

# The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

Annual Report  
2009 - 2010

## The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society Activities and Programs

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2009 - 2010

# 1 Introduction

*“The Rachel Carson Center is a ‘world first’.”* The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC) was not quite a year old as these words were spoken at the Opening Event held on July 1, 2010 in the prestigious Munich Residenz, yet they testify to the place that the RCC has already taken up in the field of environmental research. Hundreds of people – academics, students, and interested residents of Munich, as well as the staff and fellows of the Rachel Carson Center itself – filled the Max Joseph Hall for a program of welcome addresses and keynote speeches punctuated by global music in keeping with the upbeat and international tone of the evening.

The welcome addresses were made by guests representing the RCC’s parent institutions LMU Munich and the Deutsches Museum. The Munich Residenz, situated geographically between these two flagships of knowledge and learning, was an apt setting for these celebratory addresses which highlighted the dual nature of the RCC’s mission – to further understanding of the relationship between environment and society both within the academic sector and in the world at large. Karin Korn-Riedlinger, representing the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, moved the focus of the evening from the RCC’s position in Munich to the enrichment which it will provide to the humanities in Germany as a whole; the three international keynote speakers each emphasized, from their own perspective, the significance of the RCC, not just to Munich and not just to Germany, but across the globe.

*“The Rachel Carson Center is a ‘world first’”:* As Jane Carruthers - Professor of Environmental History in Pretoria, South Africa and keynote speaker at the RCC Opening Event - explained, the RCC stands out as a ‘world first’ among environmental humanities centers with its unique fellowship program and international networking opportunities. Further keynote speakers at the event - Yolanda Kakabadse, President of WWF International from Quito, Ecuador, and Vandana Shiva, well-known environmental activist from New Delhi, India - also incorporated the rich entanglement of global environmental issues and the internationality that the Rachel Carson Center represents.

In its first year, the Center has established itself both academically and geographically. In the few months following the official founding of the RCC on August 1, 2009, fellows and staff were dispersed across several locations in the city, something which proved a challenge to communication and networking, but one which staff and fellows took in their stride – often quite literally, as they strode in twos and threes to colloquias, meetings, and evening events across an autumnal Munich. Thanks to the generosity of LMU Munich, the Rachel Carson Center then found a home at Leopoldstraße 11a from January 2010, where all RCC staff and fellows have desk space at one single site. Leopoldstraße 11a is conveniently located close to main university buildings and public transport and boasts, in addition to its 15 offices, a small conference room which sees very regular use as a venue for meetings, smaller workshops, and reading groups.

The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society celebrates its official opening, Munich Residenz, 1 July 2010



The growth of the Rachel Carson Center means that Leopoldstraße 11a is now completely full, and staff and fellows are once again rising to the challenge – this time, in terms of sharing space, rather than bridging it.

This putting down of physical roots has gone hand in hand with the establishment of the RCC at the center of a network of academic and non-academic institutions across Munich and beyond. The two key poles by which the RCC orients itself are of course LMU Munich and the Deutsches Museum, but the RCC has also enjoyed collaborations with other organizations resulting in a range of successful projects, including the exhibition on the island of Mainau as part of the nationwide “Year of Energy,” the public screening and discussion of the film *No Impact Man* in co-operation with the Ökologisches Bildungszentrum, and the Green Cultures conference held jointly with the Bavarian American Academy, to name just a few. The list is long, and there are many more events in the pipeline, including courses held in conjunction with the Global Diversity Foundation as part of LMU’s International Summer University Program as well as continued research on climate and migration together with the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities in Essen (KWI Essen), one of a number of collaborative projects born of our academic networking which have brought new funding, people, and ideas to the RCC.

Of course, the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium has also been a prominent feature of the Center’s outreach work; now in its third semester, it continues to draw in a crowd of up to 70 people. Rather like the Center, it has had the luxurious problem of outgrowing the rooms at its disposal. Attendance at the colloquium in the first half of 2010 was so consistently high as to merit a new and larger seminar room in the History Department as of October. The popularity of the colloquium must certainly be attributed to the variety and diversity of the invited speakers and the resulting liveliness of the debate, set to continue in 2011.

An e-newsletter to which there are already more than 450 subscribers keeps interested parties informed of everything that is going on in conjunction with the RCC; it caters both to Munich residents with details of one-off public events and to scholars across the globe, giving advance notice of conferences, calls for papers, and detailed reports of workshops and research projects.

These external co-operations and outreach activities have not been at the expense of the business of establishing the RCC, its projects, staff, and structures on an internal level. In an organization that is, at any time, home to around 20 fellows from all over the globe, the Center’s staff are an important factor in the day-to-day life at Leopoldstraße 11a. Between them, staff members offer a background in a wide range of academic disciplines, including theology, literature, bioanthropology, and history, evidence of the commitment to interdisciplinary research that runs through the RCC at all levels. Research as well as administrative and communications staff are involved with all elements of work at the RCC: organizing and participating in conferences and workshops, working on publications and communications outreach, and assisting in a variety of projects.

One of our larger ongoing projects is to develop a major digital resource for the environmental humanities around the world – a huge undertaking, but one which is steadily benefiting from the expertise and connections brought in by each new influx of fellows. A series of short films exploring the research of Carson Fellows are in production; their goal is to bridge the gap between academic networks and the public sphere. The first three issues of the *RCC Perspectives* series were published in 2010, along with the first volume in the German-language book series, *Umwelt und Gesellschaft*, and editing for an English-language book series is underway. The RCC is also in the process of building up its own in-house library of books and digital resources on environmental humanities to complement the huge selection of volumes already available via LMU Munich and the Deutsches Museum.

If the staff ensures strong roots for the Rachel Carson Center, then the fellows are its growing branches, changing along with the seasons and providing new angles on all areas of environmental research. In 2010, fellows came to us from all over the globe – from Australia, Colombia, Lithuania, the USA, Morocco, Canada, Hungary, and Switzerland – and made hugely varied contributions to both their own fields of research and to the ongoing, interdisciplinary discussion at the RCC. Fellows presented at colloquia, attended conferences and workshops, and – not least – were engaged in some fascinating and unexpected discussions at the coffee machine, some of which have borne fruit in the form of new research approaches and collaborative projects.

Fellows and staff members have launched their own reading groups to work through themes of common interest from the multidisciplinary perspectives on hand, something which has already led to a number of joint papers and grant applications. Conversations started during the colloquium and in reading groups have also extended into the weekends. Staff members also have organized a varied social program to welcome and integrate the fellows into the RCC. This year has seen fellows and staff participating in the sport of Bavarian curling, going on Alpine hiking trips, cheering for “Deutschland” in the World Cup football games, and, of course, resplendent in Bavarian dress for their trip to Munich’s legendary Oktoberfest.

Throughout 2010 the ranks at Leopoldstraße 11a have been swelled by visiting scholars from different parts of the United States and from Europe who are recipients of outside funding (from the DAAD, Fulbright, and the Central European University) and whose association with the RCC is an additional enrichment of our already fertile academic community.

So the story of the RCC in 2010 is one of growth – of putting down roots, both in Munich and in the wider network of environmental debate worldwide – but also of expansion, new ideas, new perspectives, pushing back boundaries, and inviting dialogue. In the course of just over a year, the Center has become firmly established and looks forward to continuing progress and development in the coming years. The opening event in the Munich Residenz in July celebrated the RCC’s entry into a global conversation on environment and society, one of unquestioned and unrivalled significance for our future – and one in which there is still so much to be said.

*Christof Mauch*

*Helmuth Trischler*

## 2 Organization and Budget

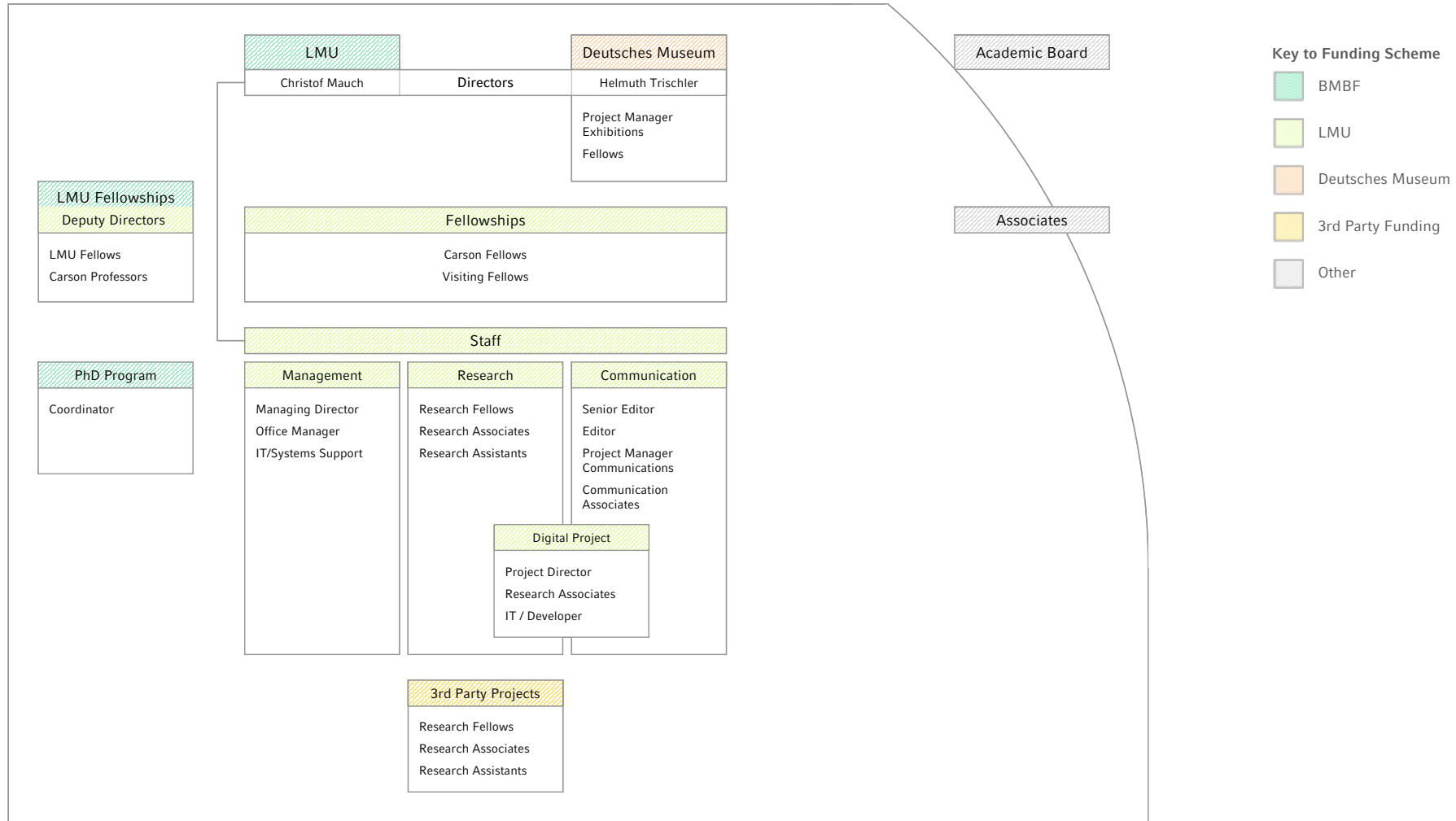
The Rachel Carson Center has had the good fortune of receiving funding from several different organizations. Most of the funding for the Carson Center’s activities has come from a grant from the Federal Ministry of Research and Education (BMBF). At the same time, numerous fellowships, academic positions, conferences, and research projects have received funding from other sources.

LMU Munich (LMU) has become an important sponsor of the Center. LMU has provided funding for a research fellow position (Dr. Gordon Winder) and a substantial fellowship (Dr. Stefanie Belharte). Additionally, LMU has supported the establishment of the doctoral program “Environment and Society,” and has provided the position of the doctoral program’s coordinator (Dr. Elisabeth Zellmer). LMU has made considerable funding available for the replacement of Carson Director Christof Mauch as Chair at the Amerika-Institut (all social benefits plus extra funding for Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp). Furthermore, LMU has rented a new space specifically for the Carson Center office in a modern building in a very central location on Leopoldstrasse. LMU has also paid for IT equipment and furniture for our offices. Altogether, LMU has contributed or pledged more than 850,000 euros for RCC programs and activities.

The Deutsches Museum has supported the Carson Center by making space available for several visiting fellows and by sponsoring more than half a dozen RCC workshops. The Deutsches Museum has also organized an exhibition and sponsored a full position for an RCC curator at the Deutsches Museum (Dr. Nina Möllers). Overall, the Deutsches Museum has contributed or pledged close to 400,000 euros for the RCC.

The Carson Center has received generous funding for a new project “Climates of Migration,” which is supported by the BMBF. The position of a project director (PD Dr. Uwe Lübken) and two doctoral fellows (Marlene Becker and Rebecca Hoffman) was made possible by these funds (ca 400,000 euros).

# Organigram



Other sponsors include the Volkswagen Foundation, which has sponsored PD Dr. Frank Uekötter's Dilthey Fellowship (approx. 420,000 euros), and the German Research Foundation (DFG), which has funded a research project on "The Political Ecology of Forest Conservation in Wayanad, Kerala, South India" and a full research fellow position occupied by Dr. Ursula Münster.

A number of international organizations and institutions have made funding available for visiting fellows and doctoral students at the Carson Center. These include the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Fulbright Foundation, and the Central European University in Budapest. More than 600,000 euros have been received or pledged by these organizations.

Additional funding has come from the Canadian Embassy (for a lecture series on Canadian landscapes and literatures), the Bavarian American Academy (for a conference on natural catastrophes in North America), the Leopoldina and the research training program "Interdisciplinary Environmental History" in Göttingen (for a conference entitled "From Exploitation to Sustainability"), the European Society for Environmental History (for various workshops including the ESEH-RCC summer school, and a new collaborative research project), LMU's Amerika-Institut (for office management, research assistance and several workshops) and from numerous other partners. Through partnerships and cooperations alone, the RCC has received more than 50,000 euros.

The portal's structure will allow users to browse by *location*, *theme*, and/or *time*, encouraging exploration and serendipitous discovery.

## Collaborations

In 2010 the Rachel Carson Center partnered with various local and international organizations, something which has helped to anchor it to the heart of a network of academic and non-academic organizations, both in Munich and in the wider community.

In the past year, its closest partner has been the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH), with whom the RCC established the biennial Turku Book Award for outstanding scholarship in the field of environmental studies. It will be awarded for the first time in Turku, Finland in July 2011. Recipients will be selected by the Turku Book Prize committee which is made up of RCC staff and fellows and ESEH board members. The RCC and the ESEH have also established a joint working group with the goal of creating a comprehensive online environmental history of Europe. Another collaborative project is a book series *International Environmental History* with Berghahn Books (New York and Oxford). The series is edited by RCC Directors Christof Mauch and Helmuth Trischler as well as by two representatives of the ESEH, Petra van Dam (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and David Moon (University of Durham).

The RCC has also formed a partnership with the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen, Germany. The partners collaborated on a doctoral workshop in Munich entitled "The History of Climate Change, Natural Disasters, and Natural Hazards," which took place in May 2010. Following this successful event, a round table discussion panel on natural disasters was organized at the *Historikertag* in Berlin in October. With the generous support of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the RCC and the KWI have begun working on a new, long-term project which examines the past and current impact of climate change and environmental migrations on societies and cultures around the globe.

The RCC has further extended its academic networking in its collaboration with the research training program “Interdisciplinary Environmental History” (Graduiertenkolleg “Interdisziplinäre Umweltgeschichte”) at the University of Göttingen, Germany; together they have organized an international conference entitled “From Exploitation to Sustainability” in December 2010 which has been generously co-sponsored by Germany’s oldest academic society, the Leopoldina. The conference has not only forged a link between research institutions in the environmental humanities; it has also provided an important networking opportunity for individual doctoral candidates from both Munich and Göttingen as well as a chance to exchange ideas with international scholars in the field of environmental history.

Thanks to the diversity of its fellows, staff, and affiliated scholars, the RCC enjoys a cooperative relationship with a number of other institutions. An example of this is a new research project “Atmosphere & Algorithms: Philosophical and Historical Research in the Age of Computers and Computer Simulations” co-organized by the University of Aarhus, the Freie Universität Berlin, and the RCC. This project integrates researchers from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, and Great Britain; it aims to contribute to our understanding of environmental knowledge and knowledge societies. The German Aerospace Center and the German Research Foundation are the key funders of this research program as well as of a series of workshops which will lead to a joint book, *Digital Atmosphere* (working title).

Of course, the RCC’s collaborations on a local level are just as intrinsic to its success as the international project work. The RCC enjoys a fruitful relationship with the Bavarian State Library and the Deutsches Museum, whose digitization of rare books in environmental studies supports the Center in its digital portal and archival projects. Other local partners include the Bavarian-American Academy and ECOMOVE International, an umbrella organization of international environmental film festivals.

Within its first year, the RCC has already established itself as an important environmental humanities networker, both locally and internationally. We are certain that 2011 will bring even more diverse and innovative collaborations.

### 3 Projects and Programs

The Rachel Carson Center has initiated projects and programs in 2010 that reflect its position at the interface between academic research and the interests of the wider public. Perhaps our most ambitious endeavor is an online portal for digitized resources and exhibitions in environmental humanities. The RCC is also involved in the creation and promotion of (non-virtual) exhibitions on environmental topics. May 2010 saw the premiere of our first public exhibition as part of the “Discoveries 2010: Energy” exhibition on Mainau Island, Germany, to which Nobel Prize winners from all over the world were invited. The Center has also pioneered the production of short films featuring Carson Fellows in an attempt to bridge the gap between the ivory towers of academic scholarship and the wider world. In October 2010, the RCC introduced a Ph.D. program with LMU Munich. This international program, entitled “Environment and Society,” brings together doctoral candidates from six different countries and is supervised by LMU professors from over half a dozen academic disciplines, thus adding a further dimension to the already high degree of collaboration between other academic departments at LMU Munich and the RCC.

RCC Director Helmuth Trischler guides (from right to left) Annette Schavan, Federal Minister of Education and Research, Andreas Jung, Member of the Federal Parliament, and Countess Bettina Bernadotte through the RCC pavilion at the “Discoveries 2010: Energy” exhibition, Mainau Island, May 2010





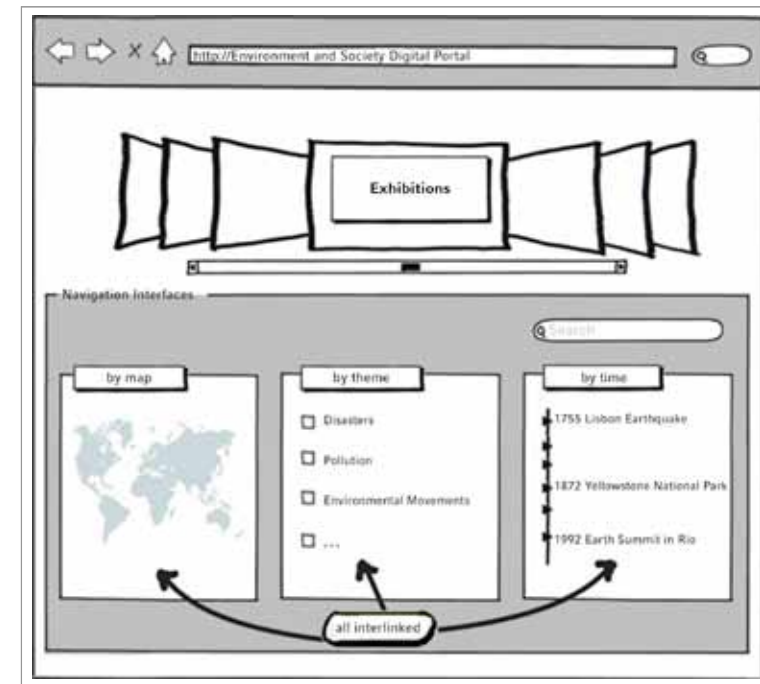
## Online Portal “Environment and Society”

The RCC Portal “Environment and Society” aims to be the “first stop” for free and openly accessible resources on the human-environment relationship. Where existing websites provide limited resources, our portal will offer not only a wealth of diverse digitized documents, but also online “exhibitions” that put selected documents and images into interpretive contexts. It aims to stimulate international and interdisciplinary research, raise the profile of environmental studies, and deepen public understanding of environmental issues.

Over the last year, Project Director Kimberly Coulter, Research Fellow Paul Erker, and a small team of Research Associates have been engaged in a vigorous phase of planning infrastructure and conceptual design while simultaneously developing content for pilot projects (“Key Documents,” “Key Events,” and interpretive exhibitions) that will provide immediate utility at the project’s launch and will continue to grow afterwards. At our March 2010 “Best Practices in Digital Humanities Projects” workshops, we engaged local and international digital humanities practitioners such as the Bavarian State Library (BSB), Beinecke Special Collections Library at Yale University, NiCHE Canada, University of Houston, Environmental History at Sciences Po, German Federal Archive, National Geographic, LMU Munich, and the Deutsches Museum. With the BSB, a leader in digitization, e-publication, and the creation of online history portals, we are discussing ways the BSB may contribute infrastructure and expertise in classification, data access, and metasearches to the portal as part of a long-term partnership. To communicate our requirements for technical features to external service providers, we have also prepared a Lastenheft in consultation with the BSB.

Content under development falls into two general categories: a database of digitized documents and a showcased selection of interpretive online “exhibitions.” We have identified selections of “key documents” and “key events” that should provide immediate value for users at the time of the launch, and should grow dramatically afterwards. “Key documents” (approximately 100 for the first year) are broadly defined to include digitized texts, images, and other media that have shaped international debates on the human-environment relationship. “Key events” will provide an image, basic information, and links to events of major significance.

The portal’s structure will allow users to browse by *location*, *theme*, and/or *time*, encouraging exploration and serendipitous discovery.



Portal structure

Interpretive exhibitions will showcase and contextualize selected documents, taking advantage of the digital format to promote interactivity and to engage interested publics internationally. Items within each exhibition will not only have their own “homes” in the portal, but will also appear, as appropriate, through the portal’s map, theme, and chronology viewers. For our pilot projects, we have six exhibitions in various stages of development.

## Polar Research - Selected Documents

This collaboration with the Deutsches Museum centers around the digitization of 31 unpublished diaries of the German polar researcher Alfred Wegener (1880-1930). The exhibition will contextualize his diaries with related digitized documents such as the German edition of J. P. Koch's *Durch die weiße Wüste: Die dänische Forschungsreise quer durch Nordgrönland 1912-13* (edited by Wegener and published in 1919), diverse maps and photos as well as International Polar Year reports of the 1880s; and links to the Arctic Blue Books website (nineteenth century British Parliamentary Papers concerned with the Canadian Arctic).

## Landscape Promotion and Transformation along the CB&Q Railroad

Together with the Newberry Library, a private humanities research library in Chicago, the RCC is pioneering a pilot project entitled "Promotion and Transformation of Landscapes along the CB&Q Railroad." The resulting illustrated hypertext will showcase maps and land promotional materials and will demonstrate how an environmental historian can use such archival documents to better understand the roles of government, corporate, and individual actors in the transformation of past landscapes. Research, selection, and digitization of some 60 to 90 documents and images is currently in progress.

## Reception of *Silent Spring* and its Impact on International Environmental Studies

The RCC is in the process of developing an interactive digital exhibition on the international reception and uses of Rachel Carson's work, in collaboration with Yale's Beinecke Special Collections Library, which holds the Carson papers. Possible topics of interest include reception of *Silent Spring* by international publishers, presses, critics, and corporations, which continues to today; impact on environmentalism and environmental scholarship; and the use of Carson's work in environmental education of children and youth.

## Environmental Sites of Memory

Since Pierre Nora's pioneering 1984 volume *Les Lieux de Mémoire*, "sites of memory" have become part of a vast literature on cultures of memory, a trademark of public history, and sometimes even a tool of place marketing. The feature "Environmental Sites of Memory," edited by LMU Fellow Frank Uekötter, will bring together programmatic essays and contributions from established scholars and will invite additional contributions and comments from the public. Entries range from sites of debate about nuclear waste disposal to something as seemingly banal as perceptions of tap water's potability. The project, which will begin on a German scale and then expand globally, aims to write a synthesis of environmental history "from below" without the imposition of master narratives; to generate questions and insights concerning environmental sites of memory and memorial practices; and to raise the profile of environmental history in the broader public sphere.

## Environmental Documentary Films

In collaboration with the Bavarian State Library and ECOMOVE International, the RCC has proposed the development of an online resource that will make environmentally related documentary films accessible for interdisciplinary academic research and environmental education. The planned resource includes 1) a rich annotated database of environmentally related films and 2) the films themselves (or excerpts thereof), digitized and ready for long-term preservation and online streaming. At this point all project partners are involved with writing proposals in order to receive sufficient funding.

## Exhibition “Discoveries 2010: Energy”

In conjunction with the Deutsches Museum, the Rachel Carson Center premiered its first public exhibition as part of the “Discoveries 2010: Energy” event on Mainau Island on Lake Constance, Germany, in May 2010. For the event, primarily financed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research as part of their 2010 “Year of Energy,” RCC staff members acted in both an advisory capacity and actively engaged in the exhibition’s implementation by organizing the event’s first pavilion.

The pavilion, which showcased changes in energy production and consumption from the “wooden age” to the present, provided a unique challenge for the newly created Center. An ideal blend of enthusiasm, creativity, and experience allowed a highly motivated team of RCC and museum staff members to create both an insightful and successful exhibition. The pavilion aimed to foster a better understanding of sustainability by stressing the importance of the individual in developing long term perspectives on energy consumption. Overall, the efforts of the RCC and the Deutsches Museum in Mainau provided an ideal opportunity for the Center to carry out one of its stated goals: bringing environmental topics closer to the public.

In October 2010, a smaller version of the exhibition was prominently displayed for the Münchner Wissenschaftstage (Munich Science Days) in the Aula of the main building at LMU Munich. The exhibit was the sole contribution from any humanities disciplines; it clearly demonstrated the often underestimated role of the humanities in providing relevant research and discussion on topical societal issues like energy and environmental resources.

## RCC Documentary Film Projects

In order to highlight and increase public access to the inventive and groundbreaking research being done at the Center, the RCC has been working with several filmmakers in Munich to produce documentary-style portraits of the Carson Fellows as well as of some of our larger events. Together with Karmann Medienproduktion, the RCC released a seven minute summary film of our Opening Event, featuring highlights from the evening as well as short interviews with the keynote speakers and audience members.

The RCC has also been working with the young, up-and-coming documentary film director Marta Niepytalska to film major events and produce documentary shorts of the Carson Fellows. Niepytalska filmed the workshop “Opportunities and Needs in Environmental History” which featured a plethora of presentations by well-known environmental historians. In September, two Carson Fellows – Shane McCorristine and Gijs Mom – participated in the first Carson Fellows Film Portraits. These short films, shot at the RCC and in the Deutsches Museum Verkehrszentrum, the Museum’s branch for transport and mobility, profile the exciting and innovative work that McCorristine and Mom have been doing during their fellowship.

At the moment, Niepytalska and her team are in the process of finishing four more fellows’ profiles. These films are available for viewing on the RCC website and Facebook page. The RCC is also currently developing a Youtube Channel, as well as cooperating with LMU iTunes. With these films, the RCC is not only documenting the groundbreaking work being done at the Center, it is also spreading this information to a much wider audience.

## International Doctoral Program “Environment and Society”

In winter semester 2010-2011, the RCC launched the doctoral program “Environment and Society.” While the program is institutionally bound to the RCC, it also draws upon the expertise of LMU Munich and other local institutions that focus on environmental topics. A total of eight LMU departments – from the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences – are involved in the program. “Environment and Society” combines a research-oriented approach with a systemically structured three year educational plan for students whose dissertations focus on the interplay between nature, culture, and the environment.

The RCC’s application for start-up funding was successful. The program is financially supported by LMU Munich with funds from its Doctoral Research Training III program. RCC Director Christof Mauch and Ethnology Professor Eveline Dürr head the program with the support of the Program Coordinator Elisabeth Zellmer.

The sheer volume and diversity of interested applicants in the summer of 2010 reflects the unique quality of the program. “Environment and Society” not only offers a structured education and intensive academic support, but also provides students with the opportunity to explore topics from an international and interdisciplinary perspective. From a number of qualified applicants, 14 doctoral students from diverse backgrounds, both geographically and academically, were selected. Candidates hail from Bangladesh, Germany, Iran, Nigeria, Russia, and Switzerland and represent various academic disciplines, which include American studies, religious studies, theology, ethnology, history, geography, and literature.

The beginning of the “Environment and Society” program was marked by an excursion to the Deutsches Museum on October 28, 2010, during which the academic board welcomed the program’s new members. RCC Director Helmuth Trischler, in his dual capacity as the museum’s Director of Research, gave students a “behind-the-scenes” tour of the museum.

Later, the group participated in a panel discussion entitled “How Intensive is Our Energy Consumption? Electricity – from the Beacon of Hope to the Source of Crisis.”

The program was officially inaugurated with the workshop “From Exploitation to Sustainability? Global Perspectives on the History and Future of Resource Depletion,” which took place on 6-7 December, 2010, at the Seidlvilla in Munich. This event was organized by the Rachel Carson Center in collaboration with the research training program “Interdisciplinary Environmental History” in Göttingen, and was generously supported by the Leopoldina (German National Academy of Sciences). On the first day of the workshop, doctoral researchers discussed their dissertation projects in an innovative format based on “speed-dating,” in which discussants rotate among presenters, allowing a few minutes for interaction with each configuration.

The start of the RCC’s doctoral program has proven both exciting and successful. Not only does the program support aspiring young researchers, but it secures a promising future for the field of environmental studies.

PhD Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, May 2010



## 4 Events

The RCC aims not only to produce excellent research in the field of environmental studies, but more importantly, to share this knowledge amongst academics as well as the interested public. RCC events have showcased our research in conferences, provided forums for scholars both inside and outside of Germany, and they have given the city of Munich an additional voice in academic and non-academic debate about environment and society.

One of the highlights in 2010 was the official opening of the Carson Center on July 1. This event brought together more than 300 people – Munich dignitaries and students, activists and academics – who listened to keynote speeches on environmental studies and topical environmental issues by Indian environmentalist Vandana Shiva, the President of WWF International Yolanda Kakabadse, and South African Professor Jane Carruthers.

The most regular and therefore perhaps most central event in the Carson Center's calendar has always been the weekly Lunchtime Colloquium. From October 2009 to December 2010, colloquium speakers have come from eight different countries and about a dozen different disciplines, ranging from history to landscape ecology, from anthropology to environmental ethics, and from sociology to geology to literature. Most of the featured speakers have been Carson Fellows but scholars from LMU Munich and other regional institutions as well as representatives from national and international organizations have also been included in the program. Among the highlights in 2009 and 2010 were two presentations on natural catastrophes. One was given by historian Christian Pfister from the University of Bern who demonstrated how societies have adapted to (or forgotten) hazards such as floods, earthquakes, and fires; the other one was given by Mexican anthropologist Virginia García-Acosta from CIESAS (Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social) who discussed the role of disasters in Mexican culture, history, and politics.

While many events have been initiated by RCC staff, some have been triggered by the particular interests of Carson Fellows. A case in point is an international workshop that Carson Fellow Gijs Mom organized in the new field of mobility studies; another one is a pilot summer school that Carson Fellow Gary Martin led under the title “From the Global to the Local: Planetary Boundaries and Community Based Management of Environmental Challenges.”

Even though Munich, with its large network of environmental scholarship and organizations, is a near-perfect location for the activities of the Center, the RCC has held selected events abroad in order to collaborate with academic and institutional partners. The workshop “Opportunities and Needs in Environmental History” was held in Washington D.C.; it was co-sponsored by the National History Center and the Kluge Center of the Library of Congress. Environmental historians from all over the globe attended the workshop, taking as the starting point for discussion the role that environmental history can, should, or must play in the future. Resulting contributions to this discussion will be published in a special issue of *RCC Perspectives*.

A further high-profile highlight was a conference that was jointly sponsored by the Bavarian American Academy and held in Munich. “Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe” brought together Carson Fellows and international scholars. It featured a podium discussion (with the President of the Bavarian Environmental Protection Agency, Albert Göttle) about what Americans and Germans can learn from one another in terms of environmental culture, and it drew a large crowd when former Federal Minister and UN Environment Program Chief Klaus Töpfer gave a keynote titled “Sustainable Development - The New Name For Peace?!”

With over seventy local and international events, the RCC calendar has left many staff and fellows with hardly a day free. The year 2011 promises to be even more fruitful with over 26 conferences already in the planning stages.

## RCC Lunchtime Colloquium: International Perspectives on Environmental Humanities

October 2009 – December 2010

- |             |  |             |   |
|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| 22 Oct 2009 | <b>Reinhold Reith</b> (RCC / University of Salzburg)<br>“Umweltgeschichte der Frühen Neuzeit” (Environmental History of the Early Modern Times)                                    | 14 Jan 2010 | <b>Roman Köster</b> (Universität der Bundeswehr München)<br>“History of German Waste Water Management after World War II”                       |
| 29 Oct 2009 | <b>Christian Kehrt</b> (RCC / Deutsches Museum)<br>“Polar Research in the Cold War in Spatial and Environmental Perspective”   | 21 Jan 2010 | <b>Christof Mauch</b> (RCC)<br>“Natural Disasters in American History: From Early Modern Times to the Present”                                  |
| 05 Nov 2009 | <b>Julia Herzberg</b> (RCC)<br>“Frost: Extreme Cold in Russia”   | 28 Jan 2010 | <b>Gordon Winder</b> (RCC / LMU Munich)<br>“Mediating International Disasters: Earthquakes as News and Memory in the Modern Newspaper”          |
| 12 Nov 2009 | <b>Gijs Mom</b> (RCC / Eindhoven University of Technology)<br>“Space, Sound, Smog, and the Senses: Environmental Mobility History in the Making”                                   | 04 Feb 2010 | <b>Frank Uekötter</b> (RCC)<br>“Mapping Realms of Environmental Knowledge: Outlines of a Rachel Carson Center Project”                          |
| 19 Nov 2009 | <b>Frank Uekötter</b> (RCC)<br>“The Copenhagen Climate Summit: An Attempt at Future History”   | 11 Feb 2010 | <b>Christian Pfister</b> (University of Bern)<br>“Memory and Oblivion: Applying and Failing to Apply Knowledge of Historical Natural Disasters” |
| 26 Nov 2009 | <b>Markus Vogt</b> (LMU Munich)<br>“Climate Justice: An Ethical Analysis of the Conflicts, Rights, and Incentives Surrounding CO <sub>2</sub> ”                                    | 15 Apr 2010 | <b>Bernhard Gill</b> (LMU Munich)<br>“Images of Nature in Environmental Conflicts”  |
| 03 Dec 2009 | <b>Franziska Torma</b> (RCC)<br>“The Oceanic Ecosystem – Humanity and the Seven Seas between Internationalism, Science, and Environmentalism (1850 - circa 2000)”                  | 22 Apr 2010 | <b>Klaus Wagner</b> (Technische Universität München)<br>“Adaptation to Climate Change: Natural Hazard Management in Germany”                    |
| 10 Dec 2009 | <b>Paul Erker</b> (RCC)<br>“An Environmental History of Asbestos”  | 06 May 2010 | <b>Patrick Kupper</b> (RCC / ETH Zurich)<br>“National Parks in Global Historical Perspective”   |
| 17 Dec 2009 | <b>Diana Mincyte</b> (RCC / University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)<br>“The Pasteurization of Lithuania: Politics of Subsistence and Sustainability in Post-Industrial Europe” | 20 May 2010 | <b>Dora Drexler</b> (Technische Universität München)<br>“European Land Use Patterns”  |
|             |  | 27 May 2010 | <b>Wolfram Mauser</b> (LMU Munich)<br>“Water Scarcity: Global Perspectives”   |
|             |  | 10 Jun 2010 | <b>Michael Schuering</b> (University of California, Berkeley)<br>“Protestant Protest against the German Nuclear Industry, 1970-90”              |

- 17 Jun 2010 **Anke Friedrich** (LMU Munich)  
“Major Earthquakes in Germany and in the American West: A Geological Analysis of Time-Space Patterns”
- 24 Jun 2010 **Virginia García-Acosta** (CIESAS, Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social)  
“Disasters in Mexico: Vulnerabilities, Risks, and Adaptive Strategies”
- 08 Jul 2010 **Ursula Münster** (LMU Munich)  
“Whose Forest is it? The Political Ecology of Forest Conservation in Wyanad, Kerala, South India”
- 15 Jul 2010 **Iris Lauterbach** (LMU Munich)  
“The Garden in the 19th Century Visual Arts”
- 22 Jul 2010 **Astrid Eckert** (Emory University)  
“A Lifeline in the ‘Death Strip’: An Environmental History of the ‘Iron Curtain’”
- 21 Oct 2010 **Cheryl Lousley** (RCC / University of Leeds)  
“Sentimental Power: The Affective Politics of Live Aid”
- 28 Oct 2010 **Stefania Gallini** (RCC / Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá)  
“Doña Juana’s Ancestors: A History of Waste in Bogotá, Colombia”
- 04 Nov 2010 **Jens Kersten** (LMU Munich)  
“Whales and Swarms: Metaphors of Nature in Constitutional Theory and Law”
- 11 Nov 2010 **Jacob Tropp** (RCC / Middlebury College, Vermont)  
“From Taos Pueblo to Teheran’s Poor: U.S. Development Knowledge and Interventions”
- 18 Nov 2010 **Christian Fuhrmeister** (LMU Munich)  
“Nature, Death, and National Identity: German War Cemeteries 1920-1960”

- 25 Nov 2010 **Lawrence Culver** (RCC / Utah State University)  
“The Frontier of Leisure: Californian Environments”
- 02 Dec 2010 **Astrid Mignon Kirchhof** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)  
“Nature Conservation and the Myth of the German Forest in West Germany 1945-60”
- 09 Dec 2010 **Joachim Radkau** (Universität Bielefeld)  
“The Ecology of a Worldwide Movement: Environmentalism in Context”
- 16 Dec 2010 **Gisela Grupe** (LMU Munich)  
“Human-Environment Relationships in the Past: The Value of Archaeological Skeletal Remains”

## Lectures and Lecture Series

In addition to several lectures given by Carson Fellows and staff, the Center sponsored its first lecture series on Canada. The series was a joint project of the Canadian Embassy, the Amerika-Institut at LMU Munich, and the RCC. It brought a range of scholars (many from Canada) to Munich; four gave talks on Canadian environmental issues.

- 21 Oct 2009 **Helmuth Trischler** (RCC) with **Albert Göttle** (President, Bavarian Environmental Protection Agency, Augsburg)  
“Saubere Luft und stinkender Smog” (Clear Air and Stinking Smog)  
Discussion series / Historisches Kolleg Munich
- 29 Oct 2009 **Christof Mauch** (RCC)  
“Das neue Rachel Carson Center oder Was heißt und zu welchem Ende betreibt man Weltumweltgeschichte?” (The New Rachel Carson Center or What Does It Mean and Why Does One Pursue Global Environmental History?)  
Center for Advanced Studies, LMU Munich

- 19 May 2010 **David Neufeld** (University of Alberta, Edmonton)  
“Reading the Yukon: Indigenous Story Maps and Western Cartography”  
Canada Lecture Series / Amerika Institut, LMU Munich
- 09 Jun 2010 **Liza Piper** (University of Alberta, Edmonton)  
“Nutrition, Science, and Changing Environments in North America”  
Canada Lecture Series / Amerika Institut, LMU Munich
- 30 Jun 2010 **Michèle Dagenais** (University of Montreal, Quebec)  
“Montréal and its Waters: An Entangled History”  
Canada Lecture Series / Amerika Institut, LMU Munich
- 07 Jul 2010 **Hartmut Lutz** (University of Greifswald)  
“Canadian Environments in Aboriginal Literature”  
Canada Lecture Series / Amerika Institut, LMU Munich
- 04 Oct 2010 **Frank Uekötter** (RCC)  
“Deepwater Horizon: What Humanity Can Learn from the Gulf Oil Disaster”  
Amerika Haus, Munich

## Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars

- 04 Nov 2009 **Carson Workshop** featuring Research Associates  
Munich, Germany  
Presenters Agnes Kneitz (RCC), Angelika Möller (RCC)  
Convener Christof Mauch (RCC)
- 18 Nov 2009 **Carson Workshop** featuring Research Associates  
Munich, Germany  
Presenters Gisela Parak (Reiss-Engelhorn Museum), Sonja Weinbuch (RCC)  
Convener Christof Mauch (RCC)

- 09 Dec 2009 **Carson Workshop** featuring Research Associates  
Munich, Germany  
Presenters Andreas Grieger (RCC), Arielle Helmick (RCC)  
Convener Christof Mauch (RCC)
- 11 Dec 2009 **Carson Workshop** featuring Research Associates  
Munich, Germany  
Presenters Ewald Blocher (RCC), Andrew Denning (RCC), Stefan Esselborn (RCC),  
Kristin (Haebler) von Heyking (RCC), Steve Milder (RCC), Georg  
Jochum (Zeppelin University, Friedrichshafen)  
Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)
- 30 – 31 Jan 2010  
**Developing Environmental History in Europe**  
Workshop / University of Salzburg, Austria  
Participants Finn Arne Jørgensen (Norwegian University of Science  
and Technology, Trondheim), Andrea Kiss, Ulrich Koppitz  
(Universitätsklinikum Düsseldorf), Julia Lajus (European University, St.  
Petersburg), Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud (Ecole des Hautes Etudes  
en Sciences Sociales, Paris), Christof Mauch (RCC), Timo Myllyntaus  
(RCC / University of Turku, Finland), Simone Neri (University of  
Siena, Italy), Christian Rohr (University of Salzburg), Grégory Quenet  
(University of Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines), Phia Steyn  
(University of Stirling), Petra van Dam (VU University Amsterdam)  
Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Christian Rohr (University of Salzburg)  
Co-sponsored by the European Society for Environmental History  
(ESEH)



04 – 05 Feb 2010

**Objects of Energy Consumption: Using Material Culture as Source for an Environmental and Consumption-Oriented History of Technology**

Workshop / Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Victor Buchli (University College London), Sophie Gerber (Münchner Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikgeschichte), Kirsten Gram-Hanssen (Danish Building Research Institute), Gudrun M. König (Technische Universität Dortmund), Nina Lorkowski (Münchner Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikgeschichte), Lydia Martens (Keele University), Nina Möllers (Deutsches Museum), Monika Röther (Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen), Wolfgang Ruppert (Universität der Künste Berlin), Barbara Schmucki (University of York), Helmuth Trischler (RCC), Peter-Paul Verbeek (University of Twente), Gregoire Wallenborn (Université Libre de Bruxelles)
- Conveners** Helmuth Trischler (RCC), Karin Zachmann (TU Munich)
- Co-sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Deutsches Museum, and the Zentralinstitut für Geschichte der Technik

06 Feb 2010 **America on the Move**

Seminar / Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Tobias Englmeier (LMU), Alex Fehlner (LMU), Katharina Fischer (LMU), Wong Kian Foong (LMU), Gesine Gerlach (LMU), Claudia Köpfer (LMU), Ana Kohler (LMU), Robert Kürzinger (LMU), Franziska Nimz (LMU), Julia Staudinger (LMU), Philipp Stephan (LMU), Richard Wudtke (LMU)
- Conveners** Uwe Lübken (RCC), Christof Mauch (RCC)

01 Mar 2010 **Carson Workshop** featuring Research Associates  
Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Marcus Andreas (RCC), Martin Bemann (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg), Felix Mauch (RCC), Julia Blanc (RCC), Marc Landry (RCC)
- Conveners** Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)

19 and 27 Mar 2010

**Best Practices in Digital Humanities**

Workshop / Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Wilhelm Füßl (Deutsches Museum), Matthias Röschner (Deutsches Museum), Helmut Hilz (Deutsches Museum), Christian Knoop (Deutsches Museum), Gregor Horstkemper (Bavarian State Library), Max Schreiber (Bavarian State Library), Grégory Quenet (University of Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines), Hubertus Kohle (LMU Munich), Karsten Kuehnel (International Tracing Service, Arolsen), Sara McNeil (University of Houston, Texas), Alan MacEachern (University of Western Ontario), William J. Turkel (University of Western Ontario), Doug Knox (Newberry Library), James Grossman (Newberry Library), Rebekah Irwin (Yale University), Louise Bernard (Yale University), Frank Biasi (National Geographic), Volker Zapf (Nietzsche Source)
- Conveners** Kimberly Coulter (RCC)

25 Mar 2010 **Carson Workshop** featuring Carson Fellows  
Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Heike Egner (RCC / Mainz University), Andrew Isenberg (RCC / Temple University, Philadelphia), Sherry Johnson (RCC / Florida International University, Miami), Martin Knoll (RCC / Darmstadt Technical University), Gary Martin (RCC / University of Kent)
- Conveners** Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)

27 – 29 May 2010

**The History of Climate Change, Natural Hazards, and Natural Disasters**

Doctoral Workshop / Munich, Germany

- Presenters** Franz Mauelshagen (KWI), Maike Böcker (KWI), Ingo Haltermann (KWI), Karin Schürmann (KWI), Gitte Cullmann (KWI), Martin Voss (Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel), Verena Twyrdy (University of Bonn), Patrick Masius (University of Göttingen), Michael Zeheter (University of Konstanz), Katrin Hauer (University of Vienna), Felix

Mauch (RCC), Arne Harms (Freie Universität Berlin), Yvonne Breuer (University Bonn), Jana Sprenger (University of Göttingen), Rebecca Knapp (Ruhr Universität Bochum), Hieronymus Bitschnau (University of Salzburg), Katja Eßer (RWTH Aachen University)

Conveners Uwe Lübken (RCC), Franz Mauelshagen (KWI), Franziska Torma (RCC)  
Co-sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (KWI), Essen

03 – 05 Jun 2010

### **Mobility and the Environment**

Workshop / Munich, Germany

Presenters Deborah Breen (Boston University), Peter Cox (University of Chester), Uwe Lübken (RCC), Clapperton Mavhunga (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Gijs Mom (RCC / Eindhoven University), Cliff O'Neill (University of Cumbria), Federico Paolini (University of Siena), Gopa Samanta (University of Burdwan), Barbara Schmucki (University of York), Cotton Seiler (Dickinson College), Manuel Stoffers (Maastricht University), Sandra Swart (Stellenbosch University), John Walton (Universidad del Pais Vasco, Bilbao), Abebe Zegeye (University of the Witwatersrand)

Mobility and the Environment Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, June 2010



Conveners Marguerite Avery (MIT Press), Uwe Lübken (RCC), Clapperton Mavhunga (MIT), Gijs Mom (RCC / Eindhoven University)

07 – 09 Jun 2010

### **Environmental History, Environmental Humanities**

Doctoral Workshop / Munich, Germany

Participants Ulrike Anders (University of Göttingen), Klaus Angerer (Humboldt University of Berlin), Dorothee Brantz (Berlin), Franz-Josef Brüggemeier (University of Freiburg), Indre Döpcke (University of Oldenburg), Martina Fendt (TU Darmstadt), Doris Hallama (University of Innsbruck), Eike-Christian Heine (TU Braunschweig), Tobias Huff (University of Freiburg), Doris Jansen (Kiel University), Gisela Kangler (TU Munich), Susanne Leikam (University of Regensburg), Uwe Lübken (RCC), Christof Mauch (RCC / LMU Munich), Seline Reinhardt (University of Bern), Christian Rohr (University of Salzburg / University of Bern), Lars Schladitz (University of Erfurt), Laurent Schmit (University of Freiburg), Annika Schmitt (University of Osnabrück), Anne-Kathrin Steinmetz (Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship), Franziska Torma (RCC), Nadja Türke (University of Potsdam), Helmuth Trischler (RCC / Deutsches Museum), Verena Winiwarter (University of Klagenfurt), Johannes Zechner (FU Berlin)

Conveners Uwe Lübken (RCC), Franziska Torma (RCC)

10 – 12 Jun 2010

### **Opportunities and Needs in Environmental History**

Workshop / Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Participants James Banner (National History Center), David Blackbourn (Harvard University), Carolyn Thompson Brown (John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress), Peter Coates (University of Bristol), Kimberly Coulter (RCC), John Gillis (Rutgers University), Arnita Jones (American Historical Association), Christof Mauch (RCC), John McNeill (Georgetown), Martin V. Melosi (University of Houston), Stephen Pyne

(Arizona State University), Mahesh Rangarajan (University of Delhi), Harriet Ritvo (MIT), Libby Robin (Australian National University), Frank Uekötter (RCC), Richard Walker (University of California, Berkeley), Douglas R. Weiner (University of Arizona), Richard White (Stanford University), Frank Zelko (University of Vermont)

Conveners James Banner (National History Center), John Gillis (Rutgers University), Patricia Limerick (University of Colorado), Christof Mauch (RCC)

Co-sponsored by the National History Center, Center for the American West, and the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress

08 – 10 Jul 2010

**Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe**

Conference / Munich, Germany

Presenters Heike Paul (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg), Sherry Johnson (RCC / Florida International University), Lawrence Culver (RCC / Utah State University), Andrew Isenberg (RCC / Temple University, Philadelphia), Gordon Winder (RCC), Heike Egner (RCC/University of Mainz), Andreas Falke (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg), Uwe Lübken (RCC), Craig Colten (Louisiana State University), Stacy Alaimo (University of Texas at Arlington) Alexa Weik (RCC / University of Fribourg), Klaus Töpfer (Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam)

Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Sylvia Mayer (BAA)

Co-sponsored by the Bavarian American Academy (BAA)

16 Jul 2010 **Carson Workshop: Nature and Culture in History**  
Munich, Germany

Presenters Valentina Castillo (LMU), Ute Hasenöhr (Leibnitz Institut für Strukturplanung und Regionalentwicklung), Agnes Kneitz (RCC), Ariane Leendertz (LMU), Charlotte Lerg (LMU), Philipp Stelzel (Humboldt-Universität Berlin)

Convener Christof Mauch (RCC)

10 Aug 2010 **Carson Workshop: Northern Environments**  
Munich, Germany

Presenters Ingo Heidbrink (RCC / Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA), Shane McCorristine (RCC / University College Dublin), Andrea Ulrich (ETH Zurich)

Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)

20 Aug – 06 Sep 2010

**Pilot Project: Summer School for Graduate Students – From the Global to the Local**

Munich, Germany

Convener Gary Martin (RCC)

14 Sep 2010 **Carson Workshop: Environmental Politics / Multidisciplinary Perspectives**

Munich, Germany

Presenters Stefan Dorondel (RCC / Francisc I. Rainer Institute of Anthropology Bucharest), Lajos Racz (RCC / Szeged University), Lisa Sideris (RCC / Princeton University)

Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)

04 – 07 Nov 2010

**Annual Conference of the Collegium Carolinum: Humans and Environment: Environmental History as Eastern European Regional History from Industrialisation to Post-Socialism**

Bad Wiessee, Germany

Conveners Horst Förster (Universität Tübingen), Julia Herzberg (RCC), Martin Zückert (Humboldt-Universität Berlin)

Co-sponsored by Collegium Carolinum and the European Society for Environmental History

08 – 09 Nov 2010

**The Animal in Itself: New Scientific Perspectives on the Relationship between Animals and Humans**

Conference / Tutzing, Germany

Participants Thomas Blaha (University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover), Herwig Grimm (Institut Technik-Theologie-Naturwissenschaften-LMU Munich), Sonja Hartnack (Vetsuisse, Zurich), Martin Held (Evangelische Akademie Tutzing), Kurt Kotrschal (University of Vienna), Peter Kunzmann (Ethics Center Jena), Christof Mauch (RCC / LMU Munich), Johanna Moritz (Bayerisches Landesamt für Gesundheit und Lebensmittelsicherheit, Oberschleißheim), Carola Otterstedt (Stiftung Bündnis Mensch & Tier Munich), Michael Rosenberger (Katholisch-Theologische Privatuniversität Linz), Stephan Schleissing (Institut Technik-Theologie-Naturwissenschaften, Munich), Kirsten Schmidt (Ruhr-Universität Bochum), Beat Sitter-Liver (Universities of Freiburg and Basel), Aline Steinbrecher (University of Zurich), Frank Uekötter (RCC / Deutsches Museum)

Conveners Herwig Grimm (Institut Technik-Theologie-Naturwissenschaften-LMU Munich), Martin Held (Evangelische Akademie Tutzing), Christof Mauch (RCC / LMU Munich), Carola Otterstedt (Stiftung Bündnis Mensch & Tier Munich), and Stephan Schleissing (University of Göttingen)  
Co-sponsored by Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, Institut Technik Theologie Naturwissenschaften (TTN), and Stiftung Bündnis Mensch & Tier

06 – 07 Dec 2010

**From Exploitation to Sustainability? Global Perspectives on the History and Future of Resource Depletion**

Conference / Munich, Germany

Presenters John McNeill (Georgetown University), Jane Carruthers (University of South Africa), Libby Robin (Australian National University), José Augusto Padua (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro), Greg

Bankoff (University of Hull), Bao Maohong (Peking University), Ranjan Chakrabarti (Jadavpur University), David Moon (Durham University), Martin Melosi (University of Houston)

Conveners Bernd Herrmann (University of Göttingen), Christof Mauch (RCC)  
Co-sponsored by the Graduiertenkolleg “Interdisziplinäre Umweltgeschichte” Göttingen and the Leopoldina (Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften)

16 – 17 Dec 2010

**Atmosphere & Algorithms**

Workshop / Munich, Germany

Participants Dania Achermann (IPA Oberpfaffenhofen / RCC), Johann Feichter (MPI Meteorology Hamburg / ETH Zurich), Gabriele Gramelsberger (FU Berlin), Helene Guillemont (CNRS A. Koyré Paris), Matthias Heymann (Aarhus University), Emilian Kavalski (University of Western Sydney, Australia / RCC), Matthijs V. Kouw (University of Maastricht), Catharina Landström (University of East Anglia), Thomas Ludwig (DKRZ Hamburg), Cornelia Luedecke (German Meteorological Society), Martin Mahony (University of East Anglia), Sonja Palfner (TU Berlin), Arthur Petersen (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency), Birgit Schneider (University of Potsdam), Helmuth Trischler (RCC / Deutsches Museum), Hans Volkert (IPA Oberpfaffenhofen)

Conveners Gabriele Gramelsberger (Free University Berlin), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)  
Co-Sponsored by the German Research Foundation

17 Dec 2010

**Sources for Corporate Environmental History**

Workshop / Munich, Germany

Convener Paul Erker (RCC)

## Panels

11 Mar 2010 **Fire, Floods, War: The Nature of Urban Disaster**  
Annual Meeting, American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) /  
Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.

Participants Greg Bankoff (University of Hull), Dorothee Brantz (Technische  
Universität Berlin), Ranjan Chakrabarti (Jadavpur University), Uwe  
Lübken (RCC), Christof Mauch (RCC)  
Co-sponsored by the American Society for Environmental History

07 – 08 May 2010

**The History of Environment and Global Climate Change: Water,  
Ecology, De-Forestation, Agriculture, Politics, and the Management  
of Nature**

Braga, Portugal

Conveners Ranjan Chakrabarti (Jadavpur University), Christof Mauch (RCC),  
Angela Mendonça (International School Congress, Portugal)  
Co-sponsored by the European Society for Environmental History, and  
the 2nd International School Congress, Association of South Asian  
Environmental Historians

01 – 04 Sep 2010

**Imagined Environments: Problem Areas, Dream Worlds, and  
Dystopia**

Fourth International Conference of the European Association for  
the Study of Literature, Culture and Environment (EASLCE) / Bath,  
England

Participants Agnes Kneitz (RCC), Sylvia Mayer (Universität Bayreuth), Walter  
Wagner (University of Vienna), Alexa Weik von Mossner (RCC)

01 Oct 2010 **Between Disciplines, Transcending Borders: Natural Disasters in  
History**

Historian's Symposium / Berlin, Germany

Participants Heike Egner (RCC / University of Mainz), Andrea Janku (University of  
London), Monica Juneja (University Heidelberg), Uwe Lübken (RCC),  
Christof Mauch (RCC), Franz Mauelshagen (KWI), Mischa Meier  
(University Tübingen), Gerrit Schenk (University Stuttgart), Cornel  
Zwierlein (Ruhr Universität Bochum)  
Co-sponsored by the the Institute for Advanced Studies in the  
Humanities (KWI), Essen

08 Oct 2010 **The Mobilization of Nature in Germany**

German Studies Association Conference / Oakland, California, U.S.A.

Participants Marc Landry (RCC), Thomas Lekan (University of South Carolina),  
Christof Mauch (RCC), Adam Rosenbaum (Emory University), Helmut  
Walser Smith (Vanderbilt University)

## Roundtable Discussions

27 Apr 2010 **Environmental Politics in the U.S.**

Munich, Germany

Conveners Kathryn Crockart (U.S. Consulate), Christof Mauch (RCC)  
Co-sponsored by the United States Consulate Munich

01 Jun 2010 **Climate Change after Copenhagen**

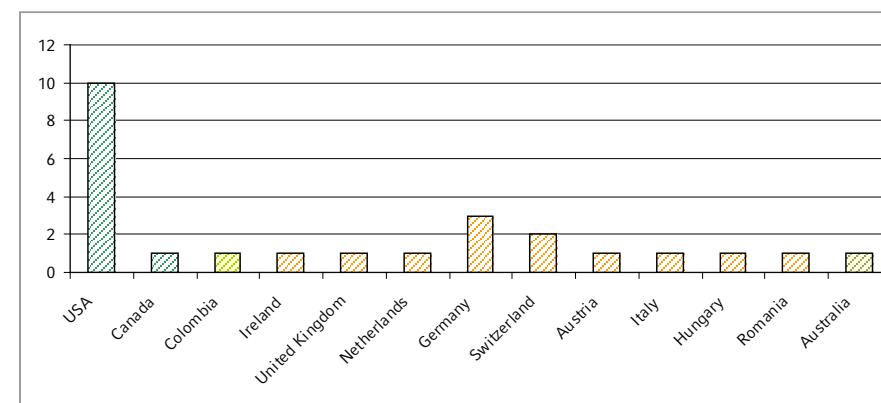
Munich, Germany

Conveners Kathryn Crockart (U.S. Consulate), Thomas Heller (Stanford  
University), Sherry Johnson (RCC / Florida International University)  
Co-sponsored by the United States Consulate Munich

- 16 Jun 2010 **Meteorology and History**  
Munich, Germany
- Conveners Michael Hebbert (University of Manchester), Vladimir Jankovic (University of Manchester), Cornelia Lüdecke (University Hamburg), Frank Uekötter (RCC)
- 01 Jul 2010 **Roundtable Discussion with Jane Carruthers and Yolanda Kakabadse**  
Munich, Germany
- Conveners Christof Mauch (RCC), Helmuth Trischler (RCC)
- 02 Jul 2010 **National Parks: International Perspectives**  
Munich, Germany
- Conveners Bernhard Gißibl (Universität Mannheim), Patrick Kupper (RCC / ETH Zurich)
- 20 Jul 2010 **Risk and Risk Societies**  
Munich, Germany
- Conveners Ulrich Beck (LMU Munich), Uwe Lübken (RCC), Diana Mincyte (RCC / University of Illinois)
- 05 Aug 2010 **Roundtable Discussion with Representatives of the Bavarian Ministry for Research and Education (BStMfWFK)**  
Munich, Germany
- Conveners Michael Greiner (BStMfWFK), Christof Mauch (RCC), Christoph Parchmann (BStMfWFK)

## 5 Carson Fellows

The Rachel Carson Center is the result of a funding scheme, “International Käte Hamburger Collegia for Research in the Humanities,” launched by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) that was devised to internationalize the humanities in Germany. Against this backdrop, the goal of bringing international scholars to Munich is at the very core of the Center’s activities. The Carson Fellows who have visited the Center have more than lived up to the aim of generating global dialogues and of introducing international perspectives. While the first round of fellows were mostly Europeans, their successors recruited in 2010 come from more than a dozen countries and four continents.



Carson Fellows 2009-2010, countries of origin

The sheer extent and variety of cooperation and collaboration between our international fellows has been one of the most pleasant surprises. In addition to the colloquia and conferences organized by the RCC, the fellows have themselves initiated a series of reading groups and informal workshops. The unofficial fellows’ colloquium has also become a fixture. Carson Fellows have convened through the semester break as well as parallel to the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium, thus providing fellows with an additional forum to discuss their work in progress. Furthermore, the fellows interact with doctoral students, LMU researchers, and the Munich community.

## Study Groups

### Topical Environmental History Reading Group

Winter semester 2009/10 - ongoing

Discussions started with the book *Questioning Collapse*, a critical reexamination of Jared Diamond's *Collapse*. Further sessions addressed *The Environment and World History* and *Conservation Refugees* by Mark Dowie. One highlight was a discussion with the author via Skype, where Carson Fellow Gary Martin used his personal acquaintance with Mark Dowie to give fellows and staff a chance to ask questions.

### Methodological Reading

Winter semester 2009/10

The basis for the founding of this reading group was a distinct methodological challenge and a specific question: how can literary sources be used in discussions of historical narratives? The group discussed a variety of theoretical texts which encompassed concepts of nature-culture relations and eco-criticism. The group debated methodological approaches as diverse as the theory of social metabolism by Marina Fischer-Kowalski and Helga Weisz, social practice theory as proposed by Andreas Reckwitz and others, and the challenge to the future of eco-criticism posed by Lawrence Buell's arguments for a "lack of theory."

### Works in Progress

February 2010 – ongoing

This group was initially conceived to fill the gap left by the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium, which does not meet during the semester breaks. The group decided to adopt the reading group format as a useful way of discussing ongoing work and projects with peers. The range of disciplines represented means that each fellow can draw on a wide array of expertise and insights. The fellows rotate weekly to pre-circulate research papers or drafts of projects they are working on during their stay at the Rachel Carson Center, opening these to a discussion of methodological, theoretical, or other problematic points as well as using the opportunity to receive advice and input from the others in the group.

### Natural Hazards Study Group

Summer semester 2010

This group met throughout the summer term to discuss methodological issues and general approaches towards the study and teaching of natural hazards in the humanities. The group was able to expand its mostly Western perspective eastwards by getting in contact with one of the other International Käte Hamburger Collegia for Research in the Humanities, "Fate, Freedom, and Prognostication in East Asia and Europe," based at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. Although the group is no longer meeting on a regular basis as most of the participants have ended their fellowships, a joint conference with Erlangen is being planned for 2012.

### Beck - Revisiting Risk Society

Summer semester 2010

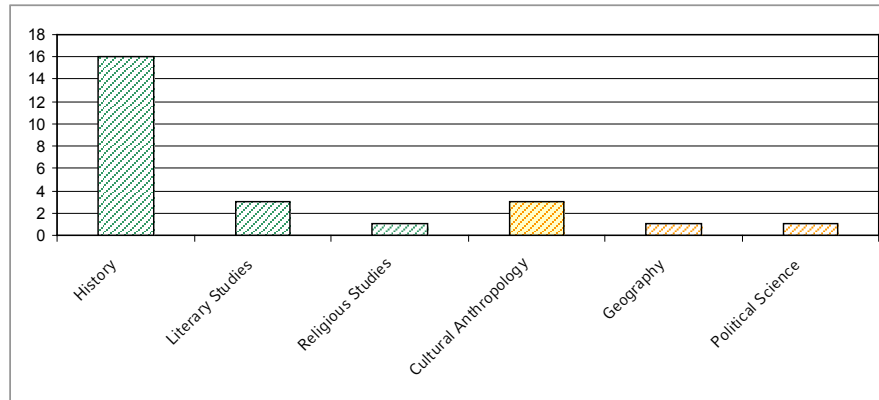
This reading group was established to historicize the concept of risk society (Ulrich Beck) by reflecting on the tectonic shifts that took place in Western Europe in the late twentieth century. The group read and discussed *Risk Society* as well as several chapters of *World at Risk* and a few other papers that gave deeper insights into Ulrich Beck's theory. The group also studied several films, including *Safe*, *Crash*, and *Stalker*, which explore the boundaries and experiences of living on the edge. In July 2010, the members of the Beck group met with Ulrich Beck at the Center for Advanced Studies in Munich. A set of short, freestanding essays on the questions discussed with Professor Beck will be published as a special issue of *RCC Perspectives*.

### Utopia

September 2010 – ongoing

The Utopia study group discusses topics such as the role of utopia in political theory; the intersection of culture and politics; and eco-topias and the question of environmental / ecological citizenship. The reading list so far has included texts by Thomas Morus, Ernst Bloch, Walter Benjamin, Fredric Jameson, and Michel Foucault. Furthermore, the group has discussed contemporary novels by Margaret Atwood and diverse films such as *Things to Come*, *The Age of Stupid*, and *Wall-E*.

In general, feedback from fellows has emphasized the huge benefit of reviewing their work and their own national perspectives in a broader, multinational, and multidisciplinary context. While the majority of Carson Fellows come from history backgrounds, the Center has also had fellows from various other disciplines in the humanities and social sciences.



Carson Fellows 2009-2010, range of disciplines

The fellows have been able to make use of the huge range of resources available in Munich, among them, perhaps most prominently, the close to 20 million volumes that constitute the combined strength of the various Munich university libraries, the Bavarian State Library, and the library of the Deutsches Museum. In order to most effectively assist Carson Fellows, the Center provides a library service, allowing fellows to order books and have them delivered to their desks. Photocopying is also provided as a service, and the human face of the library service – student assistants present at the Center every day of the week – also helps to smooth out anything “lost in translation” between our international scholars and their German host country.

If actual interaction with German library staff is precluded by the RCC library service, the regular “Stammtisch” provides a forum for topics both inside and outside the remit of the RCC, and special events and trips are organized to ensure that the Carson Fellows are integrated into both an academic community and their social environment.

### Lawrence Culver

Utah State University, Utah, USA

Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America



During his Carson Fellowship, Lawrence Culver has been working on a project which examines how ordinary Americans have perceived – and often misperceived – the climates and ecosystems of North America, providing a historical context for the current debate on climate change. He explores the history of climate perception from early exploration and settlement to the ideology of Manifest Destiny and the myths which spurred the development of the plains of the Southwest in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Lawrence Culver's research interests include the cultural, environmental, and urban history of the USA. His doctoral dissertation received the 2005 Rachel Carson Prize for the best dissertation from the American Society for Environmental History.

Culver presented his research at the Annual Conference of the Bavarian American Academy entitled “Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe Conference,” organized jointly with the RCC and held in Munich in July 2010; this paper will be published as part of the conference anthology. He also gave a lecture as part of the series hosted by the Bavarian American Academy, the Rachel Carson Center, and the Amerika Haus Association. Culver's book *The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America* was published by Oxford University Press in 2010. Culver is also featured in the RCC film shorts profiling fellows and their research.

Carson Fellowship June 2010 – December 2010





### Stefan Dorondel

Francis I. Rainer Anthropological Research Centre,  
The Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania

Transforming the Socialist Landscape: New Rural Elites, Property Rights, and Land Use Changes in Post-Socialist Romania

Stefan Dorondel is an anthropologist interested in post-socialist land tenure systems and land use change whose career has already taken him from Romania to Berlin to Yale, back to Romania and now to Munich.

For his RCC project, Stefan Dorondel analyzes changes in property rights which have driven the transformation of land use since the collapse of socialism, comprising one of the few thorough studies which draw explicit connections between post-socialist legal and political transformations and landscapes. Using two villages as case studies, Dorondel explores how changes in the nature of the post socialist state at both local and national levels have caused dramatic changes in the agrarian landscape. His project focuses on four different kinds of land use changes: land fragmentation, agricultural intensification, deforestation, and the extension of built-up areas.

Dorondel was featured in a short documentary as part of the Carson Fellows film portraits. In addition, he presented his work at the Carson Fellows Workshop in September 2010. His article “Who Benefits from the Forest? National Park, Land Reform, and the Clash of Property Rights in a Post-Socialist Society,” is forthcoming in *Forests, People, and Rights: The Rights-Based Agenda in International Forestry*, edited by T. Sikor and J. Stahl (Washington D.C.: Resources for the Future Press).

Carson Fellowship July 2010 – December 2010

### Heike Egner

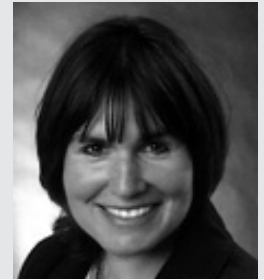
University of Klagenfurt, Austria

Space, Place, and Knowledge – Natural Disasters and Cultures of Risk in Modern Societies

During her fellowship, Heike Egner was concerned with two projects. Firstly, she worked on the completion of a book entitled *Geographische Risikoforschung: Zur Konstruktion verräumlicher Risiken und Sicherheiten* (Geographical Risk Research: On the Construction of Spatial Risks and Securities), which applies a concept based on second-order observation to geographical risk research. Her second project concerned the meaning and consequences of natural disasters in modern societies.

Egner was instrumental in the formation of the RCC reading group Beck – Revisiting Risk Society; she has also maintained ties with the RCC after the end of her fellowship by organizing a conference entitled “homo oecologicus.” Furthermore, Egner presented her research at the Annual Conference of the Bavarian American Academy entitled “Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe Conference,” organized jointly with the RCC and held in Munich in July 2010. Her paper will be published as part of the conference anthology.

Carson Fellowship February 2010 – July 2010



Heike Egner is a human geographer with an interest in the relationships between society, humans, and the environment as well as in cultures of risk in modern societies. In her postdoctoral work, she has focused on the interplay between society, humans, and the environment, applying a systems theoretical perspective (mainly based on Niklas Luhmann’s theoretical approach). On leaving the RCC, she was appointed Professor of Geography at the University of Klagenfurt.



### Stefania Gallini

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia

Doña Juana's Ancestors: A History of Waste in Bogotá, Colombia, 1880s-1950s

Stefania Gallini, whose research interests include the social and environmental construction of agroexporting in Latin America, the history of urban waste, the methodology and theory of environmental history research, and historical cartography, is a founding member of Sociedad Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Historia Ambiental and an active member of the European Society of Environmental History.

Stefania Gallini's current research project examines waste as an environmental problem in the urban history of Bogotá. She explores a range of local waste issues from the 1880s to the end of the 1950s. Using the history of waste as means to analyze how nature and humans interact, Gallini argues that waste crises can be seen as indicators of socio-metabolic changes.

Gallini presented her research project at the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium in October 2010 and at the Modern History Seminar at Darmstadt Technical University in Germany in November 2010. She also presented a paper entitled "Storia ambiental latinoamericana: una síntesis" at Seminario LaRAL, University of Milan, Italy in December 2010. Her book *Una historia ambiental del café en Guatemala: La Costa Cuca entre 1830 y 1902* (AVANCSO: Guatemala, 2009) was awarded the Elinor Melville Prize for Latin American Environmental History 2010 by the Conference on Latin American History, USA.

Carson Fellowship July 2010 – December 2010

### Robert Gioielli

Towson University, Maryland, USA

Hard Asphalt and Heavy Metals: An Environmental History of the Urban Crisis

Robert Gioielli's RCC project is the story of a wave of environmental activism that swept across America's cities during the 1960s and 1970s. It examines how the decline of America's older, industrial cities transformed the urban landscape, explores the interconnections between different postwar social movements, and describes how the mainstream American environmental movement, by privileging certain types of environmental knowledge, marginalized minorities and poor and working class urbanites during the latter decades of the twentieth century.

He presented his paper "Saving the Whale is Fine...But We Need to Save Our Cities: The Urban Crisis and the Origins of Environmental Justice" at the Urban History Association Biennial Conference in Las Vegas in October 2010. In addition, Gioielli was featured in a documentary short as part of the Carson Fellows film portraits.

Carson Fellowship September 2010 – November 2010, March 2011 – May 2011



Robert Gioielli is a historian of modern America with a specific interest on the perception and experience of the urban environment and its impact on social movements, politics, and policy.



### Wilko Graf von Hardenberg

University of Trento, Italy

The Alps as a Contested Environment: Germany, Austria, and Italy, 1860-1960

Wilko Graf von Hardenberg is an environmental historian focusing on social and political aspects of nature perception and management in modern Europe. He studied history at the University of Torino, Italy, and holds a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Cambridge. His recent research focuses on the history of nature conservation, management, and rhetoric in the Alps.

At the RCC, Wilko Graf von Hardenberg aims to produce a comparative analysis of the symbolic role of the Alps and of the use and conservation of alpine resources in Germany, Austria, and Italy. Historically, the Alps have been an exemplary arena of confrontation between nature and man, as well as between humans over resources. Thus, the Alps have repeatedly been used as political symbols of power and identity. These symbols represent the peculiar relationship between societies and places, and have had a specific impact on the way in which alpine environments have been both contested and used.

Hardenberg is a member of the ESEH - RCC working group for the "Arcadia" online European environmental history project.

Carson Fellowship November 2010 – February 2011

### Ingo Heidbrink

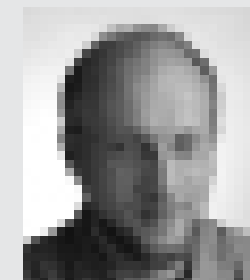
Old Dominion University, Virginia, USA

Icebergs and Ice-Stones: Industrial Development in Greenland in the 19th and 20th Centuries – Risk Acceptance in an Arctic Environment

Ingo Heidbrink's RCC research is concerned with the interplay between industrial development and risk acceptance in Greenland. His project aims not just to provide a historic overview of the industrial activities of US companies in Greenland and the relevance of US industrial and military activities for the development of today's Greenlandic society, but also to analyze risk acceptance in traditional Inuit society. His research posits a link between exposure to a harsh environment and a higher level of risk acceptance in Greenland compared with other European societies.

Heidbrink was the recipient of a faculty research grant for September through December 2010 from the Social Sciences Research Center, Norfolk, VA (SSRC). Besides presenting papers during the first phase of his fellowship, Heidbrink is involved in the preparation of an RCC conference together with Research Fellow Franziska Torma.

Carson Fellowship June 2010 – August 2010, January 2011 – April 2011



Besides teaching and researching in Norfolk, Virginia, Ingo Heidbrink is the Secretary General of the International Commission for Maritime History and co-president of the North Atlantic Fisheries History Association as well as a board member of the Bremen International Graduate School for Marine Sciences – Global Change in the Marine Realm (GLOMAR).



### Andrew Isenberg

Temple University, Pennsylvania, USA

An Empire of Remedy: Indians, Smallpox, and Vaccination in the Antebellum American West

Andrew Isenberg is an environmental historian with an interest in the North American West and has published widely on environmental history, including monographs and edited volumes.

During his fellowship, Andrew Isenberg worked on a project centered on smallpox. Smallpox was the scourge of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century North America, and the vast majority of the victims of the disease in North America were Indians. His project examines the motivations behind the inoculation programs of the 1830s, and in particular the Indian Vaccination Program of 1832, looking at contemporary attitudes towards medical intervention and public health and also at implications for America's image of itself as a country and a colonizing power.

Isenberg delivered a lecture as part of the series "Umweltgeschichte in Globaler Perspektive" at the University of Erfurt, Germany, in April 2010. He also presented his research at the Annual Conference of the Bavarian American Academy entitled "Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe Conference," organized jointly with the RCC and held in Munich in July 2010; this paper will be published as part of the conference anthology. Among the publications that will come out of his fellowship at the Carson Center is *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental History* (forthcoming).

Carson Fellowship December 2009 – August 2010, May 2011 – July 2011

### Sherry Johnson

Florida International University, Miami, USA

Climate, Colonialism, Crisis, and Change in the Caribbean in the Age of Revolution, 1748-1804



Sherry Johnson's RCC project investigates the effects of five years of unusual and catastrophic weather events (1791-96) and their disastrous consequences for a Spanish expeditionary army sent to Saint Domingue in an effort to contain the Haitian Revolution. It posits that processes and events that traditionally have been attributed to political, economic, and/or social forces were impacted by, and often caused by, weather-induced environmental crisis. At the interface between nature and society in history, this project is conceived as a contribution towards historical climatology and disaster studies, reevaluating current perspectives on Spanish imperial economic and political history through an examination of events in Cuba, in the Caribbean, and the Atlantic World.

During her time at the RCC, Johnson presented a paper at the conference "Green Cultures," organized jointly by the Bavarian American Academy and the RCC; her paper will be published in the conference anthology. Furthermore, she gave a talk at a conference in Seville, Spain, and also at Charles University in Prague. Her book *Climate, Catastrophe, and Crisis in the Atlantic World in the Age of Revolution* is forthcoming (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press). Johnson was appointed President of the Latin American/Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association in April 2010.

Carson Fellowship January 2010 – June 2010

Sherry Johnson investigates climate cycles, their visible weather effects (hurricanes and drought), and the consequences of such severe weather events in the Caribbean and the Atlantic world. She has authored one monograph on Cuban history, co-edited a collection of essays, and published sixteen peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. In 2010, she was named to Florida International University's Top Scholars List.



### Elizabeth Jones

Colorado State University, USA

The Settlement Imagination: German Internal Colonization and Empire, 1850-1930

Elizabeth Jones teaches courses in modern German history, European economic and social history, and world history at Colorado State University.

Elizabeth Jones' research project explores state policymakers' efforts to re-imagine and resettle the German countryside in the age of industrialization and overseas expansion, focusing on environmental challenges posed by the cultivation of high moors and the role of agricultural science in the design and daily affairs of moor settlements in East Friesland, Bavaria, and East Prussia. She explores the role of selected settlement projects, underscoring how they reflected a combination of new expert knowledge, the concerns, aspirations, and hard work of settlers, and the environmental and physical complexities of specific sites. Moreover, this project explores the concerted push to expand moor reclamation and colonization in the Weimar era and how this intersected with new postwar ideas about the protection and preservation of Germany's moor landscapes.

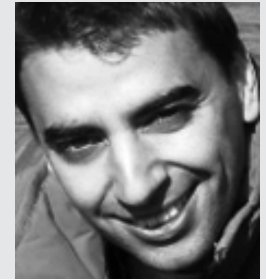
The first months of Jones' fellowship have already resulted in an article entitled "The Heimatkolonie Friedrich-Wilhelmsdorf, German Colonization, and Discourses of Social and Environmental Improvement in Europe, 1800-1914" which will be published by the University of Manchester Press in a volume edited by the German Historical Institute, London.

Carson Fellowship September 2010 – May 2011

### Emilian Kavalski

University of Western Sydney, Australia

Natural Disasters and Security Governance: Shifting from a Strategic Culture of Risk-Elimination to a Strategic Culture of Risk-Adaption



Emilian Kavalski's RCC research project explores the relationship between socio-political systems and natural disasters. He contends that natural disasters confront society with the vacuity of the current modes of security governance, indicating that human societies lack the capacity for flexible adaption to natural disaster occurrences, proposing that society's current state of insecurity is both a function of evolution's continued presence in our lives and our freedom from evolutionary constraints. Kavalski argues that international relations have the capacity to develop not only more nuanced, but also more relevant understandings of the notions and practices of security governance in the context of an increased vulnerability to complex risks.

He is using his time at the RCC to work on a book manuscript with the working title *Global Insecurity Studies*. Kavalski delivered a paper at the International Conference on Global Trends and Regional Development at the Freie Universität Berlin entitled "Universal Values and Geopolitical Interests: India and China in the Global Competition" in September 2010.

Carson Fellowship September 2010 – May 2011

Emilian Kavalski, originally from Bulgaria, and now affiliated with the University of Western Sydney, is a lecturer in politics and international relations whose current research focuses on the security governance of complexity and interactions between China, India, and the European Union in Central Asia. He has authored several publications on international relations and global politics.



### Christian Kehrt

Helmuth Schmidt University, Hamburg, Germany

Eternal Ice in the Cold War: The Scientific Exploration and Exploitation of the Polar Regions, 1957-1991

As a postdoctoral researcher at the Deutsches Museum, Christian Kehrt worked on the historical dimension of nanoscience, using Munich as a case study. Since leaving the RCC, he has taken up his current appointment as a research associate at Helmut Schmidt University in Hamburg.

Christian Kehrt's project is concerned with East and West German research into the polar regions after 1945, aiming to present a spatial and environmental history of the science of the Cold War. It posits that perceptions of space as well as the knowledge bases formed during the Cold War laid the foundation for our current awareness of global climate and environmental problems. His project investigates which transfer and feedback processes can be discerned as operating between science, politics, and the general public. Furthermore, the project examines to what extent polar research contributed to a new, holistic understanding of the planet.

Kehrt presented his research in one of the first sessions of the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium in October 2009. He will be returning to the Rachel Carson Center in January 2011 for the workshop "Exploring Ice and Snow in the Cold War."

Carson Fellowship September 2009 – February 2010

### Martin Knoll

Darmstadt Technical University, Darmstadt, Germany

Topographies of Nature – Nature of Topographies: Settlements, Territories, and Environment in Early Modern Topographical Literature



Martin Knoll's research project is concerned with the perception of nature and the relations between society and nature in early modern topographical literature. The way the material world, material arrangements, and human practices are represented in topographical literature can show both how society conceptualizes its relations with "nature," and how "nature" is used as a rhetorical device to frame social order, political power, and regional or territorial identities. It is aimed at enriching the debate not just in environmental history, but also in cultural history, cultural studies, cultural geography, and sociology.

Based on work done at the RCC, Knoll contributed a book chapter to *Grenzen und Grenzüberschreitungen: Bilanz und Perspektiven der Frühneuezeitforschung*, edited by Christine Roll, Frank Pohle, and Matthias Myrcek (Cologne, 2010). He will return to the RCC in 2011 for an exploratory workshop he has conceived together with Carson Fellow Reinhold Reith, entitled "Umweltgeschichte der Frühen Neuzeit: Experiment und Perspektive" (An Environmental History of the Early Modern Period: Experiments and Perspectives).

Carson Fellowship September 2009 – March 2010

Together with Verena Winiwarter, Knoll co-authored the textbook *Umweltgeschichte – Eine Einführung* (Environmental History: An Introduction, 2007). From 2007-2009, he served as secretary and board member of the European Society for Environmental History.



### Patrick Kupper

ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Creating Wilderness: A Transnational History of the Swiss National Park

Patrick Kupper's main fields of interest are the history of the environment, technology, and knowledge in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He has published on the history of environmentalism, nuclear energy, science and technology, and conservation.

Patrick Kupper's current project seeks to interpret the creation and development of the Swiss National Park as a specific local site within global conservation history. The investigation spans the entire twentieth century, allowing for analysis of long-term developments and gradual changes. Kupper pays special attention to transnational dimensions, relations between nature and culture, and spatial and temporal arrangements.

Kupper's habilitation research has given rise to articles and presentations, and will be published as a book, *Wildnis schaffen: Eine transnationale Geschichte des Schweizerischen Nationalparks, Habilitationsschrift* (Bern: Haupt, forthcoming).

Carson Fellowship January 2010 – July 2010

### Cheryl Lousley

Lakehead University, Orillia, Canada

Public Memory, Popular Culture, and the 1984-85 Ethiopian Famine

Cheryl Lousley's project examines the culture and politics of the ongoing affective appeal of the 1984 Ethiopian famine in the West. She examines the continuing circulation of narratives, souvenirs, and celebrities related to the famine, exploring Live Aid as a series of popular cultural events that demonstrate sustainable development located at an intersection of affective and political economies. Lousley argues that proliferating famine relief memorabilia and media events surrounding the famine can be examined not only as representations of Africa and Africans, but also as aspects of a culture of sentimentality, affecting public popular imagination of the famine, the scope of its audience, conceptions of environment and justice, and the economic and political influence of humanitarian individuals and organizations.

In addition to presenting her research in the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium, Lousley has given papers in Oxford and Berlin. Her article "Sentimental Power: The Affective Politics of Live Aid," which she co-authored with Dan Brockington, will be published in the *Journal of Development Studies* (Special issue on popular representations of development).

Carson Fellowship January 2010 – December 2010

Cheryl Lousley, who works in contemporary environmental, literary, and cultural studies, came to the Rachel Carson Center from the School of English at the University of Leeds, UK, where she held a postdoctoral fellowship. She will take up a position as assistant professor of English and interdisciplinary studies at Lakehead University in January 2011.



### Shane McCorristine

Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

Supernatural and Disembodied Experience in Nineteenth-Century Narratives of Arctic Exploration

Shane McCorristine, a cultural historian, worked on research projects in Paris and Dublin before coming to the Rachel Carson Center.

During his fellowship in Munich, Shane McCorristine developed a new project entitled “Dreamscapes of the Arctic in Nineteenth-Century Narratives of Exploration” which looks at the role of disembodied and supernatural categories in how Victorians thought about Arctic place. It asks how ideas of the Arctic as a dream-world function, a place where one could become disembodied, as articulated through explorative accounts, media, and literature. Victorian claims about the credibility of subjective experience and testimony as means for envisioning, knowing, and communicating the Arctic places this study at the intersection of important developments in scholarship across several disciplines.

As well as introducing this project in the Carson Fellows Workshop “Northern Environments” in August 2010, McCorristine also presented a paper entitled “William Fletcher Barrett and Psychical Research in Ireland” at the 34th Annual Conference of the Society for Psychical Research in Sheffield in September 2010. It will be published in *Estudios Irlandeses*. He is featured in the first RCC film shorts profiling fellows and their research.

Carson Fellowship June 2010 – September 2010

### Gary Martin

Global Diversity Foundation / University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Adaptation of Local Knowledge Societies and Systems to Global Change



Gary Martin’s RCC project explores the adaptation of local knowledge societies and systems to global change, drawing on case studies that he has developed through the GDF over the last decade. It argues that indigenous peoples and local communities are on the front line of the struggle against ecological imperialism; and that they constitute a decentralized and dynamic knowledge society which is best placed to adapt to local changes.

As well as presenting his own research at the Carson Fellows Workshop in March 2010, Gary Martin organized a pilot summer school for graduate students under the title “From the Global to the Local: Planetary Boundaries and Community Based Management of Environmental Challenges.” This summer school is to become an established feature of the RCC.

Carson Fellowship January 2010 – April 2010, August 2010 – September 2010, January 2011 – April 2011

Gary Martin is an ethnologist who focuses on the links between biological and cultural diversity and the role of communities in maintaining socio-ecological resilience. In 2000, he founded the Global Diversity Foundation (GDF) which helps indigenous peoples and local communities maintain their agricultural, biological, and cultural heritage through long-term projects encompassing research, training, and social action. He is also a research fellow and lecturer at the School of Anthropology and Conservation at the University of Kent in Canterbury.





### Diana Mincyte

Resident Fellow, Yale University, Connecticut, USA

The Pasteurization of Lithuania: The Politics of Subsistence and Sustainability in Post-Industrial Europe

Prior to her fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center, Diana Mincyte was a visiting assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and taught courses on consumer society, globalization, and sustainability. Upon completing her fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center, Mincyte was appointed resident fellow in the program in agrarian studies at Yale University.

Diana Mincyte's project investigates raw milk politics in the European Union (EU) and post-socialist eastern Europe to consider how the EU's sustainable agro-food policies are impacting local semi-subsistence systems of provision and reshaping socio-economic relations. It takes as a case study informal networks of milk distribution in Lithuania, exploring how the informal dairy economy operates in contexts that favor industrial agriculture and the globalization of agro-food systems. Her research reveals fundamental contradictions within dominant definitions of sustainability, thus contributing to debates on land use, environmental justice, and global labor issues.

Mincyte presented her work at the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium and served as a member of the ESEH Turku Book Prize committee. Furthermore, during her fellowship, she gave several presentations in New York, Canterbury, Vilnius, and Kaunas on her project. She will return to the RCC in May 2011 as co-convenor of the RCC workshop entitled "Why Do We Value Diversity? Cross-Disciplinary Workshop on Biocultural Diversity in a Global Context."

Carson Fellowship October 2009 – August 2010

### Gijs Mom

Eindhoven University, Netherlands

Space, Sound, Smog and the Senses – Environmental Mobility History in the Making

Gijs Mom's project analyzes three case studies, using social practice theory to look at mobility in history in sensory terms as well as in terms of vehicle technologies, types of knowledge, and knowledge transfer. He looks in particular at the way in which mobility interacts with nature, noise, and urban pollution.

During his tenure at the Carson Center, Mom organized the New Mobility Studies Workshop held in June 2010, which marked the launch of this new field of inquiry. Besides presenting his work on various occasions in Munich, Mom presented a paper "The Prosthesitisation of the Car: A History of Automobility, Art, and Senses," at the Seventh International Conference on the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility (T2M) in Lucerne, Switzerland, in November 2009. Mom's research is scheduled to be published as a book with MIT Press, tentatively titled *Space, Sound, Smog, and the Senses: Environmental Mobility History in the Making*. He was also one of the first fellows featured in the RCC documentary short films.

Carson Fellowship October 2009 – September 2010



Gijs Mom is a professor at Eindhoven University, Netherlands, a historian of technology, and one of the leading scholars worldwide in the field of mobility studies. His project at the Carson Center is positioned at the interface of environmental studies and mobility history.



### Lajos RÁCZ

University of Szeged, Hungary/Central European University,  
Budapest, Hungary

The Transformation of the Landscape in Hungary from the Age of  
the Turkish Wars until the Age of Modernization: The Sixteenth to  
Nineteenth Centuries

Lajos RÁCZ is a historian who has specialized in historical climatology and environmental history since 1985, making him a pioneer in the field; his research work earned him the prestigious title of Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2004.

The project Lajos RÁCZ is working on at the Rachel Carson Center explores the development of land usage in the Carpathian Basin in the age of the Turkish wars, focusing on the wars' impact on land policies and the environment. Taking into account the simultaneously occurring Little Ice Age, he explores the development of farming, maintenance, and fortification techniques, as well as the effect of reconstruction and extensive population growth on land use. Furthermore, RÁCZ analyzes the period of modernization in the nineteenth century, examining changes in farming and water management and their impact on land management. This project is under development as a book.

RÁCZ presented his research entitled "Price of Survival" in the Carson Fellows Workshop in September 2010; he also cooperated with visiting RCC scholar András Vadas on an article entitled "Climatic Changes in the Carpathian Basin in the Middle Ages" which will be published in *Történelmi Szemle* (Journal of the Historical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences).

Carson Fellowship June 2010 – September 2010, April 2011 – July 2011

### Reinhold Reith

University of Salzburg, Austria

An Environmental History of the Early Modern Period



While at the RCC, Reinhold Reith worked on the completion of a book on the environmental history of the early modern period for the German language series *Enzyklopädie Deutsche Geschichte* (Encyclopedia of German History). The book will outline the genesis of environmental history as well as giving a detailed examination of the early modern period from natural and anthropogenic perspectives and will also present trends and problems in current research approaches.

Reith presented his research in the first RCC Lunchtime Colloquium. He will return to the RCC in 2011 for an exploratory workshop he has conceived together with Carson Fellow Martin Knoll, entitled "Umweltgeschichte der Frühen Neuzeit: Experiment und Perspektive" (An Environmental History of the Early Modern Period: Experiments and Perspectives). His volume *Umweltgeschichte der Frühen Neuzeit* will be published by Oldenbourg.

Carson Fellowship October 2009 – March 2010

Reinhold Reith teaches economic and social history in the Department of History at the University of Salzburg. His main research and teaching interests lie in the area of economic and social history, concerning in particular environmental history and the history of technology.



### Edmund P. Russell

University of Virginia, USA

Neurohistory

An associate professor at the University of Virginia, Edmund P. Russell has published widely on the history of science and technology and on environmental history, with topics including an environmental history of warfare, the impact of human beings on the evolution of populations of other species, the use of organisms as technology, and the value of science for historians, and environmental policy making. His work has won prizes from the American Society for Environmental History, the Society for the History of Technology, and the Forum for the History of Science in America.

At the RCC, Edmund Russell is taking his research into a new area, namely that of neuroscience. His project will test the hypothesis that neuroscience can help us understand the relationship between people and environments. The brain lies at the center of this relationship because it processes sensory information about the environment and guides responses to this information: brain imaging has the potential to illuminate the cognitive, emotional, and physiological bases for human ideas and actions in a way previously unattainable. It also can show us the impact of the environment on brain anatomy.

Russell is currently planning an international, interdisciplinary workshop to take place in June 2011 in collaboration with the Munich Center for Neurosciences – Brain and Mind.

Carson Fellowship October 2010 – December 2010, February 2011 – May 2011

### Lisa Sideris

Indiana University, Bloomington, USA

Modern Science and the Varieties of Evolutionary Enchantment

Lisa Sideris' project is concerned with the role of wonder and enchantment in and with science, nature, and religion, examining the variety of ways in which scientific narratives, particularly those involving evolution, are being "re-enchanting" and recast as mythopoeic stories with moral content. Sideris ultimately aims to illuminate the deep historical roots of two forms of enchantment: wonder as a response to realities beyond or outside us, and the conviction that science in itself, the creation of human knowledge, deserves awe and wonderment.

Sideris presented her work at the Carson Fellows Workshop in September 2010. Her article "I See You: Interspecies Empathy and 'Avatar'" was published in the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* in December 2010. She will also present a paper based on her research at the Rachel Carson Center at the American Society of Environmental History Conference in April 2011.

Carson Fellowship July 2010 – December 2010



Lisa Sideris is an associate professor of religious studies at Indiana University whose interests include environmental ethics, religion, ecology, and the science-religion interface. She is the co-editor of a volume of interdisciplinary essays on the life and work of Rachel Carson titled *Rachel Carson: Legacy and Challenge* (SUNY, 2008).



### Jacob Tropp

Middlebury College, Vermont, USA

Native American Administration and the Making of International Development Expertise, 1935-1965

Jacob Tropp is a historian with a special interest in both American and African history; he is currently an associate professor and Spencer Fellow in african studies at Middlebury College. His Ph.D. work on the social and environmental history of the Eastern Cape in colonial South Africa received the 2003 Award for Best Dissertation in Environmental History from the American Society for Environmental History. He was also the recipient of a American Council of Learned Societies fellowship in spring 2009.

Focusing on the mid-twentieth century, Jacob Tropp's project illuminates the connections between Western development interventions among "Third World" countries and Native American populations in the United States. Beginning in the 1930s, as the United States implemented various New Deal agrarian programs, American officials increasingly engaged in dialogues about resource developments and native "population management" with colleagues overseas. This project traces the impact of a number of Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) personnel who moved directly from managing Native American social and environmental development projects into American technical assistance programs across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

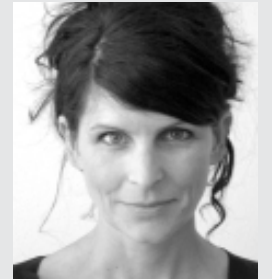
While at the RCC, Tropp presented his work at the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium; in addition he participated in the 2010 summer school preparation workshop, "From the Global to the Local: Planetary Boundaries and Community Based Management of Environmental Challenges."

Carson Fellowship August 2010 – December 2010

### Alexa Weik von Mossner

University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Imagining Ecological Futures: Science, Risk, and Citizenship in Narratives of Global Environmental Change



Alexa Weik von Mossner's current project examines the emotional and cognitive appeal of fictional and non-fictional narratives which imagine possible future consequences of global environmental change, arguing that such narratives are of great significance to the cultural discourse on ecological risk. Using a selection of narratives in contemporary literature, film, and television, she explores how these narratives engage their readers and viewers emotionally and cognitively, how they employ concepts of ecological risk and ethics, and what forms of environmental citizenship they promote.

Weik von Mossner presented her research at the Annual Conference of the Bavarian American Academy entitled "Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe Conference," organized jointly with the RCC; her paper will be published as part of the conference anthology. Her year-long fellowship at the RCC has already resulted in a number of articles as well as papers given at conferences in Germany, England, Spain, and Italy. Her particular interests came to the fore in October 2010, when she organized the RCC event during the Müncher Klimaherbst 2010: "No Impact Man – Leben ohne Fussabdruck?" comprising a public film screening and panel discussion, which was a collaboration with the Ökologisches Bildungszentrum (ÖBZ) and the Münchner Volkshochschule (VHS).

Carson Fellowship June 2010 – June 2011

Alexa Weik von Mossner, a scholar of literary and cultural studies with an interest in the relationship between cultural texts and the environment, has published widely on literature, environmental justice, cosmopolitanism, and environmental film.

## 6 Staff

In a center which thrives on the comings and goings of a host of international fellows, the staff plays an important role in anchoring the RCC in Munich and in providing continuity in its long-term projects and goals. Besides the dual directorship, which links the RCC firmly to LMU Munich and the Deutsches Museum, staff members are employed in two broad areas: research and administration/communications.

Research and research-related activities at the RCC are carried out by the Research Fellows; appointed for three years, these scholars devote 50% of their time to their own research projects – which, in the RCC tradition, cover a wide spatial, temporal, and conceptual range within the environmental humanities – and 50% to the work of the Center. Their tasks in 2010 have included convening conferences and workshops, implementing initial phases of the RCC digital resource, outreach work, and negotiating the form and content of the new Ph.D. program. In this, they have been supported by the Research Associates who are doctoral students in environmental studies and who also provide continuous assistance to the visiting fellows in their research endeavors.

The administration and communications team coordinates the day to day running of the Rachel Carson Center. The Managing Director heads a small team of administrative staff who liaise with university and government officials, coordinate the Ph.D. program, provide IT support, and who are responsible for the fellowship program. Work with individual fellows starts often months before their arrival in Munich with contracts, visas, and accommodation to be organized.

The language of the Rachel Carson Center is English, and 2010 has seen the launch of an occasional papers series, *RCC Perspectives*, the first round of editing for the Berghahn book series, and publication of the first German-language monographs in the series *Umwelt und Gesellschaft*. A small team of editorial and communications staff work on editing manuscripts for publication and managing the Center's outreach material, including the website, social media, and a bimonthly newsletter. They also provide translation and editorial support to visiting fellows working on texts for publication.

In addition to Carson Fellows working in these areas, the RCC is rooted in the wider academic community by its Associates; these honorary titles are conferred on colleagues at institutions in Munich and in the surrounding area, including LMU Munich but also other institutions, such as the Technical University Munich (TUM) and the Universität der Bundeswehr München, creating a network of scholars from a range of disciplines who have an interest in the RCC. The Associates have been instrumental in 2010 in contributing to the success of the Lunchtime Colloquium and in setting up collaborative projects.

The BMBF program will also allow us to appoint our first Carson Professor; in 2011, Markus Vogt, a leading authority on environmental ethics, will be adding the weight of his considerable expertise and scholarship to the RCC.

Staff of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society



## Directors



**Prof. Dr. Christof Mauch**

August 2009 –

Since its foundation, Christof Mauch, together with Helmuth Trischler, has been the head of the Rachel Carson Center, and since May 2010, he has been exempt from most of his obligations as Chair in American History and Transatlantic Relations at LMU Munich. Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp, whose position is paid for both by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and by LMU Munich, has replaced him at LMU's Amerika-Institut.

Christof Mauch has established numerous RCC working relationships and programs with colleagues and institutions worldwide; he has represented the Carson Center and given lectures in the field of environmental history in ten countries; he has organized or co-organized more than a dozen RCC conference panels, conferences, and workshops; and he has been involved in establishing a project on climate migration with the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut (Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities) in Essen. Furthermore, Mauch has developed collaborative programs with the Bavarian American Academy, the National History Center in Washington, the Göttingen Graduiertenkolleg, and the Leopoldina. He is in the process of co-organizing a Global Environments program for LMU Munich's Summer University together with the Global Diversity Foundation. In addition, Mauch works closely with the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH), initiating an online environmental history project as well as a new RCC-ESEH book prize. During 2010, he was an Erasmus Visiting Professor in Warsaw and a Visiting Professor of Environmental History in Vienna. Mauch is a co-editor of the publication series *RCC Perspectives*, *International Environmental History*, and *Umwelt und Gesellschaft*; he is also a director (Sprecher) of the newly established Ph.D. program "Environment and Society."

## Recent Publications

### Books

*Die amerikanischen Präsidenten: 44 historische Portraits von George Washington bis Barack Obama*. Editor. Munich: C.H. Beck, 2009.

*Natural Disasters, Cultural Responses: Case Studies Toward a Global Environmental History*. Edited with Christian Pfister. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books/Rowman & Littlefield, 2009.

*Tierische Geschichte: Mensch und Tier in der Neueren Kulturgeschichte*. Edited with Dorothee Brantz. Paderborn: Schöningh, 2010.

*The United States and Germany During the Twentieth Century: Competition and Convergence*. Edited with Kiran Patel. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

### Articles (Selection)

"Silberstreifen: Naturkatastrophen in den USA und die Ideologie des Fortschritts." In *Nachhaltige Geschichte: Festschrift für Christian Pfister*, edited by André Kirchhofer, et al., 149-67. Bern: Haupt Verlag, 2009.

"Das neue Rachel Carson Center in München oder Was heißt und zu welchem Ende betreibt man Weltumweltgeschichte?" *RCC Perspectives 2*. Munich: Rachel Carson Center, 2010.

"Die neue Welt im 'amerikanischen Jahrhundert' Kanada und die Vereinigten Staaten." In *Die Welt im 20. Jahrhundert bis 1945*, edited by Walther L. Bernecker and Hans Werner Tobler, 106-32. Vienna: Mandelbaum Verlag, 2010.

"Environment: Conservation versus Exploitation." In *The United States and Germany During the Twentieth Century: Competition and Convergence*, edited by Christof Mauch and Kiran Klaus Patel, 180-93. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

"International Environmental History: Nature as a Cultural Challenge." *RCC Perspectives 1*. With Helmuth Trischler. Munich: Rachel Carson Center, 2010.

"Modernities: Competition versus Convergence." In *The United States and Germany During the Twentieth Century: Competition and Convergence*, edited by Christof Mauch and Kiran Klaus Patel, 1-12. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

"Phönix und Mnemosyne: Katastrophenoptimismus und Katastrophenerinnerung in den USA: Von der Johnstown Flood bis Hurricane Katrina." In *Katastrophen machen Geschichte: Umweltgeschichtliche Prozesse im Spannungsfeld von Ressourcennutzung und Extremereignis*, edited by Patrick Masius, Jana Sprenger and Eva Mackowiak, 133-51. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 2010.

### Presentations

Christof Mauch has presented his research and represented the RCC in many places both inside and outside of Germany. His engagements included keynotes and papers at the International Conference for the History of the Environment and Global Climate Change in Braga, Portugal; the ESEH Summer School in Versailles, France; the Oxford-Kobe Conference in Nagoya, Japan; the United Arab Emirates University, Al-Ain; the German Studies Association's annual conference in Oakland, California; the Eidgenössisch Technische Hochschule (ETH) in Zürich, Switzerland; the Estonian Academy of Sciences in Tallinn, Estonia; the National History Center, Washington, D.C., USA; the University of Klagenfurt, Austria; the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut in Essen; the Siemens Forum in Munich, and in many other locations.

### Academic Functions (Selection)

Chair, Turku Book Prize Committee of the European Society for Environmental History and RCC  
 Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Conservation and Society*, Bangalore, India  
 Member, Advisory Board, Network of Science and Literature Studies, Estonian Academy of Sciences  
 Member, Center for Advanced Studies (CAS), LMU Munich  
 Vice-President, European Society for Environmental History  
 Interim Chair, International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations (ICEHO)  
 Member, Board of Trustees, Munich Center for the History of Science and Technology  
 Chair, Edmund Spevack Grant Committee  
 Member, Board of Trustees, National History Center, USA  
 Member, Steering Committee for Research Cooperation between the University of California, Berkeley and LMU Munich  
 International Board, *Ekonomika i ekohistorija*, University of Zagreb  
 Member, Board of Trustees, Fundacja Krzywowa dla Porozumienia Europejskiego/Kreisau Foundation for European Rapprochement  
 Member, Selection Committee, TransCoop Program, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation  
 Member, Directorate (Chair/Deputy Chair, 2008-2010), Department for English and American Studies, LMU Munich  
 Member, Advisory Board, Forschungsstelle für Zeitgeschichte, Hamburg University  
 Chair, Steering Committee, German History Documentation Project, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.  
 Member, International Advisory Board, TRANSIT, Berkeley, California  
 Founding Director, Lasky Center for Transatlantic Studies, LMU Munich

### Prof. Dr. Helmuth Trischler

August 2009 –



Helmuth Trischler helped set up the RCC's new Ph.D. program "Environment and Society" and represents the Department of History in this program. Together with Christof Mauch, Trischler served as co-convenor of the RCC's Lunchtime Colloquium. He led the exhibition project "Discoveries 2010: Energy," a joint initiative of the RCC and Deutsches Museum displayed on Mainau island and is working on several other outreach programs for the Center. Trischler has organized excursions to the Deutsches Museum for the Carson Fellows and Ph.D. Candidates; he has been involved in the RCC's digital project; and he has helped to set up a research program with the Department of Science Studies at the University of Aarhus and the Institute of Philosophy of the Freie Universität Berlin. In his role as Director of LMU's Zentrum "TransFormationen des Wissens" (Center, Transformations of Knowledge) Trischler has also supported the RCC. He serves as co-editor of the RCC publication series *RCC Perspectives*, *International Environmental History*, and *Umwelt und Gesellschaft*. For 2011, Trischler has been awarded a prestigious Fellowship at The Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS).

Helmuth Trischler, together with Christof Mauch, heads the Rachel Carson Center. In his primary position, he is the Head of Research at the Deutsches Museum and Professor of Modern History and Technology at LMU Munich.

## Recent Publications

### Books

*Rüstung und Zwangsarbeit im 'Dritten Reich.'* Edited with Andreas Heusler and Mark Spoerer. Munich: Oldenbourg, 2010.

*The Exhibition as Product and Generator of Scholarship.* Edited with Susanne Lehmann-Brauns and Christian Sichau. Berlin: Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, 2010.

*Physics and Politics: Research and Research Support in Twentieth Century Germany in International Perspective.* Edited with Mark Walker. Stuttgart: Steiner, 2010.

### Articles (Selection)

“Die Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft im deutschen Innovationssystem: Eine zeithistorische Perspektive.” In *Jahresbericht 2008 der Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft*, edited by Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, 88-99. Munich: Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, 2009.

“Geteilte Welt? Verkehr in Europa im Zeichen des Kalten Krieges, 1945-1990.” In *Neue Wege in ein neues Europa: Geschichte und Verkehr im 20. Jahrhundert*, edited by Ralf Roth and Karl Schlögel, 156-74. Frankfurt am Main: Campus, 2009.

“Nuklearer Erinnerungsort: Die Enola Gay.” In *Atombilder: Ikonografie des Atoms in Wissenschaft und Öffentlichkeit im 20. Jahrhundert*, edited by Charlotte Bigg and Jochen Hennig, 135-42. Munich: Wallstein, 2009.

“Vernetzte Welt: Leer- oder Leitformel?” *Archive in Bayern* 5 (2009): 175-84.

“Das Deutsche Museum im Nationalsozialismus: Konturen einer Bestandsaufnahme.” In *Das Deutsche Museum in der Zeit des Nationalsozialismus: Eine Bestandsaufnahme*, edited by Elisabeth Vaupel and Stefan Wolff, 13-44. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2010.

“International Environmental History: Nature as a Cultural Challenge.” *RCC Perspectives* 1. With Christof Mauch. Munich: Rachel Carson Center, 2010.

“Physics and Politics: Research and Research Support in Twentieth Century Germany in International Perspective - An Introduction.” *Physics and Politics: Research and Research Support in Twentieth Century Germany in International Perspective*, edited by Helmuth Trischler and Mark Walker, 9-18. Stuttgart: Steiner, 2010.

“Zuschreibungen, Umdeutungen, Ausgrenzungen: Rumpler, Etrich, und das Taube-Flugzeug des Deutschen Museums.” With Hans Holzer. In *Das Deutsche Museum in der Zeit des Nationalsozialismus: Eine Bestandsaufnahme*, edited by Elisabeth Vaupel and Stefan Wolff, 449-70. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2010.

## Presentations

Helmuth Trischler has presented at a number of national and international conferences and workshops including a workshop on European nuclear energy programs in Barcelona, Spain; a workshop on the history of mining in Bochum, Germany; at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in Wassenaar; at the University of Sofia, Bulgaria; at the Lorentz Center in Leiden, Netherlands; at a conference on scientific objects in dialogue in Berlin; and at the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa.

## Academic Functions (Selection)

Editorial Board, *NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik, und Medizin*

Editorial Board, *Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte*

Editorial Board, *Journal of Transport History*

Director, DFG (German Research Foundation) Research Group 393 “Wechselbeziehungen zwischen Wissenschaft und Technik”

Co-Coordinator, DFG Priority Program 1143 “Wissenschaft, Politik, und Gesellschaft”

Member, Advisory Board, MPI für Wissenschaftsgeschichte

Member, Advisory Board, Landesmuseum für Technik und Arbeit, Mannheim

Member, Advisory Board, Georg-Agricola-Gesellschaft

Member, Advisory Board, Österreichisches Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Forschung

Member, Fachkollegium Geschichte, DFG

Director, BMBF Collaborative Project “Objekte des Energiekonsums”

Director, LMU Center “TransFormationen des Wissens”

Vice-President, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin, Naturwissenschaft und Technik



## Deputy Directors / LMU Fellows



**Dr. Martin Schulze Wessel**

August 2009 –

Martin Schulze Wessel is Professor of Eastern European History at LMU Munich; he is currently concentrating on his research in the field of religion as he was awarded a LMU Excellent research professorship from 2009 – 2011.

Martin Schulze Wessel participated in the proposal stages of the Rachel Carson Center. In addition, he was involved in the planning of a joint conference between the RCC and the Collegium Carolinum held in November 2010. Furthermore, he submitted a joint research proposal to the Fritz Thyssen Foundation on the topic of ecological transformations and resource conflicts in the Carpathian Basin. Schulze Wessel serves as one of two Deputy Directors of LMU's Zentrum "TransFormationen des Wissens" (Center, Transformations of Knowledge). During its first year, Schulze Wessel also served as one of the Deputy Directors of the RCC. He was appointed an LMU Fellow in December 2010.

### Presentations (Selection)

Together with Helmuth Trischler, Schulze Wessel presented the activities of the new LMU center, "TransFormationen des Wissens," in a lecture at the Center for Advanced Studies. He also participated in the joint RCC – Collegium Carolinum conference, *Humans and Environment: Environmental History as Eastern European Regional History from Industrialisation to Post-Socialism*, in November 2010.

### Academic Functions

Chairman, Collegium Carolinum (research organization for Bohemian history)

Director, German-Czech and German-Slovakian Historians Commission

Director of Advisory Board, German Polish Institute Darmstadt; further responsibilities in the

German Historical Institute Warsaw and Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam

Head, History Department, East European Institute, Regensburg

Director, Elite Graduate Program "Osteuropastudien" (Elitenetzwerk Bayern)

Director, International Research Training Group "Religiöse Kulturen im Europa des 19. und 20.

Jahrhunderts," LMU Munich and Charles University in Prague (Joint project – DFG, German

Research Foundation and Grantová Agentura CR, Czech Science Foundation)

Editor, *Bohemia*

Editor, *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas*

Co-editor, *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*

Member, Modern and Contemporary History Review Board, DFG

Member, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften



### PD Dr. Frank Uekötter

August 2009 –

Frank Uekötter is a Dilthey Fellow with the Research Institute of the Deutsches Museum. He also lectured and published extensively in 2009 and 2010. Uekötter is currently writing a history of German environmentalism.

Frank Uekötter has been involved with the RCC since the proposal stage. During its first year, he served as one of two Deputy Directors of the RCC. In this capacity Uekötter was involved in the selection of Carson Fellows. Furthermore, he has contributed to several projects that are part of the digital portal, specifically proposing and initially developing the environmental history timeline as well as coordinating one of the major sub-projects, entitled “Sites of Environmental Memory in Germany and Worldwide.” He also serves as a co-editor for two RCC publication series: *Umwelt und Gesellschaft* and *RCC Perspectives*. Uekötter was appointed an LMU Fellow in December 2010. He is currently preparing a conference on mining and another on plantations, both to take place in Munich in 2011. In addition, he has served as Chair of the Program Committee for the 2011 European Society for Environmental History conference in Turku, Finland.

### Recent Publications

#### Articles (Selection)

- “Das Kyoto-Protokoll, oder: Was lässt sich aus der Geschichte umweltpolitischer Regulierung lernen?” In *Umweltgeschichte und Umweltzukunft: Zur gesellschaftlichen Relevanz einer jungen Disziplin*, edited by Patrick Masius, Ole Sparenberg, and Jana Sprenger, 161-71. Göttingen, 2009.
- “Gibt es eine europäische Geschichte der Umwelt? Bemerkungen zu einer überfälligen Debatte.” *Themenportal Europäische Geschichte* (2009). <http://www.europa.clio-online.de/2009/Article=374>.
- “Nachhaltigkeit – historisch.” In *Prinzip Nachhaltigkeit: Ethische Fragen im interdisziplinären Diskurs*, edited by Markus Vogt, Frank Uekötter, and Mike Davis, 11-24. Münchener Kompetenz Zentrum Ethik LMU Pamphlet, Munich, 2009.
- “Total War? Administering Germany’s Environment in Two World Wars.” In *War and the Environment: Military Destruction in the Modern Age*, edited by Charles Closmann, 92-111. College Station, TX, 2009.
- “Apokalyptik als Profession? Ängste, Prognosen, und die internationale Umweltbewegung.” In *Zukunftswissen: Prognosen in Wirtschaft, Politik und Gesellschaft seit 1900*, edited by Heinrich Hartmann and Jakob Vogel, 284-300. Frankfurt am Main, 2010.
- “The End of the Cold War: A Turning Point in Environmental History?” In *Environmental Histories of the Cold War*, edited by John R. McNeill and Corinna Unger, 343-51. New York, 2010.
- “Klima als Wille und Vorstellung: Perspektiven einer Klimageschichte der Landwirtschaft im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert.” *Zeitschrift für Agrargeschichte und Agrarsoziologie* 58, no.1 (2010): 70-89.
- “Literaturbericht Technik- und Umweltgeschichte” *Geschichte in Wissenschaft und Unterricht* 61 (2010): 518-30.
- “Umwelt- und Ressourcenprobleme.” In *Globalisierung: 1880 bis heute*, edited by Hans-Ulrich Thamer, 373-402. WBG Weltgeschichte 6. Darmstadt, 2010.

#### Presentations

Frank Uekötter has presented his research, moderated discussions, or participated in panels at over 25 conferences, almost half of which were outside of Germany.

#### Academic Functions

Jury Member, Geschichtswettbewerb des Bundespräsidenten, Körber Stiftung  
 Chair, Scientific Committee, European Society of Environmental History  
 Member, Young Academy, Center for Advanced Studies, LMU Munich

## Project Director



**Dr. Kimberly Coulter**

November 2009 –

Kimberly Coulter earned her Ph.D. in geography from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is responsible for the creation of an online environmental humanities portal and for the center's English-language academic publications.

In the last year, Kimberly Coulter has overseen the process of conceptualizing and planning an online environmental humanities portal from initial brainstorming to development. Coulter edits selected features, such as an online exhibition on "Promotion and Transformation of Railroad Landscapes" in cooperation with the Newberry Library in Chicago. She convened two international workshops on "Best Practices in Digital Humanities Projects" in March 2010 in Munich, and has presented the project to internal and external audiences.

In addition to the digital portal, Coulter also serves as senior editor for the RCC, overseeing the editing and publication of academic research. Together with her colleagues, she created a new e-publication, *RCC Perspectives*, and serves as co-editor for the series. She is currently co-editing a special issue on "Futures of Environmental History: Perspectives from a Young Field," based on the June 2010 Washington, D.C. workshop organized by the RCC, the National History Center, and the Center of the American West.

## Project Manager - Exhibitions

**Dr. Nina Möllers**

October 2009 –



Nina Möllers co-conceptualized a collaborative RCC / Deutsches Museum pavilion in the exhibition "Discoveries 2010: Energy," which was displayed on the Mainau Island on Lake Constance as part of the "Year of Energy." Furthermore, she participated in the panel discussion "How Energy-Intensive is Our Consumption?" at the Deutsches Museum in October 2010, organized by the initiative "Humanities in Dialogue." Möllers is currently planning the conference "Energy as Resource, Symbol, and Consumer Good," scheduled for January 2011. In addition, she serves on the program committee for the 2011 ICOHTEC conference in Glasgow, UK.

Nina Möllers is a postdoctoral researcher and coordinator of the BMBF-funded project „Objects of Energy Consumption“ at the Deutsches Museum; she is associated with the RCC as its curator.

### Recent Publications

#### Articles

"Der Letzte macht das Licht aus: Auf den Spuren unseres täglichen Energiekonsums." Special issue, *Energie und Klima* (2010): 10-11.

"Der Frau ihren Kühlschrank, dem Mann seinen Rasierer? – Haushaltstechnik in Westdeutschland in den 1950er Jahren." With Sophie Gerber and Nina Lorkowski. In *Geliebte Technik der 1950er Jahre: Zeitzeugen aus dem Depot*, edited by Dirk Bühler and Margherita Lasi, 44-59. Munich, 2010

## Research Fellows



### Dr. Stefanie Belharte

September 2010 –

Stefanie Belharte specializes in human ecology, environmental anthropology, and ethnobiology and is an honorary associate at the School of Anthropology and Conservation at the University of Kent, UK, and an affiliate of the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at LMU Munich.

Stefanie Belharte focuses on tropical land and resource use and its change over time. Her RCC project relies on data from her own long-term ethnographic field research in Papua New Guinea. It also draws on ethnographic and archaeological material in the field of subsistence studies and in agroforestry. This project, which will result in two books, is situated at the interface of ecology, anthropology, and archeology, as it employs an ecological framework, an anthropological approach, and an archaeological angle; it also touches on the philosophy of science, examining the notions of “nature” and “culture” which inform our concepts of human-environment relations.

Belharte’s Fellowship is generously funded by LMU Munich.

### Recent Publications

#### Articles (Selection)

“The Ecological View: Management of Tree Crops and the Transition to Vegeculture in South-East Asia and the Pacific.” In *Why Cultivate? Anthropological and Archaeological Perspectives on Foraging-Farming Transitions in Island Southeast Asia*, edited by Graeme Barker and Monica Janowski. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, forthcoming.

### PD Dr. Paul Erker

November 2009 –



One of Paul Erker’s main responsibilities at the RCC is content editing the digital portal. In addition, he has continued research on his RCC project, “Asbestos: The Global History of an Environmental Risk,” which he presented at the RCC Lunchtime Colloquium in December 2009. In December, Erker convened a RCC workshop on *Quellen der umweltbezogenen Unternehmensgeschichte* (Sources for Corporate Environmental History). As co-convenor of a conference entitled *Hazardous Chemicals: Agents of Risk and Change (1800-2000)* scheduled for April 2012, he is collaborating with Prof. Ernst Homburg (University of Maastricht) and Prof. Elisabeth Vaupel (Research Institute of the Deutsches Museum).

Paul Erker oversees the content and coordinates the digital portal with Kimberly Coulter. Furthermore, he is in charge of the “Key Documents” sub-project as well as the environmental history timeline.



### Julia Herzberg, M.A.

November 2009 –

Julia Herzberg has been working to complete her dissertation by December 2010 while also pursuing her new project on "Frost: Extreme Cold in Russia." She is a member of the LMU Munich Center for Advanced Studies steering committee for the research cluster "Landwirtschaft zwischen Idyll und Dystopie: Grüne Gentechnik als Projektionsfläche von Naturbildern."

Julia Herzberg helped establish RCC's new Ph.D. program "Environment and Society" and served as the program's first coordinator. She has organized three conferences in 2010: *Semantiken der (Selbst-) Konstruktion: Auto/Biografisches Arbeiten in Soziologie und Geschichtswissenschaft (19./20. Jahrhundert)* – Bielefeld; *Humans and Environment: "Environmental History as Eastern European Regional History from Industrialization to Post-Socialism"* – Bad Wiessee; and *Exploring Ice and Snow in the Cold War* – Munich. Furthermore, Herzberg has secured funding for a conference, *Frost, Ice, and Snow: Cold Climate in Russian History*, to be held at the German Historical Institute in Moscow in 2012. She is the founder of a reading group on Environmental History of Eastern Europe at the RCC.

#### Recent Publications

##### Journals

"Archive Vergessen." Edited with Anne Barnert and Christine Hikel. Special issue, *Werkstatt Geschichte* 52 (2009).

##### Articles

"Verwahrt und vergessen: Die Archivierung bäuerlichen Schreibens als Verlust." *Werkstatt Geschichte* 52 (2009): 7-22.

"Onkel Vanjas Hütte: Erzählte Leibeigenschaft in der bäuerlichen Autobiografie des Zarenreichs." *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas* 58 (2010), 24-51.

### PD Dr. Uwe Lübken

August 2009 –



Uwe Lübken co-organized three of the first conferences at the RCC. In May and June 2010, together with Research Fellow Franziska Torma, he organized two doctoral summer workshops on environmental history and natural disasters. In addition, with Gijs Mom and Clapperton Mavhunga, Lübken co-convened an international workshop entitled "Mobility and the Environment" in June 2010. Furthermore, he has organized two panels to represent the RCC at international academic conferences. One panel was held at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History in March 2010. The second panel will be part of the 6th Meeting of the European Society for Environmental History in June 2011. In June 2010, he co-organized an internal workshop for Carson Fellows with renowned sociologist Ulrich Beck.

Lübken's other RCC activities include serving on several RCC search committees for new Fellows and staff, as well as supervising Center interns. Starting in November 2010, he will serve as the project director for a new project, "Natural Disasters and Migration in Historical Perspective," which is being supported by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

Uwe Lübken has taught several courses in American environmental history at LMU Munich while also assisting with thesis supervision and graduate level exams.

## Recent Publications

### Edited Volumes

“Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazards, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective.” Edited with Christof Mauch. Special issue, *Environment and History* (1/2011).

### Articles

“Cincinnati und die Ohioflut 1937: Eine Extremfallstudie.” In *Beiträge zum Göttinger Umwelthistorischen Kolloquium 2009 – 2010*, edited by Bernd Herrmann, 191-209. Göttingen, 2010.

“Explorations into the History of Floods and Flood Control in Germany and the United States.” In *Paths Crossing: Excursions in German-American Studies*, edited by Cora Lee Kluge and Antje Petty, 149-62. New York, 2010.

“Governing Floods and Riots: Insurance, Risk, and Racism in the Postwar United States.” In “The Production of Human Security in Premodern and Contemporary History.” Special issue, *Historical Social Research/Historische Sozialforschung* 35 (4/2010): 275-88.

“‘Poor Dumb Brutes’ or ‘Friends in Need?’ Animals and River Floods.” In *Beastly Natures: Human-Animal Relations at the Crossroads of Cultural and Environmental History*, edited by Dorothee Brantz, 246-63. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2010.

“Undiszipliniert: Ein Forschungsbericht zur Umweltgeschichte.” *H-Soz-u-Kult*, 14.07.2010, <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/forum/2010-07-001>.

“The Industrialization of the Ohio River: A Hazardous Perspective.” In *Industrialized Rivers*, edited by Stéphane Castonguay and Matthew Evenden. Forthcoming.

“Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazards, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective: An Introduction.” In “Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazards, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective.” Edited with Christof Mauch. Special issue, *Environment and History* (1/2011).

### Presentations

Uwe Lübken has given talks, presented his research, and participated in roundtable discussions at over 10 national and international conferences and workshops including the Kick-off Meeting of a Transnational Rhine Network in Rotterdam, the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities in Erlangen, Germany, the ESEH European Summer School in France, the joint BAA-RCC Green Cultures Conference, and an interdisciplinary conference on environmental issues in Freiburg.

## Dr. Ursula Münster

August 2009 –



At the RCC, Ursula Münster serves as a liaison with the Carson Fellows. She is currently organizing a workshop on Biocultural Diversity, to take place in 2011, in collaboration with Carson Fellow Gary Martin and former Carson Fellow Diana Mincyte. Münster’s position is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

### Recent Publications

#### Books

*Die Gute Frau: Hochkastige Weiblichkeit im ländlichen Tamil Nadu, Südindien. Indus Reihe.* Berlin: Lit, forthcoming.

Ursula Münster is a cultural anthropologist and her current research is on political ecology of forest conversation in Wayanad, Kerala, South India.



### Dr. Franziska Torma

November 2009 –

Franziska Torma has begun research into her Center project, "The Oceanic Ecosystem: Humanity and the Seven Seas between Internationalism, Science, and Environmentalism, 1850 – circa 2000."

Franziska Torma has spent much of the last year planning and organizing conferences. Together with Uwe Lübken, she organized two doctoral workshops on environmental history and natural disasters in May and June 2010. Torma is currently preparing four conferences / workshops planned for 2011 and 2012: "Exploring Ice and Snow in the Cold War" – Munich / Moscow; "Comparing Apples, Oranges, and Cotton: Environmental Histories of the Plantation" – Munich; "Oceans, Coastlines, and Islands" (working title) with John Gillis; and a workshop with Carson Fellow Ingo Heidbrink on maritime sciences and environmental history. She also served as a member of the planning committee for the graduate school and Erasmus Mundus projects as well as for the Turku Prize committee. Torma has also been part of several RCC search committees. She is in the process of writing a grant with Carson Fellow Alexa Weik von Mossner for a film screening project to be sponsored by the DFG (German Research Foundation) and the RCC.

Finally, Torma is currently teaching a course on German maritime environmental history for the history department at LMU Munich.

### Recent Publications

#### Books

*Turkestan-Expeditionen: Zur Kulturgeschichte deutscher Forschungsreisen nach Mittelasien (1890-1930)*. Bielefeld, Germany: transcript, forthcoming.

#### Articles

"Probing the Seven Seas: Towards an Oceanic and Postcolonial Concept of Tropicality." In "Sciences de la vie coloniale (XIXe-XXe siècles): bilan, enjeux et perspectives." Special issue, *Revue d'Anthropologie des Connaissances* (forthcoming).

#### Presentations

Franziska Torma has given talks at several national and international conferences; she presented her work in Strasbourg, France, at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, at a history colloquium in Münster, Germany, and finally at the geography department at LMU Munich.



### Dr. Gordon Winder

April 2010 –

Gordon Winder has taught several courses on American and Pacific environmental history at the Amerika-Institut of the LMU Munich. He is currently working on his Center project: "International Rescue: The Los Angeles Times Mediates Distant Earthquake Disasters."

Gordon Winder is primarily responsible for liaising with the Carson Fellows. He served on the 2010-11 Fellows search committee, attends many Fellows' events as a representative of the RCC staff, and is involved in the reading group on risk. Winder is organizing a workshop with Carson Fellow Emilian Kavalski on complexity theory and catastrophes as well as a conference for 2012 entitled "Degradation/Restoration." Winder's position is supported by LMU Munich.

#### Recent Publications

##### Journals

"Northland: Sustainable Development, Regional Geography and Learning in the Field." Edited with Nick Lewis. Special Issue, *New Zealand Geographer* 66, no. 2 (2010).

##### Articles (Selection)

"Grassland Revolutions: Disaggregating a National Story." *New Zealand Geographer* 65 (2009): 187-200.

"Between Myopia and Criminal Neglect." *Dialogues in Human Geography* 1, no. 1 (2010).

"Fish and Boats: Fisheries Management Issues in Northland." With Eugene Rees. Special issue, *New Zealand Geographer* 66, no. 2 (2010): 152-68.

"Imagining Geography and Citizenship in the Networked Newspaper: *La Nacion* Reports the Assassination at Sarajevo, 1914." In "Global Communication: Telecommunication and Global Flows of Information in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century." Special issue, *Historical Social Research/Historische Sozialforschung* 35, no. 1 (2010): 140-66.

"London's Global Reach? Reuters News and Network 1865, 1881, and 1914." *Journal of World History* 21, no. 2 (2010): 271-96.

"The Manufacturing Belt." In *Encyclopaedia of Human Geography*, edited by Barney Wharf. Thousand Oaks: Sage Reference, 2010.

"Mediating Foreign Disaster Experience for Angelinos: The *Los Angeles Times*, International Relief, and Pacific Rim Earthquakes." In *Historical Disaster Experiences: Politics, Science and Religion*, edited by Andrea Janku and Gerit Schenk. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.

"*The New York Times* and the Global Financial Crisis." Urban Research Plaza of Osaka City University Document Series: Osaka, 2010.

"*The New York Times* Reports Assassinations." In *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference of Historical Geographers*, edited by Akihiro Kinda, et. al., 173. Kyoto: Kyoto University Press, 2010.

"Performing a New Regional Geography." With Nick Lewis. Special issue, *New Zealand Geographer* 66, no. 2 (2010): 97-104.

#### Presentations

Gordon Winder has presented his research in various lectures and collaborative presentations both in Germany and abroad. He has given talks at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association in California, at a conference on creating cities in Munich, at the Green Cultures conference of the RCC, at various departments (geography, Japanese studies, etc.) of LMU Munich, and at the Annual Meeting of the Royal Geographical Society / Institute of British Geographers in London.



## Research Associates

### **Marcus Andreas, M.A.**

October 2009 –

“Ecovillage Endeavors: For a Culture of Sustainability”

### **Martin Bemmann, M.A.**

January 2010 – June 2010

“‘Damaged Vegetation’ and ‘Dying Forests’: On the Construction of an Environmental Problem in Germany, 1893-1970”

### **Julia Blanc, Dipl.-Theol.**

October 2009 –

“The Role of the Catholic Church in European Environmental Politics”

### **Ewald Blocher, M.A.**

October 2009 – June 2010

“Constructing Modern Egypt: Experts, Dams, and the Transformation of the Nile, 1882-1970”

### **Stefan Esselborn, M.A.**

October 2009 – June 2010

“Translating Africa to Modernity: The International African Institute, 1925-1975”

### **Andreas Grieger, M.A.**

October 2009 –

“Environmental Diplomacy in U.S.-German Relations”

### **Eleanor Hayman, M.A.**

October 2010 –

“Thinking Water North of the Future: An Examination of the Cultural Perception of Water; An Eco-Phenomenological Approach”

### **Kristin von Heyking, Dipl.-Biol.**

October 2009 – September 2010

“Anthropology of an Early Urban Disadvantaged Group: Morphological and Archaeometric Investigation of the Skeletal Remains from a Late Medieval Poorhouse Cemetery in Regensburg”

### **Agnes Kneitz, M.A.**

October 2009 –

“Eco-Novels: Depictions of Environmental Problems”

### **Marc Landry, M.A.**

October 2009 – July 2010

“‘Europe’s ‘White Coal’: The Hydro-electrification of the European Alps, 1880-1955”

### **Felix Mauch, M.A.**

October 2009 –

“‘Erinnerungsfluten’: The Storm Flood of 1962 in Hamburg’s Civic Memory”

### **Angelika Möller, M.A.**

August 2009 –

“The Big Green Apple: Cemeteries and City Parks in New York City, 1811-1898”

### **Sonja Weinbuch, M.A.**

October 2009 – June 2010

“Disaster Tourism in the United States”

## Visiting Research Associates

### Andrew Denning, M.A.

October 2009 – March 2010

University of California, Davis, USA

“A Cultural and Environmental History of Skiing in the Alps”

### Steve Milder, M.A.

October 2009 – July 2010

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA

“West German Anti-nuclear Activism during the 1970s”

### Andras Vadas, M.A.

September 2010

Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

“Climatic Changes in Hungary in the Middle Ages”

Fellows and staff picnic in Munich’s famous English Garden



## Research Assistants

### Rebecca Friedman

December 2010 –

### Annka Liepold

May 2010 –

### Stephanie Rinck

September 2009 –

### Lisa Spindler

September 2009 –

### Martin Sprenger

October 2010 –

### Philipp Stephan

January 2010 –

## Interns

### Elisabeth Stevens

June 2010 – August 2010

### Michael Neundlinger

July 2010 – September 2010

## Administrative and Communications Staff

### Managing Director



**Dr. Claudia Reusch**

August 2009 –

Claudia Reusch gained her Ph.D. in geography from the Technical University of Munich (TUM); before joining the RCC, she had worked in the field of scientific marketing, served as the Head of Research at an international consulting company, and founded her own company.

Claudia Reusch is in charge of running the Center's day-to-day operations and overall business administration. Her tasks include planning and overseeing the RCC's financial performance, managing human resources, ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, and the implementation of policies and procedures. She acts as a link between the RCC, the Center's academic board, the government ministry, the university, and the Deutsches Museum as well as to external partners of the RCC. Reusch also assists with the organization of most Center events, including the Opening Event which attracted an audience of over 300 people to the Munich Residenz.

### Project Manager - Communications



**Arielle Helmick, M.A.**

January 2010 –

Arielle Helmick serves as the communications director as well as the RCC librarian. She is the co-editor of the RCC newsletter and coordinates various RCC film projects. In addition, Helmick oversees the website and the Center's public relations. In 2010, she co-organized the RCC Opening Event; for 2011, Helmick is currently planning a conference, scheduled for July 2011, on eco-cinema with Carson Fellow Alexa Weik von Mossner, and another one with Carson Fellow Ed Russell on Neurohistory.

Arielle Helmick is in the process of completing her dissertation "Green Pop: A History of the U.S. Environmental Movement through Song," and has presented her research at several Center events.

## Ph.D. Program Coordinator



### Dr. des. Elisabeth Zellmer

October 2010 –

Elisabeth Zellmer studied history, political science, and Czech at the University of Regensburg, Germany, the University College of Dublin, Ireland, and the Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic; in 2010, she submitted her dissertation on the women's movement in Munich.

Elisabeth Zellmer is the coordinator of the doctoral program “Environment and Society,” which is sponsored by the RCC and accepted its first doctoral students for winter semester 2010-11. Aside from supporting the program's participants, she is responsible for the development, organization, and the execution of the program. Zellmer also assists in coordinating the program's external funding. In 2011, she will help organize the RCC's involvement in both the Munich International Summer University and a summer school for graduate students co-sponsored by the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH). Zellmer's position is generously supported by LMU Munich.

## Office Manager

### Andrea Jungbauer, Dipl.-Soz.

September 2010 –

### Korbinian Seitz, M.A.

August 2009 – July 2010

## Editor

### Katie Ritson, M.A.

October 2009 –

## Senior Communications Associate

### Regina Schwarz, B.S.

September 2010 – November 2010

## Communications Associates

### Paul Senker, B.A.

October 2010 –

### Claudia Whiteus, M.A.

September 2010 –

## IT / Systems Manager

**Janosch Kilian, Dipl.-Inf. (FH)**

November 2009 –

## IT Developer Digital Portal

**Dan Pettet, B.M.S.**

November 2010 –

## 7 Publications

The Rachel Carson Center is committed to supporting the publication of state-of-the-art research in environmental humanities that bridges national and disciplinary divides. The Center manages the editorial and review process for two book series: an English-language series with Berghahn Books and a German-language series published by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. A third series, *RCC Perspectives*, is an online venue for the diverse perspectives on environmental research coming out of RCC-related scholarly activities. The Center also supports its Fellows and staff in the publication of their work with other presses.

### ***International Environmental History: Berghahn Books***

*International Environmental History* is an English-language series of monographs and anthologies showcasing innovative research in environmental history around the world. The series is published with Berghahn Books (New York and Oxford) and peer reviewed by scholars affiliated with the RCC and the European Society of Environmental History (ESEH). Editors are Christof Mauch, David Moon, Helmuth Trischler, and Petra van Dam. Currently, five manuscripts by authors from five countries are under consideration.

### ***Umwelt und Gesellschaft: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht***

*Umwelt und Gesellschaft* seeks to become the prime German-language outlet for high-quality monographs and edited volumes of environmental research within the humanities, with a special emphasis on environmental history. It is interdisciplinary and open in thematic and methodological respects. The series is edited by Christof Mauch, Helmuth Trischler, and Frank Uekötter. In 2010, the series published its first volumes:

Frank Uekötter, *Die Wahrheit ist auf dem Feld: Eine Wissensgeschichte der deutschen Landwirtschaft* (ISBN 978-3-525-31705-1).

Ute Hasenöhr, *Zivilgesellschaft und Protest: Eine Geschichte der Naturschutz- und Umweltbewegung in Bayern 1945-1980* (ISBN 978-3-525-31707-5).

Four additional book projects are currently in an advanced stage of preparation or negotiation.

### ***RCC Perspectives***

The online series *RCC Perspectives* offers diverse vistas on the complex relationship between nature and culture. The series is designed to share thought pieces and fresh empirical research which have originated in RCC-related events and current debates. As an e-publication, it is designed to be flexible, responsive, and freely accessible via the RCC's website. A limited print edition is also available. The series is edited by Kimberly Coulter, Christof Mauch, Helmuth Trischler, and Frank Uekötter. In 2010, three issues were published:

Christof Mauch and Helmuth Trischler, "International Environmental History: Nature as a Cultural Challenge."

Christof Mauch, "Das neue Rachel Carson Center in München oder Was heißt und zu welchem Ende betreibt man Weltumweltgeschichte?"

Markus Vogt, "Climate Justice."

Nine issues are currently in development, including:

Christian Pfister, "'The Monster Swallows You': Disaster Memory and Risk Culture in Western Europe, 1500-2000."

Frank Uekötter, "The Magic of One: Reflections on the Pathologies of Monoculture."

### **Supported Publications**

Carson Fellows and RCC staff have also published numerous additional works developed during their stay at the Center in a variety of other venues. The following publications, all resulting from work done at the Carson Center, have been or are being co-sponsored by the RCC:

Dorothee Brantz and Christof Mauch, eds. *Tierische Geschichte: Die Beziehung von Mensch und Tier in der Kultur der Moderne*. Paderborn: Schöningh, 2010.

Frank Uekötter, ed. *The Turning Points of Environmental History*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010.

Sherry Johnson. *Climate, Catastrophe, and Crisis in Cuba and the Atlantic World in the Age of Revolution*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011.

Uwe Lübken and Christof Mauch, eds. "Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazard, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective." Special issue, *Environment and History* (1/2011).

## 8 Media and Outreach

“*A global intellectual lightning strike*”: these words were used to describe the Rachel Carson Center in the Münchner Uni-Magazin (the LMU university magazine) in February 2009, some months before the Center officially opened its doors. This followed two articles featuring the RCC and Director Christof Mauch in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* in late 2008. The focus in these two pieces was on the success in securing the funding for the Center, as well as in explaining its goals and the structure and establishing the importance of studying environmental humanities in Germany. The *Bayerischer Rundfunk*, Bavaria’s largest radio and television station, featured the RCC in its “IQ und Wissenschaft” (IQ and Scholarship) program on the radio station Bayern 2 in July 2009. One year later, the Rachel Carson Center was up and running and was living up to the name it had already made for itself in the press: the RCC held its first press conference shortly before the prestigious Opening Event on July 1, 2010, which resulted in coverage by a range of media organizations.

The RCC thrives on dialogue and debate. Outreach focuses not only on contributing to public discourse, but also on drawing various audiences into a conversation which can feed back in to the RCC and stimulate new collaborations and projects. Environment and society are not concepts to be examined in the ivory tower of academia and the conclusions then released for public consumption, but are part of a living process in which we – Fellows, staff, and the wider world – are constantly engaged. Perhaps the clearest example of this was the Opening Event, which drew together international speakers and guests from a range of different perspectives – academics, activists, public officials – and an audience that was similarly heterogeneous; the mix of guests at the reception afterwards and the variety of languages and perspectives which their conversations encompassed were an inspiring testimony to the power which debate on environment has for bringing people together.

The Center has also boosted its profile by playing host to a variety of international visitors – public intellectuals and diplomats, journalists, and representatives of Bavarian ministries. More generally, the public face of the Rachel Carson Center is given prominence at lecture programs, summer schools, and events such as film screenings and exhibitions where the provocative theories and exciting ideas coming out of current research are debated in public panel discussions or presented explicitly for a non-academic audience.

Above and beyond that, 2010 has seen us dive into new and social media as a form of outreach with a lively presence on Facebook and Twitter; the film shorts featuring Fellows and their research projects are just the beginning of what we hope will be a long-term use of visual media to explain humanities research. Our website and regular newsletter keep interested parties abreast of events and projects, whether they are students just around the corner at LMU Munich or academics and professionals across the globe. And the work our Fellows do as unofficial ambassadors for the RCC, when they go to conferences and workshops, and later, when they return to their home institutions, should not be underestimated. The presence of the RCC on the academic stage is assured through its staff and Fellows, but also through the work the Center does convening and hosting academic events. All of these are two-way processes; the Fellows bring new ideas back with them, feedback from events and exhibitions is taken on board, and e-media provides opportunity to connect, share, and stay in touch. Thus the outreach work continues, and will continue to develop, as part of a global conversation on environment and society which the RCC aims to cultivate and promote.

## 9 Outlook

In 2010, the Rachel Carson Center established itself as 1) a world leader in environmental humanities, 2) a catalyst for international, interdisciplinary networks, and 3) a site of cutting edge research. The RCC has already cultivated a large number of partnerships, both academic and non-academic, and in 2011 will continue to bring together some of the best scholars from across the globe. The Center has already selected the new intake of Carson Fellows for the first half of 2011. Once again, incoming Fellows hail from every continent – from Australia to Asia – and represent over half a dozen academic disciplines. Also in 2011, Markus Vogt, professor of theology at LMU Munich and Germany's leading expert on environmental ethics, will be joining the RCC as the first Carson Professor; in 2012, Jens Kersten, LMU professor of environmental law, will join the RCC in the same function.

For the coming years, the RCC is planning several major international conferences on topics such as oceans in environmental history, ice and snow, plantations from an international perspective, environmental films, and biodiversity. More than a dozen workshops and some ten conferences have already been scheduled for 2011. In order to cater to the interested public in Munich, the RCC will launch a film series at the Gasteig, Munich's largest cultural center. With the support of LMU Munich and the Global Diversity Foundation, the center will offer a summer course on environmental studies in Munich under the auspices of MISU, Munich's International Summer University, in August 2011. In addition, the RCC will organize a summer school in collaboration with the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) in Venice, Italy, and a second cohort of students will enter the International Ph.D. program "Environment and Society."

Most of these workshops and conferences will be organized in collaboration with academic partners both in Germany and abroad. Some of these joint scholarly enterprises aim at raising the profile of environmental humanities and their contribution to current discourses on environmental issues; others are primarily designed to explore opportunities for future research programs by joining intellectual forces with academic institutions from diverse disciplinary backgrounds.

The exploratory conference "Re / Cycling Histories: Users and the Paths to Sustainability in Everyday Life," which involves a number of partner institutions, the conference "Final Frontiers: Exploring Oceans, Islands, and Coastal Environments," which will draw together international experts and be partly hosted at the Island Institute in Maine, and the workshop on biocultural diversity, which sees current and former Carson Fellows exploring the intersections of their research, are all excellent examples of the breadth of collaborative projects at the RCC.

These are some, but by no means all, of the new programs and activities planned for 2011. The RCC certainly has an exciting year ahead – and perhaps the most exhilarating part is that which cannot yet be predicted. One of the fundamental components of the success of the RCC's first full year as an institution has been the unforeseen interfaces and collaborations between Fellows, staff, and affiliated individuals and organizations in Munich. Having such a diverse and international group of people sharing the same space and engaged in both formal and informal dialogue gives rise to a high level of energy and any number of new ideas. It is impossible to list everything that will happen in 2011. What we can be sure about is that the RCC will continue to develop, provoke, and reflect on the ever-widening debate about environments and societies worldwide.



## Executive Summary

In its first year, the Rachel Carson Center has established itself as an important actor in the field of international environmental history and related disciplines. Since the Center's inception in July 2009, we have received over three thousand applications (for positions, programs, and fellowships) from across the globe. We have welcomed fellows from four different continents and organized dozens of workshops and conferences in Munich and elsewhere. One of the components of the Center's success in the first year has been the intense collaboration and informal dialogue among fellows and between fellows and staff that has resulted in reading groups, workshops, and the organization of panels at international conferences.

The Center found a fitting home in its new location at Leopoldstrasse 11a. Our new office has a conference room and is close to the university complex and public transportation.

Over the last few months, the Carson Center has been able to expand its programs and activities through the generous sponsorship of numerous research institutes and organizations, and has established its own international doctoral program sponsored by LMU Munich. In our efforts to reach out to the public, the Carson Center has held many public events—including the popular weekly lunchtime colloquium and environmental film showings—that have drawn large audiences in Munich. In 2009, the Carson Center launched its website. In 2010 the Center created its own newsletter and launched RCC Perspectives, an online journal that explores diverse perspectives on the Center's research. In our first year, the Deutsches Museum has been an important partner to the Carson Center and a sponsor of an RCC exhibition on Mainau Island. Furthermore, the first monographs have appeared or have been accepted for publication in two different book series: an English-language series with Berghahn Books and a German-language series published by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

In regards to its projected research schedule, the Carson Center has reached all its goals on time, and some even ahead of schedule. The biggest challenge we have faced is dealing with the great interest in the Center's programs, which keeps the staff busy reviewing applications and addressing inquiries.

The Center is introducing a full slate of programs and projects for 2011: our first Carson Professor, Markus Vogt, adds his expertise on environmental ethics to the Center; the RCC in conjunction with the ESEH awards the its first international book prize; and the Center plays host to an international graduate program on environmental studies as part of the Munich International Summer University. Furthermore, the RCC is organizing over twenty-six conferences and workshops worldwide. And, the Center will welcome a new and increasingly diverse group of Carson Fellows representing a plethora of academic disciplines and geographic regions.

Finally, a cornerstone of the Center's outreach efforts, the digital portal "Environment and Society" is to be launched, providing an unprecedented online presence for a multitude of environmental humanities sources and interactive interpretative features.

Press conference for the RCC Opening Event, featuring (from left to right) Vandana Shiva (Winner of the Right Livelihood Award), Helmuth Trischler (RCC Director), Yolanda Kakabadse (President of WWF International), Jane Carruthers (Chair of the RCC Academic Board), and Christof Mauch (RCC Director), Munich Residenz, 1 July 2010



**RCC Annual Report 2009 / 10****General Editors:**

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To learn more about the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, please visit [www.rachelcarsoncenter.de](http://www.rachelcarsoncenter.de) or contact [carsoncenter@lmu.de](mailto:carsoncenter@lmu.de)

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Munich, 2010