



GROSSBRITANNIEN-ZENTRUM
Centre for British Studies

Annual Report 1999



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN





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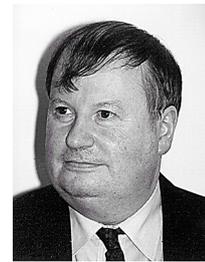
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The Centre for British Studies

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, the media, 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 and other public service institutions.
2. To carry out comprehensive research programmes focusing on 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 science, 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:

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
- ◆ Christof Biggeleben M.A., History
- ◆ 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 1999 these were:

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

The Centre in 1999

It is a particular pleasure to present this annual report of the Centre for British Studies. With the start of its interdisciplinary postgraduate programme "Master in British Studies" the Centre has broadened the range of its activities considerably and added another cornerstone to its mission. 20 students from six different countries and with degrees as varied as Law, Economics, Geography, English and Art History began their studies on October 4th. The official opening was held in the Auditorium Maximum of the Humboldt University in the presence of the British Ambassador Sir Paul Lever and a large audience. Lord Dahrendorf gave a lecture on "Tradition und Modernität: Die Zukunft des House of Lords", which opened fascinating insights into the dramatic constitutional change in Britain and was widely reported in the national media. At this point I would like to thank all those who have helped us to get the M.B.S. course on track: the university authorities, the Board of Trustees and the Centre's staff who did all the necessary work of preparation with unabated cheerfulness and enthusiasm.

1999 also saw a change in the Centre's academic staff. Dr. Elfie Rembold successfully finished her dissertation on "Images of History. Regional Nationalism in Scotland and Wales 1911" and has taken up a position at the University of Hanover. Her place was taken by Christof Biggeleben M.A., who joined us in May 1999 to work on his dissertation on "Entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurial Attitudes in Berlin and London, 1890-1961".

The move of the German government to Berlin also brought changes in the staff of the British Embassy with which the Centre has cooperated closely on a number of projects. Antony Ford, Minister at the Berlin Office, returned to London to take up a new position. As in past years the British Council in Berlin and its Director Dr. Simon Cole have been the closest allies of the Centre. Without the support of the Embassy and the British Council the Centre would find it much more difficult to carry on its work so successfully. Those companies which have helped the Centre with generous donations deserve special mention. In particular I would like to thank Readymix AG für Beteiligungen, the Bankgesellschaft Berlin and the Dresdner Bank for their generosity.

Two members of the Centre's Board of Trustees have received well-deserved recognition of their involvement in Anglo-German relationships and public affairs. Professor William Paterson was awarded an O.B.E. and the Bundesverdienstkreuz, and Professor Alan Watson was elevated to the House of Lords and is now Lord Watson of Richmond. We are proud to have them among our friends.

"There is nothing so successful as success." On that note I wish us all the best for the year 2000.

December 1999

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger
Director



back row: J. Schlaeger, C. Eisenberg, L. Maher, D. Hohme, S. Zöllner, K. Quabeck, C. Biggeleben, H. Weber;
front row: M. Lacher, C. Smith, S. Selbig, G. Stedman, A. Börsel, C. Radke; black dog: Roger

Staff

Christof Biggeleben M.A.

Economic and Social History. Lecturer and research assistant. Studied History and Economics at the Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Essex. Currently working for a doctoral thesis on "Entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurial Attitudes in Berlin and London, 1890-1961". Further interests include: business history, public relations.

Prof. Dr. Christiane Eisenberg

Professor of British History since the Restoration. Born 1956. Studied history and social sciences at Bielefeld, where she obtained a Dr. phil. in 1986. After working as a research associate at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (University of Bielefeld) in 1986-87 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 October 1998. Main publications: *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* (1999).

Monika Lacher M.A.

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

Martin Liebert, Assessor

Member of the law unit at the Centre, lecturer and research assistant. Lawyer. Studied political science, history and law in Munich and Berlin. Working on a doctoral thesis in comparative Internet law in Great Britain and Germany.

Responsible for the computer network facilities of the Centre. Further interests besides his little son: politics, history and fiction.

Marion Müller M.A., M.St.

Literary and Cultural Studies. Studied English and Latin in Bonn, Constance and Oxford. Research assistant in Prof. Schlaeger's research group on the discourses on emotions (funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft). Has recently completed her 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, the interface of classical and English literature, recusant literature.

Katharina Quabeck M.A.

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

Corinna Radke M.A.

Foreign language secretary to Prof. Eisenberg and Prof. Weber. Studied English and Spanish at the Humboldt University. Provides organisational and clerical support to the teaching and research activities of the Centre. Deals with administrative matters relating to the recruitment and admission of applicants for the M.B.S. course. Further activities include organising and supervising the publication of conference proceedings and editing the Centre's annual report.

Elfie Rembold M.A.

Was part of the Centre's history staff until April 1999 completing her doctoral thesis on "Images of History. Regional Nationalism in Scotland and Wales 1911". Dr. Rembold has succeeded in taking up an external academic post at the University of Hanover.

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

Professor of Literature and Culture, and Director of the Centre for British Studies. 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. 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 member of the editorial board of the Journal for the Study of British Cultures. Board member of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE) and chairman of the Shakespeare-Preis-Kuratorium of the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung.

Sabine Selbig, Assessorin

Member of the law unit at the Centre. Studied law in Berlin and Grenoble. Lawyer. Lecturer and research assistant. Is currently doing research for a doctoral thesis 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.

Catherine Smith

Foreign language secretary to Prof. Schlaeger. She started working at the centre in March 1996 shortly after it was opened. She is responsible for managing the office of Prof. Schlaeger and his team. Her responsibilities also include the organisation of Prof. Schlaeger's appointments and commitments, together with looking after guests, organising conferences, seminars, meetings, appointments, events and 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.

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 Prof. Schlaeger's research group on discourses on emotions. Currently completing work for a doctoral thesis on Victorian discourses on emo-

tions. Further interests: cultural studies, feminist theory, British film.

Evelyn Thalheim

Graduated from 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 very busy establishing a library that serves the Centre's special cultural studies interests. A stepping stone in her work for the Centre's library was the integration 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.

Prof. Dr. Helmut Weber LL.B.

Professor of 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; Dr. iur. 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.

Sylvena Zöllner

Administration officer at the Centre. She is responsible for the finances of the whole Centre, for the acquisition of office material, technical equipment and everything else that is needed. She helps with the organisation of conferences by taking care of catering arrangements and providing the necessary technical outfit. Furthermore, she is in charge of the filing of all documents and records concerning our M.B.S. students.

Teaching

Before the Centre for British Studies started its M.B.S. course in October 1999 (details on page 7ff.), courses were offered for students from the Humboldt University's Law, History and English departments.

Winter Semester 1998/1999

Christiane Eisenberg

- ♦ The Rise and Decline of English Sport, 1800-1970
- ♦ History and Interdisciplinarity

Monika Lacher

- ♦ The Irish Question

Katharina Quabeck

- ♦ The Edwardian Period

Jürgen Schlaeger

- ♦ Literature into Cultural Studies
- ♦ Representations of Emotions

Gesa Stedman

- ♦ Popular Pictures: Victorian Visual Culture

Helmut Weber

- ♦ Introduction to English Law
- ♦ Elements of the Law of Torts (with Sabine Selbig)
- ♦ Private Law and Modern Communication Media (with Martin Liebert)
- ♦ Zwangsvollstreckungsrecht (Enforcement of Judgements)

Summer Semester 1999

Prof. Dr. Christiane Eisenberg

- ♦ London: Image and Reality of a European Metropolis in the 19th and 20th Century
London has been a 'global city' since the 18th century, and it is still the largest city in Europe. The debate about the urban roots of the culture of modernity, which has again been taken up at the close of the 20th century, does not, however, focus on London but on Paris, Vienna, Berlin or St. Petersburg. The seminar examined whether this

discrepancy reflects a bias of the urban- and cultural-historical discourse or whether it is based on actual fact.

- ♦ Impressionism: an International Art Movement Examined from the Perspective of Social History

The seminar focused on the circumstances under which impressionist paintings were made: why did impressionism as an international art movement arise during the late 19th century? And why did it arise in France, not in Germany or – as other trends of modernity – in England? Who were the painters? How did they communicate? Which motives, which techniques did they prefer, and why? Which methods did they use to develop a market for their works? What was the reaction of politics and the public?

Monika Lacher

- ♦ London Literature

London has been both praised and cursed in poetry and prose throughout the centuries. This seminar looked at texts dealing with London from the 16th to the 20th century in their social and historical contexts, focusing on the questions of how conditions of text production can shape a text, and what these texts do to support or undermine the dominant myth of the nation of which London is the capital.

Katharina Quabeck

- ♦ The Emergence of Modernism

The emergence and development of the modernist period was the focus of this close-reading seminar. Beginning with the 1880s, the changes of traditional literary and artistic conventions were reconstructed and then related to the larger socio-economic and cultural context. Following up on the early developments, examples of high modernist texts were also analysed, e.g. *The Waste Land* by T.S. Eliot.

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schlaeger, Prof. Dr. Helmut Weber, Prof. Dr. Christiane Eisenberg

♦ Interdisciplinarity and British Studies

Crucial methodological questions and key concepts relating to interdisciplinarity and British Studies were discussed in this research seminar. They included the relation between the different “histories” (history of ideas, history of mentalities, general history), studying law as culture, and relating literature to its historical context.

Prof. Dr. Helmut Weber, Martin Liebert, Sabine Selbig

♦ Current Problems in English Private Law

Comparative law seminar on important recent developments in three fields of English law: the law of negligence, the law related to modern means of communication like e-mail and Internet, and legal changes in civil procedure. In each of the weekly sessions a student presented a paper on some particular topic within these fields, explaining, comparing and evaluating English and German law.

During the winter semester 1999/2000, Gesa Stedman taught an additional course on

♦ Channel Crossings: Anglo-French Cultural Relations

for students of English and French at the Humboldt University.

Ever since 1066 Britain and France have each defined their own culture by setting it off against their respective neighbour across the Channel. By defining “France”, Britain has invented and constructed its own identity. It is this process which the seminar focused on by analyzing crucial historical moments and their literary and cultural representations, as well as long-term developments and perceptions of “France” and “Frenchness”, using examples from popular culture as well as from “high art”.

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

Inauguration:

Lecture by Lord Dahrendorf

To celebrate the beginning of our Master in British Studies Programme Lord Dahrendorf gave a public lecture on “Tradition and Modernity: The Future of the House of Lords”. The interest was so huge and the audience so large that we had to move the event from the Senate Hall of the University to the Auditorium Maximum. Nearly six hundred people came, among them the British Ambassador Sir Paul Lever and the University’s President Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hans Meyer. The president and the ambassador expressed their admiration for the achievements of the Centre and their best wishes for its latest initiative. Professor Schlaeger, the Centre’s Director, described the philosophy underlying the new degree course, and the excitement which it has created among its participants. After thanking all the institutions and sponsors which had helped to launch it, he introduced the main speaker, whom he characterized as a personality who, as member of both cultures, is uniquely qualified to talk about Britain to a German audience.



Left to right: Prof. Meyer, Sir Paul Lever, Lord Dahrendorf

Having welcomed the first class of M.B.S. students, Lord Dahrendorf developed his theme as a five-act play. In his narrative of the first four acts he outlined the history of the House of Lords from the early 20th century to 1999, while defining the fifth act, the outcome of the present reform, as still unfinished and open. Lord Dahrendorf explained that the blocking of legislation by the majority of the House of Lords used to be the strongest argument against its traditional composition. Life peerages were introduced to strike a new bal-

ance and give the ruling government the power to influence the decisions in the House of Lords in their own favour. The system had worked but the legitimacy gap continued to be seen as a problem. Finally the Labour Party made the reform of the House of Lords one of the major items on their election platform. Lord Dahrendorf pointed out that any electoral procedure for the House of Lords would result in endless constitutional conflicts because it would then have the same democratic legitimacy as the House of Commons. Above all, Lord Dahrendorf emphasized that for him, who had chosen to become a British citizen, the House of Lords was a time-honoured institution which, in principle, had proved its value and should not be changed so radically that it would lose its traditional function in the process. Altogether he was not sure how the fifth act might end since the whole procedure of reform is characteristically English in that no final blueprint exists for its future shape. He pointed out that this ability to introduce radical change, without knowing exactly what the outcome would be, seems to be an example of the particular British talent for handling a difficult problem.



Lord Dahrendorf during his inauguration lecture

After the lecture, the Centre invited the students and the audience to a wine reception to celebrate the occasion and discuss the lecture and the new M.B.S. programme at greater length.

Course Description

The Centre offers a postgraduate degree course in British Studies.

The aims and objectives of the course are:

- ♦ to enable students to add competence in Brit-

ish 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.

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 will 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 work 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:

The option "Economy, law and politics" comprises teaching units covering the following topics:

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

The option "Media, publishing and public relations" 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.

The option "Culture and its management" 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.
- ♦ Candidates are required to have a very good knowledge of both German and English.

Detailed information about matriculation procedures and dates is available from the Centre by post, telephone or e-mail and on the Centre's website.

M.B.S. Students: Class 1999/2000

Name	Nationality	First Degree
Ajuriagogeascoa, Ibon	Spanish	English
Ascione, Milena	Italian	German and English
Büttner, Kristin	German	English, Geography and Educational Studies
Dörries, Cornelia	German	Social Sciences
Körte, Clemens	German	Modern History and Political Science
Kovacic, Andrej	Slovene	Economics
Krumm, Alexander	German	Geography, Sociology and Urban Development
Li, Yuanyuan	Chinese	International Trade
Lucke, Ina	German	English, Religion and Educational Studies
Modschiedler, Eva	German	Law
Mrowka, Katja	German	Law
Nitzke, Uta	German	Law
Panic, Tanja	Slovene	English
Röder, Sonja	German	Law
Schmidt, Dorothea	German	Translator (English, French)
Schneider, Regina	German	Law
Stuedner, André	German	Modern History, Art History and German
Wang, Fei	Chinese	Economics
Wisniewska, Katarzyna	Polish	Economics, Business Relations
Dorota, Wrona	Polish	German, English and Russian

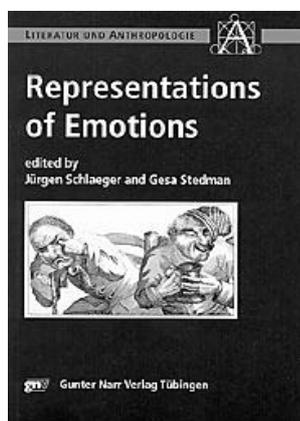
Research

Projects

Discourses on Emotions

Originally part of the Sonderforschungsbereich 511 "Literatur und Anthropologie" at the Universität Konstanz, the research group on emotions in English literature is now based at the Centre for British Studies. It is funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Council), currently consists of four individual and one associate projects (Dr. Jana Gohrisch, English Department, Humboldt University) and is supervised by Prof. Schlaeger. Plans are under way to expand the group with the help of colleagues from various fields in order to create an exciting transdisciplinary research network on "Emotion Cultures" in the Berlin/Brandenburg area.

In November 1997, the group organised a first conference on 'Representations of Emotions' which took place at the Universität Konstanz and was co-hosted by the Sonderforschungsbereich 511. Topics ranged from an ethnolinguistic analysis of grief rituals, early modern emotion matters, 18th-century discussions of taste, the question of emotions generated by fiction, Victorian discourses on the feelings, locating the emotions in early-20th-century sociology to postmodern postemotional culture. Emphasis was laid on the cultural construction of emotions and their representations which differ from culture to culture and from period to period. The conference proceedings have recently been published under the title *Representations of Emotions* (see page 13).



Jürgen Schlaeger/
Gesa Stedman (eds.),
Representations of Emotions, Gunter Narr Verlag,
Tübingen 1999.

A second conference on 'Representations of Emotional Excess' took place in Berlin, 9-12 December 1999. Speakers from Britain, the United States and Germany attended, spanning several disciplines from ethnology, history, and philosophy to various literary studies. Again, it was less the emotions per se on which contributors focused but rather the discourses on emotions which have always had to negotiate the space between total control and total abandonment. What is defined as permissible in one society, for one specific group or in a given historical period may appear outrageous and dangerous in and for another, and it is this discursive and non-discursive localization of emotional excess which the conference addressed. The proceedings will be published as *REAL 16, 2000* (Yearbook of Research in English and American Studies), edited by Jürgen Schlaeger.

The group shares the assumption that emotions can never be studied outside their discursive contexts. Although some general features may be identified for the representation and expression of emotionality (e.g. the relation between the body and the emotions, their social role, the importance of literary and artistic "paradigm scenarios" [de Sousa] for the emotions) it is necessary to undertake in-depth studies of specific periods and their emotional culture, as expressed and constituted in literary texts and other forms of representation. Thus, the group members each focus on a specific period in English literature and culture and its particular means of coming to terms with the emotions.

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 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 European model is increasingly finding favour in the UK, while in Germany changes in the legal and fiscal structure of charity law are discussed. 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.

Several exchange visits between the two teams have already taken place and more are planned. The interim research findings were presented as a poster at the ISTR (International Society for Third Sector Research) conference in Geneva in July 1998 and in a paper given at the annual conference of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations in Edinburgh in November 1999.



S. Selbig and her Dundonian colleague Stephen Swann

Comparative Private, Procedural and Conflicts Law

Supported by a select group of Dr. iur. and LL.M. students who have taken over specific aspects, Prof. Weber pursues a comprehensive comparative law project in the field of private law including pertinent parts of procedural and international law. The research group includes external students who are currently working on the following subjects:

- ♦ Steffen Christmann:
Das Urkundenaufgebot (§§ 1003 ff ZPO) und seine funktionalen Äquivalente im englischen Recht
- ♦ Frank Klamandt:
Schutz- und Aufklärungspflichten des Gläubigers gegenüber dem Bürgen unter Berücksichtigung der Rechtsprechung in Deutschland, England/Wales und Spanien
- ♦ 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 wohlthätigen Organisationen.
- ♦ Fiona Bain, Glasgow,
has completed her LL.M. thesis with Prof. Weber magna cum laude. She wrote on "Vertrags- und Deliktsrecht im Internet. Eine Untersuchung der kollisions- und prozeßrechtlichen Aspekte von vertraglichen und außervertraglichen Schuldverhältnissen in Datennetzen".

20th Century Mass Culture: British and Global Perspectives

With this project, Prof. Eisenberg intends to combine and integrate micro and macro perspectives in modern cultural history. On the one hand, commercialised mass culture, such as tourism, entertainment, pop music, and sport, involved a tendency to cross borders and, at least from the late 19th century onwards, to spread all over the western world. On the other hand, the dissemination did not produce a unified "global culture" but sustained and in some cases even reinforced local, regional and national peculiarities. To analyse in greater detail this double effect of the internationalisation and globalisation of mass culture and to analyse it from a British point of view, the project has to reconstruct two complex scenarios: firstly, it has to deal with the particular Brit-

ish origins of tourism, entertainment, pop music and sport, with the dissemination of this cultural tradition into other European countries and the (former) colonies, and finally with the perceptions, misperceptions and shifts of emphasis in some of the new social contexts. Secondly, the project has to analyse the feedback effects of the processes of internationalisation and cultural transfer into the British scene.

To work through the programme and to test some hypotheses, Prof. Eisenberg decided to begin research with the case of modern soccer-football, and joined an international group of football historians, among them Professors Tony Mason and Pierre Lanfranchi of DeMontfort University, Leicester. Together they are currently preparing a volume on the history of world football in the 20th century, which is supposed to be published on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in 2004. Research is generously supported by a FIFA research fund and the scholars have been offered to make use of FIFA's global infrastructure.

Newspaper Archive

The Centre for British Studies has set 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. A computer-based catalogue is currently being created which lists the articles so that searching for specific keywords will be possible. With the Centre's reading room now ready for use, the newspaper archive has become available 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 provides valuable information on numerous important cultural, political, and social topics.

For further research projects please look at our website:
<http://www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/gbz/research.htm>

Publications

The Centre's Publications

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.

For details of contributors and contents see our website: <http://www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/gbz>



Helmut Weber (ed.), *The Future of the Welfare State. German and British Perspectives*, Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, Trier 1999, ISBN 3-88476-347-4.

The Media Debate **British and German Perspectives**

This volume presents the proceedings of another conference organised by the Centre in 1997 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.

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

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

Further publications

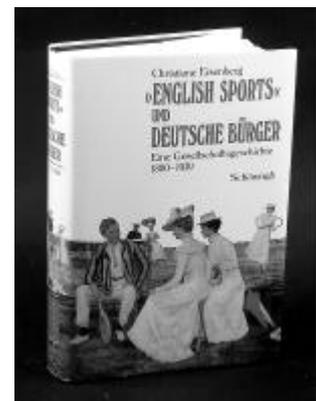
Publications of members of the Centre in 1999 include:

Christiane Eisenberg:

'English sports' und deutsche Bürger **Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939**

If we did not already have sport, we would have to invent it – but who, then, invented it in the first place? This question is answered in detail in this book. In doing so the author does not only confront her readers with the strange and partly disconcerting world of football, horse racing, lawn tennis and other popular sports of the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries, but also guides them through a network of social relations which made up the middle class societies of England and Germany. Betting, horse trading, marriage markets – that is the perspective of social intercourse in sport. Levelling upwards and levelling downwards, distinctions, open access and disqualification – this is what connects modern sport to the system of social inequality. The “struggle” for one’s native country, public subsidy and the communal spirit at the Olympic Games – these aspects qualify a sporting society as a nation-state. The book is

also the history of a cultural transfer and its impact on social change: in a first step of investigation the invention of modern sport in 18th and 19th century England is interpreted as going hand-in-hand with the unique English way of entering modernity. In a second step it is shown how, around 1900, English sports became known in Germany, and which misunderstandings, shifts of accentuation, and conflicts, especially with the gymnastic movement, resulted from their reception by the German middle class.



Christiane Eisenberg, 'English Sports' und deutsche Bürger. Eine Gesellschaftsgeschichte 1800-1939, Schöningh Verlag, Paderborn 1999.

Christiane Eisenberg, “Deutsches Turnen in England: Das Scheitern eines Kulturtransfers”, in: Frank Otto/Thilo Schulz (eds.), *Großbritannien und Deutschland. Gesellschaftliche, kulturelle und politische Beziehungen im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert*. Festschrift für Bernd-Jürgen Wendt zu seinem 65. Geburtstag, Rheinfelden 1999, 13-32.

Christiane Eisenberg, “Der Sportler”, in: Ute Frevert/Heinz-Gerhard Haupt (eds.), *Der Mensch des 20. Jahrhunderts*, Frankfurt 1999, 87-112.

Christiane Eisenberg, “Histoire du football professionnel en Allemagne”, in: Henri Héral/Patrick Mignon (eds.), *Football – jeu et société*, Les Cahiers de L'INSEP Nr. 25/99, Paris 1999, 163-188.

Jürgen Schlaeger/Gesa Stedman (eds.), *Representations of Emotions*, Gunter Narr Verlag, Tübingen 1999 (see page 10).

Jürgen Schlaeger, "Chaucer läßt lachen", in: W. Röcke/H. Neumann (eds.), *Komische Gegenwelten. Lachen und Literatur in Mittelalter und Früher Neuzeit*, Paderborn 1999, 123-132.

Jürgen Schlaeger, "Self-Exploration in Early Modern English Diaries", in: Rachel Langford/Russell West (eds.), *Marginal Voices, Marginal Forms: Diaries in European Literature and History*, Amsterdam – Atlanta, GA 1999, 22-36.

Jürgen Schlaeger, "Elective Affinities: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu in Venice", in: Manfred Pfister/Barbara Schaff (eds.), *Venetian Views, Venetian Blinds. English Fantasies of Venice*, Amsterdam – Atlanta, GA 1999, 63-71.

Events

Board Meeting

The annual meeting of the Centre's Board of Trustees took place on 25th January 1999. The Director, Prof. Schlaeger, welcomed the board members and informed them in detail about the range of activities the Centre had organised the previous year. Furthermore, he emphasized the great commitment of Sir Christopher Mallaby and the British ambassador Sir Paul Lever in trying to attract more sponsors for the Centre. In the following discussion the trustees were mainly interested in how the preparations of the opening of the first M.B.S. course were proceeding. Other topics were the details of the advertisement campaign, the precise admission requirements and procedures for the future M.B.S. students. The trustees also discussed the possibilities of establishing scholarships. They agreed and underlined that graduates from the course will have good chances on the labour market, as many enterprises need the intercultural and interdisciplinary competence the students are going to acquire during the M.B.S. course.



Prof. Jürgen Schlaeger welcomes the Centre's Board of Trustees

Panel Discussion

For the same evening the Centre organised a panel discussion on "Britain and Germany – New Governments in a New Era?", which attracted an audience of about 200 people. Participants of the panel, chaired by Prof. William Paterson (Institute for German Studies, University of Birmingham), were Eckart von Klaeden MdB, Giles Radice MP and Dr. Jochen Thies (DeutschlandRadio Berlin). With lively participation of the audience, the discussion focused mainly on the following aspects:

What is the 'Neue Mitte' and what is the 'Third Way'? Are New Labour and SPD comparable? Does the dominance of the social-democratic leaders Gerhard Schröder and Tony Blair lead to a new quality in German-British relations? Are there any chances for a new rapprochement of Great Britain and the European Union?



The panel (from left to right): Jochen Thies, Giles Radice, William Paterson, Eckart von Klaeden

The Year's Activities

January

The Cultural Studies Group of the English departments of the New Bundeslaender held the first of their two annual meetings at Leipzig. Katharina Quabeck and Monika Lacher used the opportunity to present the Centre's postgraduate degree course Master in British Studies to an expert audience. ♦ Prof. Eisenberg attended a conference on 'Symbolstrukturen und gesellschaftliche Prozesse im Zivilisationsvergleich' in Berlin. This international and interdisciplinary meeting was organised by the research unit Gesellschaftsvergleich at the history department of the Humboldt University. ♦ Prof. Schlaeger took part in the 19th Walberberg Seminar on 'Contemporary Writing in Britain' organised by the British Council, which featured writers Paul Bailey, Bernard MacLaverty, Livi Michael, Winsome Pinnock, and John Agard. The event was chaired by Michèle Roberts.

February

The Centre cooperated with the British Council in a symposium on 'Mind the Gap – Architecture and Urban Lifestyle in Berlin and London'. The event presented comparative and contrasting views of urban life in Berlin and London. As the title suggests, the main aim of the symposium was to deal with 'gap'-sites in both cities and the challenges that are posed by these sites. A wide range of topics such as inner city life, recycling of buildings and the use of alternative sources of energy was covered by speakers from different backgrounds, all involved with architecture. ♦ The Centre invited a number of colleagues from the Humboldt University, the Freie Universität and the University of Potsdam for preliminary discussions concerning the M.B.S. programme and possible contributions from these institutions. ♦ Prof. Schlaeger attended the 5th People and Politics Seminar on 'Peace and Progress in Northern Ireland' organized by the British Council in the Gustav-Stresemann-Institut in Bonn.

March

Prof. Weber attended the Conference of the Society for International Law in Kiel. Topics were

the impact of globalisation on various fields of public international law and the conflicts law.

♦ Prof. Schlaeger took part in this year's Königswinter Conference 'Europe on the Move' in Königswinter, with study groups on 'The Third Way', 'A New Nato', 'Economic and Monetary Union' and 'Constitutions in Flux'. ♦ Katharina Quabeck attended the conference 'Higher Education and Employability – British and German Perspectives' in Oxford, which was organised by the British Council. Sixty British and German participants, working in higher education, politics, or in business, compared and discussed relevant aspects of relations between higher education and the world of work in the UK and Germany.

April

In preparation for the M.B.S. programme, in particular to identify institutions that are willing to take some of our students for internships and to find lecturers willing to come to Berlin and teach our students, Professors Schlaeger and Weber visited London, Milton Keynes and Stoke-on-Trent. This journey was prepared and partly funded by the British Council. They met Martin Rose, Head of European Networking Programme of the British Council, Dr. Robin Baker, Policy Director, West and South Europe, and Paul Howson, Head of Films, Television and Video Department of the British Council. At the Open University in Milton Keynes they talked to Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Allan Cochrane, who promised to help identify suitable teachers for our M.B.S. course. They met Giles Radice MP for lunch at the House of Commons to discuss possible internships in the Houses of Parliament and the Centre's plans for a conference on Parliamentary Cultures. A meeting with representatives of the BBC World Service (Benny Ammar, Head of Region, Europe; Sylvie Morot, Managing Editor, Central Europe; Guntram Kremer, Head of German Language Service; and Andrew Thompson, Acting Education Commissioner) proved to be highly valuable as they also promised us to help with placements. A meeting with Linda Kelly, Director of the National Education Centre TUC, and Simeon Steyne, International Officer of the TUC, brought the promise to explore possibilities of placements

within the TUC system. In Stoke-on-Trent they met Michael Tappin MEP whose intimate knowledge of businesses in that area will help us greatly with our internship scheme. Prof. Schlaeger and Weber also met Ulrich Hoppe, Director General of the German-British Chamber in London, Prof. William Paterson of the Institute for German Studies in Birmingham, Konrad Lamers, Director of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in London and Ray Cunningham of the Anglo-German-Foundation.

May

The Centre hosted and organised a workshop with 20 students from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, which was led by Prof. Bernd-Jürgen Wendt (University of Hamburg). After a brief welcome by Christof Biggeleben, the students discussed with Prof. Christian Kirchner (HU Berlin), Prof. Helmut Weber (CBS) and Prof. Clemens Wurm (HU Berlin) the British-German relationship since the German reunification and the history of Anglo-European political relations. Motivated students and lively discussions proved this workshop to be a great success, which we hope will be repeated. ♦ Prof. Eisenberg and Christof Biggeleben represented the Centre for British Studies at the annual conference of the Arbeitskreis deutsche England-Forschung (ADEF) 'Nationalstaat und religiöses Denken in Großbritannien' which took place in Mülheim/Ruhr. ♦ On May 21st the Richtfest for the new British Embassy building in Wilhelmstrasse was celebrated. Prof. Schlaeger attended the ceremony. ♦ Marion Müller and Gesa Stedman jointly presented a paper on "Emotion Matters – A German Perspective on English Passions" at a research seminar which took place at Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford. ♦ Prof. Schlaeger attended a conference on 'Medien, Menschen, Metropolen' organized by the Nordeuropa-Institut of the Humboldt University and the research group at the Södertörns Högskola in Stockholm.

June

Prof. Eisenberg attended a meeting of football historians which took place at the premises of

the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in Zurich. In view of the FIFA's hundredth anniversary in 2004, the historians' team presented a research project "100 Years of International Football" to FIFA president Sepp Blatter. ♦ Prof. Schlaeger, chairman of the Shakespeare-Preis-Kuratorium of the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung F.V.S. in Hamburg, presented this year's prize-winner Ian McEwan in the Kaisersaal of the City Hall in Hamburg. ♦ This year's second meeting of the Cultural Studies Group of the English departments of the New Bundesländer took place at Dresden. Monika Lacher, Katharina Quabeck, Gesa Stedman and Prof. Schlaeger were among the participants. ♦ On the occasion of the Queen's birthday the Centre's staff was invited to a reception at the residence of Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Sir Paul Lever KCMG in Grunewald. More than 200 people enjoyed a get-together in the British Ambassador's garden. This was a good occasion to meet old friends of the British-German community in Berlin and also to have the opportunity to make new acquaintances with the recently arrived new 'Berliners' from Bonn. The highlight of the evening, however, was the ceremonial toast given by the Ambassador in honour of "The Queen!". ♦ Professors Eisenberg, Schlaeger and Weber attended the ceremony for the 50th anniversary of the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft in the Berliner Dom. ♦ On the occasion of Minister Antony Ford's farewell from Berlin, the Centre held a lunch reception to thank him for his continued support throughout his years as Head of the British Embassy Berlin Office.



Tony Ford in conversation with Prof. Ursula Schaefer (Vice President of the Humboldt University)

Farewell speech for Antony Ford:

Minister! Ladies and Gentlemen!

"Words are like leaves - and where they most abound/
Much fruit of honesty is rarely found..."

With these words Alexander Pope hit the nail on the head more than two and a half centuries ago, and that I have slightly adapted his couplet to my purpose, I admit without regrets.

If it is true that the number of words one uses is very often in inverse proportion to the degree of truthfulness they express, it is even more true that strong, genuine emotions paralyse the tongue and asphyxiate the brain.

So my only hope is that my audience makes allowance for the two serious handicaps from which my attempted eulogy and my rhetoric of gratitude will suffer.

With superhuman effort I am, nonetheless, able to say that Antony Ford has been a true friend and unremitting supporter of the Centre. He has also completely unsettled our previous conviction that a career in the diplomatic service depends on one's ability to hide one's thoughts and feelings, to excel in elegant formalities and allow oneself only a very subdued kind of wit. We thank him for the support he has always generously given and for the lesson in the anthropology of diplomats which he has so efficiently taught us.

That you now have to move on to other duties is as sad as it is unavoidable, and I already feel a rising envy in me of those individuals and institutions that will be under your care in the future.

Obviously, any boss is only as good as his wife and his team are. Selfishly he takes his wife along with him, but self-denyingly he leaves his team behind - and what a magnificent troop it is to alleviate the pain of our "Trauerarbeit" about our loss of a friend and to support us during the storms to come.

But as Pope said - words are like leaves ...

Jürgen Schlaeger

July

Prof. Schlaeger followed an invitation to give a paper on "Education: What are our objectives and how can these be reached?" at the British-German Forum. This Wilton Park conference took place in Wiston House, Sussex, and is the British equivalent to Young Königswinter. This year's topic was 'Preparing for the 21st Century' and the discussions centred around complex issues which will decisively influence national and international developments in the 21st century. Some of these issues were New Labour and the 'Neue Mitte', economic fortunes and unemployment, welfare issues and the challenges faced by the education systems in the UK and in Germany. All topics were introduced by distinguished speakers from various professional backgrounds to be then discussed with all 40 participants, among them Katharina Quabeck.

September

Prof. Schlaeger, member of the board of the Anglistentag, took part in this year's Anglistentag at Mainz University. ♦ Prof. Weber gave a lecture for the Conference of University Law Librarians in Potsdam on "European legal activities and their impact on German law".

October

Prof. Schlaeger attended the 25th Anniversary Conference of the Association for the Study of German Politics 'From the Bonn to the Berlin Republic' at the Europäische Akademie in Berlin. ♦ He also gave a paper on "London: Stadterfahrungen am Ende des Jahrtausends" at a conference on 'Die Stadt im Norden - Bilder, Inszenierungen, Konzepte' in Stockholm. ♦ The Centre hosted a conference on 'Constitutional Politics and Constitutional Change - Germany and Britain Compared' organised by Prof. Gert-Joachim Glaesner from the Institute for Social Sciences at the Humboldt University in cooperation with the Centre for German Studies (University of Birmingham) and our Centre, as a workshop for the participants of the Graduiertenkolleg "The New Europe. National and International Dimensions of Institutional Change". The conference papers are to be published next year. For contributors and their papers see our website:

www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/gbz. ♦ Prof. Eisenberg gave a lecture “Von England in die Welt: Entstehung und Verbreitung des modernen Fußballs” at the University of Hamburg. This lecture was part of the University’s general lecture series on ‘Fußballkultur’.

November

Gesa Stedman attended the conference on ‘Institutions – Relations – Emotions’, organised by the Workgroup on Women and Gender History, which took place in Stuttgart. The relation of gender and emotion in various centuries as well as the connection between general history and women’s history were the focal points of the conference. ♦ Jürgen Schlaeger and Katharina Quabeck attended the 10th British Cultural Studies Conference in Potsdam on the topic ‘Nice Work? Critical Perspectives on the Changing Nature of Labour, Leisure, and Unemployment in Britain’. Speakers from Britain and Germany offered their contributions from a variety of perspectives such as politics, sociology, media studies and literary representations. ♦ Sabine Selbig attended the conference ‘European Women in Law’ in Munich, which was jointly organised by the British Council and the Deutsche Juristinnenbund. ♦ Prof. Weber was invited to lecture on recent reforms in English civil procedure law at a comparative law symposium at the University of Tübingen in honour of Prof. Dietrich Rothoef’s 70th birthday.

Media Contributions

Radio and TV stations increasingly take note of the Centre’s existence and ask its members for interviews and comments about British events and topics. During the year, Prof. Weber was on air with contributions on the elections for the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly, on the Labour party conference in Bournemouth, on Winston Churchill’s 125th birthday and on the Centre’s new M.B.S. degree course. Prof. Schlaeger was invited by Brian Hanrahan to be interviewed for the BBC’s Newsnight programme in the context of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Research Leave

Gesa Stedman spent two terms (January – June 1999) as a visiting postgraduate student at Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, researching the Victorian discourses on emotions. ♦ In March and April Prof. Schlaeger spent four weeks in Oxford to do research in the Bodleian Library for his project on “Representations of Emotions in British Culture”. ♦ Katharina Quabeck spent four weeks in London doing research for her doctoral thesis on “Edwardian Emotions” in the British Library. ♦ In June Sabine Selbig spent two weeks at Dundee University researching charity law and discussing the progress of the DAAD/ARC sponsored research project on comparative charity law in England and Wales, Scotland and Germany with her Dundonian colleagues Dr. Christine Barker and Stephen Swann.

LECTURES

Monday Lecture Series

01 February

Julie Scott-Bayfield

Mishcon de Reya, London

“Salman Rushdie and the Law of Blasphemy”
Ms Scott-Bayfield was Salman Rushdie’s solicitor in the blasphemy case brought against him at a London court. ‘Blasphemy’ is still a criminal offence in English law. Ms Scott-Bayfield talked about the case, the general problem of blasphemy as a crime in a secular and pluralistic state, and she told the audience about celebrity libel suits in Great Britain that she was involved in.



Julie Scott-Bayfield

15 February

Prof. Aleida Assmann

Universität Konstanz,
Department of English and General Literature
"Frauenbilder im Männergedächtnis"

Aleida Assmann lectured on images of women in relation to masculine memories. She analysed Walter Pater's idea of the Mona Lisa as a means of accessing the subconscious of collective memory by transforming the painting into a transhistorical "magna mater". Further examples of similar processes were Proust and Joyce.

03 May

Dr. Frank Esser

Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz,
Institut für Publizistik
"Journalistische Kultur in England und Deutschland"

In 1945 the British helped significantly to establish a new democratic journalism in Germany. Does the British press still present a good example? Or can the British now learn from the Germans? Frank Esser answered these questions while making a systematic large-scale comparison between the journalistic cultures of the two countries.

17 May

Dr. Sue Harper

University of Portsmouth,
School of Social and Historical Studies
"British Cinema: Excess, Spectacle and Bad Taste"
Seen from a conventional perspective British cinema seems to be realistic, focusing on rational portrayals of social reality. Sue Harper, however, expanded this perspective and concentrated on the tendency of popular British films to draw on aspects of the forbidden, the unconscious and the suppressed.

31 May

Prof. Valentine Cunningham

Corpus Christi College, Oxford,
Faculty of English Literature
"Prize-Writing: The Practice of the Literary Prize in Britain"

Prof. Cunningham is one of the leading experts on the contemporary novel. He was several

times member of the jury of the Booker Prize, the most prestigious literary prize in Great Britain.

21 June

Hugh Mercer

Barrister, Essex Court Chambers, London
"Cultural Impediments to Free Movement of Goods and Services"

The rules of the European Union allow free movement of goods and services between the member states. However, various restrictions of and impediments to this freedom still exist. While cultural differences can cause genuine difficulties, they are often used as pretexts for national protectionist purposes, leading to unfair competition.



Hugh Mercer

28 June

Prof. Michael Bentley

University of St. Andrews,
Department of Modern History
"Citizenship in the Nineteenth Century: The British Case"

(organised together with the *Zentrum für Vergleichende Geschichte Europas, Freie Universität Berlin*)

The development of civil society and its consequences for the modern age – at the moment there is hardly any other subject being discussed and researched more intensively than this one. Michael Bentley, one of the leading historians of ideas in Great Britain, examined the origin of the concept of the civil society on the British Isles being, at the same time, the prime example of the European development.

12 July

Prof. The Lord Watson of Richmond CBE

Burson-Marsteller, London

“Capitalism Post Communism – Ethical Challenges for Tomorrow’s Companies”

Lord Watson is chairman of Burson-Marsteller Europe, chairman of the British-German Association and vice president of the European Movement. This year he was elevated to the House of Lords. He is one of the most renowned British authorities on German society, as is shown by his important and successful book *The Germans. Who are they now?*

11 October

Prof. Peter Hennock

University of Liverpool, Department of History
“Social Policy in the 19th & early 20th Centuries.

An Anglo-German Comparison”

Prof. Hennock is probably the only expert on the history of social policy and social insurance who concentrates his studies both on the British and the German developments. Beginning with a reconstruction of mutual perceptions and also misperceptions of British and German protagonists, he analysed the different principles and points of emphasis of social policies in both countries.

8 November

Anthony Barnett

Birkbeck College, London

“Blair, the ‘Third Way’ and Britain’s Constitutional Crisis”

Since Tony Blair took office there has been an intensification of the British constitutional debate. A whole string of measures have either



Anthony Barnett

been carried through or are on their way to be realized. There is much controversy concerning these and other policies of constitutional significance. Anthony Barnett is one of the most important speakers of a new constitutionalist movement that considers such measures to be steps on the way to a modern written British constitution, which, so far, does not exist.

15 November

Dr. Steve Mills

Keele University, American Studies Department
“British Identity in Northern Ireland: A Contested Historical Landscape”

Steve Mills talked about those aspects of British identity where a third of the population identifies with a rival national tradition. He illustrated his lecture with various colour slides of buildings, heritage sites and public memorials, thus showing the problematic nature of rival British and Irish identities within the same province.

29 Nov

PD Dr. Willibald Steinmetz

Ruhr-Universität, Bochum

“Arbeitsrecht in England und Deutschland. Annäherung an einen Vergleich verschiedener Rechtskulturen”

The differences in the legal systems in Germany and Great Britain also have an effect on labour law, leading to different ways of dealing with work-related conflicts. Willibald Steinmetz’s lecture focused on such discrepancies and their consequences for the policies of employers’ associations and trade unions.

Additional Lectures

11 June

Murray Krieger

University of California, Irvine, Department of English and Comparative Literature

“Language, Theory, and Post-Colonial Culture”
(organised together with the Centre for Literary Research, Berlin)

05 July**Tim Youngs**

Nottingham Trent University, Department of English and Media Studies

“New Kinds of Nomads: Some Post-War Travelers and the Desert”

(organised together with the English Department of the Freie Universität Berlin)

26 October**Phil Gray**

Chief Executive, The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, London

“Change & Reform in the UK Health Service. Are there ideas for Germany?”

(organised together with the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft)

4 November

The 8th Berlin-Brandenburger Buchwochen 1999 focused on ‘Literature from Great Britain’. The Centre hosted a reading with the authors

Lavinia Greenlaw & Michael Hofmann,

who were introduced by Tobias Döring, Freie Universität Berlin, English Department.

(organised together with the Verband der Verlage und Buchhandlungen Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. and the British Council Berlin)

Guests at the Centre

30 April**Roselinde Supheert**

University of Utrecht

On a tour to various institutions active in the field of British studies, Ms Supheert, accompanied by Anne van de Graaf from the British Council Amsterdam, visited the Centre. The University of Utrecht is currently establishing a Centre for Contemporary British Studies; Roselinde Supheert is the Managing Director. Prof. Weber showed them the Centre and discussed the problems and possibilities in establishing and running such an institute with them.

07 May**Dr. Kirk Junker**

Dublin City University/

Queen’s University Belfast

Dr. Junker, in charge of a joint post-graduate degree course of Dublin City University and Queen’s University Belfast visited the Centre and discussed possibilities of cooperation with Prof. Weber.

28 May**Robin Hart**

Wilton Park Conferences

While in Berlin, Robin Hart, Associate Director of Wilton Park Conferences, visited the Centre. She explained the Wilton Park programme of conferences and discussed future plans with Prof. Weber and Katharina Quabeck.

01 June**Prof. Stathis Banakas**

University of East Anglia

Prof. Banakas, Director of the Centre for European Law and Practice, University of East Anglia, an expert on tort law, paid a visit to the Centre and participated in Prof. Weber’s comparative law seminar. He discussed the legal problems of ‘wrongful birth’ and ‘wrongful life’ as possible grounds for compensation.

10 June**Prof. Peter Wende**

German Historical Institute London

Prof. Wende, Director of the German Historical Institute in London, paid a visit to the Centre and discussed future cooperation with Professors Eisenberg and Schlaeger.

September/October**Prof. E. Peter Hennock**

University of Liverpool

Prof. Hennock, emeritus of the History Department, University of Liverpool, was a guest of the Centre for several weeks. During this time he completed the collection of sources for the German part of his book “The Welfare State in Britain and Germany before 1914”.



Peter Hennock

November

Dr. Christine Barker

University of Dundee

Dr. Barker returned to Berlin to continue discussing the Centre's research project on comparative charity law and to do some research for her part of the project, the special privileges of religious bodies in charity law. She also attended the annual conference of the European Foundation Centre in Berlin.

Mark Brayne

BBC World Service

Mr Brayne visited the Centre to talk with Prof. Schlaeger about possible internships, and to give a lecture to our M.B.S. students on "The Life and Sufferings of a Foreign Correspondent".

Prof. Dr. David Westbury

University of Birmingham

Prof. Westbury, Vice-Principal of the University of Birmingham, was invited by the DAAD to spend five days in Berlin. During his stay he also visited the Centre, informed himself about its activities and discussed possibilities of cooperation with Prof. Schlaeger.

Prof. Dr. Charles Jeffery

Institute for German Studies,
University of Birmingham

Prof. Jeffery was the first external lecturer to help with our teaching programme. He taught a one-week seminar on "Britain and the European Union since Maastricht".

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.

In 1999 the following projects were either fully or partly realised:

Fellowships and Lectureship Programmes

This programme will ensure the contribution of lecturers and practitioners from Britain to the Centre's British Studies Course. It is kindly supported with donations by Readymix AG für Beteiligungen and the British Council.

Student Attachments Support Fund

The Dresdner Bank AG supports the Centre with a generous contribution in offering to some of its students a travel grant for their three-months attachment with an organisation or a firm in Britain.

Britain on Film

In 1999, the Centre was able to begin building up its video collection. British films and TV programmes ranging from comedy, social realist film, documentary, costume drama and literary adaptations to avant-garde films are now available for teaching and research purposes at the Centre's reference unit in Jägerstraße. The video collection will be accompanied by a hypertext catalogue allowing cross-referencing and keyword research, as well as by an archive of printed background material on directors, actors, historical periods, reception history etc.

PC Workplaces

Thanks to a donation of ten desktop computers and four laser printers which were given

to the Centre by the Bankgesellschaft Berlin, the Centre is now able to establish a fully equipped IT network of ten computer workplaces for our own students and guests at the Centre. We supplied these used – but far from useless – machines with an additional CD-ROM drive and a LAN-card in order to give our users full access to the Internet, to the university's services, the OPACs, the Centre's own CD-ROM library and our printing facilities.

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

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. It will thus be able to support any academic research into British themes, while also providing broad information of general interest to members of the public.

"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

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. Such a 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 commercial information services.

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 Europe.

Further information can be obtained from the Centre.

Library

In 1999 the library of the Centre for British Studies continued to be expanded, thus guaranteeing excellent up-to-date working and research opportunities. The main library is situated in the August-Boeckh-Haus at Dorotheenstraße 65. 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.

The university libraries of Berlin and Brandenburg will soon start to work with a new computerized system for library administration, which was installed in July 1999. As it offers an integrated access to the library catalogue, it will make it easier for users to find the books they need. From autumn 1999 onwards, it will not only enable them to search quickly for titles online but also to place an immediate online order in one of the libraries. This means that students will not have to waste precious time searching through all the libraries in Berlin and Brandenburg.

Since the library of the Centre for British Studies is technically and logistically linked to the university library of the Humboldt University, the new system will be introduced at the Centre, so that our students may also profit from these improved facilities.

From our press files:

The Union Jack Flies over Humboldt

On Monday 23 students enter the first ever course of British studies in Germany

BY CORNELIA DORRIES

Germany's very first Postgraduate Master Course in British studies starts this Monday. The students at the Centre for British Studies (CBS) under the roof of Berlin Humboldt University have already arrived there to meet their professors and tutors in the course of the department's welcome week.

For anyone looking for Anglophile clichés - tea-sipping Jane Austen fans gathering beneath a portrait of the Queen - the pioneers of British studies in Berlin are disappointing. They all supposingly have a soft spot for Great Britain, but the only obvious difference to other university classes starting a new semester is the language. They are taught and advised in English only, even though it is nobody's native tongue.

Both staff and students are "freshers", as director Jürgen Schlaeger, a

passionate professor of English literature, pointed out at the welcome reception. The first generation is a very international blend. 23 students from five different countries have already completed their first university degree. Among them are for example a Chinese economist from Shanghai, a Polish lawyer, an Italian translator and a historian from Germany. They are going to spend the next two semesters here in Berlin, fighting their way through a packed course program that entails compulsory classes on almost everything, from the British legal system and architectural history to literature, economics and media. The course also includes three months work-experience in Great Britain. Each student will then have to choose a specific field of interest, that can range from media to administration, or from politics to law.

Reasons for attending the courses vary as widely as the students' backgrounds themselves. 24-year-old Fei Wang from China, for instance, has graduated in International Finance Management and wants to acquire the necessary qualification for European-Asian business affairs. Not all of the fresher students do have such concrete reasons. Ina Lucke, 38, from Germany has worked as a teacher for almost 10 years and just wanted to make an old dream of her's come true: to step out of the daily routine and do something different. These diverse expectations, biographies, academic careers and plans are an exciting mixture, that make the first British Studies class an experiment for everybody, as the law professor from CBS, Helmut Weber, said.

British Studies was initiated by both academics and politicians. After the withdrawal of the British

forces in the first half of the decade, Berlin seemed to lose a good deal of its Anglo-Saxon identity. The link that had been established between Berlin and Great Britain was to be kept, but on a non-military basis. With the support of British and German politicians, among them the then British ambassador in Berlin, tough Lady Rosemary Spencer, and university academics from both sides of the Channel, the Centre for British Studies was opened in 1995, with Prince Charles among its most prominent visitors.

Until Monday the students are being guided through libraries, computer labs and the notorious welcome-to-university-bureaucracy. And gradually they will be getting to know each other during the lunch-breaks at the CBS cafeteria, sipping tea. It is Lipton's "Broken English."

• Die Welt, 08. Oktober 1999

For further articles please see: <http://www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/gbz/press.htm>

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Donations can be made payable to the following account:

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