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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This report is the summary of activities of the first year of a two-year funding cycle under the contract concluded between the DAAD and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, sponsored by the DAAD program “Promoting German and European Studies in North America.” With the news arriving in late May 2015 about our success in the competition, we were able to initiate our own programming in earnest in the fall semester of 2015. Although we essentially had funding available for half of the calendar year and were able to plan events for the fall semester only, the UW-Madison Center for German and European Studies nevertheless succeeded in offering vibrant and rich opportunities for research, learning, and outreach within this limited time frame, bringing together scholars and students from Germany, North America, and other DAAD centers to take part in stimulating and innovative intellectual exchanges.

Collaborations

In the early months of 2015 prior to the start of the DAAD funding period, the Center managed to maintain its involvement in relevant undertakings by collaborating on programs with other European Studies centers, across campus and in the community. Throughout all of the calendar year 2015, colleagues and students affiliated with CGES took advantage of opportunities to help organize and participate in campus events that were of central relevance to the Center’s mission. CGES continued its tradition of collaborative public events in 2015 with the Madison Warburg Chapter of the American Council on Germany (hosted in CGES), the Max Kade Institute, the Law School, the Wisconsin Energy Institute, the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, the Havens Center for the Study of Social Justice, the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, and others. Warburg Chapter visitors included Dr. Stephen Szabo, who presented on and off-campus on "Germany and Russia: The New Pivotal Relationship in Europe" and Dr. Sascha Münnich, "Why Do Capitalist Societies Have a Problem with Financial Profits?" Carel Carlowitz-Mohn presented his work on the "Socio-political Dynamics of German Energiewende" at the campus Wisconsin Energy Institute in association with the Department of Nuclear Engineering.

Research Themes

In the summer and fall of 2015, the three research theme groups sponsored a variety of programs and invested in planning for even more ambitious undertakings for 2016. The focus of Theme One, “Responding to Contemporary Challenges in Germany” (led by Myra Marx-Ferree), naturally gravitated toward the demographic impact of the migration crisis, in which Germany has played a historic role in defining the parameters for European acceptance of refugees, as well as the effects of European policies more generally on the German population. Guest speakers from Germany addressed the effects of migration both historically and in the present, looking at issues of citizenship, birthrates, and gender relations, while theme-group faculty members spent extended periods at German institutions working on collaborative projects related to the social challenges of demographic shifts, the Euro crisis, confrontations with German history, education
policies, and Germany’s position in the European Union. The group is in the process of lining up an impressive roster of speakers for 2016.

Theme Two, “Germany and the World: Transformation and Transmission of Ideas, Ideologies, and Identities” (led by Pamela Potter) similarly concentrated its efforts in fall 2015, culminating in the conference “Outside the Kaiserreich: The German Diaspora in the World War I Era,” which brought together scholars from Germany, Europe, other DAAD centers (Birmingham and Harvard), and from North America to explore the complex negotiations outside Germany with German cultural practices, identity politics, and the culture of internment camps during World War I. Sponsored lectures in fall 2015 centered around the legal ramifications of the migration crisis, the reception of German culture and thought, and issues of memory. The group has successfully secured a publisher for the papers from its 2014 conference and has planned a full lecture series on “Germany and the World” for 2016.

The primary achievements of 2015 for Theme Three, “Environmental Futures” (led by Gregg Mitman) were the organization of a conference in Munich in July, based on the hugely successful 2014 “Anthropocene Slam” event (a collaboration between CGES and the Rachel Carson Center in Munich); the corresponding exhibit at the Deutsches Historisches Museum, “Welcome to the Anthropocene”; the completion of the edited collection of essays, Anthropocene Objects and Environmental Futures; and the film festival “Tales from Planet Earth,” featuring environmentally themed films by five German filmmakers. In addition, like the other two theme groups, the funding secured by DAAD for 2016 has allowed faculty affiliates to plan for its upcoming place-based workshop that will bring together researchers and students from UW-Madison and Germany to explore the geological, environmental, cultural, and economic histories of the Danube and the Mississippi rivers.

Outreach

The University’s mission, as codified in the “Wisconsin Idea,” is to serve the people of the State of Wisconsin, the nation, and the world. CGES leadership embodies this principle in its efforts to seek out opportunities for projects that reach beyond the boundaries of the university. We have built our relations with the Madison Committee on Foreign Relations, the Madison International Trade Association, the Vantage Point Subscription Club, the Wisconsin-Hesse Society, and the Madison-Freiburg Sister City Project, as well as the American Council on Germany. CGES Faculty Associate, Dr. Elizabeth Covington, is the director of Madison’s Warburg Chapter of the American Council on Germany, one of only 20 chapters in the United States. The Department of German continues to finance and staff “German Day” for middle and high school language learners statewide each spring.

European Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison continues to garner research awards in a highly competitive international funding market. Our U.S. Department of Education National Research Center, the Center for European Studies, has funding for 2014-2018 and is one of only seven such centers in the US. CES Director Nils Ringe, Professor of Political Science, and Dr. Elizabeth Covington landed four European Commission Erasmus Plus Jean Monnet grants totaling $240,000 for 2015-2018. Professor Ringe has been named Jean Monnet Chair by the European Commission and will direct one of only seven Jean Monnet European Union Centers of Excellence in the United States.
CGES faculty have also served as leaders in international scholarly organizations. Of special note is director Pamela Potter’s leadership role and conference activities in the German Studies Association (GSA). Potter is the new co-chair of the GSA Interdisciplinary Committee and organized a roundtable on the theme: “Area Studies: Crisis or Opportunity?” at the annual meeting in Washington, D.C.
2. 2015 WISCONSIN CGES RESEARCH THEMES

Our three CGES project groups cover three large disciplinary areas: one with a social science focus (Theme One), one with a humanities focus (Theme Two), and one that bridges the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences (Theme Three).

1. “Responding to Contemporary Challenges in Germany”

**Theme Leader:**
Myra Marx Ferree (Professor, Sociology, Gender and Women’s Studies)

**Key Campus Faculty:**
Mark Copelovitch (Associate Professor, Political Science, La Follette School of Public Affairs)
Felix Elwert (Associate Professor, Sociology; affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology, Center for Demography of Health and Aging)
Ivan Ermakoff (Professor of Sociology)
Chad Goldberg (Professor of Sociology; affiliate, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies)
Nils Ringe (Associate Professor, Political Science, Director European Studies Alliance and Center for European Studies)
Timothy Smeeding (Professor, Economics, La Follette School of Public Affairs; affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology, Center for Demography of Health and Aging)

**Description:**
Germany faces a variety of "hot button" political challenges today, ranging from the resurgence of anti-Semitism across Europe, to population shifts due to fertility decline and immigration, to global competition in higher education. Moreover, as the member state with the strongest economy, Germany faces a particular challenge in balancing its national economic priorities with sustaining EU integration and Euro stability. For this theme, the project team looks at the nature of the social and economic challenges that face Germany today and the specificity of German history in shaping contemporary political choices.

**Theme Progress:**

In proposing this theme of Germany facing contemporary challenges, the Theme One team could hardly have anticipated how central the issues of immigration, integration and financial strain would prove to be for Germany in 2015. Germany’s leadership role in the EU has been challenged as never before both by the difficulties of sharing a common currency with Greece and by the massive influx of Syrian and other refugees into Europe. The research they have been carrying out can be seen as providing insight into historical precedents, institutional tools and anticipated future directions.
In bringing in leading scholars from Germany, Theme One’s research group considered the parameters shaping institutional integration. Sarah Mazouz, an anthropologist from the Humboldt University, spoke directly to the topic of long-term integration of migrants in her talk about Germany’s experience with dual citizenship regulation. Michaela Kreyenfeld, from the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, gave a well-attended talk on the longer term demographic consequences of German unification for women in the eastern states, including how institutional expectations and experiences combine to reinforce some values and shift others, informing women’s family choices into the second generation. Political scientist Michael Zürn from the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) raised future challenges to the human rights issues of global governance from a German perspective.

Theme One also participated in a larger event which placed Germany in the global history of the twentieth century. In April 2015, Dr. Josef Joffe (editor of Die Zeit and Professor of Political Science at Stanford) gave the keynote address at the symposium the “Diplomatic Legacy of World War I,” which united interdisciplinary experts on the centenary of World War I to trace how many of today’s global conflicts had roots in the outcomes of the 1919 peace process. The symposium had a global rather than European focus, treating not only the rise of Communism and Fascism after the Treaty of Versailles, the demise of Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian empires and concurrent rise of US hegemony, but also the experiences of soldiers and populations of colonized regions, whose part in the war was entirely involuntary. Dr. Joffe’s keynote speech, “One Hundred Years of Consequences: the Strategic, Political and Cultural Legacy of World War I,” reaffirmed the centrality of the transatlantic alliance to global politics.

Professor Copelovitch has been deeply involved in studying the Euro crisis and has been much in demand as a speaker himself, including a week-long collaboration with the Duisberg-Essen research group headed by Michael Kaeding. He has not only published book chapters on financial transparency and economic integration, but also (with colleagues from the Hertie School of Governance Berlin, where he was a guest scholar last year) produced an important policy brief and taught a course in which students role-played various negotiators, including Wolfgang Schäuble. Professor Ringe has also been closely associated with the University of Duisberg-Essen, where he spent a month as a Mercator Fellow, and has published two articles in Germany with his colleagues there (one in the Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft, one in a collection on the Europawahl 2014). Back in Madison, Professor Ringe also developed and taught a new undergraduate course on German Politics. The on-going ties between scholars in Madison and Duisburg-Essen are proving to be intellectually fruitful for both sides.

The issue of German/Jewish politics is a very different but also central part of the integration problematic for Germany. These are central concerns for Professor Goldberg, who spent 2014-2015 as a EURIAS fellow at the Hansa Kolleg in Delmenhorst doing research for his forthcoming book, Modernity and the Jews in Western Social Thought. Professor Goldberg spent his time in Germany also doing lectures and conference presentations in Berlin, Wuppertal, Greifswald, as well as at the EURIAS conference in Vienna. Professor Ermakoff is centrally concerned with studying complicity and resistance in the Nazi era, and has published a major theoretical article in the top journal of sociology about the structure of contingency in decision-making based on his research on German political decisions in 1933. He also is the primary advisor for Ph.D. student Aliza Luft, who was on fellowship at the US Holocaust Museum in 2015, completing her dissertation on defectors from anti-Semitism. Luft will begin as an
Assistant Professor at UCLA in 2016. A paper based on this dissertation also won an award as the best article in comparative historical sociology.

Theme One helped garner audiences for broader campus and community efforts, including the October 2015 visit of Consul General Herbert Quelle of the German Consulate in Chicago, who presented the talk “Germany’s Challenges Today” to a campus audience. Mr. Quelle has served as Consul General in Chicago since July, 2014. His practical experience with German-American relations began with his first overseas posting to Los Angeles in 1982. Since then, Mr. Quelle has served at stations as diverse as Pretoria, Havana, Warsaw, and London, and served as German Ambassador to Azerbaijan from 2010-2013.

The politics of gender as another challenge for Germany was the focus on ongoing research by Professor Ferree, who is on sabbatical in 2015-2016. Continuing a collaboration with Karin Zimmermann at the WZB and Kathrin Zippel at Northeastern University, Ferree produced two articles specifically on the implications of restructuring for gender relations in German and American universities, an article on the gendered structuring of expertise, and a presentation for United Nations Women on gender training and institutional restructuring that offered a theory of change for work on institutional transformation. Two of her former Ph.D. students hold German postdoctoral appointments (in Frankfurt and in Mannheim).

In sum, 2015 was especially notable for the two-sided cooperation among UW-Madison faculty researchers and their German colleagues, as Theme One faculty brought experts from Germany here and spent significant time in Germany. These collaborations bore fruit in bi-national publications, new courses, and effective graduate training, stimulating interest in Germany and German responses to the political, economic and social challenges of its role in Europe, historically and today.

2. “Germany and the World: Transformation and Transmission of Ideas, Ideologies, and Identities”

   **Theme Leader:**
   Pamela Potter (Professor, German and Musicology; Director, Center for German and European Studies)

   **Key Campus Faculty:**
   Julie Allen (Associate Professor, Scandinavian Studies; affiliate Department of German)
   Barbara Buenger (Professor, Art History; affiliate Department of German)
   Heinz Klug (Professor, School of Law)
   Weijia Li (Assistant Professor, German; Researcher, Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis)
   B. Venkat Mani (Associate Professor, German; affiliate Global Studies, Center for South Asia)
   Lynn Nyhart (Professor, History of Science; affiliate, Integrated Liberal Studies)
   Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen (Associate Professor, History)
   Marc Silberman (Professor, German; affiliate Department of Theatre and Drama, Department of Communication Arts)
Description:

_Weltanschauung_ is perhaps one of the best-known German terms to achieve an iconic status in the non-German speaking world. Yet the term itself and its origins encapsulate complexities surrounding Germany’s self-identification, political history, and cultural mission. “Germany and the World: Transformation and Transmission of Ideas, Ideologies, and Identities” has engaged Wisconsin faculty from the departments of German, History, History of Science, Art History, Law, Scandinavian Studies, Theater, and Music to explore the various ways in which German culture and ideals have been developed and exported to shape widely accepted ways of viewing the world. Theme Two’s goal has been to study Germany’s historical and contemporary role in steering intellectual activities and discourses around ideals of the organic, the universal, and the global. Noted for its regional peculiarities and disunity, Germany lagged for centuries behind its neighbors in achieving political unification, economic competitiveness, and a global presence. However, this very fragmentation and lack of political power created fertile conditions for devising new concepts, structures and modes of thinking, securing Germany’s intellectual and cultural position in the world. The recent migration crisis and Germany’s leading role in motivating the European Union to maximize the acceptance of refugees has added an important new dimension to our investigations in 2015.

Theme Progress:

With the news arriving in late May about the success in the “Promoting German and European Studies in North America” program, the Theme Two team was able to start programming in earnest in the fall semester of 2015. Prior to that, colleagues in Theme Two sponsored and participated in campus events of central relevance to the theme. These included the lecture in February by Emily Levine (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), “Humboldt's Gift: The German Research University in America;” the conference “The Diplomatic Legacy of World War I,” with Joseph Joffe (editor, _Die Zeit_) as keynote speaker; and the lecture by Michael Meng (Clemson University) on “The Evil of Blind Obedience: Arendt's Interpretation of Nazism in Historical Perspective.”

In the fall of 2015, Theme Two resumed its activities with the guest lecture of Professor Thilo Marauhn (Justus Liebig University Giessen) on “The Migrant Crisis: Factual Background, Legal Challenges, Political Perspectives.” The central event for 2015 was the conference, "Outside the Kaiserreich: The German Diaspora in the World War I Era" (48th Wisconsin Workshop). Opening with the keynote address by Werner Sollors (Harvard University) on American literature in German and other non-English languages during the World War I era, the symposium looked at the complex situations and dynamics of societies with German populations outside the borders of the German Empire at a time of global armed conflict. Presentations addressed questions of ethnic, national, and personal identity; concepts of loyalty and duty; different political reactions to ethnic minorities in different countries; language maintenance and language shift; the effects of the war on religious and cultural traditions; rural and urban divides; and other topics. Other speakers from German universities and DAAD centers included Sarah Panter (Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz), who spoke on “Conflicting Loyalties in Wartime: The ‘Germanness’ of British and American Jews during World War I,” and Stefan Manz (Birmingham), who spoke on “Enemy Alien Internment in the British Empire during
World War I.” Theme Two group members also gave papers at the symposium on the German presence in worldwide cultural contexts: Pamela Potter (“The Impact of World War I on American Classical Music”); Julie Allen (“Brothers in Arms but Strangers at Home: Germans in Schleswig-Holstein during and after World War I”); and Weijia Li (“The Immediacy of the Unapproachable: Writings on China by German POWs in East Asia during World War I”).

Other sponsored events in the fall revolved around constructions of memory in Germany and their impact on the rest of the world. These included the lectures by art historian Vivien Green Fryd (Vanderbilt University), “Writing Trauma: Henry Ries’s Photographs of Berlin, 1937-1985,” about the renowned German refugee and New York Times photographer of the Berlin airlift and many other Berlin photos; by historian David Barclay (Kalamazoo College and German Studies Association, “West Berlin as Cold War Symbol”; by political scientists Mahmood Mamdani (Columbia University), “Beyond Nuremberg: Re-thinking Responses to Political Violence”; and by the renowned literature scholar Prof. Howard Wolf (Emeritus, University of Buffalo), “Goethe to Grass and Beyond: Responsibilities of the Writer in the Postwar Period.”

We also hosted the exhibit “Jewish Life in Germany Today”, opened by Judith Levi (Emerita, Northwestern University), who was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for her “exceptional achievements in promoting reconciliation between the German and Jewish peoples”; and the screening of the documentary film “An Apartment in Berlin,” focusing on Israelis who restore the apartment occupied a century earlier by Jewish refugees from Galicia, and examining the complex connection to the history of Germany while turning the apartment into a space for discussion and encounters with both the present as well as the past.

The theme group also made significant progress on current and future publishing projects. The papers delivered at the 2014 conference, “Measuring the World: Formation, Transformation, and Transmission of the ‘National’ and the ‘Universal’ from the Eighteenth Century to the Present,” which served as the springboard for Theme Two, will be published as a special issue of *Monatshefte*. In addition, the Center has been in discussion with Peter Lang publishers regarding a national competition for the best book by a first-time author, comparable to a competition they have sponsored for the DAAD Center in Birmingham.
3. “Environmental Futures”

**Theme leader:**
Gregg Mitman (Professor, History of Science, Medical History, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies)

**Key campus faculty:**
William Cronon (Professor, History, Geography, and Environmental Studies)
Anna Gade (Professor, Environmental Studies, and South Asian Studies)
Elizabeth Hennessy (Assistant Professor, History)
Richard Keller (Associate Professor, Medical History, and Bioethics)
Sabine Mödersheim (Associate Professor, German)
Sarah Moore (Assistant Professor, Geography)

**Description:**
Art and science, literature and film, history and policy; all have been important tools upon which to build imagined environmental futures. “Environmental Futures” has brought together scholars in the humanities and social sciences, filmmakers, and writers to explore the intersections of future generations. In the rapidly expanding field of environmental humanities, the Theme Three team has initiated international and interdisciplinary conversation on the material impacts of representational forms and has forged a strong working relationship between the Center for Culture, History and Environment (CHE) and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich.

**Theme Progress:**

The Environmental Futures group focused its 2015 efforts on three activities:
2) Planning and hosting the fifth, biennial “Tales from Planet Earth” film festival, held in Madison from November 6-8, 2015.
3) Planning and organizing the joint place-based workshop “Anthropocene Objects and Environmental Futures,” a collaboration between the Nelson Institute Center for Culture History and Environment (CHE) and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC).

Following on the successful 2014 Anthropocene Slam, CHE, the RCC, and the Environmental Humanities Laboratory (EHL) at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm organized a workshop, “Anthropocene Objects: Cabinet of Curiosities,” which was held in Munich from July 5-7, 2015. Conveners, which included Environmental Futures theme leader Gregg Mitman, invited a shortlist of scholars, writers, and artists to contribute short essays, and commissioned several longer critical pieces to form a planned multi-authored volume. The writing workshop accompanied the opening of the “Cabinet of Curiosities,” an exhibition of objects selected from the 2014 Anthropocene Slam, which was incorporated into the larger “Welcome to the Anthropocene” exhibition at the Deutsches Museum in Munich.
Contributors to the workshop, which included CHE members Elizabeth Hennessey, Daegan Miller, and Rob Nixon, were asked to reconsider their essays not as traditional academic papers, but rather to take their proposed objects as a starting point for investigating different dimensions of meaning in our encounters with Anthropocene thinking. Over the course of the fall of 2015 Mitman, in collaboration with Rob Emmett from the RCC and Marco Armiero from the EHL, edited the submissions into a 76,000 word manuscript, *Anthropocene Objects and Environmental Futures*, that has been submitted to the University of California Press, the University of Chicago Press, and MIT Press for publication consideration. Straddling the genres of an edited volume and a museum catalog, *Anthropocene Objects and Environmental Futures* proposes an exploration of the Anthropocene through fifteen objects and four critical interludes. The ever-expanding impact of human actions on biophysical systems calls for creative responses as well as critical analysis, reflected in the range of texts and images collected in this volume, which includes work from practicing artists and scholars from anthropology, biology, history, literary and cultural studies, and geography. This book contributes to the debate on the Anthropocene through interdisciplinary perspectives that aim to bring the human(ities) back into public and scientific debate over the current ecological crisis.

**Tales from Planet Earth**

Members of the Environmental Futures group were also engaged in the planning and execution of “Tales from Planet Earth,” a biennial environmental film festival that, in its fifth iteration, attracted 3,200 attendees for 31 separate screenings and events over the course of three days, from November 6-8, 2015. Curated around the theme of “Belief,” the festival programmed 40 films from 42 countries in an effort to explore how belief shapes environmental perceptions and actions across the globe. The festival featured six German-directed films, highlighting the work of Fatih Akin, Niko von Glasow, Philip Gröning, and Florian Fischer. The festival also featured 26 UW-Madison speakers representing 16 different campus departments and programs.

**Place-Based Workshop**

The Theme Three group was also busy in the fall of 2015 planning the joint place-based workshop organized in collaboration with the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, to be held in May 2016, which will put the histories of the Mississippi and the Danube rivers in a comparative frame. Exploring the geological, environmental, cultural, and economic histories of the upper Midwest viewed through the lens of the Mississippi watershed, the May 2016 workshop will include the participation of 10 German and Austrian faculty and graduate students representing a range of disciplines from the humanities and natural sciences. In June of 2017, the RCC will host a similar workshop focused on the Danube in collaboration with CHE.
3. STUDENT SUPPORT

A. Graduate Student Support

The University of Wisconsin-Madison boasts some of the strongest and most vibrant graduate programs in German studies, housed not only in the German department but also in numerous humanities and social science programs throughout the university. Our ability to attract some of the top graduate students in the country has persisted despite the increasing gulf between what we are able to offer in funding packages and offers from peer institutions, both private and public, even though many of them cannot rival our rich intellectual offerings.

The commitments we have secured from various university sources in the form of graduate student support—all of them entirely contingent upon our successful application to DAAD—offer prestigious opportunities for graduate students to dedicate themselves to their individual research and coursework, making these programs far more attractive than the other forms of graduate support that require teaching, assisting a faculty member in his/her research, or providing part-time staff support in a university unit. The “Research Assistantships” provided to the Center to match DAAD student support, despite their nomenclature, are actually more accurately comparable to graduate fellowships.

Designed to enhance the CGES research themes and bring students in close collaboration with theme faculty, our research assistantships, as outlined in our call for applications, specifically target “exceptionally well-qualified students whose research fits within the three CGES themes for 2015-2016. Students who have not demonstrated the relevance of their application to one of the three themes will not be considered. Students are expected to complete a significant piece of research of their own during the calendar year and must submit a report of the work accomplished.”

In 2015, graduate students from three UW-Madison departments were honored with research fellowships and travel grants: History, German, and Musicology. CGES supported a total of five students with these various grants: three semester-long, 50% FTE Research Assistants (funded at the maximum level of 50% for graduate students) who were able to pursue their own projects under the supervision of an affiliated CGES faculty member; and two travel/per diem grants for research in Germany. In addition, three students participated in the Bonn Exchange during 2015. All of these grants were distributed through an open, competitive application process mandated by the University of Wisconsin. We note that all three research fellowship positions and the Bonn Exchange were funded by direct University match. A list of all students supported in 2015 appears in Appendix B: Financial Support 2015.

* As described on the university website, “A research assistant is a UW-Madison graduate student working towards a Master's or Ph.D. degree. An appointment as a research assistant is appropriate if the activity performed by the research assistant is primarily for the benefit of the individual's course of study and research and directly applicable to the individual's thesis or dissertation. Tasks irrelevant or unnecessary to the appointee’s academic program or repetitive, beyond what is necessary to achieve excellence in the activity, are not appropriate for an individual appointed as a research assistant. The appointee is required to register for a full load of graduate courses and research. A maximum research assistant stipend is established annually on an institution-wide basis, although the amount of each individual stipend may vary among departments.”
https://www.ohr.wisc.edu/polproced/UTG/StuAsstApptT.html
Joel Kaipainen (Department of German) received a fall 2015 Research Assistantship (Fellowship) that allowed him to spend substantial time on his dissertation project on "Creative Destruction - The Financial Crisis and Cultural Production" and provided the opportunity to strengthen his professional profile with additional publications and conferences. The main project he completed was a comprehensive review of the first two chapters together with his advisor Professor B. Venkat Mani (Theme 2: Germany and the World). After receiving detailed feedback, he spent a good portion of the semester addressing comments and suggestions, reworking and editing the two chapters. As a second project, Kaipainen took some time to rework his introduction, responding to more current events in the EU and updating the secondary literature review, as a number of anthologies related to the subject had come out in the last one and a half years. Based on his substantial work on chapters 1 and 2 this semester, he was able to clarify the theoretical premises and reorganize some of the primary sources for the investigation of his third chapter, "The Aesthetics of Crisis." This also filtered into the reorganization and now completed research of his fourth (and final) chapter regarding "Creative Destruction: The Laboratory Function of Cultural Production." Finally, other time was spent in considering his professional options and his work as an academic. After having a book review published in the fall semester in Monatshefte, he prepared an article on "Teaching Culture - the Native Informant's Dilemma" for Unterrichtspraxis, and began reworking another for future publication. Kaipainen presented his research at the DAAD-Conference in Amsterdam in early December.

Lucian Rothe (Department of German) received a fall 2015 Research Fellowship and took four graduate courses. These courses provided the great opportunity to combine his foreign language and education studies with his interest in German literature and film studies, and gave him an excellent academic start to the PhD program. The coursework included literature and film classes on “German and Austrian Literature of the 20th and 21st century” (Prof. Hannah Eldridge) and on “German Film” (Prof. Marc Silberman). In the fields of linguistics and education, he took the courses “A History of the German Language” (Prof. Joe Salmons) and “Theory and Practice of Teaching College German” (Prof. Jeanne Schueller). In addition to his graduate coursework, he joined the GDGSA (German and Dutch Graduate Student Association) Conference Committee, which organizes an annual two-day Graduate Student Conference at UW-Madison. The conference in November 2015 was a great success and welcomed more than 50 presenters and attendees from the US, Germany, and Austria who discussed the conference topic “Relative to What - Exploring Concepts of Identity and Family in Germanic Studies.” Rothe was also invited to a three-day professional development seminar administered by the Goethe-Institut in Chicago, IL. The workshop, designed for teaching assistants working in the Midwest, allowed him to get further theoretical as well as practical insights into the topic “Inverted Classroom Model – The Flipped Classroom.”

Jeremy Zima (School of Music) received a fall 2015 Research Fellowship which allowed him to focus his energies on writing and researching large portions of his Ph.D. dissertation, tentatively titled “The Economics and Aesthetics of the Early Twentieth Century German Künstleroper, 1917-1932,” under the direction of Professor Pamela Potter (Theme 2: Germany and the World). Having completed archival research in Berlin at the archives of the Hochschule für Musik and the Staatsbibliothek, looking specifically at their historical periodical collection, he was able to combine these finding in 2015 by undertaking extensive research using the Bibliographie der deutschen Zeitschriftenliteratur, accessing dozens of German language articles via interlibrary
loan. In fall semester 2015, he wrote complete drafts of three dissertation chapters and researched a fourth. In total, he wrote about one hundred and twenty pages. In spring 2016, Zima hopes to complete case studies on Franz Schreker’s *Christophorus* and Ernst Krenek’s *Jonny spielt auf*. A good deal of preliminary research on these chapters was completed during the fall semester as well, including a great deal of primary research involving contemporary performance reviews, editorials, and personal correspondence.

**Charles Cahill** (Department of History) received a CGES graduate student travel grant (airfare of $1,008 and 10 day per diem) that allowed him to visit three key institutions whose holdings would help him complete his dissertation. First were the archives of the Humboldt University in Berlin, where he consulted the papers of Romano Guardini. Guardini’s courses and lectures on Søren Kierkegaard, which play an important role in his project. Second, he returned to the Evangelisches Zentralarchiv, also in Berlin. This allowed him to fill in important gaps in his research, specifically related to evangelical church groups and their reception of Kierkegaard. Third, he traveled to Göttingen to visit the archives of Emanuel Hirsch. Hirsch stands as the major figure in Kierkegaard’s German reception between 1930 and 1950, and is the primary topic of his epilogue. In sum, this trip provided Cahill with access to documents needed for the completion of his project. He plans on depositing his dissertation in March of 2016.

**Justin Court** (Department of German) received a CGES graduate student travel grant (airfare of $1,008 and 10 day per diem), with which he was able to complete important fieldwork for his dissertation on the photography of World War I. He spent ten days in Berlin doing research in the collections of the Deutsches Historisches Museum (DHM) and the Bundesarchiv. His time at the DHM was spent looking through soldier's private photograph albums that were created during their war service. These albums offer an incomparable view into the private experience of soldiers from the war and stand in stark contrast to the way the war was visually represented, for example, in political propaganda during Germany's Weimar Republic (the main subject of his dissertation). At the Bundesarchiv he researched archival documents stemming from the creation of the Reichsarchiv, which concerned itself already in 1919 with steering the historiography of the war towards conservative political ends.

**Stefanie Esser** (Communication Arts) completed her full academic year fellowship as a Bonn Exchange fellow in 2015 to work on her dissertation research on “Hol(l)wood: The Christian Right in American Popular Culture” under the supervision of Prof. Derek Johnson.

**Sabine Weber** (East Asian Languages) completed her full academic year fellowship as a Bonn Exchange fellow in 2015 to work on her dissertation research on “The Emergence of Chinese Science Fiction at the Interface of Traditional Tales of the Supernatural and Nineteenth Century European Science Fiction” under the supervision of Professor Rania Huntington.

**Maren Walter** (Department of History) initiated her full academic year fellowship as a Bonn Exchange fellow in 2015, which will continue into 2016, to conduct dissertation research on “Structures of Diplomatic Communication at the Peace Conference of Westphalia (1643-1648)” under the supervision of Professor Johann Sommerville.
B. Undergraduate Student Support

CGES helps enhance the undergraduate curriculum in European Studies directly through new courses offered by its directors, staff, and Research Theme faculty leaders. In addition, European Studies Alliance assistant director Dr. Csanád Siklós supervises the UW-Madison European Studies Certificate, the equivalent of an undergraduate minor. The Certificate in European Studies is a program specifically tailored to the undergraduate student population. It offers students the opportunity to enhance their academic experience with a concentration of courses on Europe, its regions, or countries. The European Studies Certificate demonstrates a student’s high and sustained level of interest in Europe.

From its modest beginnings in 2002 with an annual enrollment of 89, the European Studies Certificate boasted an annual enrollment of 515 undergraduate students by 2014. It is currently the largest area studies certificate program on the UW-Madison campus in terms of the number of certificates awarded (this number increased by over 255%, from 54 in 2002 to 138 in 2014.) A decline in 2015 enrollments (336 enrolled) coincided with growth in enrollments in several newly established Europe-focused certificate programs (notably certificates in German, French, Scandinavian and Italian). The popularity of new certificate programs alongside continued interest in the established European Studies Certificate demonstrate the value undergraduates continue to place on the study of Europe, European countries, languages and cultures.
# CERTIFICATE STUDENTS BY CALENDAR YEAR

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C. Courses offered in 2015 by CGES Faculty and Academic Staff

The CGES affiliate faculty and academic staff also contribute to UW-Madison’s undergraduate and graduate teaching mission through the design of courses that speak directly to the needs of German and European Studies.

New Graduate and Undergraduate Seminars by CGES 2015 Research Theme Faculty

Nils Ringe taught Political Science 401 German Politics in Fall 2015.

Marc Silberman taught a graduate seminar on “Brecht and Beyond” for students in German and Theater (Spring 2015, German 947), an undergraduate large-enrollment course on Nazi Culture, team-taught with Jost Hermand (Fall 2015, German 272), a graduate level course on the history of German cinema (Fall 2015, German / Communication Arts 655), and an undergraduate skill course in reading comprehension (twentieth-century texts) (Fall 2015, German 258).

Venkat Mani and Julie Allen both designed new courses in 2015 which are being taught in the spring semester of 2016, and will thus be reported next year.

COURSES TAUGHT BY CGES-AFFILIATED FACULTY IN 2015

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4. FACULTY SUPPORT

Faculty Research Enhancement Awards

In 2015, CGES was able to award 7 theme participants with just under $15,000 in Faculty Research Enhancement Awards. All award amounts for per diems and travel costs were reimbursed according to the Bundesreisekostengesetz regulations, stipulated in the DAAD 2015-2016 call for proposals.

B. Venkat Mani (German, Theme 2 member), 10-day per diem in Leipzig, airfare to Germany

The faculty travel grant was extremely beneficial for completion of work on the manuscript of Professor B. Venkat Mani’s book project, Recoding World Literature: Libraries, Print Culture, and Germany’s Pact with Books (Fordham University Press, 2016, in production). The grant allowed Mani to work at the Deutsche National Bibliothek and its Buch- und Schriftmuseum in Leipzig. He was able to incorporate more sources and citations from archival documents on German print cultural history, which helped him to substantiate his arguments even further. He checked the already cited sources and citations, and was able to meet with the librarians to discuss and identify images that will go into the book, and seek permissions for their reprint in his book. He was able to finish the “Epilogue” of the book and write the very last sentences of the book at the DNB-Leipzig, where he began writing this book in 2011.

Gregg Mitman (History of Science, Theme 3 group leader), airfare to Germany

A collaboration between the Nelson Institute Center for Culture History and Environment (CHE) and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC) and the Environmental Humanities Laboratory (EHL) at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, organized a workshop, “Anthropocene Objects: Cabinet of Curiosities” held in Munich from July 5-7, 2015. Gregg Mitman and colleagues invited a shortlist of scholars, writers, and artists to contribute short essays and commissioned several longer critical pieces to form a planned multi-authored volume. The writing workshop accompanied the opening of the “Cabinet of Curiosities,” an exhibition of objects selected from the 2014 Anthropocene Slam, which was incorporated into the larger “Welcome to the Anthropocene” exhibition at the Deutsches Museum, Munich.

Marc Silberman (German, Theatre and Drama, Communication Arts, Theme 2 member), airfare to Germany, and 10-day per diem in Berlin

Marc Silberman conducted research at the Bertolt Brecht Archive of the Akademie der Künste. In preparation for a volume of Brecht’s fragmentary plays in English translation, he worked through archived notes and versions of “Der Brotladen” (ca. 1929-32) and “Büsching” (1952-54) housed in the archive. He will be completing the translations as well as notes and an introduction to each play in the coming months, based on the material he collected at the Brecht Archive. As a co-organizer of the 15th International Brecht Society Symposium, to be held at the University of Oxford (UK) in late June 2016 under the title “Recycling Brecht,” Silberman was able to attend new plays, meet with several playwrights, dramaturgs, and theater critics in preparation for the event.
**Nils Ringe** (Political Science, Theme 1 member), airfare to Germany, 5-day per diem in Germany

Nils Ringe traveled to Germany to meet and collaborate with colleagues at the University of Duisburg-Essen and also met representatives of the Mercator Foundation in Essen.

**Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen** (History, Theme 2 member), airfare to Germany, 10-day per diem in Germany

Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen researched an intellectual and cultural history book project on “wisdom” in 20th-century American life in transnational perspective. CGES funding enabled her to conduct research in summer of 2015 in Darmstadt, Germany, where the archives for the Darmstadt School of Wisdom are housed; and to do research at the Eranos Archives in Ascona, Switzerland. She presented this CGES-funded work at the US Intellectual History Conference in fall of 2015, a conference on Women in Intellectual History co-organized with Caroline Winterer, Professor of History/Director of the Center for Humanities at Stanford University. She also published an article from the book project in *Dissent* (fall 2015).

**Barbara Buenger** (Art History), airfare to Germany and 5-day per diem in Germany

With the assistance of a grant from the CGES Barbara Buenger conducted research for her monograph on Max Beckmann in Berlin during the Third Reich, working at the German Literature Archive at Marbach, the Max Beckmann Archiv, the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich, and museums in Frankfurt, Munich, Erfurt, and Berlin; and conducting interviews in several cities. She published part of those results in the catalogue of the Berlinische Galerie exhibition, *Max Beckmann und Berlin* (November 2015-January 2016).

**Sabine Mödersheim** (German, Theme 3 member), 15-day research award in Germany

Sabine Mödersheim conducted research in Freiburg, Germany from August 14-28, 2015, where she worked on the history of the Garden City Freiburg-Haslach (*100 Jahre Gartenstadt Haslach*). Her research concerned the 100-year-old "Gartenstadt Freiburg-Haslach," an early 20th-century garden city for workers of a furniture plant at the outskirts of the city of Freiburg.

**B. Faculty Publications (Partial)**


Mark Copelovitch, Jeffry Frieden (Harvard), and Stefanie Walter (University of Zurich). (forthcoming) Co-edited a special issue on “The Political Economy of the Euro Crisis” for *Comparative Political Studies.*


Chad Allen Goldberg, 2015. “The Jewish Question and the Civil Sphere,” *Solidarity, Justice, and Incorporation: Thinking through the Civil Sphere* (Oxford University Press)

Chad Allen Goldberg, November 2015. “The Two Marxes: From Jewish Domination to Supersession of the Jews” was published in the *Journal of Classical Sociology.*


Lynn Nyhart, Biological Individuality: Integrating Scientific, Philosophical, and Historical Perspectives. Book ms. (535 ms. pages) co-edited with Scott Lidgard. (under contract, University of Chicago Press.)


5. PROGRAMMING

CGES hosts interdisciplinary lectures, conferences, and workshops on various aspects of Germany, German Studies, and Germany’s relationship to the European Union and the world. Part of our mission is to ensure that on- and off-campus audiences can stay attuned to the changing nature of Europe. As in our thematic seminars aimed at undergraduate and graduate students, we anticipate that the interdisciplinary topics featured in our guest lectures, conferences, and workshops will stimulate academic work on campus, expand local knowledge about Germany and Europe, and bring together scholars from different geographic locations, backgrounds, and fields.

A. CGES Guest Lectures

June 4, 2015
Lecture - Dr. Sascha Münnich (Associate Professor for Comparative Sociology at the Georg August University of Göttingen, Senior Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne, Germany), "Why Do Capitalist Societies Have a Problem with Financial Profits?" Co-sponsored by the Madison Committee on Foreign Relations. Attendance: 35

September 7, 2015
Lecture - Sarah Mazouz (Marie Curie Fellow at the Institute of European Ethnology ~ Institut für europäische Ethnologie at the Humboldt University Berlin), "Transnational Status and Equal Rights: The Case of Dual Citizenship Policies and Experiences in Germany." Attendance: 19

September 16, 2015
Lecture- Leo Panitch (Professor of Political Science at York University, Toronto), “Europe versus Greece: European Realities and Left Illusions,” Attendance: 40

September 22, 2015
Lecture - Michaela Kreyenfeld (Head of the Research Group "Life Course, Social Policy, and the Family" at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research), "25 Years after the fall of the Berlin Wall: Did East Germans 'adapt' to West German family behavior?" Attendance: 57

September 29, 2015
Lecture- Thilo Marauhn (University of Giessen, Germany), "The Migrant Crisis-Factual Background, Legal Challenges, Political Perspectives." Attendance: 35

October 6, 2015
Lecture - Professor Michael Zurn (Direktor of the Global Governance Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin), "Stairway to Heaven or Pathways to Human Rights Protection? An Introduction.” Attendance: 29

October 15, 2015
October 22, 2015
Lecture - Professor David Barclay (Margaret and Roger Scholten Professor of International Studies, Department of History at Kalamazoo College, Executive Director of the German Studies Association.) “West Berlin as a Cold War Symbol.” Attendance: 57

October 29, 2015
Documentary Film Screening – Alice Agneskirchner: “An Apartment in Berlin.”

November 5, 2015
Lecture – Michael Bruter, (London School of Economics) "Through the Curtain: A Visual Experiment on Voters' Experience Inside the Polling Booth," Attendance: 31

November 11, 2015

November 12, 2015
Lecture - Stephen Szabo (Executive Director of the Transatlantic Academy at the German Marshall Fund, and author of Germany, Russia, and the Rise of Geo-Economics). "Germany and Russia: The New Pivotal Relationship in Europe." Attendance: 26

November 23, 2015
Lecture – Abram De Swaan (Queen Wilhelmina Professor at Columbia University), “How Ordinary are ‘Ordinary Perpetrators’? On the Mentality of Mass Murder.” Attendance: 47

December 8, 2015
Lecture – Carel Carlowitz Mohn, (European Climate Foundation, Director, Media Programmes with Clean Energy Wire), “Socio-political Dynamics of German Energiewende” Attendance: 52

CO-SPONSORED GUEST LECTURES

January 30, 2015

February 12, 2015
Lecture - Emily Levine, "Humboldt's Gift: The German Research University in America"

February 27, 2015
German Department "Literaturlenz 2015"

April 14, 2015

April 9, 2015
Lecture - Dr. Josef Joffe (publisher-editor of German weekly Die Zeit, and fellow at the Institute for International Studies and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University), “One Hundred Years
of Consequences: The Strategic, Political, and Cultural Legacy of World War I.” Keynote address at the Diplomatic Consequences of World War One conference. Attendance: 125

April 16, 2015
Lecture - Michael Meng, "The Evil of Blind Obedience: Arendt's Interpretation of Nazism in Historical Perspective.”

May 1, 2015
Lecture - Martin Foys (UW-Madison), "Post-Post-Hastings: Speculative Histories of Anglo-Saxon Survival in Ireland, Iceland, and Byzantium"

May 4, 2015

October 8, 2015
Lecture - Professor Werner Sollors (Henry B. and Anne M. Cabot Professor of English Literature, Professor of African-American Studies at Harvard University.), "Imperial Germany as a Country of Emigration and Immigration."

October 21, 2015
Lecture - Consul General Herbert Quelle of the German Consulate in Chicago, “Germany’s Challenges Today.” Attendance: 31

October 21, 2015
Exhibit - “Jewish Life in Germany.” Attendance: 85

November 10, 2015
Lecture - Professor Howard Wolf (Emeritus, University of Buffalo), "Goethe to Grass and Beyond: Responsibilities of the Writer in the Postwar Period." Attendance: 27

B. 2015 Workshops and Major Conferences

“Diplomatic Legacy of World War I”

This symposium united interdisciplinary experts on the centenary of World War One to trace how many of today’s global conflicts had roots in the outcomes of the 1919 peace process. Thus, the symposium had a global rather than European focus, treating not only the rise of Communism and Fascism after the Treaty of Versailles, the demise of Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian empires and concurrent rise of US hegemony, but also the experiences of soldiers and colonized regions whose part in the war was entirely unwilling.

National self-determination was a laudable goal, which paved the path for benevolent social and political forces - human rights, protection of civilians, social welfare programs, and the gradual elimination of colonial empires. Yet this very self-determination and the dissolution of empire allowed for disjuncture in goals and policy between national political leaders and military powers, as well as intensified rivalry between ethnic and religious groups. Both phenomena
continue to pose recurrent problems a century later. Experts discussed how the Great War, "la Der des der," or the War to End All Wars, as contemporaries hoped it would be, may have laid the groundwork for today's troubles between NATO and Russia, continuing struggles in the Middle East after the Arab Spring, the as-yet unfinished reconciliation between France and Germany, and the ever-fragile transatlantic alliance.

The Keynote speaker was Dr. Josef Joffe (editor of Die Zeit and Professor of Political Science at Stanford) Other featured guests were: Giuliana Chamedes (Professor of History, Wisconsin), Richard Fogarty (SUNY Albany), Jennifer Keene (Chapman), Erez Manela (Harvard), and Adam Tooze (Yale), M. Hakan Yavuz (Professor of Political Science, Utah), and Ambassador Jean-René Gehan (France). Attendance: 125

48th Wisconsin Workshop: "Outside the Kaiserreich: The German Diaspora in the World War I Era."

The symposium brought European and American scholars from diverse social scientific and humanistic fields to share their research with a public and scholarly audience, including undergraduate and graduate students. This year’s 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I has prompted a flood of new research, reflection, and commemoration around the world. In the United States, the topic has an additional dimension: the large number of German-Americans and their role and position in American society before, during, and after the Great War. Today, 15% of all Americans and over 40% of Wisconsinites still claim “German” as their primary ancestry. A century ago, there were many communities in which over 80 % of the population had German ancestors or was German-born. Significant numbers of ethnic Germans, including German-speaking Jews, also lived in countries such as Poland, Russia, and Denmark. The keynote address, by Professor Werner Sollors (Harvard), examined American literature in German and other non-English languages during the World War I era, and was followed by two full days of presentations addressing questions of ethnic, national, and personal identity; concepts of loyalty and duty; different political reactions to ethnic minorities in different countries; language maintenance and language shift; the effects of the war on religious and cultural traditions; rural and urban divides; and other topics.

Attendance: 75

"Tales From Planet Earth" Film Festival
Featuring films by Fatih Akin, Niko von Glasow, Johannes Krell, Philip Gröning, and many others.

“Tales From Planet Earth showcases global environmental films with the belief that issues don't move people . . . stories do! Compelling narratives are linked to the work of scholars and to efforts by community partners advocating for environmental and social justice. The highlight of our work is a biennial film festival thematically journeying around the globe to explore how stories told through film shape our understanding of nature and inspire action on behalf of the diversity of life.”

Attendance: 3,200
6. APPENDICES

A. 2015 Wisconsin CGES Research Themes (Long Form)

1. “Responding to Contemporary Challenges in Germany”

Theme Leader:
Myra Marx Ferree (Professor, Sociology, Gender and Women’s Studies)

Key Campus Faculty:
Mark Copelovitch (Associate Professor, Political Science and La Follette School of Public Affairs)
Felix Elwert (Associate Professor, Sociology; affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology, and Center for Demography of Health and Aging)
Ivan Ermakoff (Professor of Sociology)
Chad Goldberg (Professor of Sociology; affiliate, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies)
Nils Ringe (Associate Professor, Political Science, Director European Studies Alliance and Center for European Studies)
Timothy Smeeding (Professor, Economics and La Follette School of Public Affairs; affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology, and Center for Demography of Health and Aging)

Theme Description/Original Proposal:

Germany faces a variety of “hot button” political challenges today, ranging from the resurgence of anti-Semitism across Europe, to population shifts due to fertility decline and immigration, to global competition in higher education. Moreover, as the member state with the strongest economy, Germany faces a particular challenge in balancing its national economic priorities with sustaining EU integration and Euro stability. In this theme we look at the nature of the social and economic challenges that face Germany today and the specificity of German history in shaping contemporary political choices. We also investigate mobilizations within legislatures (Land, federal and EU) and in civil society (in the media, in movements, and among public intellectuals). We draw on the diverse strengths of our senior faculty not only to flesh out the particular projects that fall into this theme but also to train and support graduate students and junior level researchers. These efforts reflect the three different social science perspectives represented in this theme.

The historical sociological perspective excavates historical materials to develop principles of social action that can account for legacies in contemporary arrangements and parallel problems across different historical or social contexts. In contrast with historians, sociologists are explicit about the connections they wish to draw to ongoing social relations in contemporary societies. Chad Goldberg and Ivan Ermakoff are historical sociologists concerned with German-Jewish relations, though in strikingly different ways. Goldberg taps into the roots of sociological thought by considering how Jewishness (being Jewish or not being Jewish) mattered for the theorists who are widely accepted to be central in defining what counts as a sociological question, such as Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Simmel. Ermakoff is concerned with genocide as a continuing historical problem and focuses on explaining the individual and collective decision-making
processes that allowed for resistance or acquiescence in genocidal policies and practices, with the Holocaust as a central case. By considering historical roots of current conflicts over immigration/assimilation, participation in genocides and defenses of human rights, these theme members illuminate the implications of the tools available to German actors for managing them.

A demographic perspective on social challenges highlights the changes in population that states need to manage—immigration, falling birth rates, rising numbers of elderly citizens, etc. Felix Elwert, an affiliate of the UW-Madison Center for Demography and Ecology, advocates for the use of German data in such analyses, whether to focus on Germany today or to make theoretically illuminating comparative analyses. As Elwert has argued, the new availability of German register data allows for an important expansion of analysis beyond the most-studied Nordic states (which have been most willing to make anonymous register data available). Timothy Smeeding is working with a set of leading Wisconsin demographers on German data on family formation and inequality. His colleague Gert Wagner (TU Berlin) will be a key speaker on broader demographic trends and issues in Germany.

The political economy is the focus of other sociologists, for whom the workings of mechanisms of inequality in Germany are central questions. Such mechanisms produce relatively tighter or looser connections between individual behaviors and macro-level features of the economy, both of which can be identified and compared over time and between countries. Smeeding, as an economist interested in comparative poverty and policy in Europe, also is exploring the growth in German levels of inequality (despite much lower levels of CEO pay). Copelovitch looks at the intersections of fiscal policy with social policies, and the relations between German monetary policy and the overall outcomes that interventions are expected to produce. Ferree, the lead researcher on this theme, looks at the transformations in higher education systems in Germany and the US to understand how gender equality policies and discourses reflect core national assumptions. Nils Ringe’s research is focused on intraparliamentary special caucuses and agreements intended to “work around” the obstacles created by partisan jockeying inside the German and EU legislatures.

In sum, the purpose of this theme is to explore what is and is not specific to German experience in its contemporary challenges and in the political responses developed in response to them.

2. “Germany and the World: Transformation and Transmission of Ideas, Ideologies, and Identities”

Theme Leader:
Pamela Potter (Professor, German and Musicology; Director, Center for German and European Studies)

Key Campus Faculty:
Julie Allen (Associate Professor, Scandinavian Studies; affiliate Department of German)
Barbara Buenger (Professor, Art History; affiliate Department of German)
Heinz Klug (Professor, School of Law)
Weijia Li (Assistant Professor, German; Researcher, Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis)
B. Venkat Mani (Associate Professor, German; affiliate Center for Global Studies, Center for South Asia)
Lynn Nyhart (Professor, History of Science; affiliate, Integrated Liberal Studies)
Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen (Associate Professor, History)
Marc Silberman (Professor, German; affiliate Department of Theatre and Drama, Department of Communication Arts)

**Theme Description / Original Proposal:**

_Weltanschauung_ is perhaps one of the best-known German terms to achieve an iconic status in the non-German speaking world. Yet the term itself and its origins encapsulate complexities surrounding Germany’s self-identification, political history, and cultural mission. “Germany and the World: Transformation and Transmission of Ideas, Ideologies, and Identities” extends our current DAAD project “Translation, Transformation, Transposition: Processes of Transfer among Languages, Cultures, and Disciplines” (Trans3), and engages Wisconsin faculty from the departments of German, History, History of Science, Art History, Law, Scandinavian Studies, Theater, and Music. We will explore the various ways in which German culture and ideals have been developed and exported to shape widely accepted ways of viewing the world. If Trans3 focused substantially on issues of knowledge transfer and interdisciplinary practices, we now shift our attention specifically to Germany’s historical and contemporary role in steering intellectual activities and discourses around ideals of the organic, the universal, and the global. Our reconstituted group aims to study how Germany’s unique position arises from the tension in its history of charting its own national and international courses simultaneously. Noted for its regional peculiarities and disunity, for centuries Germany lagged behind its neighbors in achieving political unification, economic competitiveness, and a global presence. However, this very fragmentation and lack of political power created fertile conditions for devising new concepts, structures and modes of thinking, securing Germany’s intellectual and cultural position in the world.

Faculty affiliated with “Germany and the World” will pursue an interdisciplinary inquiry of German-inspired concepts, structures, and strategies used widely in history, philosophy, natural science, literature, music, visual arts, and legal discourse and to analyze their complex genealogies within and beyond Germany. We turn our attention to the formation of concepts at critical moments in German history, their transformation from inward-looking to outward-looking phenomena, and their transmission to the rest of the world. The development of methods to measure the world in aesthetic, political, historical, economic, linguistic, geographical, religious, and racial terms has pre-occupied German thought for over two centuries, with both positive and negative impacts on our understanding of the human condition. The processes to be examined are products of specific historical and cultural moments in German history, when a cosmopolitan orientation to the world was accompanied by an investment in the cultural organization of German language, arts, and sciences.

From the eighteenth century onward, German intellectuals engaged in grounding German identity through the common bond of cultivating literacy, developing arts criticism, and leading the geo-cultural West as a center of book culture, museum culture, humanities, and social sciences within and beyond institutions of higher education. Both unity and universality came to preoccupy German statesmen and intellectuals as key components in conceiving of a German national identity that had proven to be so elusive. Yet all of these activities bore the markings of a concurrent interest in situating Germany as a world player. Nation-centered projects to unify
artistic and literary movements, such as the ideal of Gesamtkunstwerk, became part of a wider agenda to establish models for the rest of the world. A proactive investment in the sciences; in the production and circulation of knowledge; in the collection, adaptation, and purported “improvement” of foreign artistic achievements (especially in the notion of “German music” as an adaptation and improvement of foreign styles); and in the access to knowledge through translations from other languages fostered an unprecedented interest in comparison, leading to the establishment of disciplines of comparative literature, comparative religions, comparative linguistics, and comparative musicology. Despite defeats in global conflicts and only a modest presence as a colonial power, Germany’s “place in the sun” was being colonized on cultural turf. Even after the turn to a racially defined national unity and world dominance proved catastrophic in the twentieth century, German initiatives since World War II have continued to invest in the cultural sphere to regain international stature and respectability, demonstrating leadership in the centralization and dissemination of world literature, music, art, and cultural literacy.

Much of the inspiration for this theme arose from the very recent CGES conference, “Measuring the World: Formation, Transformation and Transmission of the ‘National’ and the ‘Universal’ from the Eighteenth Century to the Present,” which took place on September 25-27, 2014. In planning the conference, co-organizers Pamela Potter and B. Venkat Mani drew on ideas offered from the Theme 2 core faculty discussions, courses, and events and chose to broaden the concept of “translation” by focusing on aspects of German cultural endeavors to dissolve borders and establish dialogues with other world partners. The conference brought together contributions from graduate students, Wisconsin faculty, and guest participants from Germany (Peter Goßens, Bochum; David Oels, Mainz; and Vanessa Agnew, Duisburg-Essen), the United States (H. Glenn Penny, University of Iowa; Kira Thurman, University of Akron; Randall Halle, University of Pittsburgh; Daniel Purdy, Pennsylvania State University), and other DAAD Centers internationally (Sara Jones, University of Birmingham; Ulrich Best, York University) to investigate the German role in “translating” and transmitting not only texts but also approaches toward conceiving of self and others in the fields of music, literature, geography, and philosophy, and in questions of political expansion at home and abroad. The screening of Olivier Morel’s film “Germany: As Told by Writers Christoph Hein, Wladimir Kaminer, Emine Sevgi Özdamar, and Bernhard Schlink,” followed by a discussion with the filmmaker (a professor of film at University of Notre Dame) and the keynote address “Who's Afraid of the Auslandsdeutsche? The Promise of Respatializing Modern German History” (H. Glenn Penny) established a framework for exploring internal and external views on Germany and its history, while individual papers broadened the scope chronologically and globally, spanning the eighteenth century to the present and exploring German interactions as far away as China, Africa, and the United States.

Most importantly, the conference made it clear to us that there was much more work to be done in this exciting area of inquiry. The fruitful discussions among our core faculty and conference participants prompted us to pursue the new phase of Theme 2 in order to engage more deeply in some of the following questions: How was the German conceptualization of the world politically charged and historically conditioned? How and why did Germany become a forerunner in articulating ways of conceptualizing the world? What are the positive and negative legacies of the modes of situating the Self and the Other in German intellectual history? How do historical contingencies and political realities impact the origins and proliferation of conceptual terms and frameworks in transnational contexts?

The new concept - under a new theme leader and with the addition of three new members - concentrates on the central role of Germany in the transmission of ideas and methods and
expands its investigation geographically and into new disciplines, embracing the arts, sciences, and literature and tracing Germany’s influence in Europe, North America, and Asia. Pamela Potter (theme leader) co-edited the seminal volume “Music and German National Identity” (2002), which has remained the standard work for understanding the profound influence of the concept of “German music” in shaping the hierarchy and interpretation of music throughout the world. Her current research on the historiography of Nazi culture extends into analyzing the role of German exiles in framing the discourse of Nazi visual and performing arts through the Cold War era and beyond. Art historian Barbara Buenger’s groundbreaking work on the complex career of German exile artist Max Beckmann adds an important dimension to understanding the central role of German artists, art dealers, and art historians in establishing the foundations for art history, art museums, and the international art trade. Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, from the Department of History, has previously investigated the reception of Nietzsche in America, and her extensive expertise on the role of German exiles in shaping American disciplines will play a central role in our exploration of intellectual exchanges between Germany and the United States. Weijia Li’s research looks at the German and Yiddish writings on China by the Central European Jewish refugees in Shanghai during World War II, shedding light on unique aspects of China reception in German and European intellectual history and promoting interdisciplinary conversations and exchanges among history, Jewish studies, and German studies.

Continuing members will contribute to the new concept as well, shifting their focus to underscore the transmission of German ideas and methods. Lynn Nyhart, specializing in the history of nineteenth-century German biology, will draw from her current project on the history of ideas about biological individuality and part/whole relations, examining how these ideas connected to political concepts of the organismal state in the decades around 1848, and will trace the central role of German biologists in circulating and mediating new ideas about individuality across Europe. Heinz Klug has investigated constitutional transitions, constitution-building, human rights, international legal regimes and natural resources in an international context, and will continue his work on Theme 2 with investigations into the (mis)applications of social science theories to policy-making that yield problematic results in the reality of legal jurisdiction. Marc Silberman will direct his research on Bertolt Brecht to investigate the influence of Brecht’s ideas about culture and politics in general and more specifically the epic theater in its international or transnational dimension. Julie Allen investigates the construction and dissemination of ideas about national and cultural identity in Scandinavia and Germany, particularly through mass media such as film, newspapers, and advertising. Her current research project engages with the instrumentalization of national stereotypes and psychogeographic resonances in the service of cultural and commercial nation branding endeavors. B. Venkat Mani’s most recent work looks at the circulation of intellectual property in the move from print to digital media through the concept of “bibliomigrancy” within the context of world literature, specifically investigating the pioneering work of German thinkers in establishing concepts of literacy and comparative literature, and leading the rest of the world in developing the function and operation of libraries. He will be directing the Mellon-funded Sawyer Seminar on the theme of “Bibliomigrancy: World Literature in the Public Sphere,” creating opportunities to collaborate on inviting lecturers and forming workshops addressing the significant German component of bibliomigrancy.

“Germany and the World” will also provide an excellent opportunity to engage students taking part in a wide range of courses that will confront its central issues. The Theme will also draw on an impressive roster of external scholars many of whom have already expressed interest in
coming to our campus. We will also invite these scholars to contribute essays to a collection we are compiling, based on the papers delivered at the 2014 conference.

3. “Environmental Futures”

**Theme leader:**
Gregg Mitman (Professor, History of Science, Medical History, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies)

**Key campus faculty:**
William Cronon (Professor, History, Geography, and Environmental Studies)
Anna Gade (Professor, Environmental Studies and South Asian Studies)
Elizabeth Hennessy (Assistant Professor, History)
Richard Keller (Associate Professor, Medical History and Bioethics)
Sabine Mödersheim (Associate Professor, German)
Sarah Moore (Assistant Professor, Geography)

**Description:**
Art and science, literature and film, history and policy; all have been important tools upon which to build imagined environmental futures. “Environmental Futures,” has brought together scholars in the humanities and social sciences, filmmakers, and writers to explore the intersections of artistic, humanistic, and scientific representations of environmental and societal change for future generations. In the rapidly expanding field of environmental humanities, we have initiated international and interdisciplinary conversation on the material impacts of representational forms and have forged a strong working relationship between our Center for Culture, History and Environment (CHE) and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich. Activities over the past two years have established a strong foundation for future international collaborations with RCC and other German and European academic units. These include the overwhelming success of our 2013 CGES-sponsored event, “Tales from Planet Earth,” the DAAD visiting professorship of Wilko Graf von Hardenberg (who had been a post-doctoral researcher at the Rachel Carson Center), and the excitement building around our theme’s capstone event for 2014, “The Anthropocene Slam: A Cabinet of Curiosities” in a partnership with CGES, CHE, the Rachel Carson Center, and the Environmental Humanities Laboratory in Stockholm.

In 2015-2016, the group will build on prior successes and develop new initiatives around the theme of “Knowledge, Belief, and Action” with colleagues working on related topics at the Rachel Carson Center and the Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen in Munich, the University of Freiburg, and other institutes at German and European universities. For our first major event in the 2015-16 funding cycle, the CGES thematic group will collaborate on the fifth biennial “Tales from Planet Earth” and will invite students and faculty from the Rachel Carson Center and the Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen in Munich to participate. For our second event we will conduct two related site-based seminars, one in Wisconsin and one in Germany, that will involve the participation of students and faculty in Germany and the United States to perform comparative studies of approaches to waste and recycling. In this growing consortium, we will investigate how different cultural values, beliefs, and ways of knowing affect the interactions
among people and the environments in which they live, work, and play. Indeed, one of the fundamental challenges for addressing any issue of environmental or social justice is reconciling the situated knowledge and beliefs of the many different groups involved. How do we make sense of and balance these different ways of knowing? How can we foster understanding and dialogue between scholars, laborers, faith communities, filmmakers, tourists, local residents – all of whom have conflicting yet valid claims of knowing and understanding places in their own ways? The events of 2015-2016 will begin to cultivate a lasting collaboration between our Center and engaged students and scholars in Germany, fostering an active dialogue and creating networks for future endeavors.

Over the past two years, the major events of the “Environmental Futures” theme have demonstrated success in raising awareness locally as well as forging strong ties with German collaborators. In November 2013, CGES witnessed the success of its best attended, co-sponsored event to date, as the “Environmental Futures” research group participated in the curation, organization, and institutional support of the international environmental film festival, “Tales from Planet Earth,” under the direction of theme leader Gregg Mitman. Leading up to the festival was the UW-Madison Cinémathèque’s retrospective of films by Werner Herzog that focused on environmental themes (Herzog unfortunately had to withdraw from his planned keynote address at the last minute), and the festival itself, which took place at several venues on the UW-Madison campus and in the city of Madison, attracted more than 3,500 festival-goers, featured 35 films, and was host to more than three dozen speakers and filmmakers. Of the 35 films screened, 20% were either German-themed or German-produced. Three-dozen speakers and filmmakers, among them several CGES affiliated faculty, introduced screenings and discussed environmental issues. The other major event coming out of the research group and its expanding collaboration between CHE and RCC, to take place in November 2014, was inspired by the impact of the Anthropocene as a scientific concept on the force fields of environmental imagination. The Anthropocene Age was a concept coined in 2000 and popularized by Paul Crutzen, the Nobel Prize-winning atmospheric chemist who directed the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in Mainz from 1980 to 2000. In an effort to capture a new way of looking at both earth’s future and its past in an era of accelerating hydrocarbon extraction and consumption, Crutzen’s neologism sought to register how, for the first time in planetary history, a species, homo sapiens, has impacted earth’s life systems as a geomorphic force. The upcoming event, “The Anthropocene Slam: A Cabinet of Curiosities,” will operate in the spirit of poetry/spoken word slams, with contributors asked to pitch in a public fishbowl setting an object for the Anthropocene that asks us to rethink humanity’s relationship to time, place, and the agency of things that shape planetary change. Contributors, including members from the Rachel Carson Center (director Christof Mauch and four doctoral candidates), will participate in the design of an Anthropocene cabinet of curiosities as part of a larger exhibit on the Anthropocene scheduled to open at the Deutsches Museum in Munich in December 2014. Presentations will also be featured in a catalog accompanied by a series of short essays to be published by University of Chicago Press in 2016.

With DAAD funding in 2015-2016, we will be able to incorporate a much more robust participation of German partners in our two principal events. In 2015, the “Tales of Planet Earth” festival will once again serve as the launch for the thematic cluster. Curated around the theme “Knowing and Believing,” the festival will feature keynote speakers; panel discussions led by filmmakers, academics, and leaders from the community; and 30 screenings of films – revivals and works-in-progress, fictional and documentary. In drawing upon films from different cultures and places, and with a strong representation of German films and filmmakers in the mix, the
festival will serve as a crucible for thoughtful dialogue on how different epistemologies, faith traditions, and communities have come together or diverged in addressing important environmental issues, at local, regional, and global scales. At the 2015 festival, we hope to coordinate the participation of students and faculty from Rachel Carson Center and the Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen in Munich, who will screen original environmentally-oriented films and will engage in discussions with advanced film students and environmental activists on the Madison campus.

For its second major initiative in the 2015-16 funding cycle, the research group plans to sponsor a site-based, mobile seminar comparing waste and recycling practices in Wisconsin and Germany. This will build on the longstanding program of CHE “place-based workshops” conducted annually since 2006, in which we identify a key environmental phenomenon that is expressed in especially rich and analytically interesting ways in particular places and landscapes, and take a group of faculty members and graduate students to those places to explore the environmental, cultural, and historical relationships we encounter. Past themes have included the recovering cutover forests of northern Wisconsin; organic agriculture in the upper Mississippi Valley; urban-rural relationships of ecology and environmental justice in the vicinity of Chicago; energy infrastructure in the Upper Midwest; environmental health in rural and urban settings; landscapes of underground extraction; and, this year, expressions of sacred space, place, and time in different landscapes. Because our budget is typically quite modest, our usual format is to take about forty people on a bus tour that lasts for 4-5 days, and only once before were we able to organize a larger-scale collaboration with Montana State University thanks to outside funding from the National Science Foundation. With co-sponsorship from the CGES, however, we will once again be able to organize a large-scale undertaking, this time partnering with our German colleagues for a pair of trans-Atlantic workshops.

As the theme for this 2016 place-based workshop we plan to focus on waste, visiting sewage treatment plants, agricultural manure storage units, recycling centers, waste-generating industrial production facilities, and so on, so as to give participants a better understanding of both the practical and theoretical issues raised by waste in a modern capitalist consumer culture. Since Europeans and Americans have historically often approached waste in quite different ways—Europeans have been commenting on the wastefulness of American resource use since at least the eighteenth century!—we intend to organize a pair of workshops, one in Wisconsin and one in Germany. Using resources made available by CGES, we can enable half a dozen or so Germans to join the CHE place-based workshop, and then do the same for a comparable number of Americans from CHE to participate in the workshop in Germany. A select group of advanced students and faculty will first meet for 5-7 days in summer 2016 at the University of Wisconsin in Madison in a series of workshops on the campus and at key waste recycling facilities to focus on new technologies and policy challenges in the American context; then the group will move to southern Germany for 5-7 days to engage in parallel seminars and site visits organized through the Rachel Carson Center and the Quartier Vauban in Freiburg (Madison’s sister city), designated and built as a model sustainable urban district. Drawing on both the theme of waste and the theme of “knowledge, belief, action” (the focus of our next “Tales from Planet Earth” film festival), activities in Freiburg can investigate the impact of grass roots activism since the mid-1960s, notably the famously successful opposition against the nuclear power plant in Wyhl in 1975 that became the catalyst for the transformation of the city / region to one of the greenest in Europe. Not only was the term "Energiewende" (energy transition) coined here - already in 1980 - but the commitment to principles of ecological stewardship and grassroots democracy
continues to shape urban planning, energy transition solutions, policy decisions, and applied research. Freiburg can serve as a case study of over 40 years of continued civic engagement and citizen involvement, holistic and long-term thinking, and the determination to find practical and affordable solutions to the challenge of providing viable alternatives to nuclear energy and coal, backed by open-access science and research.

The benefit of these place-based workshops is enormous. Not only do they force participants to shed academic abstractions as they try to understand environmental phenomena in real ecosystems involving real people and organisms, but the extended group tour encourages the formation of genuine collegiality and friendship among students and faculty members from radically different disciplines who might never otherwise meet, let alone engage in genuine dialogue. The place-based workshops lie at the heart of CHE’s vitality as a close and lively intellectual community: the friendships formed during these tours extend well beyond the workshops themselves to encourage the kind of generosity and mutual understanding that happen best when people know each other as more than just intellectual interlocutors or adversaries. By teaming up with partners in Germany, we expect to extend this nurturing of intellectual communities to build long-term relationships among environmental historians in Germany and United States.
B. Financial Support 2015

1) Graduate Student Support

**Research Assistantships, Travel Grants (5 Total; 3 Departments)**

Joel Kaipainen, Department of German (Research Assistantship)
Lucian Rothe, Department of German (Research Assistantship)
Jeremy Zima, School of Music (Research Assistantship)
Justin Court, Department of German (Travel/research grant)
Charles Cahill, Department of History (Travel/research grant)

**Bonn Exchangees (3 Total; 3 Departments)**

Stefanie Esser (Communication Arts)
Sabine Weber (East Asian Languages)
Maren Walter (Department of History)

**Faculty Research Enhancement Award Recipients (7 total; 10 Departments)**

Gregg Mitman, Department of History of Science, Medical History and Bioethics, and Environmental Studies
Marc Silberman, Department of German, Department of Theatre and Drama, Department of Communication Arts
B. Venkat Mani, Department of German
Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, Department of History
Barbara Buenger, Department of Art History, Department of German
Nils Ringe, Department of Political Science, Faculty Director of European Studies Alliance
Sabine Mödersheim, Department of German

**Research Theme Professors (23 Total; 24 Departments)**

Myra Marx Ferree, Department of Sociology, Gender and Women Studies
Mark Copelovitch, Department of Political Science and La Follette School of Public Affairs
Felix Elwert, Department of Sociology
Ivan Ermakoff, Department of Sociology
Chad Goldberg, Department of Sociology and Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies
Nils Ringe, Department of Political Science, Faculty Director of European Studies Alliance
Timothy Smeeding, Department of Economics and La Follette School of Public Affairs
Pamela Potter, Department of German, Department of Musicology, Director of Center for German and European Studies
Julie Allen, Department of Scandinavian Studies, Department of German
Barbara Buenger, Department of Art History, Department of German
Heinz Klug, School of Law
Weijia Li, Department of German
B. Venkat Mani, Department of German
Lynn Nyhart, Department of History of Science, Department of Integrated Liberal Studies
Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, Department of History
Marc Silberman, Department of German, Department of Theatre and Drama, Department of Communication Arts
Gregg Mitman, Department of History of Science, Medical History, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
William Cronon, Department of History, Department of Geography, and Department of Environmental Studies
Anna Gade, Department of Environmental Studies, Center of South Asian Studies
Elizabeth Hennessy, Department of History
Richard Keller, Department of Medical History and Bioethics
Sabine Mödersheim, Department of German
Sarah Moore, Department of Geography

This report was prepared by Pamela Potter with the assistance of Elizabeth Covington, Csanád Siklós, and Kirsten Jacobson.