford University. He gave a lecture on “Can Europe Keep Up? Higher Education and Research in the 21st Century”, a topic which figures very prominently in debates about the future of the university system in Germany and elsewhere. The lecture to a large audience was followed by a lively debate, a reception and a dinner.

During the summer semester the Centre organised a number of public lectures on the history of football as our contribution to the World Cup 2006. A great deal of our energy and time was taken up by developing a research project with which we participate in the so-called research cluster “Security and Risk” as a part of the Humboldt University’s bid to join the ranks of Germany’s top universities. Both cluster and university have taken the first hurdle and have been short-listed for the finals in the autumn of 2007.

At long last plans to move the Centre to other premises have materialised. The University has sold our present premises in the Jägerstraße to the federal government and offered us part of an old building in the Luisenstraße, close to the north campus. The new premises will be extensively renovated and we expect to be able to move in by the end of 2007. For the time being, we can stay very comfortably in the Jägerstraße.

In 2006 we had the pleasure of electing as our third honorary fellow Professor Ulrich Broich, who had played a crucial role in drawing up the report of the foundation committee on the basis of which the Centre was set up.

In 2006 a debate began on the role of area studies institutes in Berlin and Germany at large. The Wissenschaftsrat, an advisory body to the Federal Government, published its recommendations for the development of area studies and the Wissenschaftskommission Berlin published its own thoughts on the future of area studies in Berlin. Both publications stress the need for interdisciplinary area studies in a world dominated by globalisation and steadily intensifying intercultural exchanges. The Centre decided to use the opportunity of a public debate about the role of area studies to subject its own mission to a critical inspection. For this purpose, we reserved a day in December for initial discussions in order to identify those areas of our activities which, though successful, need some rethinking as part of a development strategy for the next decade. This debate will be continued at a three day conference in February 2007, for which the staff of the Centre will retreat to a venue outside Berlin.

“Success is a dangerous thing if it furthers the tendency to copy oneself, and to copy oneself may lead to sterility.”

Well aware of this danger we have moved very optimistically into 2007.

Jürgen Schlaeger

Centre for British Studies

MASTER IN BRITISH STUDIES

Course Description

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

Aims and Objectives

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

Admission

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

Course Structure

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

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

Core Programme

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

Module 1: Introduction
· Research Skills
· Presentation Techniques
· Current Affairs
· Business and Academic English

Module 2: Law, Politics, Economy and History
· English Legal System
· Constitutional Law
· British History
· Special Aspects of Economic, Social and Political History
· Political Institutions
· Economic Structures
· Social Structures
Module 3: Literature and Culture in the UK
· A Cultural History of English Literature
· Contemporary British Literature in Context I
· A Cultural History of the Arts
· Patriotism, National and Regional Identities
· Contemporary Britain: Myths, Trends, Fashion, Policies

Options Programme

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

Option 1
Economy, Law and Politics
comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

Module 1: Accompanying Module
· Current Affairs
· Business and Academic English
· Workshop Transcultural Management
· Workshop Project Management

Module 2: Economy
· Economic Geography
· Industrial Organisation
· The Welfare System
· The Financial System
· Media Markets
· Marketing

Module 3: Law
· Contract Law
· Tort Law
· Commercial Law
· Media Law

Module 4: Politics
· Centralism and Regionalism
· British Foreign Policy
· British Domestic Policy
· British International Relations

Option 2
Culture, Media and Cultural Management
comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

Module 1: Accompanying Module
· Current Affairs
· Business and Academic English
· Workshop Transcultural Management
· Workshop Project Management

Module 2: High and Popular Culture
· Literature, Culture and the Self
· Contemporary British Literature in Context II
· Popular Culture in Contemporary Britain
· Theories of Culture
· Film in the UK: Past and Present

Module 3: British Media – Past and Present
· Media Theory and Media Studies
· Public Sphere in Modern Times
· Media in the Consumer Society
· Media Law

Module 4: Cultural Management
· Cultural Management
· Cultural Economics
· Cultural Policy and Funding
· Marketing
· The Literary Field in the UK
## M.B.S. Students

### Class 2005/2007

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<td>Anderson, Kabria</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>Donovan, Shamus</td>
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### Class 2006/2008

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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Ackermann, Kirsten</td>
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### Core Programme 2005/2006 (Winter Term)

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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 1: Introduction</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>English for Special Purposes</td>
<td>Beata Krampe, Translator, Berlin</td>
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<td>Academic Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Barbara Simpson</td>
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<td>Transcultural Management</td>
<td>Dr Ursula Nguyen, Educational Sciences, Humboldt University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation Techniques</td>
<td>Christian Handke / Olin Roenpage, UMS Consulting</td>
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<td>Project Management</td>
<td>Rita Gerlach</td>
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<td>Current Affairs</td>
<td>Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer</td>
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<td><strong>Module 2: Law, Politics, Economics and History</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Political and Economic History</td>
<td>Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg</td>
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<td>Empire and Commonwealth History</td>
<td>Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer</td>
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<td>British Economy</td>
<td>Dr Pikay Richardson, Manchester Business School</td>
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<td>The English Legal System</td>
<td>Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann</td>
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<td>Social Stratification</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Mooney, The Open University in Scotland</td>
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<td>Constitutional Law</td>
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<td>Political Institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of English Literature</td>
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<td>Contemporary English Literature: Novel</td>
<td>Prof Val Cunningham, Corpus Christi College, Oxford</td>
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<td>National Identity</td>
<td>Rita Gerlach</td>
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<td>Contemporary Britain</td>
<td>Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Bonn</td>
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### Options Programme 2006 (Summer Term)

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

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<td>Workshop: Project Management</td>
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<td>Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer</td>
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<td>Economic Geography</td>
<td>Dr Sebastian Kinder, Geography, Humboldt University</td>
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<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Lynn Parkinson, City University London</td>
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<td>Media in the UK</td>
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<td><strong>Module 4: Politics</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Centralism, Regionalism, Devolution</td>
<td>Prof Paul Carmichael, University of Ulster</td>
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<td>Political Parties and Interest Groups</td>
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## Option 2: Culture, Media and Cultural Management

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<tr>
<td>Culture and the Self</td>
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<td>Contemporary Poetry</td>
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<td>Contemporary Drama</td>
<td>Barbara Simpson</td>
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<td>Theories of Culture</td>
<td>Barbara Simpson</td>
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<td>Film in the UK – Past and Present</td>
<td>Prof Dr Peter Drexler, Potsdam University</td>
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<td><strong>Module 3: British Media – Past and Present</strong></td>
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<td>Media in the UK</td>
<td>Dr Hugh Mackay, The Open University in Wales</td>
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<td>Great Britain in the Information Age</td>
<td>Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer</td>
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<td>The Media in Consumer Society</td>
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<td>Media Law</td>
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<td><strong>Module 4: Cultural Management in the UK</strong></td>
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<td>Cultural Policy and Funding in the Cultural Sector</td>
<td>Dr Andrew Feist, City University London</td>
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<td>Theatre: Funding, Producing, and Enjoying</td>
<td>Rita Gerlach</td>
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<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Lynn Parkinson, City University London</td>
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## Core Programme 2006/2007 (Winter Term)

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<td>English for Special Purposes</td>
<td>Elizabeth Stern, Cultural Management Consultant, Berlin</td>
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<td>Academic Writing Workshop</td>
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<td>Transcultural Management</td>
<td>Dr Ursula Nguyen, Educational Sciences, Humboldt University</td>
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<td>Presentation Techniques</td>
<td>Christian Handke/ Olin Roenpage, UMS Consulting</td>
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<td>Project Management</td>
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<td><strong>Module 2: Law, Politics, Economics and History</strong></td>
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<td>Political and Economic History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empire and Commonwealth History</td>
<td>Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer</td>
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<td>British Economy</td>
<td>Dr Pikay Richardson, Manchester Business School</td>
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<td>The English Legal System: A Historical Introduction</td>
<td>Prof Dr Helmut Weber</td>
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<td>Social Stratification</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Mooney, The Open University in Scotland</td>
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<td>History of English Literature</td>
<td>Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger</td>
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<td>Contemporary English Literature: Poetry</td>
<td>Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger</td>
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<td>National Identity</td>
<td>Rita Gerlach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Britain</td>
<td>Dr Bernd Becker, Political Consultant, Bonn</td>
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Students’ Reports

Metal Culture Liverpool
Renaud Durville

Metal Culture is an arts organisation that invites artists from all over the world to stay in residence in Liverpool, foster cooperation between artists and give space for thought and debate to artists and the community. The general atmosphere in the office is highly enjoyable – thanks to the good spirits of the people working there and the strong links to the community. It is common for people to pop in to discuss and share ideas and a cup of tea. Sometimes these informal meetings are the beginning of a new collaboration. One of the projects I participated in was with Barbara, an artist who had designed an art workshop for older people in the community. I helped to develop the project, identify available sponsorship and draft applications for a grant. I still don’t know the result but hope she will be able to realise this admirable idea. There were many other elements in my work at Metal, for example the regular Aga dinners where different people are invited for a dinner prepared in Metal’s Aga cooker. The informal and warm atmosphere of sharing food fosters curiosity for each other and constructive discussion. I regard my placement as a highly valuable as well as a very enjoyable experience.

Financial Times Knowledge
Barbara Pakowska

In order to introduce me to the idea of collaborative learning, my supervisor asked me to conduct Internet research on the topic. Simultaneously, I was learning how to use the e-Campus – online learning environment designed to coordinate preparatory e-learning, face-to-face workshops, post-course assignments and individual studies of a person. As a result, I set up my own e-Campus for FTK clients that I am still managing at the moment. As a Project Manager I am responsible for designing the Project Plan, and for agreeing with trainers and clients on delivery dates and content of the e-Campus. I am also in charge of the actual website that I update and manage on a day-to-day basis. During my placement with FTK I was always given clear instructions and support from my supervisor. After an introductory phase I was required to think analytically, be open-minded and flexible in my approach as well as well organised. All the people in the office are very friendly and helpful. It is a company tradition to celebrate everyone’s birthday as well as seasonal holidays. I really enjoy working in this place and I strongly recommend it to other M.B.S. students. I have benefited from my working experience with FTK – I have learnt a lot, I have met very interesting people and, last but not least, I was offered a permanent job.
M.B.S. Theses

During the final part of the M.B.S. course the students are required to write their M.B.S. thesis. Students must show analytical and critical competence and transfer knowledge and skills acquired in the different modules and courses by focusing on a chosen subject that is explicitly related to the United Kingdom and, if convenient, may also be related to their placement in Britain. The following is a list of topics chosen by the class of 2004-2006.

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alzona, Giulia</td>
<td>The Role of Pressure Groups in the British Political System.</td>
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<td>Antoine, Nadja Marlene</td>
<td>The Contemporary Discourse on Sex Education in Scotland.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beatović-Dobmann, Valentina</td>
<td>German SMEs Choosing Between the UK Private Limited Company and the German GmbH: Possible Implications on European Integration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denin, Nikolay Iliev</td>
<td>The CAP and the EU Budget – The UK Rebate as a Bait for Reform.</td>
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<td>Feustel, Milena</td>
<td>The British Embassy in Berlin: Branding Modern Britain in the New German Capital?</td>
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<td>Gacitua-Wojcik, Malgorzata</td>
<td>The Airline Industry in the United Kingdom during Structural Change. Do British Airways’ Marketing Strategies translate into its Customer Satisfaction?</td>
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<td>Kroshkina, Anna</td>
<td>Pressure Groups in the UK: Their Structures and Their Functioning in Historical Comparison.</td>
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<td>The Development of Third Stream Funding in Higher Education in England: Progress, Performance and Prospect.</td>
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<td>Ouyang, Yusi</td>
<td>British Banks and Rural Banking Market in China.</td>
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<td>Petrašková Mrazová, Hana</td>
<td>Single in Eighteenth-Century England. The Decision For or Against Marriage.</td>
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<td>Rettel, Katrin</td>
<td>Arts Sponsorship and Fundraising in the United Kingdom – Case Study: The Impact and Importance of Sponsorship and Fundraising to Cheltenham Arts Festivals.</td>
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<td>Shonia, Nona</td>
<td>The Terrorism Bill 2005: The Proposal to Detain Suspects for Ninety Days Without Charge and the Implications of this Proposal for the UK.</td>
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<tr>
<td>van Rheede van Oudtshoorn, Pieter</td>
<td>Internal Limits on the Success of Third-Sector Organisations in the United Kingdom. A Case Study of the Lesbian and Gay Foundation Manchester.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whately, Hugo</td>
<td>On the Economics of Euroscepticism.</td>
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This year’s best written Master Thesis comes from Hugo Whately. His paper has been published on the Centre’s website http://www2.hu-berlin.de/gbz (Working Papers).
M.B.S. ACTIVITIES

February
Barbara Simpson attended the reading of Malika Booker at the British Council with students and celebrated the end of term.

May
On 15th May, the Centre welcomed back its latest group of graduates to receive their M.B.S. Degree Certificates. This event coincided with a Monday Lecture and was followed by a drinks reception in which the new graduates were able to exchange news and reminiscences with GBZ staff and current students.

June
Corinna Radke organised the Humanities Lecture of the Berlin-Brandenburg International Studies Network (BISS) which consisted of a guided backstage tour through the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin followed by a lecture on “The Opera Foundation in Berlin’s Performing Arts Sector” given by Rita Gerlach. The afternoon was concluded with a picnic in the inner courtyard of the university’s main building. The event was sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

July
An enjoyable summer semester – blessed by excellent weather – was rounded off on 20th July with a lavish barbecue in one of the Jägerstraße courtyards; this was organised by the Class of 2005 for whom it was also a farewell (at least to the taught part of the M.B.S. course). The students then took up placements in the UK or began work on their theses.

October
Barbara Simpson and the students went to hear Adam Thirlwell, Janice Galloway, Hari Kunzru and Graham Swift on the occasion of the House of Literature festival at the British Council.

November
Catherine Smith and Corinna Radke took the students to visit the British Embassy where they were shown around by Milena Feustel, an M.B.S. graduate. Andy
Smith, head of the Environment and Energy team, provided them with an insight into the inner workings of the embassy. * Rita Gerlach, Corinna Radke and Barbara Simpson took the students to visit the exhibition “Napoleon! – Art and Caricature” at the Max Liebermann Haus in Berlin which displayed famous original British prints and drawings.

December
Some students and Barbara Simpson went to see Antenna UK, a selection of music videos and short films at the Berlin Babylon Cinema. * On their last day before the Christmas break students and staff got together for the annual Christmas party. For that occasion many had prepared some imaginative and very tasty dishes. Equipped with food and the Centre’s traditional Glühwein everybody enjoyed themselves tremendously, partying happily into their well deserved break.

Students’ Film Club
And action ...

Behind the scenes: Students at the Centre for British Studies are looking for a way to meet and spend some after-class-quality time together.

The idea:
Forming a film club.

The mission:
Spreading ideas and conspiracy theories of popular culture to counteract the indoctrination by the Establishment.

The plot:
The students gather every other Wednesday to listen to the ideas of Father Ted (Irish revolutionary cleric), Henry V (there’s always a lesson to be learned about the rhetoric of propaganda), and the timeless teachings of the cunning Edmund Blackadder and many more. Every individual has the responsibility to provide nibbles that will help the mental flow – of course, chocolate, biscuits and so on are to be consumed in moderate and appropriate amounts (of which we will be the judge), because over-indulgence may result in the obscuring of the brain and distract from the higher aim of “counter-education”.

Outlook:
Until today, every mission has been successful. It remains to be seen whether the constant craving for more conspiratorial input can be adequately satisfied by this club (maybe we should meet every other day in order to optimise results?).

One thing is certain though – the show will (and must) go on. New members welcome!
Alumni

So far, six classes and 117 students have completed the entire course of the postgraduate degree „Master in British Studies“. We are currently teaching the eighth class of M.B.S. students, the seventh class is presently in their last term, either working on their master thesis or doing their internship in Britain.

The Centre’s Alumni activities contribute to us having regular contact with more than half of our former students. Some particularly important benefits of these activities are:

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

At the moment, we have information on 70 former students’ professional careers – that is 60% of all our graduates. A survey of all our alumni is scheduled for spring 2007 and should improve our coverage in particular of those M.B.S. students who have just graduated or will so shortly.

The largest group, which comprises 18 of our former students, is formed by those who have stayed on the academic path. Altogether, nine of our alumni have taken up research for a doctoral degree or equivalent, often combined with a position at a university. Three moved on to other postgraduate studies. And there are six more alumni who are working in the wider academic scene such as the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) or the Studienförderwerk der Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft.

A second cluster comprises 13 alumni working in the area of media, journalism and cultural management. Nine of these are employed in cultural management including four who work for publishing houses such as Beck or Sage, and one who is with the Arts Council of Wales. Another four alumni work for newspapers.

The default category of general business comprises 16 former students. Some of our alumni have found jobs with multinational corporations such as IBM, Google, Coca-Cola, Tesco or Tarmac. Others work for medium-sized or smaller companies including banks, PR agencies or software service providers.

Nine of our former students are working in politics or public administration. Some of those have taken up positions in national ministries of their mother countries and several are working for EU agencies or MEPs. One alumni has become a diplomat.

Four graduates have become primary or secondary school teachers, and another four have found other work as English teachers or translators. Two work for prestigious sports organisations, namely FIFA and the Organising Committee of the Beijing Olympic Games. Finally, four alumni with whom we were in touch recently have either temporarily removed themselves from the job market, e.g. because they are taking care of children, or they were looking for a new job when we last heard from them.

Thus, the main fields of occupation of M.B.S. graduates are, in this order: academia, general (and typically international) business, media and cultural management as well as politics and public administration.

What is particularly interesting about this is that reading for a M.B.S. appears to open up new opportunities. For example, the largest group of our students have a first degree in English language or literature and we often hear during admissions that our prospective students want to read for a M.B.S. in order to become better teachers or translators, and hopefully that is the case for those that stay on this path. Yet, the majority of those graduates have found jobs in different fields. We would like to see this as evidence that the M.B.S. has opened up new business prospects or widened academic interests.

We observe similar developments among those students who come to us with a different first degree, too. We also note with pleasure that only a very small percentage of our graduates have taken on a purely clerical job. Most are in positions which give room for creativity and involve responsibility.

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

Over the last years, a growing number of students were able to turn their internship into a permanent job, i.e. they were hired by the organisation which provided their internship. What makes this particularly significant is the fact that a substantial proportion of our internships are generally unsuitable for such follow-up jobs, in particular the internships we have with MPs.

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

Lectures: Contracts (Comparative Law and Conflicts of Law)
Professor Dannemann gave this series of lectures at the Humboldt’s Law Faculty during the winter term 2005/06. 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 Rome Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, and the EU Council Regulation on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

The Anthropologist Alan Macfarlane on British History from 1600-1800
During the winter term 2006/07 Professor Eisenberg gave a seminar for students of the Institute of Historical Sciences at the Humboldt University. Since the 1970s the anthropologist Alan Macfarlane has published groundbreaking research on the origins of individualism, modern family structures, and capitalism in England. A particular feature of his work is that, like Max Weber and other ‘classical’ theorists, he has set himself the task of addressing fundamental questions about the genesis of the modern world: ‘Why did modernity originate in the West, and why, specifically, in England?’ In the process, Macfarlane engages in large-scale comparisons, not just between England and Continental Europe, but between Europe and Asia.

History of Global Telecommunication: From the Telegraph Network to the Internet
Dr Wenzlhuemer gave a seminar for students of the Institute of Historical Sciences at the Humboldt University in the winter term 2006/07. Together they explored the historical roots of the information society from early telegraphic communication to the internet and discussed continuity and changes in the development of modern day, global telecommunication networks.

RESEARCH
General Research Projects

Security and Risk
The Centre is participating in the research cluster “Security and Risk” which is part of the Humboldt University’s application for recognition as a top level research university within the Excellence Initiative. It will contribute a set of projects which focus on ‘Risk Management and Security Concepts in British Culture’. The cluster has been shortlisted for the finale in October 2007.

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann
Existing EC Private Law
Professor Dannemann is one of the founding members of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group). Founded in 2002, this Group currently consists of some 50 legal scholars from most EU member states. The Acquis Group aims to achieve a systematic arrangement of what already exists in community law in the area of private law. The Acquis Group bases its work on this acquis communautaire of private law rules and aims to distill from this principles and rules which will help to define the common structures of an emerging community private law. Within this group, Professor Dannemann heads both the Redaction Committee and the Terminology Group. The research of the Acquis Group will be published as “Principles of the Existing EC Contract Law”, of which a first and partial version is expected for 2007. Further information can be obtained at: http://www.acquis-group.org.

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

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
British History
During her sabbatical in summer 2006 Professor Eisenberg continued to write a book-length manuscript on Britain as a commercial society which covers the period from 1066 to the 20th century. Although focusing on general topics, this research places a special emphasis on the cultural industries which developed much earlier in Britain than in other European countries and are today among the fastest growing parts of the economy.
British and International Football
Professor Eisenberg (together with Pierre Lanfranchi, DeMontfort University Leicester) edited the volume “Football History: International Perspectives” which was published as a special issue of *Historical Social Research* 31.1 (2006). The volume includes the papers of a football panel at the 1st European Congress for World and Global History in Leipzig, September 2005.

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger
Professor Schlaeger has continued his research into the impact of the neuro-sciences on the humanities. He has also been co-editing the autumn issue of the Journal for the Study of British Cultures on “The Cults and Cultures of Music” together with Valentine Cunningham, Oxford. He has initiated a junior researcher seminar which will take place biannually at Siggen, the conference centre of the Alfred Toepfer Foundation in Hamburg. He is also involved in a research project called “The Ethical Dimension of Poetics.”

Dr Roland Wenzlhuemer
Continuity and Change in the History of the Information Society
This research project examines the role of both continuity and change in the emergence of the so-called information society. Contemporary Western societies are often labelled knowledge or information societies. Information has become the single most important raw material of the age around which both economy and society redefine themselves. This rise of informationalism (Manuel Castells) is perceived as a consequence of the information revolution, a comparatively sudden and transformative process starting in the 1960s. Thus, abrupt change of revolutionary dimension seems to be the decisive factor in the emergence of the information society. This research project, however, seeks to examine the role of continuity as a balancing factor in that process. Examples of continuity can easily be observed in the growth and structure of the global communication network since the 19th century, which at times showed a surprising adherence to path-dependencies. This study will try to identify other spheres of the process in which continuity has been the primary shaping force. It will show how continuity and revolutionary change interact(ed) to bring about today’s information society. Great Britain and particularly the London area have stood at the very centre of the global telecommunications network since the 19th century and will thus provide the main case studies of this project. (Funded by the DFG and the DAAD.)

Reet Tamme is a historian; she studied at the University of Tartu in Estonia and the Humboldt University Berlin. Her academic interests include commercial culture and economics of sport. She is currently preparing a doctoral thesis on the globalisation of golf.
First, this thesis addresses the consequences of the current recession on the supply side. In contrast to theoretical predictions, the number of market entries and the number of new publications has been relatively high during recession. A great number of small record companies have entered the market. It appears that the current recession has not been uniformly or unambiguously harmful on the supply side. Second, an innovation survey of over 1,000 small and medium sized record companies in Germany was conducted. Preliminary results cannot confirm that the erosion of copyrights have suppressed technological innovation or content creation.

It seems that either, the erosion of the copyright regime does not have the predicted adverse effects on suppliers and their incentives to innovate, or other significant factors overlap with recession and diminished copyright protection. Four possible explanations for the counter-intuitive resilience of small and medium sized record companies are investigated: alternative sources of income (product innovation); cost reductions and the removal of barriers to entry (process innovation); amateurisation; and flaws in the previous copyright regime.

A high number of market entries and increased levels of innovation during recession are more consistent with a restructuring of the record industry in the context of technological change – i.e. creative destruction – than with plain destruction due to diminished appropriability. Where this holds, isolated attempts to reinforce copyright protection could be insufficient. They should be supplemented with other efforts to promote innovation within the record industry.

Christian Handke
The Creative Destruction of Copyrights – The Record Industry After ‘Napsterisation’
This project is part of the Centre’s research focus on “Commerce and Culture”. Located in the field of Cultural Studies, it examines the British and German arts sectors while taking into account the recently developed discipline of Cultural Economics, evaluating and criticising this approach. The thesis will compare the different ways and methods of organising and funding theatre – and their outcomes: theatre supply, programmes and quality. Importantly, the thesis analyses the different discourses about, on the one hand, state ownership versus private commitment as potential theatre funding mechanisms, and, on the other, what quality theatre is about. It questions assumptions and beliefs rooted in (national) culture, values and traditions, thus taking into consideration the historical development of the different theatre types as well as cultural policy in both countries.

Barbara Simpson
Censorship and Creativity
At first glance, censorship seems to be a problem of the past for Western democracies. Adhering to the standard definition of censorship as state-induced control over published material, censorship in Britain effectively ceased in 1968 with the abolition of the Lord Chamberlain’s licensing powers. However, following 9/11 and 7/7, national security has become the highest priority to which personal liberties and the freedom of expression are subordinate. Additionally, the public discourse, especially in the UK, is guided by agendas of marketing national identities and political correctness. And in the literary field, the change from gentlemanly to conglomerate publishing has handed a few gatekeepers the control over the book market, effectively banning critical or not market compatible works. So what is one to make of these assorted, current phenomena of restrictions on the freedom of expression? Do we have to reassess what we mean by censorship in the current literary field? Which are the censoring mechanisms today and how do writers react to them?

To its advantage as well as disadvantage, the act of creating literature has never been free from external influence: the idea of autonomous creative production is a romantic myth. And some forms of influence are indeed beneficial to the creative process, for instance the...
crucial impact of editors and proofreaders on the finished script, illustrating that a literary oeuvre is never the work of a windowless monad. Whereas this type of influence on the creative process is valuable and even vital, other exertions of influence take on the form of control and are restrictive. However, whether one is dealing with a beneficial or detrimental kind of influence often depends on the point of view of the actors involved. For instance, whether new regulations for grants applications introduced by funding bodies such as the Arts Council amount to an unsustainable manipulation of the creative content or rather to beneficial guidance, certainly depends on whose standpoint one is adopting.

Moreover, influence on the creative process can also be described more closely by distinguishing the various effects and forms of influence according to their time of impact (before, during or after the creative process), to their extent (partial or total) and with respect to the actors involved (authorities, economic gatekeepers, artists, recipients). Laws and restrictions, for instance, can influence what is creatively possible prior to the production of a work, while an official or religious censor will judge after the creative process whether the finished work may be licensed for exposure to the public. Similarly, control can be exerted in part by suggesting changes and omissions or in total by banning the whole work. Again, while the outcome is the same, one has to differentiate between the non-publication of a work because an editor held it back due to economic reasons – resulting in the so-called ‘censorship of the market’ (André Schiffrin) –, or because of official interdiction – which would amount to classic state censorship. In the literary field, one can imagine all sorts of gradients and combinations of these temporal factors, extents of effect and involved agents. But can ‘censorship’ actually function as an umbrella term to subsume all these complex phenomena of control over the creative process? In this thesis, contemporary incidents of the restriction on the freedom of expression and the shifting power relations in the literary field will be analysed in the light of traditional theories of censorship. In the current context, can one accurately and reasonably speak of a ‘new censorship’?

Marc Stauch
A Comparative Analysis of English and German Medical Negligence Law

This dissertation aims to analyse various conceptual and practical problems that arise within medical negligence law – a contentious field whose legal treatment is often perceived to involve a number of special difficulties and shortcomings. This area of the law offers an especially rich field for comparative study since its principles, in the case of Germany as well as England, are derived for the most part from case law, thus allowing for a direct comparison of judicial reasoning under civil and common law legal systems. By applying a detailed and closely focused analytical approach to a circumscribed subject area, it is hoped to make a significant contribution to comparative law scholarship.

Former Staff

Christof Biggeleben

Sabine Selbig

Exernal Researchers

Sara Berendsen
Trusts im Internationalen Privatrecht

Florian Dupuy
Les attentes des parties en droit comparé des contrats

Aike Hasenheit
Die Innenhaftung bei Partnership und Personengesellschaft

Ronald Kaduk
Die Londonrezeption in Berlin 1815-1847

Stephan Love
European Contract Law as implemented in France, Germany and the UK

Maik Martin
Public Inquiries: Anatomie einer Common Law-Institution

Klaus Nathaus
Vereine im deutsch-englischen Vergleich. Das Beispiel der Industriestädte Essen und Sheffield 1919-1939

Annette Rebsch

Ruti Ungar
Boxen in England im 18. und frühen 19. Jahrhundert

Sandra Vivian Wagner
Verbraucherschutz bei Kaufvertragsschluss im Internet nach englischem und deutschem Recht
Colloquium

In 2006 the following projects were discussed among researchers from various disciplines focusing their research on the United Kingdom:

Rita Gerlach
Theaterfinanzierung, -programme und -qualität.

Oliver Reinert
Europa als ‘issue’ im Wahlkampf in Großbritannien, 1959-1974

Lars Labryga
Aktionärsschutz in Großbritannien und Deutschland

Stephen Love
European Contract Law as implemented in France, Germany and the U.K.

Christian Handke
The Supply Side Effects of Unauthorised Copying – Evidence from the British and German Record Industry

Klaus Nathaus
‘Cultural Industries’ in Großbritannien und Deutschland 1850-1970

Celina Kress
Stadionbauten und Stadterneuerung in Großbritannien, Deutschland und Nordamerika im 20. und beginnenden 21. Jahrhundert

Roland Wenzlhuemer
Das globale Telegraphennetzwerk im 19. Jahrhundert: Fragestellung und Methoden

Reet Tamme
Der Kulturtransfer des Golfsports von Großbritannien in die USA 1890-1930: Akteure, Medien, Verbreitungsmechanismen

Publications


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


Has German curiosity about developments in Britain varied over time? To what extent has Britain’s path into modernity been seen by Germans as a panacea or threat with regard to challenges and problems which they have been confronted with? Which dimensions and strands of Britain’s development have been perceived as adaptable to Germany? Who has transferred knowledge about the British Isles to Germany? The volume is devoted to these questions, which shed light on the role of Britain as a model of political, economic, social and cultural developments in Germany during the last two centuries. Processes of appropriation on the one hand and rejection on the other receive as much attention as the role of mediators and the channels of communication and transfer. Case studies in these areas engage with recent debates on comparison and concepts of transfer and entangled history.

---. “Not Cricket! Sport in Germany, or How the British Model Fell into Oblivion.” A. Bauerkämper, C. Eisenberg (eds.). Britain as a Model of Modern Society? German Views since the Eighteenth Century. Augsburg: Wißner-Verlag, 2006.

Most researchers who turned to football history from the 1990s onwards were social historians, but a minority also came from neighbouring disciplines like sociology, anthropology and politics. The questions they were asking were, who played football, when and why? What were the degrees of success and failure, the consequences and by-products? What were the specific developments in individual countries? And finally, following the trends towards cultural history at the time, how did sport contribute to the development of a “national identity”? At the centre of their interest was the development of football in the individual nations.

The essays in this volume build on such research. However, they are also a conscious attempt to set new accents in two particular ways. First the authors regard the international, global dimension of football as a constitutive element of the game. For this reason they have deliberately devoted their attention to analysing its transnational relationships. The second accent adopted by all the authors in this volume is both an inevitable and a fruitful by-product of international and transnational perspectives. Local, regional and national developments in football history have been observed ‘from above’. Looking at the subject from a distance has enabled the authors to cast light on their findings in a way which would have been impossible by using more conventional approaches.


---. Continued as Editor of the Journal for the Study of British Cultures (JSBC) and the Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL).


EVENTS

Highlights

Student Project: The United Cultures of Britain
13 May 2006

This year’s annual ‘Long Night of Academia’ (Lange Nachtder Wissenschaften) exhibition took place at various locations throughout Berlin. Once again the students of the Centre for British Studies were active participants in this event with a very successful interactive exhibition that aimed to explore ‘the United Cultures of Britain’. The exhibition, which this year once again enjoyed a prime location in the Humboldt University’s main building, focused on the distinctive part played by ethnic minorities in British cultural life.

The students invited the interested public on an exciting discovery expedition. Throughout the journey, people were presented with the cultural variety and richness associated with the British Isles. The intention was to broaden the perception of Britishness beyond existing clichés such as the royal family, boring cuisine and Secret Agent 007. To reach beyond these areas the students focused on the various cultures and regions of Britain, dealing not only with the different nations constituting Britain, such as Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, but also examining the men and women of various ethnic minorities who now call Britain home. This theme was presented through film, visual exhibits and multimedia, and included even a gourmet element, namely servings of Chicken Tikka Masala (today seen by many as Britain’s national dish).

An undoubted highlight was provided by two performances of a play by the Irish playwright Brian Friel. His play “Translations” investigates problems of a 19th-century Northern Irish community faced with a military English presence. As colonisers, their task is to translate the original Gaelic place names into English for the purpose of creating a geographical map. This tension-filled play inspired some stirring acting by the students involved and long applause by a captivated audience.

Summer Excursion: Schloss Cecilienhof in Potsdam
23 June 2006

For its summer outing, the Centre visited Schloss Cecilienhof, near Potsdam. This palace, in the English Mock Tudor style, was built in the early years of the twentieth century for the family of Germany’s last Crown Prince. However, it is most famous as the venue for the Potsdam conference in 1945, in which Stalin, Truman, and Attlee (who had just replaced Churchill as British PM) met to thrash out the post-war order in Europe. The GBZ students and staff enjoyed an interesting historical tour through the palace – much of it unchanged from the time of the conference.

The tour was followed by a picnic and games on the lawn of the palace gardens where staff and students enjoyed a break from brainwork and enthusiastically engaged in strenuous bodywork.
The day was rounded off with a boat trip on Lake Wannsee – the final chance to get a thorough sunburn, an opportunity which more than one student grasped.

Inauguration Lecture
Chris Patten, Chancellor of Oxford University
12 October 2006

We were very pleased that the Rt Hon the Lord Patten of Barnes, CH, PC, formerly the last Governor of Hong Kong, now Chancellor of Oxford University, gave a speech marking the opening of the Centre’s academic year 2006/07.

In his lecture, entitled “Can Europe Keep Up? Higher Education and Research in the 21st Century”, Lord Patten argued that in Europe higher education has been increasingly marginalised politically as an adjunct to the welfare state – in contrast to the flourishing research-based system in the US. Despite the Lisbon Strategy on European competitiveness, governments have done too little to strengthen our universities and to support research and development. In a stimulating talk, he urged serious rethinking about how academia in Europe might return to the original Humboldtian ideal of elite teaching coupled with research; a central problem is certainly that of low public funding, and in this respect Lord Patten felt that academics needed to show more strength in their dealings with politicians. The danger is that we will fall further and further behind the USA and find ourselves overhauled by China and India. Europe has to wake up before it is too late.

The lecture took place in the Theological Faculty high up in a side tower of the Berliner Dom, whose Gormenghastian grandeur later provided the backdrop for a pleasant get-together and wine reception.

The Year’s Activities

January

As the conference centre in the Kloster Walberberg has closed down, this year the Walberberg Literature Seminar, organised by the British Council, took place for the first time in the Akademie Schmöckwitz on the outskirts of Berlin. Under the direction of the Northern Irish novelist Glenn Patterson authors included Sinead Morrissey, Louise Doughty, Adam Thorpe, Carlo Gebler and Romesh Gunesekera. Authors and invited guests from the world of literature in both Britain and Germany discussed the themes identity, home and the role of the English language in these contexts.

* Christian Handke gave a presentation on “Indies in Germany – Thriving in a Declining Market” at the panel hosted by the Federal Ministry for the Economy and Technology at MIDEM in Cannes.

February
Prof Dannemann chaired the third meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law, held at the Fondation Universitaire, Brussels. * Prof Schlaeger was a member of the external Accreditation Committee for BA level Philology, Literature and Cultural Studies at the TU Dresden. * Rita Gerlach gave a paper on “Quality Theatre” and Christian Handke on “The erosion of copyrights and supply in the British and German record industry” at the Centre’s Cultural Industries workshop.

Cultural Industries Workshop
Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on “Die Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft: Seit wann ist sie ein Weltereignis?” at the conference of the Institute for World Society Studies and the graduate school “Weltbegriffe und globale Strukturmuster” at the Department for Sociology of Bielefeld University. * Prof Schlaeger chaired another meeting of Osnabrück’s Selection Committee. * Prof Schlaeger hosted a meeting of the Jury for the “Journalistenpreis” of the German Association of University Teachers of English. * Prof Schlaeger attended the ‘Value Conference’ of the CDU in the Maritim Hotel, Berlin-Mitte.

March
Barbara Simpson spent a four-weeks research leave at the British Library in London. * Prof Schlaeger participated in the 56th Königswinter Conference in Oxford. This year’s subject was “Europe: Leaderless and Drifting?” * Prof Eisenberg attended a conference “Wilhelmine Germany and Edwardian Britain – Cultural Contacts and Transfers” in Oxford, which was organised by the Faculty of Modern History, University of Oxford, and the German Historical Institute London. There she gave a lecture on “Does cultural transfer lead to mutual understanding? The example of sport in Britain and Germany”. * The annual round of interviews of students from Eastern European countries applying for a scholarship of the Alfred-Toepfer-Stiftung was hosted by the Centre. Prof Schlaeger is a member of the Grants Committee. * Marc Stauch acted as a referee for Legal Studies (the Journal of the Society of Legal Scholars in England and Wales).

April
From April to September Prof Eisenberg took a sabbatical semester. * The staff of the Centre presented Prof Schlaeger for his 65th birthday with a cooking evening – the menu consisted of delicious compositions from the Carribean and was prepared by ourselves under the instruction of the chef. Yummy.

May
Prof Schlaeger participated in the annual conference of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany which took place in Hamburg. * Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on “Commercialisation: a German View of the British Experience” at the German Historical Institute in London. * Prof Schlaeger attended a prize giving ceremony for the “Freiherr von Stein-Preis” by the Alfred-Toepfer-Stiftung at the Berliner Dom. * Prof Schlaeger participated in the conference “Ethics in Culture” organized by the English Department of Giessen University at Rauischholzhausen. He gave a lecture on “The Ethical Dimension of Poetics”. * Prof Eisenberg presented a paper on “Britain, Germany and the International Sporting Community in the 20th Century” during the conference “England v. Germany 1966-2006: Football, History and National Rivalry” at the International Centre for Sports History and Culture, DeMontfort University Leicester.

Rita Gerlach supervised the students’ project presentation at the Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften. * On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the German Association for the Study of British History and Politics (ADEF) Christiane Eisenberg gave a lecture on “ADEF 1981-2006”. She also opened the 2006 annual conference on “Britain – a Global Player?”. * Rita Gerlach married Sirko on 26 May. Good luck to the couple! * Christian Handke was invited to present his paper “Indies im
Aufwind? Die Krise am Tonträgermarkt und ihre Ver-teilungseffekte“ at the Department of Journalism and Communication Research at Hannover University for Music and Drama. * The Centre’s Advisory Board held its annual meeting. Prof Schlaeger and the Centre’s staff gave an account of their activities, successes and needs. The day was rounded off by the Board’s traditional meeting with M.B.S. students.

June
Prof Schlaeger became a member of the Accreditation Committee for BA/MA courses in philology at the University of Leipzig. * Prof Dannemann chaired the fourth meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Ac quis Group), held at the University of Bielefeld. * On the occasion of the conference “Netzwerke, Technik- und Kulturtransfer im neuzeitlichen Nordeuropa” at Oldenburg Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on “Cultural Transfer as a Historical Process. Research Questions, Steps of Analysis, Methods”. * 96 students from various countries applied for the postgraduate Master in British Studies course at the Centre in 2006. Throughout one week the Centre’s Selection Committee interviewed 50 of them for the 25 places available. * Rita Gerlach and Barbara Simpson moderated the meeting of the Arbeitskreis Cultural Studies in den Neuen Ländern hosted by the Centre. * Prof Schlaeger, Prof Dannemann, Rita Gerlach and Barbara Simpson attended the Queen’s Birthday celebration in the Ambassador’s garden. * Rita Gerlach attended the Wilton Park alumni reunion hosted by the Deputy Ambassador. * Dr Wenzlhuemer presented the Centre’s new e-learning initiative at the Humboldt University’s Multimedia Tage 2006 at the Erwin-Schroedinger-Zentrum in Berlin Adlershof. * Dr Hans-Gerhard Husung, the State Secretary for Science at the Berlin Senate visited the Centre. * Christian Handke presented a paper on “Plain or Creative Destruction? Copyright Erosion and the Evolution of the Record Industry” at the Society for Economic Research on Copyright Issues Annual Congress 2006 in Singapore. * Prof Eisenberg held a lecture on “Das Business der FIFA” in the context of an event called “Fußball und Geld” organised by the Historischen Gesellschaft der Deutschen Bank (Historical Association of the Deutsche Bank). * Staff and students went together to the Prater Biergarten in Prenzlauer Berg to cheer on England in their World Cup match against Sweden: the team did not disappoint in the first half, delivering arguably one of the best performances of any team during the whole tournament. As to the second half, it is better to stay silent ...

July
Dr Wenzlhuemer went to London in order to conduct research on his project “Continuity and Change in the History of the Information Society: From the Telegraph Network to the Internet”. The stay was supported by a DAAD PostDoc Programme Research Scholarship. * Rita Gerlach attended the “2. Tagung zur Kulturpolitikforschung im deutschsprachigen Raum” in Vienna by special invitation. She also attended the “Fourth International Conference on Cultural Policy Research” (iccpr 2006) in Vienna. She gave a paper on “British and German Theatre – Which is Best?” and moderated a session on “Cultural Management: Evaluation and Marketing”. The stay was made possible by a scholarship from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). * Michael Bird, Director of the British Council and member of the Centre’s Board visited the Centre.

Visit to the Centre by Mr Chris Sholl, British teacher of German at the Windsor School, Moenchengladbach, with 20 of his students. Prof Schlaeger and Rita Gerlach discussed with them general cultural interest themes and how these are interpreted differently in Britain and Germany. * Christian Handke presented a paper on “Plain Destruction or Creative Destruction? Copyright Erosion and the Evolution of the Record Industry” at The Association for Cultural Economics 14th International Conference on Cultural Economics, Vienna. * Marc Stauch participated in the Nottingham Law School “Berlin Summer School".
August
Dr Wenzlhuemer conducted research in the International Telecommunication Union archive in Geneva, Switzerland. This research stay was supported by a DFG Sachbeihilfe. * Prof Schlaeger chaired a two weeks seminar at the Summer Academy of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, in Sankt Johann, South Tirol, together with Dr Claudia Olk, with the topic “Temporality, Aesthetic Experience and Modern Literature”; he also gave a lecture on “Literature and the Brain”.

September
Prof Dannemann attended a conference at McGill University, Montreal, on “Harmonization of European Law and Legal Education: Toward a Trans-systemic Perspective?”, and gave a presentation on comparative teaching of contract law. * This year’s Shakespeare-Prize was given to Bryn Terfel, CBE, the Welsh bass baritone singer. Prof Schlaeger attended the ceremony that took place at the Hamburg City Hall. * Christian Handke, together with Ruth Towse and Paul Stepan, presented comments on Olav Kolstad “Competition law and intellectual property rights – outline of an economic based approach” for the Working Group on the “Handbook on Intellectual Property and Competition Law” at the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Tax Law, Munich. * Prof Schlaeger participated in the annual meeting of the members of the German Anglistentag at the Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg. He took part in a panel on “Interdisciplinarity”. * Prof Schlaeger organised a strategy seminar for English Studies academics at the Conference Centre of the Alfred-Toepfer-Stiftung at Siggen. * Marc Stauch attended the Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars at the University of Keele, England.

October
A new class of M.B.S. students arrived: 25 students from 12 different countries eager to learn as much as possible about the different aspects of British life. From October 2006 to March 2007 Prof Dannemann took a sabbatical which he spent partly at the Institute of European and Comparative Law at Oxford University. * Prof Dannemann chaired the fifth meeting of the Redaction Committee of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group), held at the Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford.

November
Prof Dannemann presented a paper on “Consolidating EC Contract Law: an Introduction to the Work of the Acquis Group” at the Comparative Law Discussion Group, University of Oxford. * Prof Schlaeger was elected board member of the Alfred-Toepfer-Stiftung F.V.S. * Prof Dannemann participated as invited discussant at a workshop organised by the Commercial Bar Association as part of the 2006 Bar Conference, London. * Prof Dannemann co-chaired the Plenary Meeting of the European Research Group on EC Private Law (Acquis Group), held at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. * Dr Wenzlhuemer attended the “Research Agenda Symposium – Research in World History: Connections and Globalizations” in Boston, USA. He presented a paper on “The De-Materialisation of Telecommunication as a Research Field for World Historians.” * Dr Wenzlhuemer gave a lecture on “Information, Wissen und Macht: Der digital divide und seine historischen Wurzeln” at the 11. Entwicklungspolitische Hochschulwochen in Salzburg, Austria. * Prof Schlaeger, Rita Gerlach and Barbara Simpson attended the 17th British Cultural Studies Conference “Transcultural Britain” at Magdeburg University. Rita Gerlach was elected treasurer of the Association for the Study of British Cultures.

December
Prof Schlaeger attended the annual conference of the Spanish Association for English and American Studies at Huelva, Spain, and discussed co-operation with the English Department of Seville University. * Dr Wenzlhuemer presented the main arguments of his research project at the colloquium on modern history of the History Department at the Technical University Braunschweig. * Prof Eisenberg attended the international workshop “Sport and Green Spaces in the European City” in Helsinki, where she gave a paper (together with Reet Tamme) on “The Golf Boom in Germany 1980-2006: Commercialisation, Nature Protection and Social Exclusion”.

Welcoming the new students
Public Relations

Berlin’s summer of 2006 was dominated by the Football World Cup. Accordingly, the Centre’s Monday Lecture series which is an important pillar of the Centre’s relations to the interested public in Berlin, offered international experts on football history and contemporary sport issues (cf. ‘Public Lectures’).

The media also took the opportunity to gain insights from the Centre’s sports history authority, Prof Christiane Eisenberg. It started in January when an article on the word “Weltmeister” appeared in the Berlin daily newspaper, Der Tagesspiegel. Then, she was the expert in the TV show “Faszination Fußball” on the documentary and event channel Phoenix TV, and she was interviewed by the Birmingham Post about the conference “Germany v. England, 1966-2000. Football, History and Rivalry” which took place in Leicester. In June, Prof Eisenberg was interviewed four times: by the BBC Online on German-English football relations, by the New York Times about “the symbolic meaning of the German World Cup victories in 1954, 1974, 1990 – and possibly 2006”, by the Austrian radio station “Antenne” about the causes of the football hype, and again by the New York Times about East German aspects of new German patriotism. After the championship she was asked for “A German View” in Peter Beck’s BBC History Magazine article “Two World Wars and one World Cup.”

In their respective disciplines and research areas the Centre’s academic staff shared their expertise to enhance public understanding of Britain in Germany and of the Centre’s research work.

Prof Gerhard Dannemann gave an interview to the German weekly quality newspaper Die Zeit on the role of lecturers in British academia in January. In April, he was interviewed by the Hessischer Rundfunk on British-German mutual perceptions and the role of the Queen, and in June BBC Radio 4 asked him about David Cameron’s proposal of a British Bill of Human Rights.

Christian Handke’s contributions were to the Financial Times Deutschland on “Musik von unten”, to Musikmarkt’s online feature “Tonträgerwirtschaft – Wachstum gegen den Trend” and an article on the same topic. He also held a public talk at the large music fair MIDEM 2006 in Cannes on “Indies in Germany – Thriving in a Declining Market?”

Last but not least, the Centre’s opening Keynote Lecture 2006 by Chris Patten was covered in an article published by HUMBOLDTI newspaper.

Public Lectures

Panel Discussion
“The British EU Presidency: An Evaluation”
Professor Allan Cochrane (The Open University), Paul Heardman (British Embassy Berlin), Jürgen Krönig (ZEIT-correspondent in London)
Chair: Professor Jürgen Schlaeger
23 January

Three weeks after Britain had passed on the EU-presidency to Austria it was time to take a look back at what had been achieved, which opportunities might have been missed and to ask whether PM Tony Blair had fulfilled his promise to give Europeans the leadership they seemed to lack. These and other issues were discussed by Paul Heardman (head of the EU and Internal Market Team of the British Embassy Berlin), Jürgen Krönig (UK and Ireland correspondent for the German weekly DIE ZEIT) and Allan Cochrane (Professor for Public Policy and, then, Pro-Vice Chancellor of The Open University). The panel discussion was chaired by Prof Schlaeger and took place at the British Embassy Berlin. The event was followed by a reception. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the British Embassy.

“The End of the Insular Game: Foreign Football Players in Britain, Compared with Germany”
Professor Pierre Lanfranchi
International Centre for Sports History and Culture, DeMontfort University Leicester
24 April

The labour market in British football remained closed to outsiders for the first decades of the 20th century. This was a result of collusion between the football associations of England, Wales and Scotland and the leagues, the Football Players’ Union and the Ministry of Labour. Non-British footballers rarely featured in professional sides. However, colonial-born players, unrestricted by immigration controls, were more common. The Second World War was instrumental in breaking down some of these barriers, and from the mid-1970s on the Football League’s prohibition on foreigners was overturned. Since then the labour market in British football has been widely open and British football clubs have employed an international labour force – a trend which Pierre Lanfranchi compared with the situation in Germany and elsewhere. He is Research Professor at De Montfort University Leicester, and the author (with Matthew Taylor) of Moving with the Ball. The Migration of Professional Football Players (2001).
“When was the First Real World Cup?”
Professor Tony Mason
International Centre for Sports History and Culture, DeMontfort University Leicester
8 May

In this second in a series of lectures dedicated to football and the World Cup, Tony Mason explored how the idea of an international football championship developed into the global mega event of the 20th century which is the FIFA World Cup. He sees the first real world cup as reflecting both the football world and the geographical world. According to Tony Mason, the 1982 World Cup failed its public in only one significant respect: the best two teams did not reach the final. It was Germany v. Italy: it should have been Brazil v. France.

Tony Mason began his career specialising in labour and social history. From these studies sprung his interest in sport history, leading to his first book on football, *Association Football and English Society 1863-1905*, which was a pioneering study and has become a minor classic.

“Sport and the English Hero”
Professor Richard Holt
International Centre for Sports History and Culture, DeMontfort University Leicester
15 May

This lecture examined the changing nature of the English sporting hero with particular reference to the role of the amateur, who with the rise of public school sport in Victorian Britain developed into a new kind of hero. These elite amateurs possessed different physical, social and moral qualities to earlier types and were the key sporting figures of England’s imperial heyday and central to understanding English national identity.

Professor Holt’s most important book is *Sport and the British: A Modern History* (Oxford 1989). Since 1996 he has been a Research Professor with the International Centre for Sports History and Culture and since 2000 he has organised an annual ‘Historians on Sport’ conference at the ICSH bringing together mainstream historians and specialists on sport.

“The Race for Skill: Immigration Policy in Canada and Britain”
Professor Randall Hansen
Canada Research Chair in Immigration & Governance, University of Toronto
29 May

The paper compared immigration policy in Canada and Britain and considered the successes and failures of the two models. In recent years, both countries have embarked on efforts to harness immigration policy to serve economic ends. These efforts, particularly the Canadian, have been closely watched by Germany and partly inspired its 2004 immigration law. The lecture made three arguments: first, the Canadian model of immigration and multiculturalism is showing strains at precisely the moment it is garnering so much international attention; second, the British model is preferable for securing immediate economic gains, but cannot affect demographic outcomes and raises difficult questions about second-generation integration; and third, public attitudes in both countries suggest that what matters in immigration policy is not so much numbers but stability: public support depends on the perception that governments have control over immigration policy and over borders. While Canada’s emphasis on skilled immigration can easily be copied by other countries, its multicultural policy is in an important sense unique.

Prof Hansen’s research involves examining the issue of immigration, integration, and asylum in North American and European Society. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the Government of Canada.

“So Near but so Far? Scotland, Football and Devolution: From Munich ‘74 to Berlin ‘06”
Dr Gerry Mooney
The Open University in Scotland
3 July

Scotland’s football performance in Germany at the 1974 World Cup finals was, as ever, a story of glorious failure. Unfortunately, there was no Scotland in the 2006 finals (apart from Jason Scotland – who played for Trinidad and Tobago and whom some Scots were
For some the declining fortunes of the national Scotland football team over the past few decades have accompanied the growth in demand for some form of self-rule and devolution. Devolution in 1999 has not been accompanied though by an upturn in the fortunes of the national team. Indeed, both have been heavily and widely criticised in recent years. Are both stories then of glorious failure – once again so near, but so far? Through the use of film and media images this lecture offered the opportunity for reflections on the role of sport in small countries such as Scotland. Gerry Mooney is Senior Lecturer in Social Policy and Staff Tutor in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

“Profiting from the Arts? The Creative Industries Explored”
Elizabeth Stern MA
London, Berlin
6 November

The Creative Industries sector is said by the Government to be one of England’s fastest growing sectors, and is estimated to employ at least 2 million people. But what exactly are the Creative Industries, and what is the relationship between the Creative Industries and the Arts sector? Elizabeth Stern explored the positive and negative implications that arise from treating the subsidised Arts sector as part of the Creative Industries rather than entirely separate to creative profit-making enterprise. This included an examination of how the Arts are supported in England, why they are supported at a relatively poor level compared to other European countries and whether the system is currently sufficiently quality-focused. She also examined artists’ employment in the Creative Industries and whether it is ever possible for the majority of artists to profit from the arts. Elizabeth Stern initially trained in the law and worked as a lawyer before deciding to devote more time to music. She then studied the piano at postgraduate level at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London and is still a keen pianist. Since then, she has worked in the arts, and has gained an MA in Arts Management with distinction from City University in London. She worked for several years at the Royal College of Music in London. Latterly, she has worked for Arts Council England, London, the London office of the national funding body for the arts in England. She has given seminars in Arts Management at several leading London institutions including City University, Central School of Speech & Drama and the Institute of Education.

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“The Aboriginal Factor in (De/Re)Constructing Australianness”
Professor Wolfgang Zach
University of Innsbruck
4 December

This paper outlined how the ‘White’ dominant conception of Australia was questioned and disrupted by an Aboriginal counter-discourse that has become a strong factor in contemporary definitions of Australian identity. Some of the most influential voices in different literary forms were treated – historiography (Henry Reynolds), autobiography (Sally Morgan), poetry (Oodgeroo), and drama (Jack Davis) – in an attempt to show how these authors paved the way to a redefinition of Australian identity by inscribing a strong Aboriginal dimension to it. Finally, current problems resulting from this paradigmatic change were also addressed.

Prof Wolfgang Zach is a pioneer in the study of new literatures in English. He has been instrumental in widening the area of research from British and American Literature to the study of world literature in English at university level and has been promoting this change of paradigms internationally. His current research projects include Aboriginal Australian drama and the role of literature in the school and university curricula.
Poetry Reading
Launch of Hard Times No. 80: “Contemporary British Poetry”
with Jackie Wills, Jeremy Over, Robert Minhin-nick and Tim Liardet
11 December

Hard Times goes Poetry! To mark the occasion, four UK poets presented their work at a reading chaired by John Hartley Williams. Jackie Wills has been resident poet at an airport, a youth bus, the Surrey countryside, an art gallery and with marketing teams. Her poetry has been printed on paper napkins and t-shirts, broadcast on BBC News Online, Radio 4 and published in national papers. Powder Tower (Arc), her first full collection, was shortlisted for the 1995 T.S. Eliot prize. Her most recent collection is Fever Tree (Arc 2003).

Jeremy Over lives and works in Cumbria. His first collection A Little Bit of Bread and No Cheese was published by Carcanet press in 2001. He is currently working on a second collection.

Robert Minhinnick lives in Porthcawl, South Wales. As well as being an active environmental campaigner, he is an award-winning essayist and poet and publisher of the international quarterly Poetry Wales. His latest collection After the Hurricane (2002) is published by Carcanet. In 2003, the same publisher issued his translations from the Welsh, The Adulterer’s Tongue: An Anthology of Welsh Poetry in Translation.

Tim Liardet has produced five collections of poetry. His third collection, Competing with the Piano Tuner, was longlisted for the Whitbread Poetry Prize in 1998. His most recent collection The Blood Choir is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation for Summer 2006. Tim Liardet is Senior Lecturer in Creative Studies at Bath Spa University.

This event was organised in co-operation with the British Council.

FELLOWS
Honorary Fellows

SIR CHRISTOPHER MALLABY GCMG GCVO

BEN BRADSHAW MP, Parliamentary Secretary

PROF DR ULRICH BROICH OBE
Professor Emeritus for English Literature, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München

In 2006 the Centre appointed Ulrich Broich as Honorary Fellow in recognition of his services to the foundation of the Centre.

Born in 1932, Prof Dr Ulrich Broich studied at the universities of Cologne, Bonn and Freiburg. He taught at St. Andrews in Scotland, Göttingen and Erlangen and held chairs for English literature in Bochum (1967-76) and Munich (1976-2000). He was the president of the Deutsche Anglistenverband between 1982 and 1984 and contributed to the creation of the Centre for British Studies as well as the new foundation of the Philosophical Faculty at the Humboldt University Berlin.

He is an officer of the Order of the British Empire.

Prof. Broich has published books on Thackeray (1958), Literary Patronage in Medieval England (with Walter F. Schirmer, 1962), Genres of Modern English Novels (1975), The Eighteenth-Century Mock-Heroic Poem (1990), The 1920s in Great Britain (with Christoph Bode, 1998), and Britain at the Turn of the Twenty-First Century (with Susan Bassnett, 2001).

Fellows

DR BERND BECKER

PROF PAUL CARMICHAEL

DR HUGH MACKAY

DR GERRY MOONEY

PROF GESA STEDMAN

PROF HELMUT WEBER, LLB
STAFF

Academic Staff

British Literature and Culture Britain

Director

Prof Dr Jürgen Schlaeger, MA (Oxon)
Professor of the Literature and Culture of Great Britain, and Director of the Centre for British Studies. Studied History, Philosophy, Russian and English at Würzburg and Cologne, and English at Oxford. Has taught English and Comparative Literature at the University of Constance. Visiting Professor at the University of California, Irvine, and at the Fudan University, Shanghai. Visiting Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Has published widely on literary theory, literary biography, romanticism, and literary anthropology. Co-editor of the Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL) and of the Journal for the Study of British Cultures. Board member of ESSE (until 2000), and chairman of the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung. He is a Fellow of the English Association and a member of the steering committee of the British Chamber of Commerce in the Berlin-Brandenburg region.

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

Barbara Simpson, MA
Lecturer and researcher in literary and cultural studies. From 1996-1997 she studied Philosophy and Politics at the University of Warwick and then Philosophy with English and French Literature at the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg. In 2001-2002 she obtained a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for the Université de Nice/Sophia Antipolis, and completed her M.A. in 2004 with a Master Thesis in philosophy on “Attention as a problem in phenomenology”. Practical experiences include project administration for a film retrospective in Berlin and Potsdam (Filmverband Brandenburg e.V.), an internship with the Arts and Creative Industries Department at the British Council Berlin and at the Press and PR Department of ARTE G.E.I.E. in Strasbourg. Barbara joined the Centre’s team in April 2005 and is currently preparing her doctoral thesis on “Censorship and Creativity”. On the M.B.S. course she teaches ‘Contemporary Drama’, ‘Theories of Culture’, and ‘Academic Writing’. Barbara organises the Centre’s Monday Lecture series and sits on the Centre’s selection committee.

British History

Prof Dr Christiane Eisenberg
Deputy Director. Professor of British History since the Restoration. Studied history and social sciences at Bielefeld, where she obtained a PhD in 1986. After working as a research associate at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (University of Bielefeld) in 1986-87 and holding a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J. in 1987-1988, she became assistant professor at the University of Hamburg, where she completed her ‘Habilitation’ in 1996. After deputising for the Social History Chair at the University of Bielefeld and working in a research unit on “Gesellschaftsvergleich” at the history department of the Humboldt University, she joined the Centre for British Studies in 1998. Prof Eisenberg is Chairwoman of ADEF (German Association for the Study of British History and Politics). Finally, she is working with Dr. Chris Young of Cambridge University and Prof Alan Tomlinson of Brighton University on the creation of a research network on the history of European Sport. Her main publications are: Deutsche und englische Gewerkschaften. Entstehung und Entwicklung bis 1878 im Vergleich (1986); Fußball, soccer, calcio. Der Weg eines englischen Sports um die Welt (ed., 1997); English sports and deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939 (1999); 100 Years of Football. The FIFA Centennial Book (2004). In 2006 she was invited to join the editorial board of the Cultural Industries Journal.

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

British Legal, Economic and Social Structures

Prof Dr Gerhard Dannemann, MA (Oxon)

Marc Stauch, MA (Oxon)
Lecturer and researcher in law and politics since February 2003. Marc graduated from Oxford in Politics, Philosophy and Economics in 1989, and then studied law, qualifying as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales in 1993. He lectured law in England for a number of years at The Nottingham Trent University and the University of Leicester. His specialist interest is in medical law: he is the co-author of a popular English student textbook on the subject and is writing his doctoral thesis on “Medical Negligence law in England and Germany”. On the Master in British Studies, Marc teaches ‘Law of Torts’, ‘Media Law’, and ‘Introduction to Political Institutions’. He is responsible for the organisation of the student work-placement programme, and for editing the Alumni Newsletter.

Administrative Staff

Catherine Smith
Foreign language secretary to the director Professor Schlaeger. She started working at the Centre in March 1996 shortly after it was opened. She is responsible for managing the office of Professor Schlaeger and his team, and provides secretarial and clerical support for their teaching and research activities. Her responsibilities also include the organisation of Professor Schlaeger’s appointments and commitments, together with looking after guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, appointments, events and the Monday lectures. She keeps all office systems and procedures running smoothly, answers general enquiries, maintains office records and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre’s affairs.
Corinna Radke, MA
Foreign language secretary to Professors Eisenberg and Dannemann. Studied English and Spanish at the Humboldt University Berlin and Madrid. Apart from taking part in the management of the Centre’s daily affairs and helping the students with their problems and enquiries, she is responsible for the co-ordination of the Centre’s guest lecturers and organises the teaching schedules for the M.B.S. course. She represents the Centre in the Berlin International Studies Network (BISS), which meets regularly to discuss the special needs of international Master courses in Berlin. Corinna is furthermore responsible for the co-ordination of the Leonardo Programme that offers financial support to students going abroad for an internship. Other activities include preparing the manuscript of conference proceedings and supervising their publication. Finally, she is in charge of the editing of the Centre’s Annual Report.

Sylvena Zöllner
Administrative officer at the Centre. Sylvena is a qualified administration and finance clerk, and has been working at the Centre since July 1996. She is responsible for administering the Centre’s finances, for the supply of office material, technical equipment and everything else needed by the Centre. She helps with the organisation of conferences by taking care of catering arrangements and by providing the necessary technical equipment. Her responsibilities also include the filing of all documents and records for our Master degree, calculating the final Master mark and preparing the final Master certificates.

Librarian
Evelyn Thalheim
Graduated from the Fachschule für wissenschaftliches Bibliotheks- und Informationswesen Berlin. Worked as a qualified librarian in various scientific institutions, among them the university library of the Humboldt University, Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR and AG Strukturelle Grammatik at the Max Planck Institute. She joined the Centre for British Studies in 1996 and has since then been busy establishing a library that serves the Centre’s special cultural 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 2006 the following part-time student assistants supported the Centre:

Cem Arsiray
Law

Antje Bayer
English and Sports

Keywan Ghane
Law

Karolina Golimowska
English, German Literature, Media Science

Irene Maier
Law

Katrin Meyberg
English, French, European Ethnology

Claudia Müller
English and Biology

Ulfert Oldewurtel
History, English, Art History

Oliver Pal
Media Technology

Juliane Trautmann
English and Sports

The Centre’s new premises on the first floor of the Jägerstraße building
FACILITIES

The Library

The main library of the Centre is situated in the August-Boeckh-Haus, Dorotheenstraße 65. It provides excellent working and research opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public. The library’s main themes are those of the relevant disciplines involved in British studies, i.e. British literature and culture, history and political science, economics and law, philosophy, sociology, art and the media. At present, the library holds approximately 20,700 volumes and is continually expanding, thus offering the latest publications covering these subjects. This guarantees that the library presents a unique and excellent up-to-date opportunity for research in British studies in Germany.

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

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

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

Reference Library

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

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

PC Pools

The Centre provides three computer rooms for its students in the Jägerstraße building. 10 personal computers with internet access and several printers help them do their research. It also allows them to keep in touch with friends and family who, in many cases, live a long distance away.

Common Room

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

Our Website

As part of the World Wide Web the Centre is able to provide information for people from all around the world. They can find the names and addresses of the staff, learn about the goals and the structure of the Centre and access useful data on the Centre’s history including an archive of past events. Up-to-date information is provided about current activities and, of course, about the M.B.S., such as the course outline, the teaching programme, admission requirements and details on the application procedure. Statistics have shown that the majority of our students made their first contact with the Centre and the course via our website.

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

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

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