

# The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

## Activities and Programs

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# 1 The RCC at a Glance 2013

The RCC and LMU hosted the seventh biennial conference of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH). The largest ESEH meeting to date brought well over 700 people to Munich for four days of concurrent sessions and special events on the topic “Circulating Natures: Water–Food–Energy.”

In 2013, Carson fellows published five monographs, 34 peer-reviewed articles, 36 essays in edited volumes and special issues, and wrote many working papers, policy briefs, newspaper and popular magazine articles as a result of current or past fellowships.

40 Carson fellows hailed from Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The RCC sponsored over 20 conferences, workshops, and panels in Germany and internationally including in the USA, China, and Switzerland.

The RCC continued its Green Visions Film Series and led a coalition of Munich groups, universities, and research centers that hosted the Night of Sustainability on the theme “Rethinking Mobility and Energy.”

*RCC Perspectives* released seven issues on topics ranging from eco-images to the Anthropocene to Latin American environmental history.

The RCC library now has over 1,500 volumes cataloged online through the LMU Munich library.

The Environmental and Society Portal had over 60,000 unique visitors in 2013, with around 7,000 unique visits per month. Nearly 80 percent of these were new visitors who had not previously visited the site.

The RCC blog, *Seeing the Woods*, has published contributions including photographs, videos, articles, and conference reports by fellows.

The doctoral program Environment and Society completed its third year and graduated its first doctoral student in August 2013.

## 2 Executive Summary

Once again, the Rachel Carson Center has served as a leading center for the free exchange of ideas and development of environmental research in the humanities. The RCC supported over 40 visiting scholars in a simultaneously international and interdisciplinary research program. Workshops past have turned into polished books and journal issues, new projects have been initiated, old partnerships and programs advanced a step further. With the buzz of so many meetings and conversations behind us—not to mention the constant coming and going of scholars from so many places—we have to pay attention to how our ideas travel too. Besides the need to interact with other scholars personally, we are often conscious of the work we do in translating our research for new audiences and partners. Sometimes this translation takes on the literal form alluded to in the German *übersetzen*—of physically carrying our research to a new place, in conferences and workshops. But this year has seen translation of many different kinds.

The undoubted high point of 2013 was the ESEH conference, with its overarching theme of Water–Food–Energy, which saw seven hundred ESEH members from Europe and beyond descend on LMU Munich for four very full days of panels, workshops, lectures, meetings, and receptions. The mosaic of European environmental history was visible in all of its complexity; the evening receptions were full of both the synaptic crackle of new ideas and the pleasure of cementing old and new friendships. While Europe was the both host and focal point, the many participants from other continents—including sizeable delegations from China, Latin America, North America, Australia, and Russia—added a global note that ensured that European discussions remained outward-looking.

Our energies this year were not just focused on Munich. A number of other events in 2013 took place abroad, initiated by RCC fellows or alumni and supported by the center. The conference “Disasters Wet and Dry” was convened jointly with the Center for Ecological History, Renmin University of China, and brought scholars from all over the world to Beijing to engage in a stimulating conversation, facilitated in this case by interpreters. The RCC continued its support of the Sociedad Latinoamericana

y Caribeña de Historia Ambiental (Society for Latin American and Caribbean Environmental History, SOLCHA), whose first ever summer school for graduate students was held at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá in June: this was followed by a three-day workshop for scholars of Latin American environmental history that resulted in an issue of *RCC Perspectives* and a planned edited collection. The RCC further supported South American environmental history with its sponsorship of the Third International Workshop in Environmental History at the Universidade Do Estado De Santa Catarina in Brazil. Another continent, another workshop; “Extractive Industries and the Arctic,” co-convened by RCC alumnus John Sandlos, saw international scholars travel to Newfoundland to discuss environmental change in the circumpolar world.

Two RCC alumni have had their books translated into new languages for publication in the center’s book series: Patrick Kupper’s prizewinning monograph *Wildnis schaffen: Eine transnationale Geschichte des Schweizerischen Nationalparks* (Bern, 2012) will appear in English in the series “Environment and Society,” published by Berghahn. And Frank Zelko’s book *Make It a Green Peace! The Rise of Countercultural Environmentalism* (Oxford University Press, 2013) is currently being translated into German, and will be published by Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht. Meanwhile, the *RCC Perspectives* volume 2013/7, “New Environmental Histories of Latin America and the Caribbean,” edited by RCC alumna Claudia Leal, incoming RCC fellow José Augusto Pádua, and John Soluri, has been published in English and Spanish simultaneously, with a Portuguese edition forthcoming in 2014.

The Rachel Carson Center also tries to be active in the translation of ideas between the Global South and the Global North. Its continuing collaboration with the journal *Global Environment*, which expressly seeks to transcend the Western and “developmentalist” bias in environmental research, is a feature of this effort: Issue 11 (2013) was the second special issue produced by the Rachel Carson Center and focused on environmental sites of memory. Moreover, the RCC hosted the workshop “Edges in Environmental History” as part of the ESEH pre-conference program, which was held to celebrate the work of South African environmental historian (and chair of the RCC advisory board) Jane Carruthers. The papers from this workshop were delivered by 15

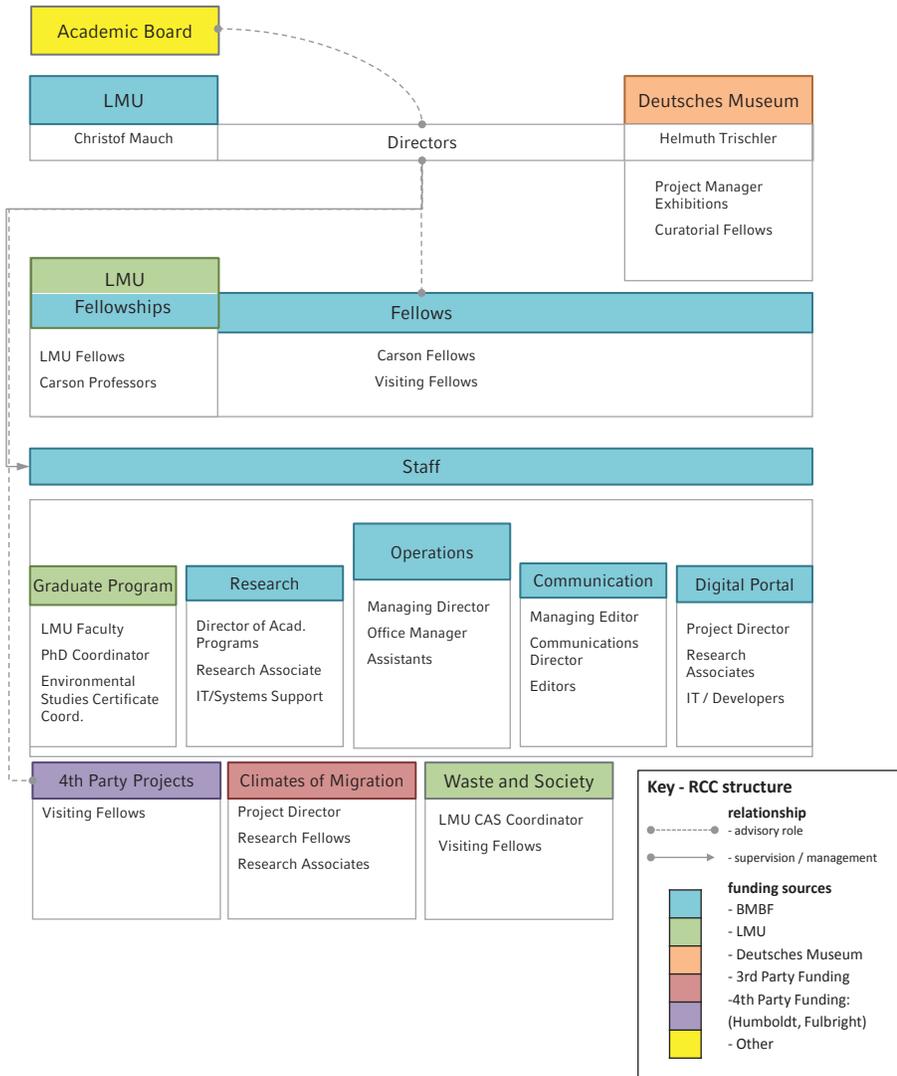
acclaimed scholars from both hemispheres—a fitting tribute to a scholar whose own work has translated so influentially across disciplines and continents.

There is another medium to facilitate the carrying across of our research, besides travel and traditional publications. Our Environment & Society Portal provides a showcase for our research that is accessible across the globe, including making archive material available online via its exhibitions. Two new exhibitions were launched in 2013—the first, “Scientific Expeditions into the Eternal Ice,” presented annotated diaries of the polar explorer Alfred Wegener, in both the original German and in a new English translation. And the second, “Wilderness Babel” took up the issue of translation explicitly by mapping the different words and meanings that come closest to the English term “wilderness.” Besides the Portal, the RCC blog reaches readers worldwide and incorporates the insights of current, former, and future fellows, staff, interns, and commentators from the wider world.

Finally, the center is translating the concept of the Anthropocene as a scientific and normative framework to re-think the environment and society relation into a public exhibition. The opening of a major exhibition, “The Anthropocene: Nature and Technology in the Age of Humans” at the Deutsches Museum is scheduled for October 2014. Preparatory events, accompanying workshops, and outreach activities, however, structured the center’s full annual calendar, from the large-scale opening event in January with the Berlin Haus der Kulturen der Welt to a series of conceptual and design workshops at the end of the year.

The RCC continues to be a hub for ideas of all kinds, and a translator of ideas in the widest possible sense—transporting ideas between cultures, between disciplines, and between languages, across wide spaces and high fences, from the ivory tower to the woman on the street and back again. At the ESEH conference, we saw that water, food, and energy are topics that unite humanity in our efforts to solve problems and see our planet from different perspectives: this year, once again, the Rachel Carson Center has influenced discussions across the world.

### 3 Organigram



## 4 The RCC Academic Advisory Board

The RCC Academic Advisory Board is made up of leading scholars in the environmental humanities from around the world. Members convene once a year in Munich to evaluate and give feedback to the RCC; they also promote RCC programs and collaborations in their individual regions and disciplines. In 2013, the RCC welcomed a new member, newly-elected ESEH President Dolly Jørgensen who serves ex officio on the RCC Academic Advisory Board. The board has members from most continents (Africa, Asia, North America, Australia, and Europe) and from many different disciplines (history, anthropology, environmental engineering, human ecology, geography, and economics).

**Prof. Dr. Greg Bankoff**, University of Hull, UK

**Prof. Dr. Jane Carruthers**, University of South Africa, Pretoria (Chair)

**Prof. Dr. Eveline Dürr**, LMU Munich

**Dr. Dolly Jørgensen**, Umeå University, Sweden

**Prof. Dr. Wolfram Mauser**, LMU Munich

**Prof. Dr. John R. McNeill**, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA

**Prof. Dr. Libby Robin**, Australian National University, Canberra

**Prof. Dr. Renate Schubert**, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

**Prof. Dr. Shen Hou**, Renmin University, Beijing, China

**Prof. Dr. Verena Winiwarter**, Alpen-Adria University, Klagenfurt, Austria (Vice Chair)

## 5 Research and New Approaches

### Fellowship Program – Self-Organized, Creative Free Space

The international fellowship program at the Rachel Carson Center invites scholars for periods of residence in Munich to complete books and articles related thematically to six clusters: ecological imperialism; environmental ethics, politics, and movements; environmental knowledge and knowledge societies; natural disasters and cultures of risk; resource use and conservation; and transformation of landscapes. In 2013, several of these themes lent focus to our academic programs. For example, we co-sponsored a lecture series in May on environmental ethics, politics, and movements, with a workshop dedicated to the comparative study of environmental movements in November. The major ESEH 2013 conference in August, “Circulating Natures,” highlighted research on historical transformation of landscapes, resource use and conservation, and environmental knowledge and knowledge societies.

These thematic foci have provided direction and structure to the center, yet allowed for significant flexibility. The ongoing program of works-in-progress discussions and shared work space at the center encourage collaboration between fellows, who self-organize creative workshops in the course of their research, often in connection with other institutions in Munich and around the world.

Many other successful programs in 2013 focused on distinct concepts that cut across the six research clusters. A workshop on the “Edges of Environmental History,” in honor of leading world environmental historian Jane Carruthers, likewise triangulated several research themes. The workshop examined how resource conservation, long-term landscape transformations, and ecological imperialism have pushed the boundaries of knowledge in the field of environmental history, at times through collaboration with artists, professional resource managers, and indigenous communities. Other events and publications from our 2013 program reflect our commitments to exploring the conceptual “edges” of environmental humanities, between the humanities and the natural sciences, between the academy and diverse publics, as well as across the historical, material margins between social groups.

## The Anthropocene Project

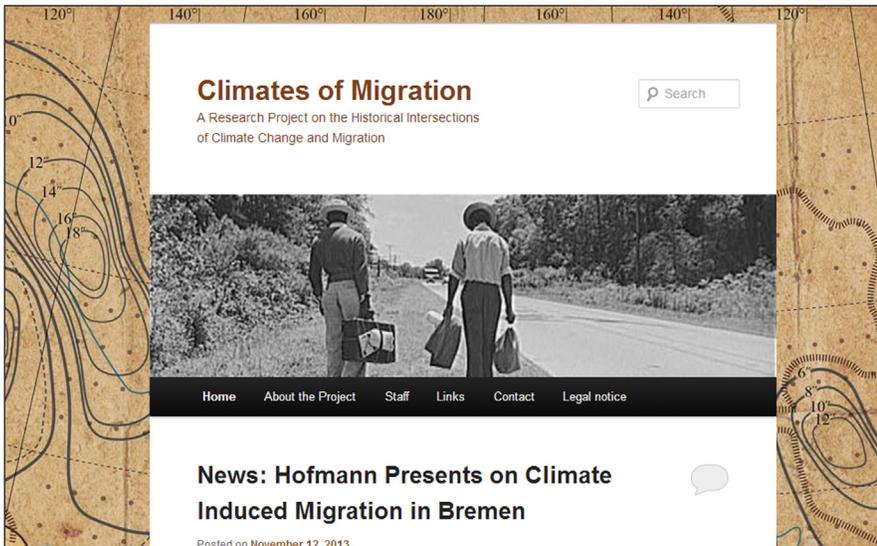
Several events explored the implications of the Anthropocene as a scientific concept and normative category, including a major public launch of the Anthropocene project in January with the Berlin Haus der Kulturen der Welt. In March, doctoral candidates and faculty from the LMU and Deutsches Museum held an “Anthropocene Academy” training seminar at Kochel-am-See. A second workshop on “Culture and the Anthropocene” took place in Munich in May, co-sponsored with the Transatlantic Research Network in Environmental Humanities (funded by the Humboldt Foundation), which emphasized the necessity of humanities perspectives to the critical scrutiny of the Anthropocene concept. The *RCC Perspectives* volume “Anthropocene: Exploring the Future of the Age of Humans,” edited by Director Helmuth Trischler, emerged from these workshops as well as from presentations in the lunchtime colloquium, discussions at our annual retreat, debates in the doctoral program, conceptual meetings of our exhibition team, and from many informal gatherings over lunch and around the coffee machine.

Workshops, design sessions, and participation in an international conference on “Collecting the Future: Museums, Communities, and Climate Change” at the National Museum of Natural History in New York rounded out a year of intense preparations for the exhibition, “Anthropocene: Nature and Technology in the Age of Humans,” scheduled to open in October 2014 at the Deutsches Museum. In the international spirit of RCC programs, this exhibition will travel to major museums in Australia, Europe, North America, and beyond after having been displayed in Munich. The Anthropocene is not only a concept that emphasizes the global dimensions of human interventions into nature but it also connects the RCC with numerous partnering institutions around the globe, stretching from Canberra to Stockholm, from Beijing to Madison, from New York to Berlin.

## Climates of Migration

The three-year research project “Climates of Migration” is a joint project of the Rachel Carson Center and the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities in Essen

(KWI), generously funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The project looks at the historical intersections between environmental change and migration, and is particularly interested in climate-induced movements of people in the past. Six individual projects shed light on how, where, and why people have migrated as a result of droughts, cold periods, floods, hurricanes, and other extreme natural events.



**Climates of Migration**  
A Research Project on the Historical Intersections  
of Climate Change and Migration

Home About the Project Staff Links Contact Legal notice

**News: Hofmann Presents on Climate Induced Migration in Bremen**

Posted on November 12, 2013

The Climates of Migration project had an extremely productive year in 2013, including the publication of a special volume of the journal *Global Environment*, titled “Environmental Change and Migration in Historical Perspective” edited by Project Director Uwe Lübken (RCC). A workshop on “One Concept of Environmental Migration” was also held in August at the RCC. Steven Engler (KWI), Rebecca Hofmann (RCC), and Uwe Lübken presented their research findings at the 10th Forum for Sustainability (FONA), organized by the BMBF in Leipzig in September with over 400 participants. Climates project researchers also presented their work in Toronto

at the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) 2013 annual conference, at the ESEH meeting, as well as across Germany (Bremen, Mainz, Wuppertal). Finally, Science Europe, an independent association of European research organizations, highlighted *Climates of Migration* as a model humanities project that addresses societal challenges in its September 2013 publication, “Humanities in the Societal Challenges: 12 Compelling Cases for Policymakers.”

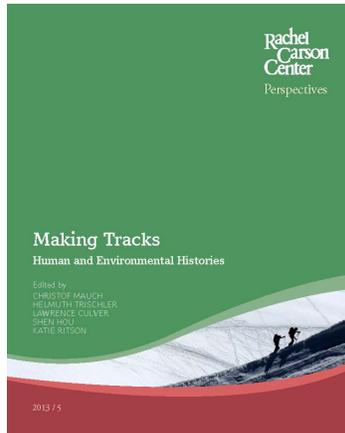
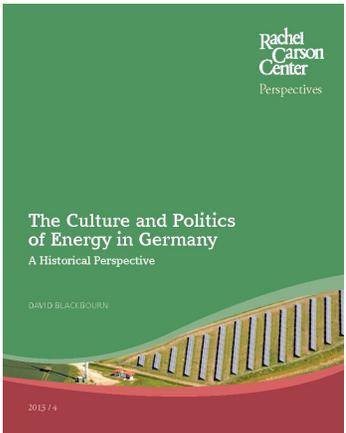
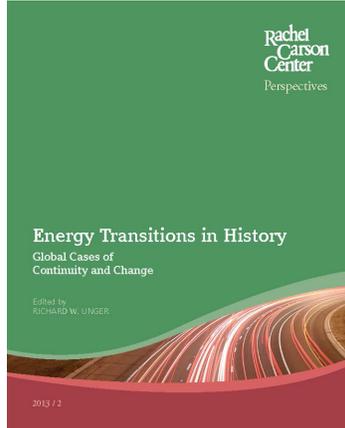
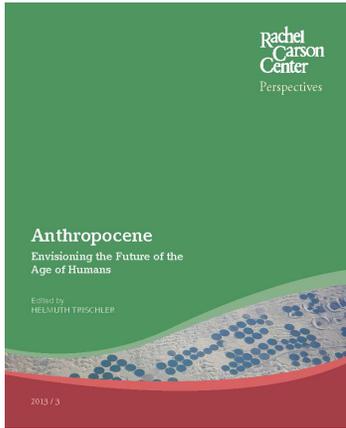
## Waste and Society

With the LMU Munich Center for Advanced Studies (CAS), the RCC launched a new research cluster in 2013: “Waste in Environment and Society.” Most of the CAS working group is affiliated with the RCC, which includes researchers from eight different LMU faculties as well as from Technische Universität München, Universität der Bundeswehr München, and the Deutsches Museum, and aims to develop a common research framework to explore how and where waste is generated, how it travels, is valued and re-valued, and the normative dimension of how societies designate, discard, and otherwise manage unwanted things. In 2013 the initiative featured waste-themed films in the Green Visions series, public lectures, and workshops with short-term visiting fellows who brought international humanities research perspectives from art history, environmental history, and sociology to bear on practical questions of waste reduction and waste management. The CAS research cluster also sponsored an evening of Waste-Art, with student documentary photographs and photomontage, functional and decorative pieces made from redeemed garbage, and a performance of the SCRAP band/Wertstofforchester.

This image shows a piece of ancient Irish oak wood, in which the ring-widths can be counted and measured for size. Bigger size equals better growing conditions, and this piece spans one of the most famous episodes of extreme climate in the past two millennia, occurring from c.536-550 AD. Photo by RCC fellow Francis Ludlow.



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Selection of RCC Perspectives issues 2013.

## 6 Publications

### RCC Perspectives

The Rachel Carson Center's journal *RCC Perspectives* reflects on events and dialogues at the RCC, including provocative and less formal pieces on environment and society. The 2013 integration of *Perspectives* into the Environment & Society Portal allows full-text indexing, makes its content navigable via the Portal's browsing tools, and creates opportunities for internal links and feedback. This expands the audience for RCC research by connecting *Perspectives* to a wealth of other environmental humanities resources. In 2013, *Perspectives* was also made available in eBook (.mobi) format.

- **Issue 1:** "Eco-Images: Historical Views and Political Strategies." Edited by Gisela Park.
- **Issue 2:** "Energy Transitions in History: Global Cases of Continuity and Change." Edited by Richard W. Unger.
- **Issue 3:** "Anthropocene: Exploring the Future of the Age of Humans." Edited by Helmuth Trischler.
- **Issue 4:** "The Culture and Politics of Energy in Germany: A Historical Perspective." By David Blackbourn.
- **Issue 5:** "Making Tracks: Human and Environmental Histories." Edited by Christof Mauch, Helmuth Trischler, Lawrence Culver, Shen Hou, and Katie Ritson.
- **Issue 6:** "Notes From the Greenhouse: Arguments for Environmental History (Ein Plädoyer für Umweltgeschichte)." By Christof Mauch.
- **Issue 7:** "New Environmental Histories of Latin America and the Caribbean." Edited by Claudia Leal, José Augusto Pádua, and John Soluri.

## Umwelt & Gesellschaft (Environment and Society) – Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

- **Volume 6:** Sebastian Strube, *Euer Dorf soll schöner werden: Ländlicher Wandel, staatliche Planung und Demokratisierung in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* (Beautify Your Village: Rural Change, National Strategy and Democratization in the Federal Republic of Germany).

### Publications Sponsored by the RCC

- Förester, Horst, Julia Herzberg, and Martin Zückert eds. *Umweltgeschichte(n): Ostmitteleuropa von der Industrialisierung bis zum Postsozialismus* (Environmental Histories: East-central Europe from Industrialization to Post-socialism). Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2013.
- “From Exploitation to Sustainability? Global Perspectives on the History and Future of Resource Depletion.” *Nova Acta Leopoldina* 114/390 (2013). Edited by Bernd Herrmann and Christof Mauch.
- Knoll, Martin. *Die Natur der menschlichen Welt Siedlung, Territorium und Umwelt in der historisch-topografischen Literatur der Frühen Neuzeit* (Nature in the Human World: Settlement, Territory and Environment in the Historical and Topographical Literature of the Early Modern Period). Bielefeld: Transcript, 2013.
- “Special Issue: Environmental Sites of Memory.” *Global Environment: A Journal of History and Natural Social Sciences*, volume 11 (2013). Guest edited by Frank Uekötter.



## 7 The Environment & Society Portal

The Environment & Society Portal is the Rachel Carson Center's digital platform for open-access publication and outreach on topics related to the human-environment relationship. Like a museum or library, it aims not only to inform, but also to inspire curiosity. All Portal content can be searched or browsed through a map, timeline, and keyword explorer.

As an open-access digital project, the Portal has great impact: since its launch in 2012 it has reached 68,000 unique users in 150 countries. The Portal integrates five ambitious projects: *RCC Perspectives*; *Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History*; a Multimedia Library; Places & Events; and our virtual exhibitions.

**Environment & Society Portal**

Contents ▾ Exploration tools ▾ Connections ▾

**Welcome to the Portal**

The Environment & Society Portal invites you to discover openly accessible resources on the human-environment relationship. Explore interpretive exhibitions, illustrated Arcadia articles, Places & Events, and the Multimedia Library's journals, images, and recordings. We hope you'll find unexpected inspiration.

**Search the Portal**

→ Search

**Exhibitions**  
Curated by experts in environmental humanities fields, virtual exhibitions put digitized material into interpretive contexts

**Places and Events**  
Plot stories in time and space

**Arcadia: Environmental Histories**  
Born-digital research from the ESEH network

**Multimedia Library**  
An archive of curiosity-inspiring images, podcasts, films, and scholarly articles

**RCC Perspectives**  
Online journal of the Rachel Carson Center

**Traverse the globe**  
Zoom, pan, and plot search results on the Map Viewer

**Travel through time**  
View and compare events with the Timeline Tool

**Trace connections**  
Find related results with the Keyword Explorer


**Environment & Society Portal**

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## The Swiss National Park: A model of nature conservation for scientific research

**Search the Portal**



View of the Val Cluozza in the Swiss National Park (2007)

Between 1909 and 1914 a group of Swiss scientists and conservationists managed to designate an area of approximately 14,000 hectares in the Swiss Alps as a national park. In an article in *Nature*, leading park scientist Carl Schröter declared the location in the Ofenpass district as particularly suitable: "In

**Collections**

- National parks in time and space
- Global environmental movements
- Water histories

**About the author**



**Kupper, Patrick**  
 Institute for the History of Technology - ETH Zurich  
[→ Show more](#)

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**Recent Arcadia Items**

Nature conservation in ski country? The Vanoise National... - Mauz, Isabelle

Munich and its Isar River: A rafting port on an Alpine river - Jochum, Georg

How birds became Europeans: Bird protection activists... - Meyer, Jan-Henrik

"I prefer to die on the mountain": Local resistance to... - Rodriguez, Steven

## Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History

The Arcadia Project, a growing collaboration between the RCC and the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH), offers more than 50 pieces of new peer-reviewed research on environmental historical topics related to specific places. Each born-digital short article includes a profile of the researcher, links, and suggested readings. As it enhances the visibility and digital presence of new research, Arcadia is particularly beneficial to early-career scholars in environmental history and related fields. In 2013, Arcadia introduced a new “collections” feature for juxtaposing related articles; we soon plan to add networking tools for researchers as well. The topics of our first collections are “water histories,” “global environmental movements,” and “national parks and conservation.”

## Multimedia Library

The Environment & Society Portal's fastest-growing project, the Multimedia Library, is a dynamic archive of digitized and born-digital materials related to the human-environment relationship. It is frequently visited by researchers, students, and instructors to find inspiration for lectures and projects. Visitors can already view, for example:

- More than 50 environmental film profiles;
- full-text and book excerpts from publishers including White Horse and University of Pittsburgh presses;
- over 150 book profiles and reviews;
- nearly 400 full-text journal articles (including *Environment and History*, *Global Environment*, *Climate of the Past*, *Environmental Values*, and *Environmental Humanities*);
- a collection of digitized early modern broadsheets (in collaboration with the Bavarian State Library);
- “Green Futures” (eco-art and -fiction);
- video and audio recordings including TED talks and podcasts such as *Exploring Environmental History*, *Smithsonian Folkways*, and *Nature's Past*;
- digital environmental graphic novels;
- Carson fellow portraits; and much more.

One of our proudest achievements for 2013 is making available for the first time a high-resolution, searchable digital archive of radical environmental journals *Earth First!* and *Wild Earth*.

 Environment & Society Portal
Contents ▾ Exploration tools ▾ Connections ▾

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## Multimedia Library

The open access digital archive for environmental humanities.

## Welcome to the Multimedia Library

The Environment & Society Portal's Multimedia Library is a dynamic digital archive including images, podcasts, scholarly texts, and environmental documentary films. We aim to make a diverse array of environmental humanities materials openly accessible to all users. The Multimedia Library is intended not as a canon or 'best of' collection, but as a growing resource that we hope will spark interest, inspiration, or ideas for new projects. We're currently clustering content to create new "collections." We hope they will give you an overview of some of our strengths.

To recommend an item for inclusion in the Multimedia Library, please use our 'feedback' button to send us your suggestion, a comment about the item's significance, and contact information for its copyright holder.

**Search the Portal**

Multimedia → Search

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**Recent Multimedia Items**

- Book profile: Taylor, Bron, ed. *Avatar and Natural Spirituality*
- Journal: *Earth First!* 1, no. 8
- Journal: *Earth First!* 1, no. 7
- Journal: *Earth First!* 1, no. 6
- Journal: *Earth First!* 1, no. 5

**Collections**

- Book Profiles and Reviews
- Carson Fellow Portraits (video series)
- Climate of the Past (journal)
- Early Modern Broadsheets from the Bavarian State Library
- Earth First!* and *Wild Earth* (journals)
- Environment and History (journal)
- Environmental Film Profiles
- Environmental Humanities (journal)
- Environmental TED Talks (podcasts)
- Environmental Values (journal)



*Stephen S. Rose is a frequent CF 1p 30*      *LW Gundy on Brown's NAT and I see a BFF*

# Earth First!

**Mabon 1993**  
September 22

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

**Vol. XIII, No. VIII**  
THREE DOLLARS

## Red Mountain Actions

14 Arrested in San Juan

BY DENIS HALL

The Red Mountain Timber Sale is located west of the San Luis Valley in the South San Juan Mountains. This sale is in the last known habitat for Grizzlies and possibly wolves in the state. The Forest Service and Stone Forest Industries (SFI) plan to construct over 18 miles of new roads to remove 8 million board feet of trees. Like many Colorado forests slated for timber harvest, Red Mountain is unique, beautiful and pristine. Roads are being constructed this summer and logging is due to begin in 1994.

Colorado forest activists began construction in the late 1980s. In 1989,



Roadbuilding flail Gerry Doyon tries to flatten the resistance at a Red Mountain blockade.

## Freedom for Peg Millett!

At about 8:15 pm on Tuesday, May 30, 1989, an FBI agent shot a glaring flare into the central Arizona desert sky, illuminating three people at the base of a power line tower. So began the public part of the ongoing saga of the Arizona five. For Peg Millett, one of the five activists scooped up in the FBI's effort to "send a message" to Earth Firsters, there is good news at last: she was recently released from a halfway house in Tucson.

Peg served two and a half years of a three-year sentence and was transferred to a halfway house last May. Although the feds took two years of Peg's life they couldn't touch her spirit and integrity. We expect to see her beautiful smiling face at Rendezvous again and enjoy her musical talent at the site and roadhouse.

My companions and I, representing Crested Butte Forest Rescue, drove to

explained that it was now illegal to drive any further on the road. My companion

The radical environmental journal *Earth First!*, made available in digital format by the Portal.



## Places & Events

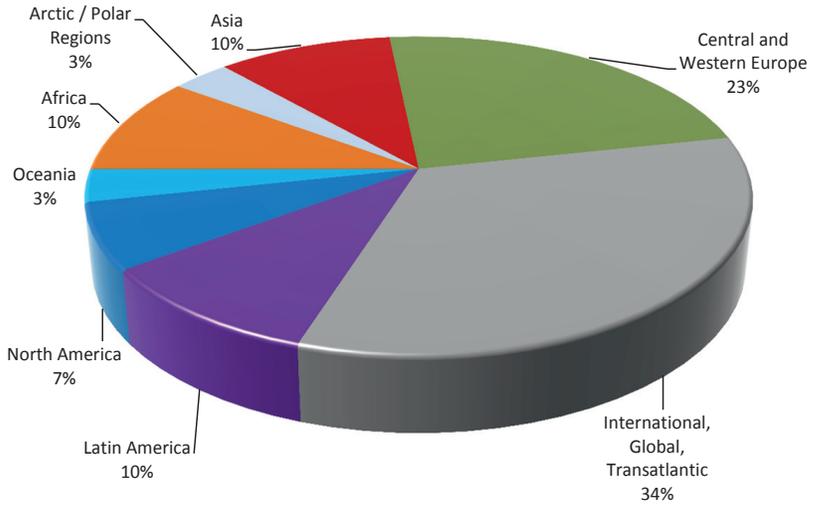
Visitors looking for bite-sized content about environmentally significant sites and historical events can view the Environment & Society Portal’s “Places & Events” on a map or timeline. These short summaries include a thumbnail illustration, related links, and suggestions for further reading. Already popular among instructors and students from Ohio, USA, to St. Petersburg, Russia, students now have an opportunity to contribute as well as interact with the Map Viewer. In response to many requests, in 2013 we opened “Places & Events” for user-generated contributions, which will be fact-checked and edited. We particularly invite university instructors in the environmental humanities to guide student production of these mini born-digital publications.

## Exhibitions

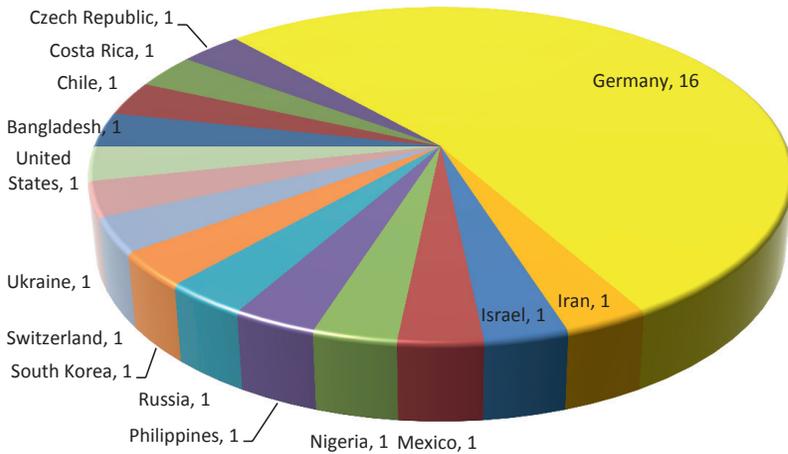
The Portal's most in-depth features—and its most popular—are the virtual exhibitions, each of which puts a selection of digital material into an interpretive context. In partnership with the Deutsches Museum, our most recent 2013 exhibition, *The Wegener Diaries: Scientific Expeditions into the Eternal Ice*, offers insights into Greenland's extreme environments as experienced by polar researcher Alfred Wegener on three expeditions between 1906 and 1931. It includes a digital edition of Wegener's Greenland diaries, with transcription and English translation of large selections, historic photographs, and video footage.

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Environment & Society Portal with a logo on the left and menu items 'Contents', 'Exploration tools', and 'Connections' on the right. The main title 'The Wegener Diaries: Scientific Expeditions into the Eternal Ice' is centered, with the author 'by Christian Kehrt' below it. A descriptive paragraph follows, explaining the exhibition's focus on Alfred Wegener's expeditions to Greenland. Below the text is a horizontal navigation bar with three tabs: '1906-1908 Expedition 1', '1912-1913 Expedition 2', and '1930-1931 Expedition 3'. Each tab has a small representative image. The main content area features a large image of handwritten diary pages with German text, a circular portrait of Alfred Wegener, and a circular image of film footage. Text overlays include 'Dive into the experience Wegener's diaries' with a link to 'Original Document', and 'Learn more about Alfred Wegener' and 'View original Film footage'.

### PhD Candidates - Research Area



### PhD Candidates - Country of Citizenship



## 8 Graduate Programs

### Doctoral Program “Environment and Society”

The doctoral program “Environment and Society” (ProEnviron) completed its third year in 2013, with the first cohort of candidates finishing their doctoral dissertations. With the addition of Professor for Economics, Karen Pittel, of the LMU Center for Energy, Climate, and Exhaustible Resources, and geographers Claudia Binder and Gordon Winder, the academic board now represents 11 disciplines. Three students began in the winter semester 2013, with projects that continue a marked transnational shift in areas of research, bringing the total number of program participants and alumni to 30. The RCC community congratulates Agnes Kneitz, who completed the “Environment and Society” program in 2013, and the three other students who submitted their dissertations for review. The following dissertations (in alphabetical order by author) were submitted in 2013:

**Ewald Blocher**, “Der Wasserbau-Staat: Die Transformation des Nils und die Konstruktion des modernen Ägyptens, 1882–1971,” submitted for review September 2013.

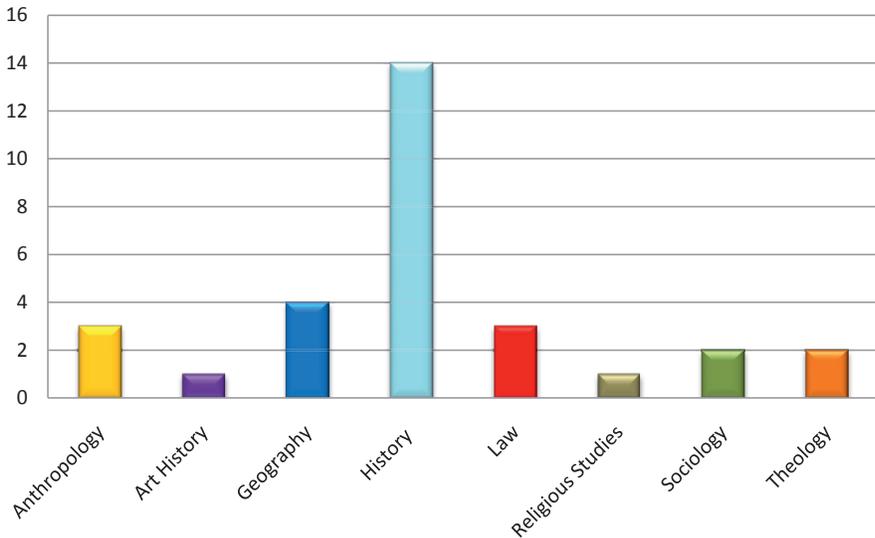
**Agnes Kneitz**, “Literatur–Geschichte–Natur. Reflexionen zu Umweltgerechtigkeit und Umweltbewusstsein im Roman des 19. Jahrhunderts.”

**Felix Mauch**, “Erinnerungsfluten. Das Sturmhochwasser von 1962 im Gedächtnis der Stadt Hamburg,” submitted for review November 2013.

**Angelika Möller**, “Grüne Stadt New York: Freizeit und Freiraum in der Metropole,” submitted for review September 2013.

In 2013, in addition to organizing workshops and participating in conferences, doctoral candidates held an “Anthropocene Academy” at the Vollmar Akademie at Kochel-am-See in March 2013, moved into new doctoral offices for 12 students, and welcomed several visiting doctoral candidates with independent funding including Anna Mazanik (Russia), Alfredo Ricardo (Brazil), and Seth Peabody (US, Fulbright program).

### PhD Candidates - by Discipline



The figures in this section are based on data from the 30 PhD candidates enrolled in the ProEnviron program in 2013.

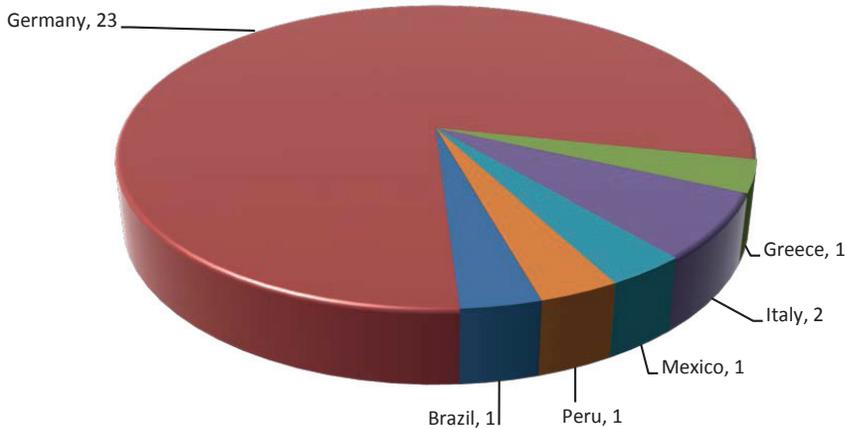
## Certificate Program in Environmental Studies

With support from the LMU Munich, the RCC launched its interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Certificate Program (ESCP) in October 2013, with 29 students accepted into the first cohort. Students complete coursework across three modules, attend a reading group in conjunction with the weekly lunchtime colloquium in international environmental studies, produce a final project, and have the opportunity to participate in an annual place-based workshop. The ESCP is thoroughly interdisciplinary: its academic board represents over 11 disciplines at LMU. Students study in the natural and social sciences, professional programs in law and business management, and the humanities. ESCP gives participating students both a rigorous thematic focus, studying environmental issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives, with flexibility to tailor course selection and the final project to fit the needs of their own disciplinary Masters program. Above all, ESCP provides an intellectual home on campus for emerging scholars and professionals in environmental studies.

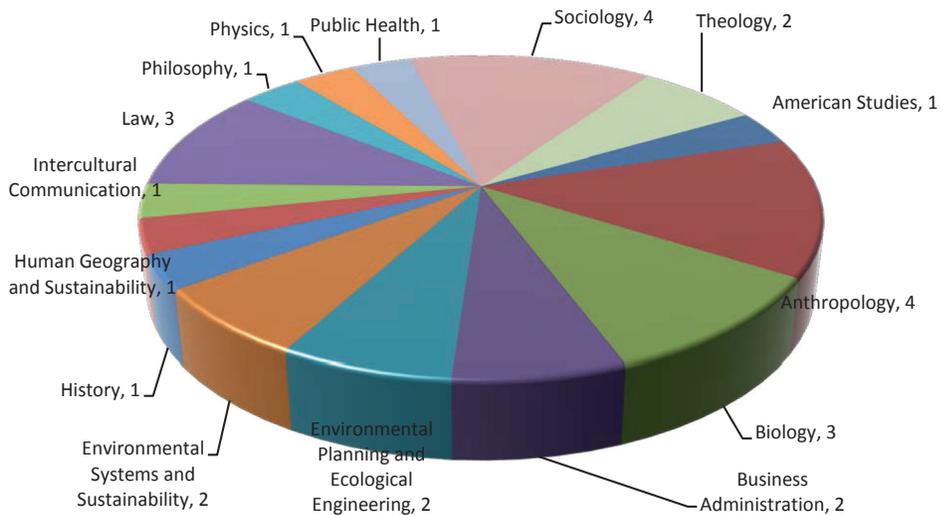


Welcome reception for new graduate students at the RCC, April 2013.

## ES Certificate Program Students - Country of Citizenship



## ES Certificate Program Students - Discipline



The figures above are based on data for the 29 students enrolled in the Environmental Studies Certificate Program in 2013.

## ESEH Summer School 2013

The ESEH, in cooperation with the RCC, organized a summer school on the topic of “Mountains Across Borders,” which was held 17–21 August in Lavin, Switzerland. The summer school was convened by Marcus Hall and Carson Alumnus Patrick Kupper. With over a dozen graduate students and 10 established scholars from Europe, the United States, and China, the program foregrounded the challenges and opportunities of studying highland ecosystems, mountain cultures, and the historical role of mountains as sites of disasters and as refugia in Europe, the Americas, Central Asia, and East Africa.



Participants of the ESEH Summer School, Lavin, Switzerland.

## 9 Collaborations

The Rachel Carson Center has drawn increasing attention from researchers and universities worldwide in the fields of environmental history and environmental humanities. As the Carson alumni now number over 100 scholars worldwide, the RCC is also increasingly able to connect this transnational network of researchers to programs and events as our primary form of international collaboration. For 2013, we organized our collaborations into four types:

1. The RCC Alumni Association
2. Formal bilateral research cooperation with peer institutions and centers
3. Local intra-institutional collaboration (with LMU Munich, the Deutsches Museum, Technische Universität München, the Volkshochschule München, and others)
4. Participation in capacity-building initiatives (such as an inclusive European Environmental Humanities Alliance that supports the involvement of environmental humanities and social science research in addressing European society's challenges).



Alumni Association Presidents Lawrence Culver (left) and Shen Hou (right), with RCC Fellow Donald Worster (center) at ESEH conference, Munich 2013. The reception was organized by the Alumni Association.

## 10 Internship Program

The RCC continued its internship program in 2013 with students from China, Germany, Greece, Lebanon, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States. RCC interns usually stay for a period of two to three months. The internship program introduces these students to the research of the Carson Center. Interns work on a variety of projects at the center; notably, in 2013 interns played a vital role supporting the ESEH conference, preparing the Hall of Fellows exhibitions, coordinating conference volunteers, and helping to plan meetings, receptions, and book launches. Interns have regular opportunities to interact with Carson fellows and are encouraged to attend RCC events such as lunchtime colloquia, workshops, Works in Progress sessions, and film screenings. Past interns have also contributed to the Environment & Society Portal.



RCC intern Stephanie Hood working at the reception desk.



## 11 Library and Film Archive

Since 2012, the Rachel Carson Center library collection has been cataloged on the university's online catalogue, OPAC. The RCC library now holds over 1500 print volumes, including the entire print sets of *Environmental History*, *Environment and History*, and *Global Environment*. The RCC additionally sponsors online access to these journals and to *The Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture*, for the whole LMU Munich community (approximately 60,000 users).

The collection continues to grow steadily, thanks in large part to donations and the generous support of the Carl-Friedrich-von-Siemens Stiftung (Siemens Foundation), which has given considerable funding to add relevant literature to our shelves. In 2013, additional office space granted by the LMU Munich also allowed the RCC to dedicate sufficient space to its expanded library. The new reading room will provide an additional quiet workspace for researchers at the center.

The RCC library holds multimedia (primarily DVD formatted films) as well as traditional printed books and journals. Together with the Environment & Society Portal, the library now holds over 100 films, primarily environmental documentaries. All films screened in the Green Visions Film Series are integrated into the RCC collection. In addition, the RCC has created a collection of environmental films that we expect to grow into one of the largest in the world. These films are available in the RCC library and profiled in the Environmental Film Profiles collection on the Portal, often with short trailers (see <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/collection/9449>).

## 12 Media and Outreach

### The RCC Online: Website, Social Media, and Film Projects

In 2013, the official RCC website remained a useful resource for information about the Center, our events calendar, and an online directory of our fellows' profiles. The site received 65,000 unique visitors from 114 different countries. Our bimonthly online newsletter also helped to keep over 1,700 subscribers updated. We successfully expanded our social media presence across a variety of online platforms. The number of likes on our Facebook page almost doubled; our Twitter followers increased from 150 to over 1000 and we continued to engage a large global network of environmental researchers through the #EnvHist group. To promote the future Anthropocene exhibition we began our own Twitter discussion on #MyAnthrop, where followers tweet their visions of the Anthropocene.



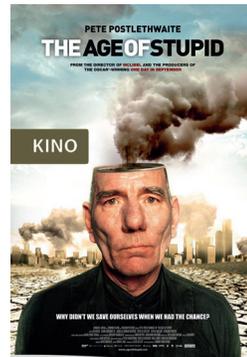
Screenshot of the RCC's popular *Seeing the Woods* blog.

Since it first went live at the end of 2012, our blog *Seeing the Woods* has been accessed over 17,500 times by more than 8,000 unique visitors. The blog also received a new look in 2013 and featured many interesting thought pieces and reactions to environmental issues. We started our “Making Tracks” blog series, in conjunction with the publication of a *Perspectives* volume of the same name, asking RCC fellows and alumni to retrace the paths that led them to environmental humanities and the Carson Center.

The RCC YouTube channel continued to feature our Fellows Films series—a series of documentary shorts in which Carson Fellows discuss important aspects of their work. In addition to strengthening established social media networks, the RCC branched out into other forms of new media. A live streaming initiative was started, which made many lectures, and in particular the frequent Lunchtime Colloquium series, accessible to interested audiences across the globe. Many videos of our events are now available on our YouTube channel, connecting us with those not living in the Munich area.

## Green Visions

Our film series, “Green Visions,” screened environmental documentary films on the themes of food, waste, and climate in 2013. The series regularly attracted crowds of over 100 visitors who filled the Munich cultural center (Gasteig) auditorium and held lively discussions following the films. Discussants in 2013 included both film and environmental experts from Germany and abroad.



### Green Visions Filmreihe

Donnerstag, 10. Oktober 2013  
Gasteig, München

20.00 Uhr  
Eintritt frei

## The Age of Stupid

Der Film von Fanny Armstrong verbindet sechs dokumentarische Geschichten aus den USA, Großbritannien, Frankreich, Indien, Nigeria und Jordanien mit einer fiktionalen Rahmenerszählung, die in einer klimatisch veränderten Zukunft spielt. Als einziger Überlebender blickt ein alter Archivar in aus dem Jahr 2005 zurück in das frühe 21. Jahrhundert und stellt dabei die zentrale Frage: „Warum haben wir den Klimawandel nicht aufgehalten, als wir noch die Möglichkeit hatten?“

Im Anschluss Diskussion mit  
**Dr. Franz Mauelshagen**  
Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut (KWI), Essen

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Kommunikationszentrum

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Poster for Green Visions screening of *The Age of Stupid*, a film which asks: “Why didn’t we stop climate change while we had the chance?”

## **Nacht der Nachhaltigkeit**

In June, the RCC organized a “Nacht der Nachhaltigkeit / Night of Sustainability” outreach event with local partners (BenE München e.V., Verein für Nachhaltigkeit e.V.) and several research centers and universities, which invited the public to a series of panel discussions and participatory activities on the themes of mobility and energy. These events took place in three stages well into the early hours of the morning on the campuses of LMU, Technische Universität München, and the Hochschule München built on the momentum of several earlier lecture series on sustainability that the RCC sponsored through the Munich association of higher education (Münchner Hochschulbündnis).

## **Global Environments Summer Academy (GESA)**

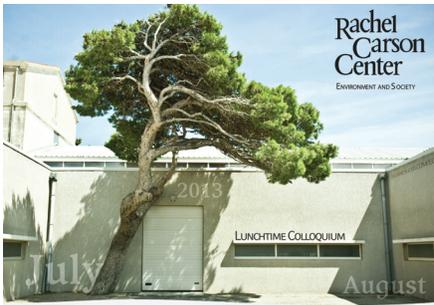
Carson Alumnus Gary Martin and the Global Diversity Foundation (GDF), with support from the RCC, convened the third Global Environments Summer Academy (GESA) at the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, Switzerland. Carson Alumni John Agbonifo, Siddhartha Krishnan, Melinda Laituri, and Michel Pimbert participated in collaborative sessions on Agro-pastoral Landscapes, Spirituality and Environmental Movements, and Resources, Territory, and Power. GESA is designed to broaden and deepen the knowledge, networking, and communication skills of postgraduate students and professionals who are concerned about the human dimensions of environmental challenges. Two dozen emerging leaders from international environmental NGOs and civil society and representing a wide variety of academic disciplines participated in GESA 2013.



Podium discussion on urban mobility at the Nacht der Nachhaltigkeit, with (from left) Franz Josef Radermacher, Hermann Knoflacher, Carson Fellow Thomas Zeller, Carson Alumnus Gijs Mom, and Ilil Bartana.



Up-cycling workshop, at the Nacht der Nachhaltigkeit, showing guests how to reuse unwanted goods.



Collection of posters from the Lunchtime Colloquium series 2013.

## 13 Events

### Lunchtime Colloquium

10.01.2013

**John Sandlos** (Memorial University, Canada) on “Poison Gold: Mining and Native People in Yellowknife, Canada”

17.01.2013

**Michel Pimbert** (Food and Agricultural International Institute for Environment and Development, UK) on “Transforming Environmental Knowledge for Diversity and Democracy”

24.01.2013

**Thomas Zeller** (University of Maryland-College Park, USA) on “Creating a Safer Environment? Death, Mutilation, and Automobility in the United States and Germany, 1930–2000”

31.01.2013

**Matthew Kelly** (University of Southampton, UK) on “‘Dartmoor National Park as a British Political Problem’”

07.02.2013

**Sandra Brunnegger** (University of Cambridge, UK) on “‘Nature, People, and Places: Utopian Movements in Colombia’”

28.02.2013

**Sabine Wilke** (University of Washington, USA) on “Imagining the Environment and Environmental Degradation”

21.03.2013

**Josh Berson** (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Berlin, Germany) on “‘Original Affluence’ and Ubiquitous Carnivory”

11.04.2013

**Peter Boomgaard** (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands) on “Thirty Millennia of Environmental Change: Landscapes, Humans, and Other Animals”

18.04.2013

**Frank Zelko** (University of Vermont, USA) on “Armless Buddhas versus Carnivorous Nazis: Cetacean Enchantment and the Anti-Whaling Movement”

25.04.2013

**Karen Oslund** (Towson University, USA) on “Seals, Musk Oxen, and Whales: The Long Nineteenth Century in Greenland and Canada”

02.05.2013

**Poul Holm** (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland) on “Fishing across the North Atlantic: The Importance of Marine Resources around 1600”

16.05.2013

**Ellen Arnold** (Ohio Wesleyan University, USA) on “Rivers and the Medieval Environmental Imagination”

23.05.2013

**Thomas Lekan** (University of South Carolina, USA) on “Beyond the Serengeti: Tourism, the Cold War, and West Germany’s Environmental Mission in East Africa”

06.06.2013

**Franz-Josef Brüggemeier** (University of Freiburg, Germany) on “The Experiment: Environment, Society, and the Bounds of Nature, 1750 to the Present”

13.06.2013

**John Meyer** (Humboldt State University, USA) on “Environmentalism as Social Criticism”

20.06.2013

**Eva Jakobsson** (University of Stavanger, Norway) on “Centimeter by Centimeter: The Contested Water Levels of Lake Vänern”

27.06.2013

**Kieko Matteson** (University of Hawai'i, USA) on "Nous voulons le bois ou la mort: Forest Struggles in Revolutionary France"

04.07.2013

**Kenichi Matsui** (University of Tsukuba, Japan) on "The Ethical and Legal Implications of Traditional Knowledge Studies"

11.07.2013

**Sainath Suryanarayanan** (University of Wisconsin, USA) on "Be(e)ing Human: A Social History of Collapsing Beehives in the United States"

18.07.2013

**Jan-Henrik Meyer** (Aarhus University, Denmark) on "When Europe Went Green: Transnational Networks and the Origins of European Environmental Policy"

25.07.2013

**Vipul Singh** (University of Delhi, India) on "Controlling the River: Diara Land and Social Disparity in the Mid-Gangetic Basin"

01.08.2013

**Mei Xueqin** (Tsinghua University, China) on "Relying on Nature while Maintaining Tradition: Pollution and Restoration of the Thames in the 19th Century"

12.09.2013

**Satoshi Murayama** (Kagawa University, Japan) on "Changing Attitudes Towards Nature: Japan and the West"

10.10.2013

**Erdenetuya Urtnast** (Mongolian State University of Education, Mongolia) on "Environmental Knowledge and Conservation of the Mongols"

17.10.2013

**Jenny Price** (University of California, Los Angeles, USA) on “History and Theory in Action! Tours, iPhone Apps, and Art Activism”

24.10.2013

**Nicole Seymour** (University of Arkansas, Little Rock, USA) on “Boys Gone Wild: Documenting ‘Bad’ Natures”

31.10.2013

**Jon Mathieu** (University of Lucerne, Switzerland) on “Long Story Short: 15,000 Years of Alpine History in 200 Pages”

01.11.2013

**John Agbonifo** (Osun State University, Nigeria) on “Environmental Governance and Civil Society in Nigeria”

14.11.2013

**Klaus Gestwa** (Tübingen University, Germany) on “(Post) Soviet Contemporary Environmental History: Ecological Globalization and Regional Dynamics”

21.11.2013

**Ruth Oldenziel** (Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands) on “Century of Cycling: Pathways towards Sustainability”

28.11.2013

**Pernille Gooch** (Lund University, Sweden) on “Pastoral Communities in the Himalayas”

5.12.2013

**Cameron Muir** (Australian National University, Australia) on “Broken Country and Shadow Places: Living with the Aftermath of Agriculture in Australia”

12.12.2013

**Dolly Jørgensen** (Umeå University, Sweden) on “Naturalized National Identities. Migrant Muskoxen in Northern Nature”

## Lectures and Lecture Series

15.01.2013

**Hans-Jorg Küster** (University of Hannover, Germany) and **Dr. Gabriele Weber-Blaschke** (Technische Universität München, Germany) on “300 Jahre Nachhaltigkeit in der Forstwirtschaft” (300 Years of Sustainability in Forestry)  
Sustainability Lecture Series, Amerika Haus, Munich

29.01.2013

**Dorothea Schäfer** (DIW Berlin, Germany) and **Marcus Vogt** (LMU, Germany) on “Globale Finanzwirtschaft” (A Global Economy)  
Sustainability Lecture Series, Amerika Haus, Munich

03.05.2013

**John Broome** (University of Oxford, UK) on “Morality of Climate Change”  
Special Lecture Series on Environmental Ethics, Politics, and Movements,  
LMU, Munich

08.05.2013

**Warwick Fox** (University of Central Lancashire, UK) on “General Ethics and the Theory of Responsive Cohesion”  
Special Lecture Series on Environmental Ethics, Politics, and Movements,  
RCC, Munich

24.05.2013

**Jeffrey Hou** (University of Washington, USA) on “Urban Gardening as Insurgent Placemaking”  
Special Lecture Series on Environmental Ethics, Politics, and Movements,  
Technische Universität München (TUM), Munich

20.06.2013

**Amanda Boetzkes** (University of Guelph, Canada) on “Contemporary Art as Garbology”

Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society” Guest Lecture, RCC, Munich

25.10.2013

**Shari L. Wilson** (Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education, USA) with **Don Worster** (University of Kansas, USA; University of Remin, China), discussant, on “Moving People, Produce, and Policy Environmental Actions at the State and Local Levels are Going Green”

Guest Lecture, Amerika Haus, Munich

13.11.2013

**Stephen Brain** (Mississippi State University, USA) on “Song of the Forest: Russian Forestry and Stalinist Environmentalism”

Guest Lecture, RCC, Munich



Participants at the “Rivers, Cities, Historical Interactions” workshop, February 2013.

## Conference, Workshops, and Seminars

04.01.2013

Running on Empty? Anxieties over Resource Exhaustion across Time and Place:  
The 127th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA  
Panel

10–13.01.2013

Opening: The Anthropocene Project  
Co-sponsored with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin  
Workshop

25–26.01.2013

Anthropocene: Nature and Technology in the Age of Humans  
Deutsches Museum, Munich  
Workshop

21–23.02.2013

Rivers, Cities, Historical Interactions  
Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Wissenschaft (IBZ), Munich  
Workshop

08.02.2013

Is There a Future Without Waste? / Gibt es eine Zukunft ohne Müll?  
Co-sponsored with the Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society”  
Research Cluster, Munich  
Podium Discussion

23–26.05.2013

Disasters Wet and Dry: Rivers, Floods, and Droughts in World History  
Co-sponsored with the Center for Ecological History, Renmin University, Beijing, China  
Conference

14–16.06.2013

Culture and the Anthropocene

Co-sponsored with LMU Munich and the Alexander von Humboldt Transatlantic Network in the Environmental Humanities, IBZ, Munich  
Conference

21–22.06.2013

Postgraduate Forum: Ecocriticism and Globalization

Co-sponsored with Goethe-University, Frankfurt Am Main  
Panel

19–21.07.2013

Studying the Environment —Working across Disciplines

Vollmar Akademie, Kochel-am-See

Workshop

20–24.08.2013

**Circulating Natures: Water–Food–Energy Seventh Biennial Conference of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH 2013)**

Co-sponsored with the ESEH (See photo essay on pages 52–55), Munich

20.08.2013

The Edges of Environmental History

Munich

Workshop

25.08.2013

One Concept of Environmental Migration? Bridging Disciplinary Approaches within the Humanities

Munich

Workshop

03–05.10.2013

Extractive Industries and the Arctic: Historical Perspectives on Environmental Change in the Circumpolar World

Co-sponsored with Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL, Canada  
Workshop

15–16.10.2013

Pioneers of Change—Transformation Research for a Culture of Sustainability

Co-hosted with the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Berlin  
Symposium

07.11.2013

Gold in the Garbage / Gold im Müll

Co-sponsored with the Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society”  
Research Cluster, Munich



Discussion session in the World Cafe, Pioneers of Change Symposium in Berlin, October 2013.

### Podium Discussion

07–08.11.2013

Going Green: The Emergence and Entanglements of the Green Movement in Australia, the USA, and Germany, 1970 to Present Day

Munich

Workshop

10.11.2013

Waste: Art and Music / Müll: Kunst und Musik

Co-sponsored with the Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society”

Research Cluster, Munich

Photography Exhibit and Concert



Staff and fellows geology field excursion led by Professor Anke Friedrich, May 2013.

27–29.11.2013

3rd International Workshop in Environmental History: Environmental History and Environmental Education

Co-sponsored with Universidade Do Estado De Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, Brazil

5.12.2013

There is No Waste: Perspectives from Grassroots Movements

Co-sponsored with the Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society”  
Research Cluster, Munich

Podium Discussion

12.12.2013

Who Does it Best? How Western Industrialized Countries Handle Waste

Co-sponsored with the Center for Advanced Studies LMU “Waste and Society”  
Research Cluster, Munich

Podium Discussion

18.12.2013

Ökologie der Alpen: Geschichte–Gegenwart–Zukunft / Ecology of the Alps:

Past–Present–Future

Munich

Workshop

## **Summer Schools**

03–07.06.2013

Inaugural SOLCHA Postgraduate Summer School in Latin American Environmental History

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Columbia

21.06.2013

Night of Sustainability: Rethink Mobility and Energy/Nacht der Nachhaltigkeit

LMU, TUM, and Hochschule München

Lecture Series and Workshops

27.07–18.08.2013

Global Environments Summer Academy (GESA) 2013:

“Socio-ecological Interactions in a Dynamic World”

Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, Switzerland

17–21.08.2013

Mountains Across Borders: A Summer School in Environmental History

Lavin, Switzerland

## Film Screenings

17.01.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Darwin's Nightmare*

Green Visions Film Series

24.01.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Living Downstream*

Green Visions Film Series

14.02.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Urban Roots*

Green Visions Film Series

21.03.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Taste the Waste*

Green Visions Film Series

11.04.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Into Eternity*

Green Visions Film Series

09, 11, 13.05.2013

Film: *A River Changes Course*

DOK.fest - 28th Munich International Documentary Film Festival

09, 12.05.2013

Film: *ARE YOU LISTENING!*

DOK.fest - 28th Munich International Documentary Film Festival

16.05.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Plastic Planet*

Green Visions Film Series

06.06.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Müll im Garten Eden*

Green Visions Film Series

11.07.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Waste Land*

Green Visions Film Series

10.10.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *The Age of Stupid*

Green Visions Film Series

28.11.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Thin Ice*

Green Visions Film Series

12.12.2013

Film Screening + Discussion: *Chasing Ice*

Green Visions Film Series



**CIRCULATING NATURES**  
Water - Food - Energy  
21 - 24 August  
MUNICH 2013

Understanding our environment means interacting with our past.

**The 7th conference of the European Society for Environmental History**

Join scholars from around the world in exploring energy, environmental change, sustainability, urban development, land use, food politics and many other topics.

- ☞ over 100 panels, roundtables and poster sessions on environmental history
- ☞ evening receptions at the Altes Rathaus, LMU, Deutsches Museum and Augustiner Keller
- ☞ a keynote speech by Marion Nestle (Award-winning author of *Food Politics*)
- ☞ book launches, auctions and exhibitions
- ☞ excursions

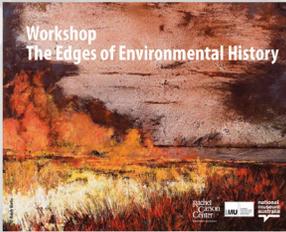
The interested public is warmly invited to attend!

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80539 Munich

**Rachel Carson Center**  
ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

Registration is required.  
For more information visit:  
[eseh2013.org](http://eseh2013.org)

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Top: Flyers for ESEH Conference 2013. Left: Professor Jane Carruthers (President, ICEHO). Right: Hep Monatzeder (Munich Deputy-Mayor) speaking at the Welcome Reception. Below, from left: Tait Keller, Jane Carruthers, Hep Monatzeder, RCC alumnus Marc Elie, and conference participants at the Welcome Reception.



Top: Participants in the Edges of Environmental History Pre-Conference Workshop. Left: participants at Royal Palace, Herrenchiemsee. Right: Welcome Reception, Altes Rathaus. Below, from left: RCC fellow Jan-Henrik Meyer, Andreas Grieger, RCC alumnus Timo Myllyntaus on the Chiemsee ferry



Left: Staff greet ESEH participants at the registration desk on the morning of August 21. Below, from left: RCC staff Freya Grünberg, Carmen Dines, and Daki Galgalo, supported the ESEH from start to finish.





Top left: Over 600 participants met for sessions at the LMU Munich Main Building. Above, from right: RCC Editor Brenda Black, RCC Managing Editor Katie Ritson featuring RCC Perspectives with other publishers and exhibitors at the Exhibition Hall. Far left: panel discussion with Richard Hoffmann, Verena Winwarter, and Christoph Bernhardt. Left: session on food, markets, and consumption with Hanna Schöslér. Below, session on "Circulating Scholars" with Jens Ivo Engels, Eveline Zbinden, Karena Kalmbach, and Robrecht Declercq.



Left: RCC fellow Clapperton Mavhunga speaking about his publications at the Hall of Fellows. Right: Over two-thirds of Carson alumni met for an RCC Alumni Association meeting during the conference. Below: RCC fellow Nicole Seymour with other conference participants at the book auction in the Hall of Fellows.



Right: RCC alumni Shen Hou, Frank Zelko, and others at the alumni meeting. Below: Book launch with the authors of *The Future of Nature* (Yale University Press, 2013).





Clockwise, from left: Emily Wakild and Arne Kaijser peruse new books in the exhibition hall entrance; Deutsches Museum; RCC Director Helmuth Trischler welcoming ESEH to the evening reception at the Deutsches Museum, August 22; Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie with ESEH participants in the audience at the New Technology Center, Deutsches Museum; RCC Directors Christof Mauch and Helmuth Trischler at the reception; Ariane Tanner speaking at the "Biomass" session; (from left) Janette Bailey, Brian Hamilton, Gregory Quenet exploring "Narrative and the Environmental Imagination"; (from left) Etienne Benson speaking at the "Life in Transit" session.



Right: Friday afternoon excursion to the Isar River renaturalization area. Bottom right: keynote lecture by Marion Nestle (Paulette Goddard Professor of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health at New York University), acclaimed author of Food Politics. Below: ESEH President Christof Mauch addressing the Society's General Assembly in the Great Hall, LMU Munich.





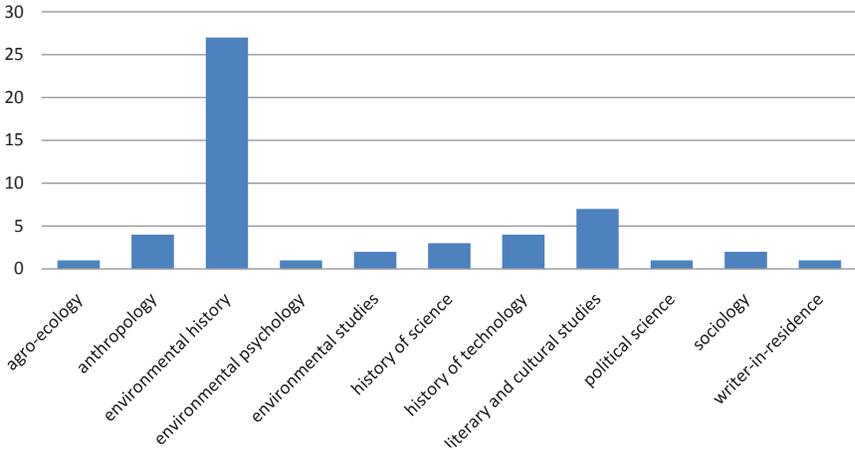
Clockwise, from top: Marion Nestle signing books following her keynote; a participant taking home the RCC's newest title with Berghan Books, *Civilizing Nature*, after a successful bid at the silent auction; participants monitoring bidding for their selections at the silent auction; Paul Warde and others at a Saturday session on "Fear of Energy Shortages;" guests at the poster session in the exhibition hall.



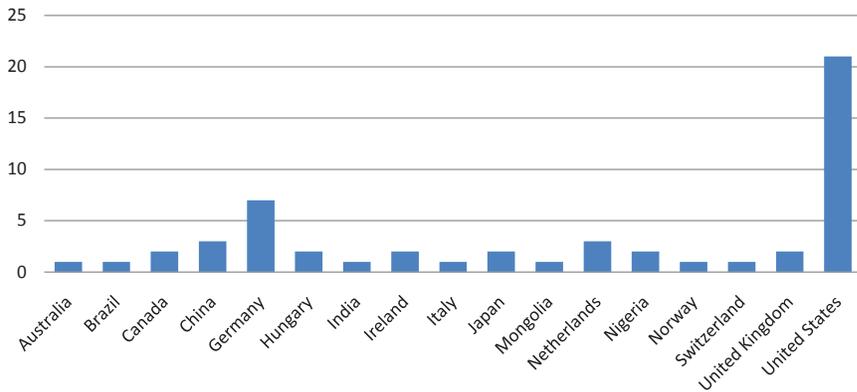
Top, from left: a post-conference workshop on "One Concept of Environmental Migration?" led by the Climates of Migration Project in the RCC conference room on August 25; Climates of Migration project director Uwe Lübken speaking at the workshop; ESEH participants forming a conga line at the awards banquet on Saturday night. Below, from left: Hundreds of conference participants raising a toast to ESEH 2013 in the Augustiner-Keller Hall on August 24; RCC staff, Freya Grünberg and Hannah Emerson, bid farewell to the largest gathering of environmental historians to take place in Europe, with "herzlichem Dank" from Munich to all those who made it a memorable success. Photos: Robert Levy. Design: Marielle Dado.



## Carson Fellows and Visiting Fellows - Research by Discipline



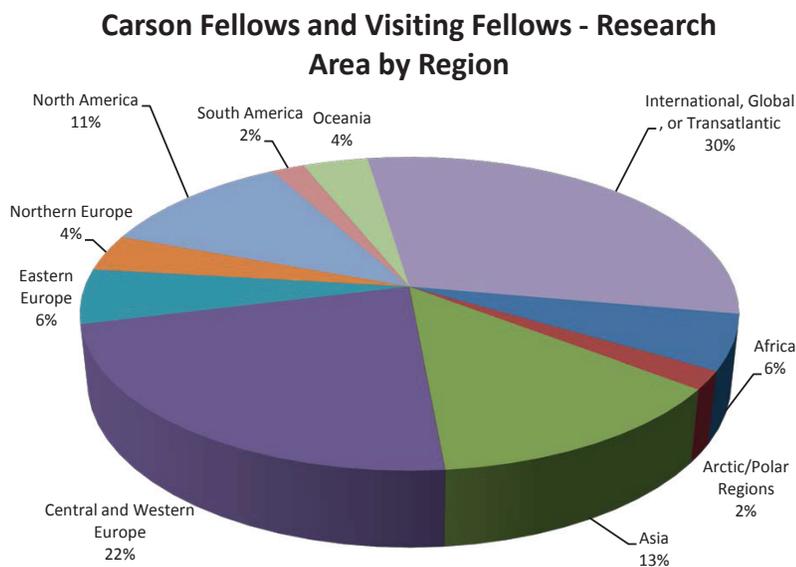
## Carson Fellows and Visiting Fellows - Country of Residence



The figures in this section reflect data from the 53 Carson fellows or visiting fellows who were in residence all or part of 2013.

## 15 Fellows

The Carson Fellowship Program provides funding for both highly regarded, established researchers and promising postdoctoral scholars who are looking to complete books or articles that correspond to one of our research themes. In addition to the Carson fellows, the RCC also supports Carson professors, visiting fellows, and LMU fellows. Carson professors are LMU Munich professors who work on environmental topics; they receive funding in order to pursue their own research in environmental studies and also to be part of the academic life at the RCC. Visiting fellows are researchers from outside of Germany who receive external funding and who are invited to do work at the RCC for varying lengths of time. LMU fellows are members of the LMU Munich faculty who take an active role in RCC programs.



## Carson Fellows



### **John Agbonifo**

August – November 2013

Green Movements and Environmental Governance in Nigeria

John Agbonifo is an assistant professor of sociology at Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria. His research and publications focus on topics related to environmental movements, environmental governance, and development. Agbonifo was a recipient of the Global South Scholar Fellowship from the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies in 2011, and the Garnet Junior Mobility Fellowship from Warwick University in 2009.

Agbonifo's research project explores the contribution of the green movement to environmental governance in Nigeria. It engages with questions concerning the prospects and challenges the movement must contend with, and what political space it maneuvers in. Agbonifo argues that, while there is little political space for the movement to instigate and shape official environmental policy, it has played a significant role in awareness creation, education, conflict prevention and resolution, local leadership building and campaign strategy development, enhancement of local environmental consciousness, and so forth. He determines that these activities have inspired a cultural shift in Nigeria.

**Ellen Arnold**

January – June 2013

Cultural and Religious Views of Rivers in the Middle Ages



Ellen Arnold is a medieval historian at Ohio Wesleyan University. She previously taught at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, and at Macalester College. Her research area is the early and central Middle Ages, with a particular interest in medieval Germany and the Low Countries. She investigates the ways that medieval people incorporated nature and the environment into both their everyday life and into their cultural imagination.

Arnold's RCC project was a history of medieval attitudes towards rivers and water resources. The project draws on religious narrative sources to address questions of how rivers and water were understood to be a part of both human and saintly communities, and explores how religious ethics affected medieval use of natural resources. Her research aims to further understand the medieval "environmental imagination"—how medieval people understood their role in (and obligations to) the natural world in a period before a clear "environmental movement."

**Josh Berson**

October 2012 – June 2013

Carnivory: The First 1.8 Million Years

Josh Berson is an anthropologist and historian whose work is concerned with the role of social and cognitive science in shaping our understanding of what it means to be human. His approach combines cognitive anthropology and science and technology studies. Prior to his stay at the RCC, Berson was a postdoctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science.

At the RCC, Berson started a new project that aspires to a deep history of animal-human relations coupled with a history of the science of behavioral ecology. His project looks at contemporary shifts in the nature of human efforts to shape animal metabolism. Berson uses the history of the introduction of livestock into the Western Desert of Australia and the assimilation of the Indigenous population into the livestock station economy as a lens for understanding the contemporary global transition to a diet based on intensive livestock production. With this work he hopes to trace out the epochal transformation of metabolic life at every level of self-organization.

## Eunice Blavascunas

August 2013 – August 2014

Of Forests and Time: Reworking Communist and Peasant Pasts in the Bialowieza Forest



Eunice Blavascunas is a cultural anthropologist and research associate at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, where she researches land and conservation conflicts in relation to parks and protected areas. Prior to joining the RCC, she worked as a Research Associate at the Schoodic Education and Research Center Institute in Winter Harbor, Maine (2012–2013).

At the RCC, Blavascunas is writing her forthcoming book *Of Forests and Time: Reworking Communist and Peasant Pasts in the Bialowieza Forest*—an ethnographic and historical account of Europe’s last lowland old growth forest, which sits on the border between Poland and Belarus. The book explores the complex conflicts that exist between the forest’s primeval past and visionary future, between locals, biologists, tourists, and foresters who wrestle with which ethnohistories should define the woodland; what the legacy of the communist past means for protection and use of the forest; where the Czarist and German history fits; and how to commemorate the Jewish Holocaust, if at all?

**Peter Boomgaard**

September 2012 – May 2013

The Transformation of Landscapes, Humans, and Animals:  
A Systems Approach

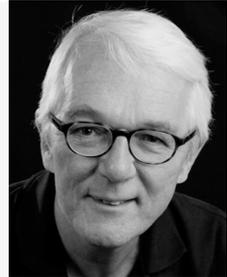
Peter Boomgaard is a senior researcher at the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Leiden, and Professor (Emeritus) of Economic and Environmental History of Southeast Asia at the University of Amsterdam. He was trained as an economic and social historian and obtained his PhD from the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam in 1987.

In his RCC project Boomgaard takes on an unprecedented task, venturing to offer the first-ever sweeping, panoramic view of the global environmental history of landscape transformation across five millennia. Arguing that environmental historians have previously focused too narrowly on paired contrasts and causal links, his project will investigate more thoroughly the interdependence of landscapes, humans, livestock, and game in one “system.” In his research, Boomgaard will illustrate how the presence of commensal animals deeply influenced human civilization, while they were also responsible for the creation of certain landscapes.

**Franz-Josef Brüggemeier**

October 2012 – September 2013

History of the Environment, 1750–2010: Germany in an International Perspective



Franz-Josef Brüggemeier is chair in Economic, Social, and Environmental History at the University of Freiburg. In addition, he has acted as director of several major historical exhibitions. During the 2012 summer term he was a visiting professor in the History Department at Harvard University. Brüggemeier's research ranges from social, economic, and environmental history to the history of modern sports.

For most of the nineteenth and twentieth century Germany probably was—and still is—the most industrialized country in Europe, with far-reaching consequences for the environment. In his project, Brüggemeier looks at these consequences, starting at around 1800, the onset of industrialization. Drawing on a wide range of existing literature, Brüggemeier pays special attention both to the major and controversial and to the less established concepts in the field of German environmental history. The project is an attempt to understand which problems contemporaries perceived, and why and how they reacted to them.

**Lawrence Culver**

January – August 2013

*Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America*

Lawrence Culver is an associate professor in the Department of History at Utah State University, where his areas of research and teaching include the cultural, environmental, and urban history of the USA. His PhD dissertation received the 2005 Rachel Carson Prize for best dissertation from the American Society for Environmental History, and later became his first book *The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America* (2010). He is co-president of the RCC Alumni Association.

While at the RCC, Culver worked on his new book project, *Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America*, which explores the role of climate and debates about climate in the history of the United States and North America. Culver aims to connect the current debate over climate change to a much longer history of how Americans have thought about climate, from the continent they imagined during early exploration and settlement, to the ideology of Manifest Destiny, to the climatic myths that spurred development on the high plains and in the arid Southwest in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

## Maurits Ertsen

May – August 2013

“A White Man’s Enterprise”: Colonial and Post-Colonial  
Irrigation Development on the Gezira Plain, Sudan



Maurits Ertsen is associate professor within the Water Resources Management group of Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. He is also is the current treasurer of the International Water History Association (IWHA), secretary of the Dutch Association of Water History, and a co-editor of *Water History*, the official journal of the IWHA.

At the RCC, Ertsen worked on a book on the Gezira Irrigation Scheme in Sudan in the twentieth century—probably the most famous irrigation effort of British colonial power anywhere in the world. While Gezira has been described as a centrally planned, British colonial development effort by several authors, Ertsen seeks to challenge this view by connecting multiple perspectives to show the overall disorganization of the scheme. His book will discuss the perspective of “British colonialism” itself, as well as that of the principal actors within Gezira, both the African farmers and European officials, and will highlight the development of Gezira over time.

**Fei Sheng**

June – September 2013

The Australian Victorian Gold Rushes: Research from the Perspective of Environmental History (1851–1880)

Fei Sheng is an environmental historian and an assistant professor at the School of Asian-Pacific Studies, Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, China. He received his PhD in world history from Peking University (Bei Da). In 2012, Sheng helped establish the first National Center for Oceanian Studies in China.

Fei's RCC project is a revision of his dissertation, *The Australian Victorian Gold Rushes: A Research from the Perspective of Environmental History (1851–1880)*, which illustrated how the natural landscape and the built environment were both dramatically reshaped by miners, including the Chinese. Furthering this research, Fei will conduct a comparative study of the spread of Chinese indigenous environmental experiences onto the Victorian and Californian goldfields. His project will show how the traditional Chinese experiences were transferred to the new continents and their local impact.

**Paul Holm**

January – July 2013

An Environmental History of World Fisheries



Paul Holm's main field of interest is marine environmental history. Holm is Trinity Long Room Hub Professor of Humanities at Trinity College Dublin and director of the Irish Digital Arts and Humanities PhD program. He is the former president of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) and current president of the European Consortium of Humanities Institutes and Centres.

At the RCC, Holm worked on his provisionally titled book: *An Environmental History of World Fisheries*. He argues that the questions of if, how, and when to fish have been answered very differently through history. In some cultures, fish and other marine products were considered essential while other societies literally turned their backs to the sea. Ocean life was impacted by human activities long before modern trawling. Holm's research shows that knowledge and understanding of oceans past may help us not only to understand but even manage the current crisis in the oceans.



### **Shen Hou**

July 2013 – January 2014

Old Land, New Nature: The Journey of the Ideas and Practices of Nature Conservation from the United States to Modern China

Shen Hou is currently an associate professor in the history department of Renmin University, Beijing, China. She was a postdoctoral fellow at Tsinghua University, Beijing, from September 2008 to August 2010. Her book, *The City Natural: Garden and Forest Magazine and the Rise of American Environmentalism*, was published in 2013. Shen has published more than a dozen articles and translations on environmental history in Chinese and English. She is also translating *Rivers of Empire: Water, Aridity and the Growth of the American West* (by Donald Worster) into Chinese.

Hou's RCC project is a book aimed at exploring the difference between the American and Chinese ideas and practices of "nature conservation," and how these ideas have been translated, received, practiced, and changed to adapt to the Chinese cultural and natural landscape since the late nineteenth century. Hou contrasts "nature conservation," which focuses on saving whole places in their natural state, with "resource conservation" aimed at prudent economic development, rather than moral, aesthetic, and ecological protection.

**Eva Jakobsson**

January – June 2013

Lake Vänern: Exploring the History of Europe's Third Largest Lake



Eva Jakobsson is an associate professor of history at the University of Stavanger in Norway. She served as Nordic Regional Representative in the European Society for Environmental History 1999–2004. Her research is primarily on Swedish water history, specifically the legal and political history of water.

Her RCC project focuses on Sweden's Lake Vänern in the twentieth century. Jakobsson looks at Lake Vänern from multiple perspectives: as a transport lake—an opening to the sea; an energy lake—a hydropower reservoir; a political lake—looking at environmentalists and water quality; and a future lake—focusing on climate change scenarios. In her analysis of the twentieth-century science history of Lake Vänern, she has focused on two main tracks: water quality, dealing with the discovery of human created changes in the flora and fauna in the lake and water, and water quantity—how institutionalized hydrological science has contributed to knowledge and plans for making the hydropower reservoir that was created in 1938 more effective, and how new drainage patterns in the lake's basin might develop due to climate change.

**Matthew Kelly**

September 2012 – February 2013

Quartz and Feldspar: A History of Modern Dartmoor

Matthew Kelly is a senior lecturer in the history department of the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom. A historian of Ireland by training and with considerable interest in the history of Poland, he has developed his interest in the history of landscape during the past few years. He completed his PhD at the University of Oxford, where he was also a British Academy Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

While at the RCC, Kelly worked on an intertextual history of the discursive frameworks that shaped how the Dartmoor landscape—the largest enclosed rural landscape in the south of England—has been encountered over the past two hundred years. He approaches this project with a determination to keep in view the material Dartmoor—the barely perishable Dartmoor of granite—that lies beyond the “Dartmoor” of text and representation. In taking the historical perspective, Kelly has three goals: First, to offer a historical account of how the present physical state of the National Park came to be; second, to delineate the ways in which attempts to protect this and other landscapes generated problems of local, regional, and national governance; and, third, to identify the roots of present thinking, including “sustainability,” the panacea of our times.

**Elin Kelsey**

October 2013 – March 2014

Circumnavigating Hope: A Journey to Find and Share  
Successful Environmental Outcomes



Elin Kelsey conducts research into the emotional responses of children, environmental educators, and conservation biologists to the culture of “hopelessness” that permeates environmental issues. She consults and collaborates on academic, public engagement, and writing projects with a wide variety of institutions including the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University; the Zoological Society of London; the Monterey Bay Aquarium; Royal Roads University in Canada, and The Cairns Institute at James Cook University in Australia.

At the RCC, Elin is working on a book entitled *Circumnavigating Hope* that is part of a multi-year collaboration of the Zoological Society of London, the Smithsonian Institution, other ISE partners, and a popular press. The project draws on an array of disciplines and creative approaches to shift the dominant environmental narrative beyond doom and gloom. Elin’s project reflects the belief that storytelling is central to social movements because it constructs agency, shapes identity, and motivates action.

**Thomas Lekan**

January – July 2013

Saving the Serengeti: Tourism, the Cold War, and the Paradox of German Nature Conservation in Postcolonial Africa, 1950–1985

Tom Lekan is currently an associate professor of history and a faculty associate in the environment and sustainability program at the University of South Carolina. He has previously been a research fellow at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University, and the National Humanities Center in Durham, North Carolina, USA. He is a member of the Seattle-based Transatlantic Research Network in the Environmental Humanities and co-convener of the German Studies Association's Environmental Studies network.

Lekan's research has focused on nature conservation, state building, and national identity formation in Central Europe. Expanding this work through a transnational perspective, his RCC project examines postwar German and European nature conservation in a global context of decolonization, tensions over the growing influence of non-governmental actors in environmental affairs, and new media representations of nature. The accumulation of this research will be a book manuscript scheduled for publication with Oxford University Press in 2014.

**Francis Ludlow**

September 2013 – March 2014

Climate as Catalyst in 1,224 Years of Violence and Conflict in Ireland, AD 425–1649



Francis Ludlow is a postdoctoral fellow (2013–2016) with the Yale Climate and Energy Institute. From 2011–2013, Ludlow was an environmental fellow at the Harvard University Center for the Environment, and from 2012–2013 was a research affiliate of the Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis. He was also a pre- and postdoctoral research fellow with the Trinity Long Room Hub in 2009–2011 before holding the position of research associate in 2011–2013. In 2008–2009 he worked in University College Cork as part of the Extreme Weather, Climate, and Natural Disasters in Ireland project, funded by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency.

Ludlow's RCC project has three aims: firstly to establish whether climatic conditions significantly influenced the incidence and character of violence and conflict in Ireland from 425 CE to 1649; to identify the complex societal dynamics by which past climatic conditions may act as a catalyst for violence and conflict; and to examine how the evolving historical context mediates any role of climate in this long period of Irish history, involving major socioeconomic developments likely to influence social vulnerabilities. The foundations of his research are the Irish Annals.



### **Jon Mathieu**

July 2013 – January 2014

A Short History of the Alps from Prehistory to the Present

Jon Mathieu is professor of history at the University of Lucerne, Switzerland. He was the founding director of the Institute of Alpine History at the University of Ticino and has published widely about mountain regions in the modern period and related issues.

At the RCC, he worked on a book project, commissioned by Reclam Verlag Stuttgart, which discusses the history of the Alpine area from prehistoric times to the present. Mathieu's book will be truly historical in character, rather than geographical or anthropological. It will follow a comparative line of reasoning; it will touch on all relevant domains such as culture, environment, society, economy, and politics; and it will include problematiques and open questions, rather than only certainties. As a lead question, Mathieu uses a remark from Braudel's famous study on the Mediterranean in the sixteenth century: "But the Alps are after all the Alps, that is, an exceptional range of mountains." Mathieu questions if the Alps really are an exception, in which respects, and why.

## Kenichi Matsui

April – July 2013

The Ethical and Legal Implications of Traditional Knowledge Studies: A Search for a New Direction in Applied Environmental Ethics



Kenichi Matsui is an associate professor of sustainable environmental studies at the University of Tsukuba. In his research he has explored issues related to Native water rights, water ethics, biodiversity, and traditional ecological knowledge in Canada and the United States. Since 2010, Matsui has conducted a government-funded research project on traditional knowledge for community-led environmental governance, which investigates the roles traditional knowledge may play in empowering local communities and indigenous peoples in North America and several other countries.

His RCC research focused on the ethical and legal implications of traditional knowledge studies. His main research questions were: Can or should traditional knowledge be “integrated” into or “validated” by scientific knowledge for better environmental management? How do we define traditional or indigenous knowledge? Who has the authority to determine the “authenticity” of traditional knowledge and its reliability? How do researchers and nongovernmental organizations, among others, ethically approach indigenous communities in collecting, using, releasing, and publishing indigenous/traditional knowledge?

**Kieko Matteson**

January – July 2013

*Masters of Their Woods: Conservation, Community, and Conflict in Revolutionary France*

Kieko Matteson is an environmental historian of France and an assistant professor in the history department at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

At the RCC, she revised her book manuscript, *'Masters of Their Woods': Conservation, Community, and Conflict in Revolutionary France, 1669–1848*, which explores the crucial role that forest use, depletion, conflict, and control played in the formation of modern France, its attendant political struggles, and the shaping of its far-reaching conservation policies, from the landmark 1669 Forest Ordinance through the Forest Code of 1827. Focusing on the Franche-Comté, her work traces the emergence of a state-centered, autocratic approach to conservation, the suppression of customary and communal practices, and the rise of proprietary individualism against a backdrop of forest deterioration, economic change, demographic growth, and political crisis. Matteson's work is critical not only for understanding the rural roots of France's many revolutions from 1789 to 1848, but also for comprehending political-ecological struggles more generally.

**Mei Xueqin**

June – August 2013

“Dirty Father Thames”: The Pollution and Restoration of the Thames River, 1840s–1980s



Mei Xueqin is a historian of modern world history at Tsinghua University. Her research interests are nineteenth- and twentieth-century history, with a particular interest in British industrialization and urbanization and their impacts on the environment within Britain and abroad. She previously taught at Beijing Normal University.

Mei's RCC project was a history of the pollution and restoration of the Thames River in London. Her project explores the process of the pollution of the river during the 1840s and 1980s, investigates changing attitudes towards the river, and evaluates the effects of different attitudes and policies in dealing with pollution during this period. She investigates the ways that modern British people incorporated nature and the environment into their productive fields and their everyday lives, and the problems and solutions encountered during this process. Mei's research on the Thames may serve as a valuable reference point to think about the water crisis arising from the industrial development of contemporary China and its countermeasures.

**Jan-Henrik Meyer**

March – August 2013

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

Jan-Henrik Meyer is a postdoctoral researcher at Aarhus University, Denmark. His research interests relate to the international emergence of environmentalism and environmental policy since the 1960s. In October 2012, he co-organized an international conference on “Environmental Protection in the Global Twentieth Century: International Organizations, Networks, and Diffusion of Ideas and Policies” funded by The Transformative Power of Europe Kolleg-Forscherguppe at Free University Berlin. Meyer co-founded and organizes the Berlin Brandenburg Colloquium for Environmental History.

At the RCC, Meyer worked on a project aimed at explaining the rise of environmental policy making within the European Communities, the predecessor of the present-day European Union. Applying a network approach, this research project contributes to three specific areas of environmental history: first, to the history of the diffusion and negotiation of the new political concept of the environment in the 1970s; secondly, to the recently growing interest in international and global aspects of environmental history; and thirdly, to elucidate the involvement of societal actors such as experts, interest groups, and activists beyond the nation-state, about which we know very little so far.

## John M. Meyer

November 2012 – July 2013

Environmentalism as Social Criticism: Engaging Material Practices in the Pursuit of Sustainability



John M. Meyer is a professor in the Department of Politics at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. At Humboldt he is also affiliated with interdisciplinary programs in environmental studies and “Environment and Community,” for which he served as founding coordinator. Meyer is the author of *Political Nature: Environmentalism and the Interpretation of Western Thought* (MIT Press, 2001), co-editor of *The Environmental Politics of Sacrifice* (MIT Press, 2010), and has published in numerous journals.

Meyer believes that while environmental challenges, including climate change, threaten the very fabric of our lives to the degree that the present course of our societies appears literally unsustainable, ambitious efforts to address these rarely seem to resonate with the concerns and ideas most pressing to citizens. At the RCC he addressed this dilemma in a book manuscript which explores ways in which large-scale material practices in society—including use of land, reliance upon automobiles, and dwelling in homes—can create opportunities as well as constraints for arguments regarding sustainability.



### **Cameron Muir**

August 2013 – February 2014

The Broken Promise of Agricultural Progress: An Environmental History

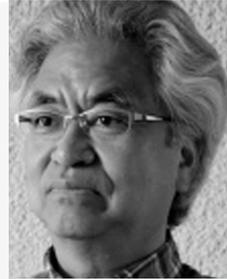
Cameron Muir is a postdoctoral fellow at the Australian National University (ANU) and the National Museum of Australia. His research interests include food ecologies, transboundary environmental and social justice, emotional relationships to landscapes, and ways in which narrative writing can contribute to public debate. Since 2008 he has maintained the Australian & New Zealand Environmental History Network website with Libby Robin. He also maintains the ANU's Centre for Environmental History website. In 2010, he won the Griffith REVIEW Emerging Writers Prize for his essay "Feeding the World."

At the RCC, he is completing his manuscript *The Broken Promise of Agricultural Progress: An Environmental History*. This book examines the ecological disorder and inequity at the heart of our food system. Using a wide-ranging narrative, Muir puts gritty local detail in global context to tell the story of how cultural anxieties about civilization, population, and race shaped agriculture in the twentieth century. Muir is also working on a book exploring the origins of the current food crisis.

## Satoshi Murayama

July – September 2013

Industrious Revolution and Disaster Management in Japan



Satoshi Murayama is a professor of socio-economic history at Kagawa University, Japan. His research fields are family history, historical demography, and environmental history with a particular interest in social and human capital management in early modern Germany and Japan. He previously worked at Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen, and Institut für Physische Geographie, Freiburg, as a guest researcher, and has given lectures and seminars about the history of the family as a visiting professor at Freie Universität Berlin (2002–2003).

Murayama's RCC project was a comparative study of regional diversity in southwestern Japanese regions with European early modern societies. From a distance, Japan looks like a homogeneous society, but with closer inspection its regional diversity can be seen. However, the cultural details of traditional societies in the southwestern part of Japan, in particular, have not been sufficiently explored. Using family-demography analysis and institutional-cultural understanding, Murayama has focused on the history of interaction between nature and society in a supposedly more "ecological" age.

**Ruth Oldenziel**

August 2013 – February 2014

Century of Cycling: Paths towards Sustainability

Ruth Oldenziel is a scholar of American-European history at the Eindhoven University of Technology, where she spearheaded its sustainability agenda by helping integrate research, education, and campus management into a living lab. Her book with Mikael Hård, *Consumers, Users, Rebels*, is published with Palgrave (October 2013).

In recent years, she has focused on the history of cycling and how a better understanding of this history will prepare policy makers, who are investing a great deal of political capital on building bicycle lanes as the path towards sustainable urban mobility, to make better informed choices. In her RCC project, it is proposed that the overreliance on segregated bike lanes without understanding the vibrant, diverse, and utilitarian culture of cycling and without a comprehensive view of mobility threaten to be a dead end. Instead of focusing on technology-driven solutions like bike lanes, an inclusive bicycle culture is perhaps an even more important factor in pushing innovations and granting policy success for sustainability.

## Daisy Onyige

November 2013 – July 2014

Gender and Climate Change: A Study of Rural Farming Households' Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change Based on Local Knowledge in the Niger Delta Region



Chioma Daisy Onyige is a sociologist by training and a multidisciplinary researcher by choice. She is currently a senior lecturer at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. She was a recipient of the Global South Scholar Fellowship from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva in 2010. Her research interests include crime and gender issues, gender and environmental issues such as oil spillage and environmental degradation, conflict and conflict resolution, climate change and health issues.

At the RCC, she is working on a paper based on empirical data collected from her field work that looks at rural farming households' adaptation and resilience to climate change using their local knowledge in the Niger Delta region. The scientific significance of the study lies in bringing together climatic studies and livelihood theory. On a more empirical level, relating the climate change problem to gender relations that go on at the household level is new and not yet understood well.



### **Karen Oslund**

September 2012 – May 2013

Survival and Adaptation: Modern and Traditional Whaling in the Arctic, 1850–1920

Karen Oslund is a historian interested in whaling, indigenous hunting, and international environmental regulation. Her book, *Iceland Imagined: Nature, Culture, and Storytelling in the North Atlantic* (University of Washington Press, 2011), deals with the European exploration and writing about Iceland from the middle of the eighteenth century, and ends with a discussion of contemporary Icelandic whaling practices and the controversy surrounding them.

While at the RCC, Oslund worked on a transnational history of whaling. Looking at the connections between traditional and modern whaling, her research analyzes a period of about 70 years during which industrial whalers from Western nations extended their catch by wintering over in the Arctic, and hired native inhabitants for their knowledge of the climate, territory, and sustenance in the winter. Oslund will examine how this resulted in a “hybrid” culture of whaling—a hunt which combined both modern and traditional whaling practices—and what the environmental impact of this practice was for the bowhead and right whale populations in the Arctic. Studying whaling, one of the major forms of resource use of the Arctic, can also help us understand the Arctic as a region for environmental history.

**Giacomo Parrinello**

September 2012 – February 2013

Urbanization and Disasters: The 1908 Messina Earthquake and the 1968 Belice Valley Earthquake



Giacomo Parrinello is a historian with an interest in the relationships between humans and the environment through time. His research deals with disasters and society, urbanization processes, and resource use and conservation, with a specific focus on Europe over the last two centuries. Parrinello has been awarded grants and scholarships from the ESEH, the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH), the European Association for Urban History, and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

Parrinello's research applies the rich literature on the interplay between social, cultural, and economic processes with bio-geophysical dynamics in natural disasters to the study of urban modernization. Such an angle raises the issue of the role of non-human forces and features in urban settings; it encourages the conceptualization of the relationship between humans and the environment as interplay, even in urban areas. As revealed by some recent studies, natural disasters can be a relevant player in the making of modern urban environments: from the physical destruction they may cause to the strategies developed to prevent or cope with them. At the center, Parrinello—aiming to complete his manuscript—focused on the impact of earthquakes on urbanization processes.



### **Christopher Pastore**

September 2012 – May 2013

*Between Land and Sea: The Atlantic Coast and the Transformation of New England*

Christopher Pastore, an assistant professor of history at the University of Montana, is a social and cultural historian of early America and the Atlantic world with interests in the human dimensions of environmental change, the history of science, and law.

At the RCC, Pastore worked on his book manuscript, *Between Land and Sea: The Atlantic Coast and the Transformation of New England*, which examines the environmental history of Narragansett Bay (Rhode Island) from first European settlement in 1636 through industrialization during the first third of the nineteenth century. To what extent, this work asks, does the liminal nature of coasts, and estuaries in particular, blur legalities and shape local economies, and how did that in turn lead to environmental change? His study shows that a closer look at the boundary between land and sea provides new insights into the ways early modern people envisioned the boundary between humans and nature.

**Maya Peterson**

June – December 2013

Technologies of Rule: Empire, Water, and Modernization of Central Asia, 1867–194



Prior to her stay at the RCC, Maya Peterson was a College Fellow in Harvard's Department of the History of Science. In September 2012, she became an assistant professor of history at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Peterson's research emphasis is on Russian and Soviet history, European history, and environmental history.

Peterson's RCC project aims to continue the work of her dissertation to be published as a monograph. Utilizing an extensive range of sources from nine archives in the former Soviet Union, this work examines tsarist and Bolshevik efforts to irrigate the Central Asian borderlands. It discusses how such hydraulic engineering projects reflected Russian imperial and Soviet notions of civilization and progress, as well as Russia's quest to be a European empire in the heart of Asia.



## Jenny Price

September – December 2013

Stop Saving the Planet!: Nature, History, and the Future of American Environmentalism

Jenny Price is a public writer, artist, and historian focusing on U.S. environmental topics. She has written about urban nature and environmentalism in Los Angeles, urban river revitalization and public beach access in California, and has a critical blog on environmental politics and culture, “Green me Up, J.J.” She has a PhD from Yale University, and has taught at University of California, Los Angeles, University of Southern California, and Antioch-Los Angeles; has been a Guggenheim fellow and National Endowment for the Humanities fellow, the Anschutz Distinguished Fellow in American Studies at Princeton University in Fall 2011, and a Research Scholar at the UCLA Center for the Study of Women.

At the RCC, Price worked on a new book, *Stop Saving the Planet*, a cultural critique of contemporary American environmentalism. The project asks, “What have we talked about when we’ve talked about environmentalism?” The crusade to “save the planet,” which often depends on a deeply-rooted American vision of nature as a separate non-human realm, has discouraged U.S. environmentalists from thinking about how we use, preserve, alter, and fundamentally inhabit environments as fairly and sustainably as possible. *Stop Saving the Planet* investigates the history of how environmentalism came to be constructed as a supremely virtuous venture alongside the ironic rise in green consumerism and a political climate of de-regulation and policies that actively work against the interests of lower-income and working-class communities.

**John Sandlos**

September 2012 – May 2013

*In the Shadow of the Gold Mines: Arsenic and Native Communities in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories*



John Sandlos is an environmental historian in the Department of History at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. He writes about northern Canada, mining, wildlife conservation, and parks and protected areas. Since 2009, he has been the Principal Investigator of the Abandoned Mines in Northern Canada project.

At the RCC, Sandlos worked on a book with Arn Keeling, *In the Shadow of the Gold Mines: Arsenic and Native Communities in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories*, an account of the acute and chronic poisoning of Yellowknives Dene communities due to arsenic pollution from gold mines in the region. He will also be editing a book with Dr. Keeling, *Mining and Communities in Northern Canada: History, Politics, and Memory*, to be submitted to the University of Calgary Press's Canadian History and the Environment series. His work on mining has been funded primarily through research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and ArcticNet.

**Nicole Seymour**

July 2013 – June 2014

Bad Environmentalism: Affective Dissent in the Ecological Age

Nicole Seymour works on contemporary American literature, film, and culture, with a special interest in environmental cultural studies. She is currently an assistant professor of English at the University of Arkansas, having previously held a visiting assistant professor post at the University of Louisville. Her first book, *Strange Natures*, rereads well-known queer novels and films as ecologically-minded.

Nicole's RCC project is her second book which will draw attention to "bad" expressions of environmentalism from the past three decades in defiance of mainstream environmentalism's sincerity and sentimentality. Through her reading of North American novels, film, TV, digital media, and performance art, Seymour hopes to expand our understanding of what environmental literature does, and what it looks like. Her work challenges the idea that an age of ironic detachment is necessarily an apolitical one, and the received wisdom that, to perform effective political work, one has to be "taken seriously."

**Vipul Singh**

May – August 2013

Controlling the River: Embankments, Diara Land, and Social Disparity in the Mid-Gangetic Basin (1800s to 2000s)



Vipul Singh is an associate professor of history and environment at Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi. His recent publication, *The Human Footprint on Environment: Issues in India*, addresses one of the most pressing issues of contemporary India, and the world—the ways in which human beings and their actions have historically changed and continue to change the face of the globe. Singh has also been actively involved in secondary and senior secondary level curriculum development and planning in India.

At the RCC, Singh worked on his project which looks at historical attempts to control rivers in India. The historiography of controlling the rivers in the mid-Gangetic basin is usually confined to the story of ecological impact, leaving the impact on society unexplored. Singh's work is based on the conjecture that large colonial constructions built to control the river, such as embankments, had more than just ecological ramifications. Rather they should be treated as an interconnected experience that resulted in mixed social outcomes.



### **Sainath Suryanarayanan**

June – August 2013

Be(e)ing Human: The Socio-Historical Dimensions of Collapsing Beehives

Sainath Suryanarayanan is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Community and Environmental Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research has appeared in a variety of journals including *Social Studies of Science*; *Science, Technology & Human Values*; *Issues in Science & Technology*; *Insects*; and *The Guardian* (UK).

While at the RCC, Suryanarayanan worked on a historical project about the intertwined growth of US beekeeping and honey bee biology in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Over the course of the twentieth century, multiple agricultural crops and ecosystems in the US have come to depend heavily on managed honey bees for pollination. The continued viability of these crops and ecosystems is threatened today by a phenomenon of honey bee die-offs known as “colony collapse disorder” or CCD. Suryanarayanan’s analysis suggests that we need a deeper historical sense of the interactive development of bee biology and beekeeping in order to arrive at a better understanding of the circumstances that led to CCD.

## **Erdenetuya Urtnast**

September 2012 – October 2013

“Folk” Knowledge and Experiences for Environmental Conservation of the Mongols



Erdenetuya Urtnast is a lecturer of ethnology, anthropology, Manchu written language, and classic Mongolian script in the Department of Mongolian History at the Mongolian State University of Education in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Her research interests include ethnic history; translation and transliteration of Manchu and Classic Mongolian handwritten texts; environmental anthropology, with a special focus on “traditional” approaches to environmental conservation of the Mongols; and urban ecology and issues related to climate change and its impacts on Mongolian history.

The main goal of Urtnast’s project is to conduct exploratory research on the applicability of “folk” knowledge and experiences for environmental conservation among the Mongols, with specific emphasis on traditional ecological knowledge, environmental ethics, eco-friendly technology, sustainable use of rangelands, and community-based environmental conservation. Furthermore, it will examine the possibility of applying such folk knowledge, experiences, and methods for environmental conservation and rational use of natural resources in practical life. In an attempt to be as inclusive and accurate as possible, the research will draw on a large variety of materials, such as fieldwork data, handwritten and block-print books, folkloric sources, relevant academic literature, and fundamental theoretical and methodological books.



### **Louis Warren**

June – August 2013

*A Hole in the Dream: The 1890 Ghost Dance and the Making of Modern America*

Louis Warren is W. Turrentine Jackson Professor of Western US History at the University of California, Davis, where he teaches environmental history, the history of the American West, and Californian history. He has won numerous awards for his writing, including the Albert J. Beveridge Award of the American Historical Association, the Caughey Western History Association Prize, and the Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize.

While at the RCC, Warren worked on a book that explores the environmental context and meanings of the Ghost Dance, a pan-Indian religious movement that swept reservations of the West. The central premise of his research is that the Ghost Dance is better understood as the dawn of the twentieth century. By exploring the Ghost Dance as a modern movement that sought to reconcile the faithful to wage work and as one of a number of American efforts to renew and restore the earth, his book will re-write the supposed end of the frontier and the dawn of the twentieth century in ways that give these long-ago events new relevance and meaning for our own era.

## Sabine Wilke

January – June 2013

Re-Thinking Landscape through the German Aesthetic Tradition: Extreme Shapes and Transformations



Sabine Wilke's is a professor of German, and is associated with and teaches in the European Studies Program, and the doctoral Theory and Criticism program at the University of Washington. With assistance from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, she is now directing a transatlantic research network on the environmental humanities.

During her time at the RCC, Wilke worked on a study of the German environmental imagination, in which she traces the aesthetic dimension of landscape from late eighteenth century narratives and artistic depictions to today's media images, and show their indebtedness to the idea of performance. Wilke engages the methodology of eco-criticism to read extreme landscapes not merely as products of the subjective imagination (as the standard interpretation of the Romantic landscape suggests), but as products of a meaningful encounter between a human subject and a nature that is out of scale, which structures the encounter and leaves a physical impression on the subject, resonating then as an after-image.



### **Donald Worster**

July – December 2013

Facing Limits: Abundance, Scarcity, and the American Way of Life

Donald Worster is the Hall Distinguished Professor of American History at the University of Kansas. Formerly the president of the ASEH, Worster has served on a number of editorial boards, and, for more than two decades, has been founding editor for the Environment and History book series published by Cambridge University Press. He is an elected member of the Society of American Historians and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

His current research focuses on two projects: Darwinian and post-Darwinian science and the concept of adaptation as theoretical bases for environmental history, and the twin, competing themes of natural abundance and scarcity in American and modern world history. His RCC project aims to understand how Americans and their European ancestors dreamed of New World abundance and were changed culturally and politically by its plenitude of natural resources, all the while encountering places of real scarcity and searching for an ethos of restraint.

**Frank Zelko**

October 2012 – June 2013

Holism, Nature, and the (Non-Ironic) Enchantment of Modernity



Frank Zelko teaches environmental history at the University of Vermont. His research focuses on the history of environmentalism, and he is the author of a book on the history of Greenpeace (Oxford University Press, 2013). Previously, Zelko was a postdoctoral fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC and an assistant professor at the University of Queensland for three years.

Zelko's research looks at Max Weber's pronouncement that modernity was responsible for the disenchantment of the world. While many prominent scholars have shared Weber's pessimism, his project will look at a new body of scholarship that argues that modernity is full of enchantments, albeit ones that are reflexive and ironic. Zelko argues that both these schools of thought neglect how holistic thought—and particularly its ecological variety—has served as a form of modern enchantment that speaks in the register of science, supposedly the prime force of disenchantment. He will highlight how this type of ecological holism has inspired a form of modern enchantment, which is free of irony and fully grounded in a scientific worldview.



### **Thomas Zeller**

September 2012 – May 2013

Creating a Safer Environment? Death, Mutilation, and  
Automobility in the United States and Germany, 1930–2000

Thomas Zeller is an associate professor at the University of Maryland-College Park, where he teaches environmental history, the history of technology, and science and technology studies. His professional interests include the environmental history of large infrastructures, such as roadways and river systems. Zeller's book *Driving Germany: The Landscape of the German Autobahn, 1930–1970* (Berghahn Books, 2007) is a history of the German motorway system.

Further contributing to the growing field of environmental history of mobility, Zeller's project aims to analyze the public debates and environmental changes associated with traffic fatalities and injuries in the United States and Germany from 1920 to 2000. During these years, hundreds of thousands of US and German residents were killed or injured while on the road. Simultaneously, the two countries were leading producers and consumers of automobiles. With varying degrees of intensity, the problem was highlighted, ignored, or normalized in both countries. Zeller aims to show that the debate over traffic safety led to a conceptual and physical reordering of public spaces and of the individuals using these spaces.

## Visiting Scholars

Marcus Andreas (LMU/Utrecht University)

Fiona Cameron (University of Western Sydney)

Frederike Felcht (HU Berlin)

Carmel Finley (Oregon State University)

Richard Gray (University of Washington)

Angela Kreutz (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Alfredo Ricardo Silva Lopes (Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil)

Anna Mazanik (Central European University Budapest)

Satoshi Marayama (Kagawa University, Japan)

Ursula Münster (LMU)

Anders Otterness (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Seth Peabody (Harvard University)

Lajos Racz (Szeged University, Hungary)

Hanna Schösler (Free University Amsterdam)

Erdenetuya Urtnast (Mongolian State University)

## LMU Fellows

Martin Schulze Wessel

Frank Uekötter

Gordon Winder

## CAS Waste Visiting Scholars

Amanda Boetzkes

Zsuzsa Gille

Martin Melosi

## Affiliated Carson Professor

Reinhold Leinfelder

## Carson Professors



### Jens Kersten

Carson Professor 2012–13

Jens Kersten studied law at the universities of Heidelberg, Leeds, and Bonn. He worked as a postgraduate at Humboldt University, Berlin, and was professor of planning and environmental law at Technical University of Dortmund and of public and economic law at the University of Bayreuth. Since 2008 he has held a chair in public law and governance at the LMU Munich. His research focuses on planning and environmental law, bioethics and law, and the legal challenges of demographic change.

In his second semester as Carson Professor, Kersten continued to represent the center through multiple publications, presentations, and collaborations. Notably, Kersten continued his involvement with the PhD Program “Environment and Society,” attending its Anthropocene Academy at Kochel-am-See in March 2013. Kersten also participated as a panelist in the “Culture and the Anthropocene” workshop in May 2013, resulting in the essay “The Enjoyment of Complexity” published in *RCC Perspectives* (2013/3).

He also helped plan several events through the LMU Center for Advanced Study research initiative on waste, moderating the “Gold im Müll / Gold in the Garbage” event in November. Kersten’s current book project, “Governance in the Anthropocene,” developed from a shared interest in political change as a problem of governance with Gunnar Folke Schuppert (Social Science Research Center, Berlin). In 2013, Kersten served as a member of the Commission on Public Goods launched by the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (Heinrich Böll Foundation).

## Eveline Dürr

Carson Professor 2013–14



Eveline Dürr studied social and cultural anthropology, sociology, and literature at the Universities of Heidelberg, Mexico City, and Freiburg. Since 2008, she has been a professor at the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, LMU Munich. She is also a member of the Advisory Board of the RCC and co-director of the doctoral program.

In the course of 2013, Dürr advanced her DFG-funded research project on ecotourism in Mexico, finalized an article on “Tourism in Mesoamerica” with her doctoral student Saskia Walther as well as an article on “Negotiating New Roles and Relationships in the Jungle: Rain Forest Imaginations and Community-based Ecotourism in Ecuador” in co-authorship with her former PhD student, Anna Meiser, and two contributions as sole author. As a member of the CAS working group on “waste” she published a contribution on “Pollution” in *A Companion to Urban Anthropology* with Rivke Jaffe. She also contributed to the colloquia of the CAS waste working group.

She represented the RCC at several conferences, gave invited seminars at various universities, and organised an international conference in Munich on “New Perspectives on Transpacific Connections: The Americas and the South Pacific.” Together with Helmuth Trischler, she moved forward a cooperation between the RCC’s doctoral program and the Universidad de San Martín in Buenos Aires. In December 2013, she was awarded funding for a joint research project on “Slum Tourism in the Americas” under the umbrella of the Open Research Area of the DFG.

## 16 Staff

### Directors



**Christof Mauch**

RCC Director

Since its founding Christof Mauch has been at the helm of the RCC. He serves as Director (Sprecher) and Chair of the Academic Board of the RCC's Doctoral Program and as Sprecher, together with Robert Emmett, of the newly established Environmental Studies Certificate Program at LMU. From 2011 to 2013 Mauch was the President of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH); and in 2013 he headed the Local Organizing Committee for the ESEH conference in Munich.

Together with his co-director, Helmuth Trischler, Mauch runs the fellowship program of the RCC. Christof Mauch is also co-editor of all three of the RCC's publication series (*Umwelt und Gesellschaft*; *International Environmental History*, and *Perspectives*). In 2013 Mauch established a new multidisciplinary research focus on "Waste in Environment and Society" at the Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) of LMU Munich. Among other awards and honors, Christof Mauch was invited in 2013 by the Federal Government's Council for Sustainable Development to deliver the Annual Lecture (Carl-von-Carlowitz-Vorlesung); he was appointed Honorary Professor at Renmin University of China and he was made an Honorary Fellow at the Renmin Center for Ecological History.

Mauch is a member of the Directorate of the Department for English and American Studies at LMU, President of the Foundation for Transatlantic Culture and Politics, and a member of more than a dozen international academic advisory boards and of numerous editorial boards in Europe, Asia, Australia, and North America.



## Helmuth Trischler

RCC Director

In addition to his role as director of the Rachel Carson Center, which he took up in 2009 together with Christof Mauch, Trischler is also the head of research at the Deutsches Museum, Munich, and a professor of modern history and the history of technology at LMU Munich. Trischler serves as a co-editor for all RCC publications and coordinates the Carson Fellowship program. He frequently serves as moderator of the Lunchtime Colloquium series of the RCC. He is also a member of the academic board for the PhD Program “Environment and Society” and the Environmental Studies Certificate Program.

Helmuth Trischler’s main research interests are knowledge societies and innovation cultures in international comparison, science, technology and European integration, mobility history, and environmental history. Trischler is the author of 28 books and edited volumes, as well as some 100 articles. In 2013 he co-edited three issues of *RCC Perspectives* and published a number of articles. He also finished the book *Building Europe on Expertise: Innovators, Organizers, Networkers* with Palgrave Macmillan (jointly with Martin Kohlrausch).

Trischler co-organized two workshops at the RCC and the Deutsches Museum. Moreover, he headed the exhibit project “Anthropocene—Nature and Technology in the Age of Humans,” a joint project of the RCC and Deutsches Museum scheduled for October 2014.

Trischler is involved in a multitude of national and international research programs, serving on the advisory boards of the Landesmuseum für Technik und Arbeit in Mannheim, the Georg-Agricola-Gesellschaft, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, the Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum Bremerhaven (Head), the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research, and the University of Copenhagen. He is Vice-President of the Society for the History of Medicine, Natural Sciences, and Technology and a member of the history panel of the German Research Foundation. In addition, Trischler serves on the editorial board of diverse academic journals, including *Global Environment*, *NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik, und Medizin*, *Vulcan*, *Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte*, and *Notes and Records of the Royal Society*.

## Project Directors



### Kimberly Coulter

Project Director, Environment & Society Portal

Kimberly Coulter leads the Environment & Society Portal, the RCC's open-access digital repository and born-digital publication platform for topics related to the human-environment relationship. Coulter joined the RCC in 2009 as both digital project director and managing editor of academic publications; since July 2011 she has focused on the Environment & Society Portal, which launched in January 2012.

In 2013 Coulter and her team increased the Portal's content dramatically, carried out a slate of usability improvements, and obtained an increase in unique visitors from 19,000 to 68,000. In addition, Coulter organized a session on new media for the ESEH in Munich, contributed virtually to the Digital Humanities Network workshop in Montreal, and wrote "Hacking Technology Heritage: Inventing Europe Online" for *Objects in Motion: Globalizing Technology* (Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, forthcoming). She continues to edit the digital environmental humanities blog *Ant, Spider, Bee* together with Wilko von Hardenberg and Finn Arne Jørgensen.

Before coming to the RCC, Coulter worked as an architectural drafts person, cartographer, international research program manager, geography lecturer, and editor for *The History of Cartography*. She studied architecture and philosophy and earned a PhD in geography in 2007 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her peer-reviewed work appears in *Geopolitics*; *Aether: The Journal of Media Geography*; and *Antipode*.

**Robert Emmett**

Director of Academic Programs



Since January 2013, Robert Emmett has served as Director of Academic Programs, helping develop strategic partnerships and representing the center in research collaborations, coordinating the weekly Lunchtime Colloquium, serving as co-convener of events, and teaching in the new Environmental Studies Certificate Program. In 2013, he organized a workshop (with Frank Zelko) on multidisciplinary research in environmental humanities, which will result in a special volume of *RCC Perspectives* in early 2014. He also contributed to a multi-author review essay (in submission) on finding common ground between environmental history and ecocriticism.

Emmett completed his PhD in English in 2009 from the University of Wisconsin with an emphasis on US environmental literature. His research interests include US garden writing, new media, the protest novel, urban ecology, and the environmental history of public spaces. More recently, his work has focused on ecomedia representations of land loss in coastal Louisiana and conceptualizing the emerging interdisciplinary environmental humanities.

**Paul Erker**

Research Fellow

As a research fellow at the RCC, Paul Erker is primarily involved with the Environment & Society Portal and worked with the team to prepare the launch in January 2012. Erker works mainly on content and the collection of source material; he has also designed a virtual exhibition on hazardous substances. In 2012, Erker was awarded the title of “apl. Professor” (adjunct professor) by the LMU Munich history faculty, where he teaches environmental and economic history.

In addition to his Portal responsibilities, Erker has continued researching his RCC project, “Asbestos: An International Study of Risk and Society.” Erker’s project examines the global development of asbestos with regard to its role as a catalyst in the transformation of environmental knowledge forms and bases; the various triggers and environmental and political developments of the “asbestos crisis” internationally; the reactions of various organizations and institutions to the dwindling resources and hazardous substances; and finally, diverse global perceptions of asbestos as an environmental problem.

Paul Erker studied modern history, receiving his PhD in 1987 and his habilitation in 2001 from LMU Munich. Since 2004, he has worked on several projects in the history of science and technology at the research department of the Deutsches Museum.

## Wilko Graf von Hardenberg

Interim Director, Environment & Society Portal  
December–August 2013



As a Digital Humanities Research Specialist, Wilko Graf von Hardenberg actively cooperated in transitioning the Environment & Society Portal towards long-term technical sustainability, as well as working on the continuous development of the Portal's content and appearance. He represented the Rachel Carson Center at the Europeana Cloud Expert Forum in Dublin. He left the Center at the end of August to take on a two-year position as DAAD Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From there he has continued collaborating with the Portal team on various endeavors. Besides this, Hardenberg served as webmaster for the ESEH, member of the board of the joint RCC-ESEH project Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History (<http://www.environmentandsociety.org/arcadia>), and member of the editorial board on the blog *Ant, Spider, Bee* (<http://antspiderbee.net>). At the ESEH 2013 Munich Conference Hardenberg was elected as secretary of the European Society for Environmental History.

Wilko Graf von Hardenberg holds a Laurea in History from the University of Torino, Italy and a PhD in Geography from the University of Cambridge. He was a postgraduate fellow at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Italy and held a postdoctoral position, funded by the Autonomous Province of Trento, at the University of Trento, Italy. In 2013 he also lectured on digital tools for historical research at the University of Trento, presented papers and keynote lectures on his own research interests at international conferences and symposia, and held a part-time Scholar-in-Residence fellowship at the Deutsches Museum in Munich.

**Arielle Helmick**

Communications Director, Managing Director

As the communications director, Helmick oversees all media and outreach at the RCC, including the website and the newsletter. In addition, she coordinates the Green Visions film series with RCC Affiliate Alexa Weik von Mossner and supervises the fellows' film portraits, which have profiled over forty fellows and which can be viewed on iTunes, YouTube, and in the Competence Centre for Multimedia Objects of the German National Library of Science and Technology. Helmick also coordinates the RCC internship program. Finally, Helmick served on both the local organizing and academic program committees for the 2013 ESEH conference, "Circulating Natures: Water—Food—Energy." In 2013, Helmick was on parental leave from March to December.

Before joining the RCC, Arielle Helmick studied music, gender studies, and American studies at both Vanderbilt University, Tennessee and LMU Munich. In 2011, she completed her doctorate with the defense of her dissertation, entitled "The Greening of American Music: Environmentalism in Song."

**Rebecca Hofmann**

Research Fellow, Climates of Migration



Rebecca Hofmann's coordinates research activities for the Climates of Migration project at the RCC. Her research focuses on local risk perception and adaptation strategies to climate change. For her thesis, "Situating Climate Change in Chuuk. The cultural space of 'nature' and 'belonging' in Micronesia," she spent a year conducting ethnographic and archival research in Micronesia, complemented by subsequent archival work in Germany. In 2013, she presented her research at the 10th Forum for Sustainability in Leipzig and organized the workshop in August 2013, "One Concept of Environmental Migration? Bridging Disciplinary Approaches within the Humanities" at the RCC.

Rebecca Hofmann studied cultural anthropology, geography, and Spanish philology at the University of Freiburg and in Seville, Spain. She graduated in 2008 with her final thesis on competitive resource strategies of Native Alaskans. During the last two years of her studies, she did research for the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research-funded project entitled "Research for the Sustainable Development of the Megacities of Tomorrow: Energy and Climate-efficient Structures in Urban Growth Centers," working on the subproject titled "Hyderabad as a Megacity of Tomorrow: Climate and Energy in a Complex Transition towards Sustainable Hyderabad—Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies by Changing Institutions, Governance Structures, Lifestyles and Consumption Patterns."



## **Uwe Lübken**

Project Director, Climates of Migration

Uwe Lübken serves as Project Director for “Climates of Migration,” a joint project between the RCC and the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, KWI), Essen. With his co-director at the KWI, Franz Mauelshagen, Lübken supervises seven doctoral research projects which all examine historical intersections between environmental change and migration.

Lübken edited a special issue of the journal *Global Environment*, entitled “Environmental Change and Migration in History,” (*Global Environment* 9 (2012)). He hosted a workshop at the RCC in 2013 on “One Concept of Environmental Migration? Bridging Disciplinary Approaches within the Humanities,” with research associate Rebecca Hofmann. During 2013, Lübken presented his work at the 10th Forum for Sustainability (FONA), organized by the German Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) in Leipzig as well as in the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Energy, and the Environment, Munich Technical University, and a conference on climate research sponsored by the Bavarian Ministry of Science, amongst others. He also organized and chaired panels at the ASEH in Toronto, the ESEH in Munich, and at a conference on the 40th anniversary of the oil crisis at the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung in Potsdam. Together with Dieter Schott and Martin Knoll, he organized the international conference on the intersections of river and urban history in February 2013.

His habilitation thesis on the history of flooding on the Ohio River is to be published in early 2014 in the RCC series *Umwelt und Gesellschaft* (Environment and Society).

## Nina Möllers

Project Manager, Exhibitions



Nina Möllers serves as the curator for RCC-related exhibitions at the Deutsches Museum.

In 2013, Möllers worked on the upcoming exhibition “Anthropocene: Nature and Technology in the Age of Humans” which will open in October 2014 at the Deutsches Museum. In the fall of 2013, Möllers traveled to the American Natural History Museum in New York to take part in an international panel on “curating the Anthropocene” with RCC Director Helmuth Trischler.

In addition to curating RCC exhibits at the Deutsches Museum, Möllers is an active researcher and has published on the history of household technologies and energy (*Kabelsalat. Energiekonsum im Haushalt*, 2012) as well as on commodified multiculturalism and identity politics (*Kreolische Identität*, 2008). She also edited the recent collection *Past and Present Energy Societies* (2012) with Karin Zachmann. Before joining the RCC, Nina Möllers earned her doctorate in modern history from the University of Trier in 2007 and then completed a traineeship at the Museum for Technology and Labor in Mannheim.



**Katie Ritson**  
Managing Editor

Katie Ritson is responsible for RCC publications in English, encompassing the journal *RCC Perspectives* and collaborative books and volumes, including the new cooperation with the journal *Global Environment*. She manages a team of four editors; besides their work on publications, editors work on web and outreach texts, and assist fellows—mainly those whose native language is not English—with proofreading and revising their own work for publication in English. In 2012, Katie Ritson coedited (with Christof Mauch and Lawrence Culver) an issue of *RCC Perspectives* entitled “Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring*: Encounters and Legacies” (2012/7). She is also active as a translator, and has been instrumental in making German-language texts from fellows and associates at the RCC accessible to an English-language readership. Examples of her 2012 translations can be found in *RCC Perspectives* 2012/1 (Jens Kersten: “A Farewell to Residual Risk? A Legal Perspective on the Risks of Nuclear Power after Fukushima,” 51–64), and *RCC Perspectives* 2012/3 (Birgit Großkopf, Achim Rost, and Susanne Wilbers-Rost, “The Ancient Battlefield at Kalkriese,” 91–111).

Ritson studied modern and medieval languages at the University of Cambridge in England and comparative and Nordic literature at LMU Munich, gaining her second MA in 2009. She continues to work on selected projects as a freelance editor and translator.

**Rachel Shindelar**

Acting Managing Director



Rachel Shindelar served as Acting Managing Director from August to November 2013 and as Acting Communications Director from March to August 2013. She also coordinated the team of staff and volunteers on behalf of the local organizing committee for the ESEH conference in August 2013, the largest single gathering of researchers in environmental humanities to take place outside of the United States. Rachel joined the RCC as an editor in 2012.

Shindelar graduated from LMU Munich with an MA in political science, sociology, and economics in 2011. During her studies, she focused on International Organization and foreign development assistance; her final thesis was titled “Gifts Unwholesome: The Debate on Improving Aid-Effectiveness and the Paris Declaration.” She is currently conducting research at the interface between ecological economics and social ecology looking at the alternative national accounting systems.

**Iris Trautmann**

Digital Humanities Research Specialist

Iris Trautmann joined the Environment & Society Portal in the fall of 2013.

Iris Trautmann studied anthropology and prehistoric archeology at the George Washington University and the University of Tübingen and earned her PhD in anthropology in 2007. Her dissertation focused on the analysis of Neolithic cremations from the linear pottery culture and questions of continuity within this culture and with the following cultures. Since then, she has worked as a physical anthropologist and osteologist in her own company, A und O—Praxis für Bioarchäologie in Tübingen, and as computer administrator and technical assistant in charge of the virtual anthropology lab at the Department of Palaeoanthropology at HEP Senckenberg in Tübingen. In addition, she has worked as a freelance translator for museums and colleagues at the University of Tübingen.

## Editors

All RCC editors are native speakers of English (English/Irish/Philippine/US American) and bring expertise in a range of humanities disciplines (German studies, English literature, history, psychology, and journalism), as well as experience and competence in writing and editing academic texts, and in most cases advanced skills in other languages, including French, German, Filipino, Italian, and Russian. The editorial team are responsible for editing various RCC publications, as well maintaining social media platforms, and working on in-house graphic design projects.

**Brenda Black**

**Marielle Dado**

**Dominic Kotas**

**Maeve Storey**

## Interns

Hazar Al Asadi, Hannah Emerson, Stephanie Hood, Leonidas Kanonis, Filipa Soares, Nora Taleb, and Xiaomeng Wang.

## Program Coordinators

**Anna Rühl**, Acting Certificate Program Coordinator

**Elisabeth Zellmer**, Doctoral Program Coordinator (on leave, August 2013-spring 2014)

## Research Associates

Research associates are working towards a PhD in environmental humanities or are interested in pursuing a career in a research institution. Research associates work

part-time (up to 19 hours per week) and manage a variety of different projects at the RCC, including the internship program, Portal exhibitions, the Arcadia project, event coordination, publicity design work, and research support. The flexibility of these positions has been a great advantage for those who have been able to focus on writing their dissertations or archival research in 2013.

**Sabine Buchczyk**

**Susanne Darabas**, Environment & Society Digital Portal

**Eliza Encheva**, Environment & Society Digital Portal

**Andreas Grieger**, Environment & Society Digital Portal

**Annka Liepold**, Programs & Events

**Felix Mauch**, Environment & Society Digital Portal

**Constanze Sabathil**, Communications Associate

**Pavla Šimková**

**Martin Spenger**, Library Associate

**Sonja Weinbuch**, Research Associate & Events Coordinator (on leave September 2013–Fall 2014)

## **Research Assistants**

Research assistants are undergraduates in any humanities subject with a fluent command of English, and their job is to support RCC fellows and staff in a variety of different roles. The Library Service is one of these, and is very much appreciated by the fellowship: research assistants provide each new fellow with a tour of the library

facilities available at LMU Munich and the Bavarian State Library, assist them with registering for a library card, and support them by collecting and returning books, managing inter-library loans, and photocopying. Many of the research associates have (or have developed) an interest in the environmental humanities and have chosen to write papers or MA dissertations on an environmental theme; their interactions with staff, fellows, and visitors to the RCC have served to strengthen relations between the LMU student body and the international research landscape.

**Max Bergmann**

**Carmen Dines**

**Thekla Ebbert**

**Daki Galgalo**

**Freya Grünberg**

**Marie Heinz**

**Pierre Lipperheide, IT Administrator**

**Lisa Spindler**



RCC staff on excursion to Kloster Andechs, October 2013.



## 17 Outlook

The question of where we see ourselves in the medium-term future will be lent new clarity by our forthcoming evaluation. Preparing for the inspection process (Begehung) in May 2014 will take up a good portion of our energies in the early part of the year, and provide us with an opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved in the years since we were launched in 2009, and what we will do differently if we receive funds for a further six years. In the longer term, the possibility of renewal also opens up questions about a more permanent future for the Rachel Carson Center in Munich.

In terms of our more immediate and less introspective preoccupations, the topic of the Anthropocene is high on our agenda in the coming months. Our launch event (in cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin) and our *RCC Perspectives* publication on this topic in 2013 are part of a wider effort that will culminate in a large-scale exhibition at the Deutsches Museum, which is due to open in October 2014. The exhibition has already garnered press attention, a full year ahead of its opening—there seems to be great openness for this concept, both amongst scholars and in society at large. The Deutsches Museum exhibition will be accompanied by numerous scholarly and public events such as a series of workshops in cooperation with the partner institutions, the Nelson Institute at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and the Environmental Humanities Laboratory at KTH Stockholm, as well as an Anthropocene curriculum that will be developed in conjunction with a dozen of institutes around the globe, and also by digital exhibitions hosted on the Environment & Society Portal that will extend the reach of the exhibition beyond the confines of Munich. We are currently developing seven new online exhibitions, including a companion exhibition for the Deutsches Museum exhibition on the Anthropocene; water in Bogota; famines in India; fishing in the urban rivers of St. Petersburg and Vienna; environmental risks associated with US military landscapes; and the impact of the Northwest Passage.

The Environment and Society book series with Berghahn that was launched in late 2012 with the publication of the first book, *Civilizing Nature*, promises to become a strong player in 2014, with several books scheduled to appear. The series is conceived to present comparative and transnational monographs and edited collections in

environmental history, and the forthcoming titles certainly live up to this brief: a comparative study of the Mississippi and Volga rivers, a monograph on the Swiss National Park in transatlantic perspective, a volume on hazardous substances, and a set of essays on environmental ignorance are all imminent, with a further ten manuscripts currently under review. The *RCC Perspectives* series, meanwhile, continues its series of provocative short essays; one of the first issues to appear in 2014 will be a collection based on the 2013 “Edges in Environmental History” workshop honoring Jane Carruthers, which will also be translated and published in Portuguese.

Portugal, indeed, will be a hub for activities in 2014, with the Second World Congress in Environmental History to be held in Guimarães, hosted by the University of Minho. The Congress is organized by the International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations, of which Jane Carruthers is president. Three issues of *RCC Perspectives* are scheduled for Portuguese release in time for the congress, and the Carson Center will be well represented by a sizeable delegation of staff, fellows, and alumni participating in the academic program. Closer to home, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (German Association for American Studies) will also hold its annual conference in Augsburg June 2014, and has taken the environment as its overarching theme: two Carson alumni, Frank Zelko and John Meyer, will deliver keynote speeches. At the conference of the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH), the RCC will contribute Christof Mauch and Carson alumni from four continents—John Agbonifo, Claudia Leal, Donald Worster, and Shen Hou—in the form of the plenary session “Lost in Translation: Environmental History in a Global Context.” There will be a multitude of smaller events too, including a workshop on the centenary of the outbreak of World War One to examine its environmental impact, and a conference on urban and rural environments at the Center for Ecological History at Renmin University in China.

Finally, the RCC is also looking forward to the curiosity and inspiration of the students participating in the new Certificate Program in Environmental Studies. Launched at the end of 2013, this program will develop further in 2014 and beyond, with plans afoot for an interdisciplinary place-based workshop in the Osterseen region in Upper Bavaria

in the summer. We are excited about the questions and ideas that will come out of this new link between LMU Munich and the RCC, and about the students who have joined us in our exploration of the changing spaces of our world.

