



GROSSBRITANNIEN-ZENTRUM
Centre for British Studies

Annual Report 1998



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



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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. It is so far the only one of its kind in a German-speaking country.

The goals of the Centre's work are:

1. To offer a Master in British Studies as a postgraduate degree. This 18 months Master course will give students the opportunity to add competence in British Studies to qualifications acquired in their first degree course. It will prepare them for executive positions in firms and public institutions with strong links with the United Kingdom or other English-speaking countries. The course will include a three months internship in a company or a public institution in Britain. The Centre will also involve 'practitioners' from German and British companies and financial institutions, television, law firms and the arts in its Master programme, so that its students will not only be offered classes by university teachers, but also be in constant contact with people running businesses, banks, theatres, museums etc.
2. To carry out comprehensive research programmes about Britain's special position as a pioneer within the modern industrialised world. For centuries, Britain has had a distinctive and often formative influence on Europe and the world in areas as diverse as history, economics, law, language, literature and the media, and 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.

Academic staff:

For its initial phase, the Centre for British Studies has a core staff of three professors and seven junior lecturers and researchers, two of whom are funded by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*:

- ◆ Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger, Director, Chair for British Literature and Culture, appointed in 1995
- ◆ Prof. Dr. Helmut Weber, Chair for British Legal, Economic and Social Structures, 1997
- ◆ Prof. Dr. Christiane Eisenberg, Chair for British History since the Restoration, 1998
- ◆ Monika Lacher M.A., Literature and Cultural Studies
- ◆ Martin Liebert, Assessor, Law
- ◆ Marion Müller M.A., M.St., Literature and Cultural Studies
- ◆ Katharina Quabeck M.A., Literature and Cultural Studies
- ◆ Elfie Rembold M.A., History
- ◆ Sabine Selbig, Assessorin, Law
- ◆ Gesa Stedman M.A., Literature and Cultural Studies.

Clerical staff:

- ◆ Corinna Radke M.A., Secretary
- ◆ Catherine Smith, Secretary
- ◆ Evelyn Thalheim, Librarian
- ◆ Sylvena Zöllner, Administrative Officer.

The Centre also has a supporting staff of part-time student auxiliaries; in 1998 these were:

- ◆ Christoph Aschenbrenner, Cultural Studies, Politics and Ethnology
- ◆ Christian Benne, English and German Language and Literature
- ◆ Anke Börsel, English and German Language and Literature
- ◆ Daniela Hohme, English Language and Literature, Cultural Studies
- ◆ Jens Kuhlmann, Law
- ◆ Annette Rebsch, Law
- ◆ Christine Wiedemann, Politics, History and Philosophy.

The Centre in 1998

1998 was an eventful and important year for the Centre.

In October, Christiane Eisenberg was appointed as professor for British History since the Restoration. With this appointment, the first stage of the build-up of the Centre was completed.

The Centre was also able to expand within the building in which it is situated, and all members of the Centre, previously in provisional rooms dispersed in the building, could move into permanent and adjacent offices on the second floor. The premises now include a large reference library room with work places for our students and researchers, one medium-sized room for a PC pool and two seminar rooms. Together with the seminar rooms on the ground floor we have a sufficient number of lecture rooms to do all our teaching in the building. And with our library now in its permanent location (page 19), the Centre is in a position to start with its Master course.

The Master's degree in British Studies (M.B.S.) with all the necessary regulations for admission, matriculation, syllabus and examinations (page 7) has been presented to the university and state authorities for approval. The Centre will enrol its first class of degree students in October 1999. Up-to-date information about this course and about all other activities of the Centre can be found on our internet website, which was also set up in 1998 (page 20).

Throughout the year, our series of guest lectures and other events organised by the Centre or in cooperation with other institutions has been continued (pages 15). Highlights were the 50th anniversary commemoration of the *Berlin Airlift* in the summer semester (page 12), the *Brandenburg Symposium* in September (page 14) and our first *Readymix Lecture* with the British architect *David Chipperfield* in the winter semester (page 15).

In spite of the many time-consuming tasks necessary for setting up a new Centre like ours, all academic members of the Centre continued to pursue a broad range of teaching and research activities with unabated energy and enthusiasm.

December 1998

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger
Director



back row: E. Rembold, S. Zöllner, M. Liebert, H. Weber, C. Eisenberg, J. Schlaeger, E. Thalheim, C. Aschenbrenner, D. Hohme;
front row: A. Rebsch, K. Quabeck, M. Lacher, G. Stedman, S. Selbig, C. Smith, C. Radke, C. Wiedemann; centre: Roger

Teaching

In 1999 the Centre for British Studies will enrol the first group of students for the Master's degree (details on page 7). Until then the teaching staff of the Centre will give lectures and conduct seminars open to all students of the university or contribute to the course programmes of other departments such as English and Law.

Teaching 1997/1998

Project Seminars: Winter Semester

Project seminars are courses targeted at interdisciplinary topics and at the problems of teaching cultural studies. Mixed groups of teachers and students from different disciplines collected, examined and analysed material for the following subjects.

- ♦ National Identity
- ♦ Strukturwandel der Öffentlichkeit in Großbritannien
(Structural Change of the Public Sphere)

(In these two seminars M. Lacher, K. Quabeck, J. Schlaeger, G. Stedman, M. Liebert, S. Selbig and H. Weber were involved.)

„National Identity“ expresses itself in rituals, symbols, hero worship, works of literature, and historical discourse. In many cases it also defines itself against other nations. National institutions and traditions provide arrangements of these elements in such a way that they can serve as stable objects of identification. But nations are 'imagined communities' and they change over time.

To bring this out, every team of students had materials to investigate such as institutions, literature, political discourse, visual representation, art, architecture and music as media of national self-expression. They then had to determine their impact on the development and transformation of national identities.

The project seminar „Strukturwandel der Öffentlichkeit“ investigated the changes in the relation between the private and public spheres.

Examples for this process are the emergence of the concept of public opinion in the 18th century and the development of public participation in the political system through elections and other forms of political commitment, for example trade unions and pressure groups. Some of the topics treated were the book market in the 17th and 18th centuries, the establishment of the press, the club culture and the history of the theatre.

Extracts from literature, materials on the constitution and structure of institutions such as parliament, the monarchy, judiciary and courts, were provided for the students in a reader.

These project seminars were very demanding. One or more lecturers prepared and guided each session, while the others participated actively in the discussions. It was a considerable challenge to select from the mass of the available material and to bring the multiplicity of possible themes and aspects into a teachable order. That we managed to do that was thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of everybody involved.

Project Seminars: Summer Semester

In the following semester the Centre organised the project seminars „Great Britain and Europe“ and „Justiz und Demokratie in Großbritannien“ (Justice and Democracy in Great Britain). Each of the two disciplinary groups in the Centre (Literature and Culture; Legal, Economic and Social Structures) was responsible for one of the seminars, but both groups also prepared sessions on their own research areas for the other seminar.

- ♦ Great Britain and Europe
M. Lacher, K. Quabeck, J. Schlaeger,
G. Stedman, H. Weber
- ♦ Justiz und Demokratie in Großbritannien
M. Liebert, J. Schlaeger, S. Selbig, H. Weber

The project seminar „Great Britain and Europe“ investigated subject areas such as literature, law, media, and the arts, focusing on the question how they express and reflect the relationship

between the UK and continental Europe. It prepared, furthermore, suitable materials for the joint final session.

The project seminar "Justiz und Demokratie in Großbritannien" looked into the characteristics of jurisdiction and administration of justice in Great Britain, and their relationship with the constitutional principle of democracy. Its approach combined the different points of view belonging to the disciplines involved.

Further Teaching: Summer Semester

Late Victorian Drama

Jürgen Schlaeger

The seminar "Late Victorian Drama" discussed the action, the language and the dramatis personae of the following plays:

Arthur Pinero:

The Second Mrs Tanqueray

George Bernard Shaw:

Widowers' Houses

Arms and the Man

Oscar Wilde:

Lady Windermere's Fan

An Ideal Husband

Teaching 1998/1999

Winter Semester

History and Interdisciplinarity

Christiane Eisenberg

Interdisciplinarity is regarded as a methodological prerequisite of the humanities in their efforts to deal with 'culture'. It is the purpose of this seminar to analyse that part of the debate which is relevant to historiography. What is the particular function ascribed to this discipline in the discourse on interdisciplinarity? What is the function of history in interdisciplinary curricula?

The Rise and Decline of English Sport, 1800-1970

Christiane Eisenberg

Sport is a good example to discuss some problems of modern British social developments: the pace of change which is different from that of other European countries; the social and cultural consequences of being the 'pioneer' not only with respect to industrialisation but also to consumerism; the notion of 'decline' as Europe caught up with Britain during the late nineteenth century onwards. The seminar splits into three parts:

1. England, the 'land of sport'
2. The global dissemination of English sports
3. Difficulties in adapting to world sports

The Irish Question

Monika Lacher

The 'Irish question' has been a pertinent one in British politics and culture for centuries. In this seminar, the confused and tormented history of England's first and closest colony, from the first Anglo-Norman invasions to this year's Good Friday Agreement with its renewed hopes for a peaceful solution, provides the background for investigations into a variety of issues which, beyond the scope of their immediate Irish context, raise questions of a much larger interest within the field of British Studies.

The Edwardian Period

Katharina Quabeck

Placed between the traditions of the long Victorian Age and the turmoils of the First World War, the Edwardian Period is a highly interesting transitional period in English cultural history. After reconstructing the historical, social and economic contexts, this seminar takes a close look at a number of aspects of English culture in the Edwardian Period such as national identity and self-representation in literature and the fine arts, in the music of the age, and at the question of high and low culture and of class.

Literature into Cultural Studies

Jürgen Schlaeger

This class combines a lecture course with a seminar. Taking key texts from key periods of English literary history, the lecture course discusses ways of opening literary studies to a broader cultural approach. The seminar goes through these texts in more detail and discusses the issues raised in the lecture.

Representations of Emotions

Jürgen Schlaeger

This research colloquium deals with the latest literature on emotion theory and discusses aspects of a literature-orientated cultural history of emotions and their representations.

Popular Pictures: Victorian Visual Culture

Gesa Stedman

Although the 19th century is the period in which literature becomes a mass commodity, the Victorian age is nonetheless an intensely visual era. This seminar attempts to introduce Victorian culture with the help of a wide variety of examples - book illustrations, popular prints, stage design, toy theatres, cartoons etc. It involves a visit to the print collection of the "Museum für Völkerkunde" in Dahlem, a guest lecture on Pre-raphaelite art (see lecture programme on page 15), and a weekend seminar.

Einführung in das englische Recht

(Introduction to English Law)

Helmut Weber

The course gives a historical overview on its development and deals with its present day system. The topics covered include: courts and legal professions in England, the constitution of the UK, the characteristics of a case law system, selected fields of English Private Law.

Elements of the Law of Torts

Helmut Weber, Sabine Selbig

Comparative law seminar on negligence and other torts. In each session, a student gives a paper about one aspect of negligence or some

other tort. He or she presents the English or Scottish case law as well as parallel German cases. Among the topics discussed are the elements of negligence, special problem cases of this tort like economic loss or nervous shock cases, the very contentious subject of the wish for privacy versus the need for information of the public and the laws of defamation, the special responsibility of barristers and solicitors as well as the Scottish law of delict. The solutions in the different jurisdictions are then compared and discussed and we try to find out why the manner in which the problems were treated was different.

Privatrechtliche Probleme bei der Verwendung von Kommunikationsmedien

(Private Law and Modern Communication Media)

Helmut Weber, Martin Liebert

Comparative Law seminar on legal problems in England and Germany evolving and revolving around the use of modern means of communication such as telephone, telefax and internet. As in the above mentioned tort seminar, students take turns in preparing and delivering papers on various aspects of the general theme. Among the issues discussed were: conclusion of contracts via electronic media, consumer protection and the World Wide Web, proof of electronically transferred documents, new media and copyright protection.

Zwangsvollstreckungsrecht

(Enforcement of Judgements)

Helmut Weber

The course deals with the law of judgement enforcement (part 8 of the Civil Procedure Code). The topics covered include: purpose and system, available actions and remedies, and current problems in this field of law.

Master in British Studies (M.B.S.)

The Centre will offer a postgraduate degree course in British Studies. Enrolment for its first class of 25 students, to commence their studies in October 1999, will begin in summer 1999. Detailed information about matriculation procedures and dates will be available from the Centre by post, telephone or e-mail and on the Centre's website in spring 1999.

The aims and objectives of the course are:

- ♦ to enable students to add competence in British Studies to qualifications acquired in their first degree course
- ♦ to prepare students for executive positions in firms and institutions which deal with the United Kingdom or other English-speaking nations
- ♦ to promote cross-cultural understanding, communication, and mobility
- ♦ to teach students 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.

Summary of the course description:

Course structure

The postgraduate degree course in "British Studies" is an interdisciplinary teaching programme. It consists of a twelve months' Certificate Phase followed by a six months' 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 36 weeks of teaching, divided into two phases of about equal length. The first phase ('Core Programme') consists of a series of lectures and seminars, which are compulsory for all students. In the

second phase ('Options Programme') students can choose two out of three options (see below). Students have to attend an average of at least 25 hours of classes per week. These may include suitable classes taught in other departments.

During the Master Phase students are expected to spend about three months with a firm or institution in Britain. In the remaining three months they are expected to write their M.B.S. thesis.

Core Programme

The Core Programme consists of teaching units (lectures, seminars, theme-oriented project works etc.) covering the following topics:

- ♦ information management
- ♦ the history of the United Kingdom
- ♦ the UK's legal systems and their development
- ♦ the history of literature, culture, and the arts in the UK
- ♦ the history of ideas and mentalities in the UK
- ♦ the UK's economic and social history since the Industrial Revolution
- ♦ its present social stratification
- ♦ the development of Britain's political system
- ♦ cultural studies theories and methods.

Options Programme

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

"Economy, Law and Politics" - this option comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

- ♦ Britain's economic and financial system
- ♦ Britain's legal systems
- ♦ the contemporary political system of the UK.

“Media, Publishing and Public Relations” - this option comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

- ♦ the British media and publishing trades, past and present
- ♦ the media as market
- ♦ the media and the law
- ♦ media theories.

“Culture and its Management” - this option comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

- ♦ literature, media and the arts as processes of self-awareness, self-assessment, and self-presentation of British culture
- ♦ cultures of leisure and everyday life
- ♦ culture management.

Admission requirements

- ♦ Applicants should have a first university degree.
- ♦ They are required to have a very good knowledge of both German and English.

Research

Discourses on Emotions

The Centre for British Studies is home to a research group, supervised by Professor Schlaeger, which has received funding from the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (German Research Council) and has worked on this complex topic since 1996. Originally, the group was part of the *Sonderforschungsbereich 511 “Literatur und Anthropologie”* headed by Professor Schlaeger at the University of Constance. The junior members of the group are all working towards their doctoral theses. At a conference on ‘Representations of Emotions’ in Constance in November 1997, the group had the opportunity to discuss its work with other British and German experts

in the field. The conference proceedings, *Representations of Emotions*, Jürgen Schlaeger/Gesa Stedman (eds.), Tübingen, Gunter Narr Verlag, will be published in spring 1999. A follow-up conference on ‘Emotional Excess’ will take place in Berlin at the Centre for British Studies in December 1999. Plans to integrate the group into larger research contexts or expand the project are currently under discussion. The research project on ‘Discourses on Emotions’ was given financial support for another two years by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*.

Professor Schlaeger also participates in the initiative for setting up another research project on ‘European Cities at the End of the Millennium’ together with 18 colleagues from a wide range of different disciplines.

The Third Sector in Scotland, England & Wales, and Germany

This is a collaborative project between the Centre for British Studies and the Charity Law Research Unit, University of Dundee, Scotland. The collaboration arose out of a long-standing association between Professor Weber and the Department of Law at the University of Dundee. The project is supported by a grant from the Academic Research Collaboration (ARC) programme, jointly funded by the British Council and the German Academic Exchange Service, and by a grant from the British Academy.

A major impetus for the project has been the debate surrounding the adaptation of the legal definition and form of ‘charity’ for the role played by the Third Sector in modern society. The continental model is increasingly finding favour in the UK, while in Germany the Third Sector is only beginning to take shape. To assist the debate, the research teams are undertaking a comparison between the UK system, which has influenced many English-speaking countries, and that operating in Germany, which in many ways typifies the approach of continental Europe towards the Third Sector.

The objective of this project is to undertake a detailed comparison of the relevant statutory and case law in Scotland, England and Wales, and Germany with the aim of ascertaining the best way of enabling Third Sector organisations to fulfil their role in contemporary society. Means are to be identified by which a balance can be achieved between public accountability for bodies receiving tax exemptions, grants and public donations, without overburdening them with unnecessary administrative and financial regulations. The extent and operation of financial incentives for Third Sector organisations and donors in the three jurisdictions and the arrangements for claiming repayment of tax are to be examined. So are controlling measures such as registration, financial audit and judicial control with the aim of establishing which measures are proving to be the most effective.



Stephen Swann and Christine Barker in Geneva

Several exchange visits between the two teams, the Scottish one headed by Dr. Christine Barker, have already taken place and more are planned. The results of the research project will be disseminated in the form of conference papers, articles and eventually a book comparing the two systems. The interim research findings have been presented at the ISTR (International Society for Third Sector Research) conference in Geneva in July 1998.

Newspaper Archive

The Centre for British Studies is currently setting up a newspaper archive as an additional research tool. Articles from the major English and Scottish newspapers and magazines are collected on such topics as New Labour, national identity, devolution, Northern Ireland etc. In the long run, a computer-based catalogue will list the articles so that searching for specific keywords will be possible. With the Centre's reading room now ready for use, the newspaper archive will shortly open to students, teachers and other interested individuals. Since many of Berlin's academic institutions can no longer afford to subscribe to foreign papers, the Centre's newspaper archive will provide valuable information on numerous important cultural, political, and social topics.

Publications

The Media Debate **British and German Perspectives**

This volume presents the proceedings of a conference organised by the Centre that aimed to bring together senior figures from government and media to discuss the future of public broadcasting in a British-German context. Key issues which were addressed were ownership, control, and the media as a projection and reflection of British-German society. Panel discussions focused on political influence, ethics, and war reporting. Conference languages were German and English. For the publication translations and summaries were added. This book is the first in a series of conference proceedings with which the Centre for British Studies intends to stimulate debates on current issues.



Jürgen Schlaeger (ed.),
The Media Debate.
German and British Perspectives,
Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier,
Trier 1997,
ISBN 3-88476-277-X.

The Future of the Welfare State British and German Perspectives

The future of the welfare state is now a live issue across Europe. This volume contains the proceedings of a conference organised by the Centre that gave senior figures from government, academia and the media an opportunity to discuss and compare British and German views, and to look at options for future policies. The participants tried to determine the reasons for the current crisis of the welfare and social security systems in European countries, such as demographic trends, changes in the patterns of employment or the breakdown of the traditional gender order leading to new family patterns. Then they discussed the essential problem of how to finance and manage welfare in the future. The principal themes were presented in an open public forum, and then explored in more detail in panel discussions. The conference was the second in a series on current public policy issues relevant to Germany, Britain and more widely in Europe, supported by the British Council and the Anglo-German Foundation.

Helmut Weber (ed.), *The Future of the Welfare State. German and British Perspectives*, Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, Trier (forthcoming).

Both volumes can be obtained at the Centre for British Studies or in any bookshop.

Further Publications of Members of the Centre in 1998 include:

- ♦ Christiane Eisenberg, "The Rise of Internationalism in Sport", in: Martin H. Geyer/Johannes Paulmann (eds.), *The Mechanics of Internationalism*, Oxford (forthcoming).
- ♦ Christiane Eisenberg, "Der Sportler", in: Ute Frevert/Heinz-Gerhard Haupt (eds.), *Der Mensch der Moderne*, Bd. 2: 1914-1995, Frankfurt (forthcoming).
- ♦ Jürgen Schlaeger, "Literature and National Identity", in: *Journal for the Study of British Cultures*, Tübingen 1998, 67-80.
- ♦ Jürgen Schlaeger, entries "Culturalism", "Interdisziplinarität", "Literarische Anthropologie", in: Ansgar Nünning (ed.), *Metzler Lexikon Literatur- und Kulturtheorie. Ansätze – Personen – Grundbegriffe*, Stuttgart/Weimar 1998, 78-79, 237-238, 315-317.
- ♦ Helmut Weber, "Recht und Gerichtsbarkeit", in: Kastendiek/Rohe/Volle, *Länderbericht Großbritannien*, 2. Aufl., Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung, Bd. 354, Bonn 1998, 178-193.
- ♦ Helmut Weber, review article: "Rechberger/Oberhammer, 'Exekutionsrecht'", in: *Zeitschrift für Zivilprozeß* (forthcoming).

Teaching and Research Staff; PhD Students

Staff

Prof. Dr. Christiane Eisenberg.

Professor for British History since the Restoration. Born 1956. 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. In 1996-1997 she was a guest of the graduate college and deputised for the Social History Chair at the Department of Social History, University of Bielefeld; in 1998 she was a member of the research unit „Gesellschaftsvergleich“ at the Department of History, Humboldt University Berlin. She joined the Centre for British Studies in October 1998. Main works: *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' und deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939* (forthcoming).

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger, M.A. (Oxon.).

Professor of Literature and Culture, and Director of the Centre for British Studies, Humboldt University Berlin. Born 1940. 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 (*Habilitation* in 1975) and the University of California, Irvine. 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 member of the editorial board of the "Journal for the Study of British Cultures". Board member of ESSE.

Prof. Dr. Helmut Weber, LL.B.

Professor for British Legal, Economic and Social Structures. Born 1951. Previous Position: Professor for German and European Private Law and Civil Procedure at the University of Potsdam. Graduate of the Universities of Tübingen and Dundee; PhD and *Habilitation* at the University of Tübingen. Main publications: *Einführung in das schottische Recht* (1978), *Die Theorie der Qualifikation im Internationalen Privatrecht* (1986), *Der Kausalitätsbeweis im Zivilprozeß* (1997). Details and further publications: Cf. the Centre's website.

Monika Lacher, M.A.

Literature and Cultural Studies. Lecturer and research assistant in the field of British literature and culture. Working on a PhD thesis on the Irish poet and translator James Clarence Mangan. Other interests include: poetry and the cultural history of industrialisation.

Martin Liebert, Assessor.

Law. Lecturer and research assistant at the chair of Professor Weber. Lawyer. Studied political science, history and law in Munich and Berlin. Working for a PhD in comparative Internet law in Great Britain and Germany. Maintains the computer network facilities of the Centre. Further interests, besides his little son, are: politics, history and fiction.

Marion Müller, M.A., M.St.

Literary and Cultural Studies. Studied English and Latin at Bonn, Constance and Oxford. Research assistant in Professor Schlaeger's re-

search group on Discourses on Emotions (funded by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*). Currently working on a DPhil on "The Discourse of Emotion in Early Modern England with Special Reference to Non-fictional Texts" at Harris Manchester College, Oxford. Further interests: English renaissance, intersection of classical and English literature, recusant literature.

Katharina Quabeck, M.A.

Literary and Cultural Studies. Lecturer and research assistant in the field of British literature and culture. Currently working on a PhD thesis on the Discourses on Emotions in early twentieth century literature, within the broader framework of Professor Schlaeger's research group. Further interests: cultural studies; history.

Elfie Rembold, M.A.

History and Cultural Studies. Lecturer and research assistant at the chair of Professor Eisenberg. PhD on "Images of History. Regional Nationalism in Scotland and Wales 1911". Co-editor of the journal "National Identities", the first issue of which will be published in January 1999. Further interests: cultural history and biographical studies.

Sabine Selbig, Assessorin.

Part of the law group at the Centre. Studied law in Berlin and Grenoble, lawyer. Lecturer and research assistant at the chair of Professor Weber. Is currently reading for a PhD in comparative charity law in Scotland, England and Wales, and Germany. Collaborates in a research project with the Charity Law Research Unit at Dundee University.

Gesa Stedman, M.A.

Literary and Cultural Studies. Studied English Literature, French, and Film Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Warwick. Lecturer and research assistant in Professor Schlaeger's research group on Discourses on Emotions (funded by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*). Currently working for a PhD on Victorian constructions of feeling. Further interests: cultural studies, feminist theory, British film.

External PhD Students

In addition to the above mentioned PhD students who are also members of the Centre's staff, the following are working on their doctoral dissertations as external students:

- ♦ Thomas Baumgarten:
Die Prozeßführungsbefugnis im deutschen, französischen und englischen Zivilprozeßrecht
- ♦ Steffen Christmann:
Das Urkundenaufgebot (§§ 1003 ff ZPO) und seine funktionalen Äquivalente im englischen Recht
- ♦ Susanne Knöpfle:
Der 'Do-it-Yourself'-Prozeß.
Prozeßführung ohne Rechtsanwalt in England und in Deutschland
- ♦ Johannes Schulte:
Die Restschuldbefreiung im deutschen, englischen und europäischen Insolvenzrecht
- ♦ Alexander Wildschütz:
Kollisionsrechtliche Probleme im deutschen, englischen und schottischen Recht der wohltätigen Organisationen

Events in 1998

The Berlin Airlift

In June 1998, the Centre joined forces with the *Zeughaus-Kino* of the *Deutsches Historisches Museum* to host an event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift in 1948. The British contribution to this dramatic crisis in recent history was celebrated by a short documentary, *The Berlin Airlift*, provided by the Imperial War Museum in London, a lecture by the British writer Ann Tusa and a panel discussion chaired by Professor Schlaeger. First-hand accounts of the event were heard from the Airlift members Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss, Squadron Leader Frank Stillwell and Mr Geoff Smith.

During the following reception, audience members were given further opportunity to discuss the British contribution to the Airlift with the retired RAF pilots.



from left: Jürgen Schlaeger, Geoff Smith, Frank Stillwell, Sir John Curtiss

Programme:

THE BERLIN AIRLIFT 1948 - 1998

The British Involvement

Opening

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger
Director, Centre for British Studies

Short documentary film

BERLIN AIRLIFT 1948

Main lecture

Ann Tusa
The Airlift: Turning Point in the Post-War World

Panel with members of the British Berlin Airlift Association

Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss, KCB, KBE
Sqn. Ldr. Frank Stillwell
Mr Geoff Smith

Reception

Feature Film

THE BIG LIFT

Meetings, Conferences, External Lectures

January:

The first major event at the beginning of the year was the board meeting of the trustees for the Centre for British Studies (see page 18). ♦ The 'Cultural Studies Group' of the English departments of the New Bundesländer held their annual meeting at the Centre. ♦ Professor Schlaeger was chair of an assessment committee which was set up to evaluate the English departments of four universities in the north of Germany (Oldenburg, Bremen, Kiel, Rostock). ♦ He also attended the British Council's Writers Seminar in Walberberg.

February:

The Centre's PhD students - those belonging to its staff as well as the external ones - conducted their first Graduate's Day to present their topics to each other, give interim reports on their dissertations and discuss matters of common interest. ♦ Professor Schlaeger gave a lecture on "Parallel Explorations" for a symposium 'Making Sense of Oneself and Others', which was held in honour of Professor Günter Walch of the Humboldt University Berlin, who retired in February. ♦ He also lectured on "Reshaping British National Identity" to an audience of officers from the British Army at the Freie Universität and to the regional organisation of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany at the Headquarters of the *Dresdner Bank* in Berlin.

March:

Professor Schlaeger attended the board meeting of the German Society for University Professors of English (Vice-Chair until October, re-elected as member of the board) in Erfurt. ♦ He also took part in a conference held at the new European University in Venice on 'Venetian Views - Venetian Blinds' and gave a paper on "Elective Affinities: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and Venice".

April:

Sabine Selbig attended the spring conference of the *Deutsch-Britische Juristenvereinigung* / British-German Jurists' Association, which took place in Chester. After the conference she went up to Scotland to spend a week working with her colleagues at the Charity Law Research Unit at Dundee University and to research charity law issues. ♦ Professor Weber attended the Civil Procedure Law Teacher's conference at Leipzig. Topics were insolvency law conflicts in European law and certain aspects of the Luxembourg European Court's rulings on civil procedure law.

May:

Professor Schlaeger attended the annual conference of the French association of university teachers of English (S.A.E.S) in Rennes.

June:

The Wilton Park conference 'The British-German Forum' took place in Sussex. These British-German Forum conferences were set up by agreement between Prime Minister Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl after the 1985 British-German Summit. This year's conference brought together twenty young Britons and twenty young Germans from different professional backgrounds, among the latter Sabine Selbig from the Centre. The theme of the conference was 'Britain and Germany: A Time of Change'. Illustrious speakers from politics, British and German businesses and universities gave interesting talks which were the starting point for lively discussions and an exchange of ideas about British-German relations from a business perspective, political and constitutional changes and social policy. A topic of hot debate were the political and economic implications of the introduction of EMU and the possible date of the UK's joining of the monetary union - if at all. A meeting with members of parliament at the Houses of Parliament to discuss the impending constitutional changes and a visit to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office gave valuable insights into British public life.

July:

Together with her collaborators from the Charity Law Research Unit of Dundee University, Dr. Christine Barker and Stephen Swann, Sabine Selbig presented a poster paper entitled "The Third Sector in Scotland, England and Wales and Germany" at the ISTR (International Society for Third Sector Research) conference in Geneva. The paper reported the preliminary research findings. ISTR is a major international association promoting research and education in the fields of philanthropy, civil society and the non-profit sector. ♦ Two months prior to the German general elections, the conference 'European Solutions to Germany's Challenges' took place at the Hotel Adlon in Berlin. The conference was organised and supported by the London firm Robert Fleming Securities, whose Director of UK/European research, David Marsh, is also chairman of the German-British Forum and brought together well-known participants from the world of politics and business to discuss the development of the European economy and social problems such as welfare provisions and unemployment. The British Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe, Lord Simon was there, as well as the then candidate for the German chancellorship, Gerhard Schröder, Prof. Anthony Giddens, Director of the London School of Economics and Leopold Tröbinger from the *Bankgesellschaft* Berlin. The talks showed that a lot of problems needed European rather than national solutions. Professor Schlaeger and Sabine Selbig were among the participants. ♦ Professor Schlaeger took part in the third Science and Society Seminar entitled 'Research Assessment has damaged British Science', organised by the British Council in Bonn. ♦ Gesa Stedman attended the conference 'Cinema, Identity, History: An International Conference on British Cinema' at the University of East Anglia, during which British, American and Continental participants spent three intensive days debating current trends in film theory and historiography. ♦ Two weeks research at the new British Library followed, in preparation for a paper which Gesa Stedman gave at the conference 'Private and Public Voices in Victorian Poetry', organised by the University of Salzburg

in Austria. Her contribution "Private Passions in Public Places - Women's Poetry on the Feelings" is part of her doctoral thesis on Victorian discourses on emotions.

September:

The board of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE), with representatives from over 30 European countries, held its annual meeting at the Centre. Preceding the board meeting, the chair of ESSE had organised a one-day conference on 'resourcing' with representatives from former Eastern bloc countries, in order to discuss strategies for improving the resources for teaching and research in these countries. ♦ The Centre and its director were involved in the Brandenburg Symposium on 'Critical Questions: English Literature for the New Century', which was the fourth in a series. It was organised by the British Council in London in cooperation with the Centre. This symposium was a six-day residential affair with 70 participants from all over Europe in the *Ostdeutsche Sparkassenakademie* in Potsdam, among them Isobel Armstrong, Malcolm Bradbury, Valentine Cunningham, Susana Onega and Alan Sinfield. ♦ Professor Schlaeger attended the annual conference (*Anglistentag*) of the German Society of University Teachers of English in Erfurt. ♦ Katharina Quabeck attended the conference 'Ideas and Material for Teaching British Studies' organised by the Dortmund Centre of Curriculum Development in British Studies. This Centre has as its goal the development of sufficient and adequate material as well as methodological ideas for the teaching and assessing of British Studies. Projects agreed upon at this conference will be researched and materials collected. The results as well as further proceedings will then be discussed at the follow-up conference in September 1999. Katharina Quabeck and Gesa Stedman both cooperate in a project that came out of this conference.

October:

Professor Schlaeger was invited to give a paper on "London: Future Images of the Past" at a conference on 'After-Images of the City' at Cornell University in Ithaca. ♦ He was appointed chair of the *Shakespeare-Preis-Kuratorium* of the Toepfer

Foundation in Hamburg. ♦ Further pursuing the topic of the GBZ's 1997 conference on the 'Future of the Welfare State' with keynote speakers Frank Field (Minister for Welfare Reform) and Sabine Bergmann-Pohl (Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Health), Professor Weber participated in the British Council conference in Bonn on 'The Third Way' with Paul Boateng (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health) as main speaker.

November:

Professor Schlaeger gave a lecture at the Ninth British and Cultural Studies Conference in Würzburg. ♦ Together with Professor Andrei S. Markovits (University of California, Santa Cruz) Professor Eisenberg gave a lecture on "*Sport, Kulturtransfer und Gesellschaftsvergleich (Europa - USA)*" at the Centre for Comparative History of Europe at the Freie Universität Berlin. ♦ Shortly afterwards she lectured on "*Großstadt und Kultur der Moderne. Sozialwissenschaftliche und historische Perspektiven*" at a colloquium of the research unit "*Gesellschaftsvergleich*" at the Humboldt University. ♦ Professor Weber was appointed external member of the assessment committee for Potsdam University's Centre for Languages. In 16 sessions in Potsdam throughout spring and summer the university's structures for the teaching of languages were evaluated. An extensive final report with recommendations was presented to the University's Rektor in November.

December:

Elfie Rembold gave a paper at the University of Salzburg on "Mythological images of Scottish and Welsh nationalism in the Edwardian Age". ♦ The Centre hosted a meeting of the task force preparing a conference on 'Mind the Gap: Architecture and Urban Lifestyle for an Era of Innovation', which will take place in Berlin in February next year. ♦ Professor Schlaeger took part in a dinner party, given by the German Ambassador in London in honour of the 1998 *Shakespeare-Preis* winner Sir Derek Jacobi.

The Readymix Lecture

16 Nov **David Chipperfield**, Architect
"Recent Projects"

The first of a series of lectures entitled 'Readymix Lectures' in recognition of a donation by Readymix Germany to the Centre for British Studies.



David Chipperfield

The Centre's Monday Lectures Series

Winter Semester 1997/98

- 12 Jan **Prof. Bernd Lenz**
Universität Passau
"Insular Images: The Gentleman Ideal"
- 20 Jan **Richard Burdett**
London School of Economics
"Architecture and Urban Design in Britain: Towards a New Pragmatism?"
- 26 Jan **Sean O'Brien**
Author, Critic, Journalist and Broadcaster
(organised together with the British Council)
"The Deregulated Muse"
- 02 Feb **Dr. Andrew Higson**
University of Norwich
"Englishness and the Heritage Film: Howards End"

Summer Semester 1998

- 25 May **Prof. Brice Dickson**
University of Ulster
"The UK's Human Rights Bill: What Difference Will it Make?"
- 08 June **Prof. Valentine Cunningham**
Corpus Christi College, Oxford
"Germany Calling: British Writers and the *Hitlerzeit*"
- 29 June **Prof. Noreen Burrows**
University of Glasgow
"Scotland's Voice in Europe after Devolution"

Winter Semester 1998/99

- 02 Nov **Mr Maurice Frankel**
Director of 'Campaign for Freedom of Information'
"Freedom of Information in Great Britain"



Maurice Frankel

- 09 Nov **Prof. David Trotter**
University College London
"Modernity and Mass-Market Fiction in the Edwardian Period"
- 10 Nov **Mr William Horsley**
BBC
(organised together with the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft)
"The End of Certainty: How Doubt will Rule the New Millennium"
- 14 Dec **Dr. Michaela Giebelhausen**
University of Essex
"Kunst, Karikatur, Ketzerei: Die Prärafaeliten und die Viktorianische Presse"

Additional Lectures

A number of further lectures were co-organised or hosted by the Centre:

- 06 July **Prof. Patrick Minford**,
Cardiff Business School
(organised together with the Department of Economics, Humboldt University)
"Thatcherism - Lessons for Germany?"
- 28 May **Prof. Manfred Pfister**
Freie Universität Berlin
"Venetian Passions: From Winterson to Coryate"
- 05 June **Prof. K. Ludwig Pfeiffer**
University of Siegen
"Versionen britisch-deutscher Modernisierung: Modellierungsmöglichkeiten eines Kulturvergleichs"
- Prof. Stephan Kohl**
University of Würzburg
"Zeitkonzeptionen in der englischen Literatur der zwanziger Jahre"
- Prof. Verena Lobsien**
University of Tübingen
"Fingierte Alterität: Aphra Behns Oroonoko"
- Prof. Beate Neumeier-Hornung**
University of Potsdam
"Voyeurismus und das englische Theater der Renaissance"
- 25 June **Prof. Jolyon Howorth**
University of Bath
"Anglo-French Relations and Security Policy"

Guests at the Centre

March 1998

Dr. Christine Barker
University of Dundee

Dr. Christine Barker of the Law Department of the University of Dundee, Scotland, spent two weeks in Berlin to research charity law issues, in particular the special regime of religious bodies, at the GBZ and at the law library of the Humboldt University and to work with Sabine Selbig on the collaborative Third Sector law project.

03 April 1998

Prof. Maxwell Irvine,
University of Birmingham

Professor Maxwell Irvine, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Birmingham was invited to Germany by the DAAD from 30th March until 5th April. He visited the Centre for British Studies on Friday 3rd April 1998.

11 June 1998

Prof. Janet Finch,
University of Keele

Similarly, Professor Janet Finch, Vice-Chancellor of Keele University, paid a visit to the Centre as part of a five-day Berlin visit organised by the DAAD. Professors Schlaeger and Weber discussed possible fields of cooperation with her.



Members of the English Department of the Humboldt University visiting the Centre



The British Ambassador Sir Paul Lever KCGM

24 June 1998

English Department
Humboldt University

The GBZ as an interdisciplinary centre intends to establish close ties with other university departments. To introduce the Centre a get-together with the English Department for all members of both institutes took place in the Centre's rooms. The Centre's plans and projects were presented and fields for future cooperation were discussed.

Sept./Oct. 1998

Stephen Swann,
University of Dundee

Stephen Swann of the Law Department of the University of Dundee, Scotland, spent three weeks in Berlin in September doing research on the fiscal regime of charitable organisations in Germany and working with Sabine Selbig on the collaborative Third Sector law project.

22 Sept. 1998

Sir Paul Lever, KCGM,
British Ambassador in Germany

The British Ambassador in Germany, **Sir Paul Lever** KCGM visited the Centre and informed himself about the progress we have made.

Board of Trustees

The constitutive meeting of the Centre's Board of Trustees, chaired by Sir Christopher Mallaby, took place on 19 January 1998. In his opening speech, the Director of the Centre for British Studies informed the trustees of the activities organised or hosted by the Centre in 1997, of the progress made in the Centre's initial build-up (employment of staff, advertisement of a professorship "British History since the Restoration", expansion and relocation of the Centre's library stock), of the Centre's teaching and research activities, its publications and its self-presentation on the Internet, and of the Centre's financial situation. The discussion then focused on the question of how the Board, which as an "Advisory Board" has no direct financial responsibilities, could assist the further development of the Centre. The Centre is hoping for help with network building, sponsorships, and student attachments.

Sponsorship Projects of the Centre for British Studies

The Centre for British Studies has developed a range of projects to attract sponsors who are willing to support its teaching and research, and to strengthen its position as a forum for lectures, seminars and conferences on topics central to Germany, Britain and Europe. These projects will not only benefit the Centre's own students but will also be useful to scholars and academics from other institutions, and to the general public.

Funding permitting, the following projects are ready to go ahead:

- ◆ *Fellowships and Lectureship Programmes*

The programme will ensure the contribution of professionals, academics and practitioners from Britain to the Centre's British Studies Course.

- ◆ *Student Attachments Support Fund*

The Centre, supported by sponsors, will offer to some of its students a means tested grant for a three-month attachment with an organisation or a firm in Britain, thus ensuring equal opportunities for all of them.

- ◆ *PC Workplaces*

The Centre has invited sponsors to supply the hardware for an IT network of ten computer workplaces for students.

- ◆ *British Studies Library*

The Centre is planning to extend its library into a central institution for research in and teaching of British Studies in Berlin and the whole of Germany. Thus it will be able to support any academic research into British themes, while also providing broad information of general interest to interested members of the public.

- ◆ *Britain on Film*

The Centre is planning to establish a video archive of British films and TV series, supplemented by a collection of articles and books on the films providing the necessary contextual knowledge, specialist film and television reference works and microfiche collections of British film magazines.

- ◆ *"Gateway to Britain"*

This compendium will give interested individuals and institutions access to relevant knowledge of major aspects of British culture. It will consist of two key components: a CD-ROM containing unique multimedia documentation on Britain, and an accompanying, richly illustrated volume providing the historical background for the CD-ROM data.

- ◆ *Britain on the Internet* (see page 20)

The realisation of these projects will be an important step towards establishing the Centre for British Studies in the top ranks of British Studies institutions in Germany and Europe.

Further information can be obtained from the Centre for British Studies.

Library

The library of the Centre for British Studies provides excellent working and research opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public. The main library is situated in Dorotheenstraße. An additional reference research unit in Jägerstraße offers a reference library, an extensive microfiche collection and a reading room, with British newspapers and magazines, for the use of all available media.

Library (Dorotheenstraße)

The Centre has established a library serving the special cultural studies interests of its teaching and research. The library's main themes are those of the relevant disciplines involved in British cultural 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 12,000 volumes and is continually expanding. This guarantees that the library offers a unique and excellent up-to-date opportunity for research in British cultural studies in Germany.



The library in Dorotheenstraße

In February 1998, the Centre's library moved to a new building, the August-Boeckh-Haus in Dorotheenstraße 65, together with other libraries of the Humboldt University. This building is not only conveniently situated within easy walking distance of the Centre in Jägerstraße, but it also provides all the technical and personnel requirements of a modern research li-

brary. Students and guests will be able to make use of the reading and working areas, most of which provide the opportunity to use one's laptop. The library's OPACs can be accessed on two terminals so that catalogue information is easily available at all times.



Reference Research Unit (Jägerstraße)

The Centre's reference research unit in 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. An extensive microfiche collection can be found in the reading room of the reference library, which was also donated by the British Embassy in 1995. A state-of-the-art reader-printer guarantees the full use of this rare research opportunity. A basic stock of reference works on CD-ROM is also available. British daily newspapers and magazines ensure general up-to-date information on current issues and latest developments in Britain.

The Centre's Website

Since January 1998 the Centre for British Studies has been running its own website and through it the Centre became a part of the World Wide Web. The homepage is designed and maintained by staff members and hosted by the Humboldt University Berlin.

In a first phase our homepage provides information about the Centre and its staff. One subdirectory is dedicated to the history, the major goals and structure of the Centre, as well as the main activities during the past year. In a second you can get names, addresses including email, phone numbers and additional information about the members of staff.

Furthermore, the webpages provide up-to-date information about our teaching programme, guest lectures, our libraries and other special events. Still under construction is an additional site with catalogues of useful links to other web-sites on specifically British issues, such as British history, literature, politics, the legal system.

During a second phase, the Centre of British Studies is planning to install an *intranet* for its staff and students, which will provide fast and easy access to internal papers, documents, timetables and such like.



The Centre's Internet address:
<http://www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/gbz/>

In a third phase the Centre intends to set up a comprehensive German-language website gathering information on Great Britain for the use of academics, journalists and interested members of the public. This online information service will provide a kind of networked compendium consisting of

- a comprehensive archive of pictures, graphics and topical as well as historical descriptions and analyses in German dealing with all relevant issues of British culture, such as literature (also providing diaries of current events), British legal, economic and social structures, the political situation in Britain (with an archive of past as well as current opinion polls and election results), British history and the situation of the media, etc.
- a user-friendly classification system permitting the quick and easy compilation and linking of information units found in different parts of the archive
- integrated in the classification, a catalogue of links with relevant English-language webpages, whose quality will be continually monitored by experts associated with the Centre for British Studies.

This fast, cost-effective, and easy-to-handle public internet archive will enable its users to compile items of information on a particular topic individually and without the waiting periods common with commercial information services. This project is part of the Centre's range of sponsorship projects described on page 18.

The Centre for British Studies would like to thank
the following firms and institutions
for their generous support in 1998:

Readymix AG für Beteiligungen

The British Council

GKN Plc

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Donations can be made payable to the following account:
Berliner Bank AG, BLZ 100 200 00,
Account No. 438 88 88 700, Project No. 27009001 GBZ

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