

Rachel Carson Center
for Environment and Society
Annual Report 2015

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1. The RCC at a Glance 2015

- The RCC sponsored many conferences, workshops, and panels in Germany and internationally with a renewed focus on its organizing theme for phase two: transformations in environment and society.
- RCC fellows hailed from countries all over the world, including Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Estonia, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The Deutsches Museum exhibition “Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands”—the first major exhibition in the world on the epoch of humanity’s dominant influence on Earth’s ecosystems—had an average of 11,000 visitors each month and issued an English translation of its illustrated catalog. Owing to its great success, the exhibition was extended until 30 September 2016.
- Collaborating local universities, NGOs and the general public, the RCC participated in the project “water conflicts and virtual water use” in the lead up to the Paris climate summit. This was the 7th Munich event lead by the regional division of German-wide higher education initiative, *Hochschultage (7. Münchner Hochschultage)*, which organizes academic events about ecosocial economics and sustainability.
- The RCC continued its Green Visions Film Series in cooperation with the Deutsches Museum, Munich’s ecological education center (*Ökologisches Bildungszentrum*), the environmental media organization ECOMOVE International, and the further education center *Münchner Volkshochschule*. The 2015 series focused on themes of resource availability, technology, and human needs in the context of an ever-growing population.
- *RCC Perspectives* released three issues on topics that included scarcity, the imagination of limits, and unruly environments.
- The Environment & Society Portal, an open-access digital project, reinvigorated its peer-reviewed *Arcadia* series with new articles by fellows, published two major long-term virtual exhibitions, and completed a pilot project on digital environmental humanities with external funding.
- The RCC blog *Seeing the Woods* published a total of 67 posts. These received a total of 20,297 views from 12,075 visitors in 131 countries.
- The Doctoral Program Environment and Society completed its fifth year in 2015 and brought ten new candidates to the program, including four through the first European-funded doctoral training network in environmental humanities.

- The Environmental Studies Certificate program graduated its first 14 students and continued to grow, with over 70 students enrolled at the end of 2015, a new program coordinator, and richer course offerings across its three main content areas.

2. Executive Summary

The Carson Center entered a period of transition in 2015, as the second phase of our funding from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research began in August. The year was divided into two distinct seasons. The first was marked by a flurry of final revisions to bring phase one publications to print and long-term virtual exhibitions online by the end of July. In August, we had our first period of dormancy. No new fellows arrived until September 2015. During this time, the directors and staff restructured and re-oriented toward even more public-facing engagements of environmental history and humanities with practitioners, policy, and training. With the autumn came a renewed focus on the center's mission, the arrival of the first phase-two fellows, and the first events under our organizing theme, "Transformations in Environment and Society." These included a workshop on human niche construction organized by two alumni fellows and the launch of a major European-funded doctoral training network, Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe (ENHANCE ITN).

Our engagement in understanding transformations in environment and society was also reflected in the advertisement of new forms of fellowship. For the first time, we welcomed outreach fellows to Munich, two environmental filmmakers whose past work brought researchers, practicing land managers, and everyday people into conversation. The outreach fellowships invite writers, artists, filmmakers, and practitioners with less conventional academic backgrounds to produce work with a broader public impact. We also advertised fellowships for interdisciplinary tandems in 2015, including tandems between LMU faculty and international researchers from more than one disciplinary perspective. Both fellowship types reflect what the RCC learned from its first phase: that unexpected combinations of approaches and work at the edges of disciplines yielded the greatest innovations.

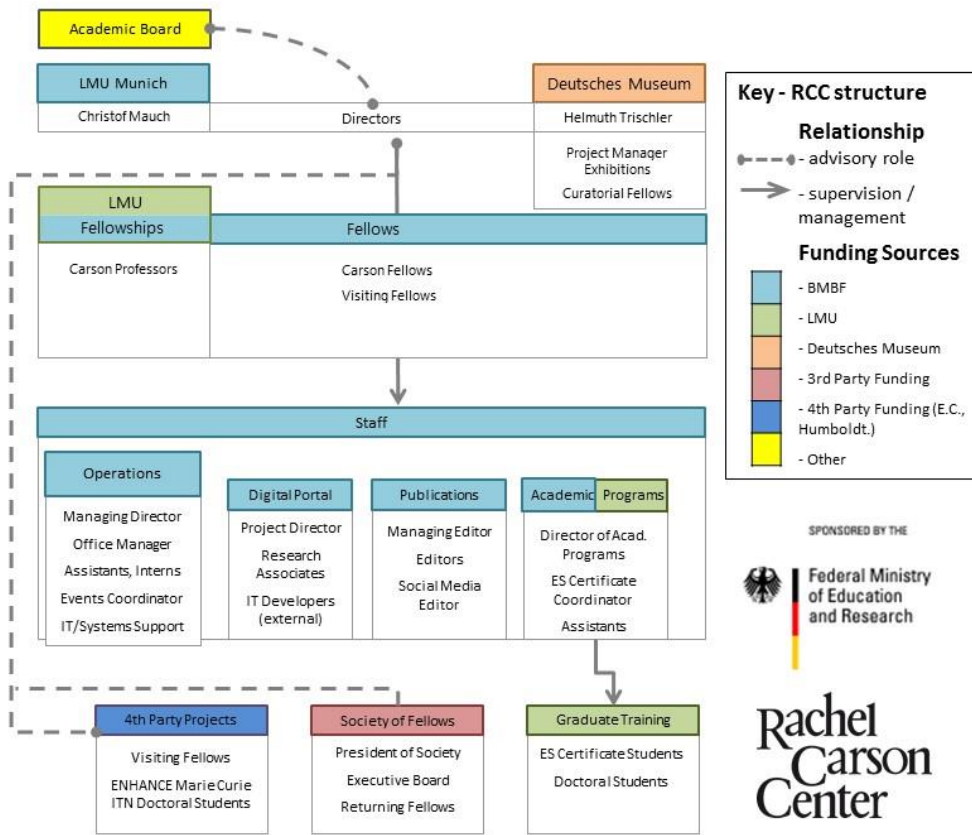
As a radically interdisciplinary and international center dedicated to the study of environment and society, the RCC has become a magnet for students and early career researchers. 2015 saw the continued growth of the Environmental Studies Certificate Program at LMU Munich. These young people are drawn to the center from programs in law, geography, anthropology, history, as well as physics, theology, education, and environmental management. They now form a critical mass at events and in turn are strengthening the social network and intellectual community of engaged scholars in Munich. The first 14 graduates received their certificates and presented final projects that reflected discussions of fellows' research and connections to regional and local concerns, such as invasive species in Berchtesgaden and food sharing to combat waste. At regular workshops and retreats and through their creative final projects, environmental studies students interact with international fellows. While fellows transported us through their lectures in 2015 to far-flung places—to forest farms in Zanzibar and eroding dunes in Portugal—the RCC's growing student community, our film series *Green Visions* at Munich's cultural center

Gasteig, and events in connection with the exhibition on the Anthropocene at Deutsches Museum have rooted us in new areas of Munich.

In a new effort to bring fellows into closer contact with initiatives in Munich and at the university, Carson fellows have volunteered their time as commentators and discussants at events such as international conferences, doctoral workshops, and public film screenings. Current fellows have also been involved in doctoral training through informal conversations in the library and during formal graduate training programs, including the summer school on “Animals in Transdisciplinary Environmental History” cosponsored by the ESEH. Our programs with fellows are woven more thoroughly into Munich institutions through our many students. As 2015 closes, the RCC finds itself at the center of discussions of the “greening of the LMU.” Many departments and administrators are now working to identify and articulate existing research across separate faculties and make transformations in environment and society a pillar of the university’s strategic vision.

Alumni now also contribute to shared repositories of knowledge through several facets of the Environment & Society Portal, a growing collection of thematic reading lists for early career researchers, and invitations for international exchange, as well as to the ongoing success of the RCC blog *Seeing the Woods*. This year, RCC staff and Munich-based students traveled to fellows’ home universities in Estonia, Minnesota, and Kansas. In close collaboration with the new president and board of the Society of Fellows (formerly the fellows’ “alumni association”), the Carson Center established a new type of fellowship that is cosponsored by an alumni fund. These fellowships will bring scholars back to Munich and deepen connections at the RCC, the university, and the museum. The Society of Fellows perpetuates the international and interdisciplinary spirit of the center through reciprocal networks of ideas and individual researchers.

3. Organigram



4. The RCC Academic Advisory Board

Prof. Dr. Dorothee Brantz (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Eveline Dürr (LMU Munich, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Anke Friedrich (LMU Munich, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Poul Holm (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)

Prof. Dr. Dolly Jørgensen (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden / ESEH President), ex officio

Prof. Dr. Bruno Latour (Sciences Po, Paris, France)

Prof. Dr. Libby Robin (Australian National University, Canberra, Australia)

Prof. Dr. Hou Shen (Renmin University, Beijing, China)

Prof. Dr. Verena Winiwarter (Alpen-Adria-Universität, Klagenfurt, Austria), Chair

5. Collaborations

In 2015, Rachel Carson Center nurtured its ongoing partnerships with leading centers in environmental history and environmental humanities, around the world, including with Renmin University's Center for Ecological History in Beijing, China; the University of Kansas; the Estonian Centre for Environmental History (KAJAK) in Tallinn; and the Center for Environmental History in Vienna (ZUG Wien). This year saw the third annual joint conference with Renmin University (on the theme "Manufactured Landscapes," in May). Key partners at Renmin returned to LMU Munich in November with a delegation of Chinese researchers as part of an LMU China initiative. With the European Society for Environmental History, the RCC co-sponsored a training workshop with KAJAK in Estonia on "Animals in Transdisciplinary Environmental History" (May 2015). In the summer, we also concluded an Erasmus+ exchange agreement with the University of Vienna that streamlines future cooperation between graduate students at our two centers in environmental studies. Our first doctoral student exchange took place with the University of Kansas.

In July, we hosted the second installment of the Anthropocene Cabinet of Curiosities project with the University of Wisconsin–Madison and the KTH Royal Institute for Technology, Stockholm. Future projects are already in planning stages with the Madison and Stockholm groups, including a DAAD training workshop on rivers (the Mississippi and the Danube) for May 2016 and May 2017 respectively. The RCC also hosted the first meeting of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network "Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe" (ENHANCE ITN), a doctoral training program led by the University of Leeds with the Deutsches Museum and KTH Stockholm as additional partners. This is the first European-funded program dedicated to training a new generation of environmental humanities researchers and was the brainchild of Carson alumnus Professor Anthony Carrigan with colleagues at the University of Leeds.

As we entered the second phase, we refocused efforts on collaborations that deepen our institutional anchoring at the LMU Munich. RCC staff and students produced and presented nearly half of the posters displayed for the first university-wide event on "Greening the LMU" in July 2015, which led to participation in the LMU-wide steering committee for sustainable research, teaching, and operations. Yet external collaborations in 2015 also enriched our programs with the LMU Munich. A critical methods seminar for graduate students was linked via weekly transatlantic video chats with Carson alumnus Dan Philippon at the University of Minnesota. The Minnesota successfully won DAAD funding to support an exchange of graduate students in November.

6. Publications

In addition to the RCC's regular publication series, editors prepared the English-language catalog of the special exhibition "Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands" at the Deutsches Museum. The catalogue was published in spring 2015.

RCC Perspectives

Produced in-house by the RCC's editing team, the journal *RCC Perspectives* reflects on the diversity of events and dialogues at the Rachel Carson Center; it aims to bridge the gap between scholarly and non-scholarly audiences and encourage international dialogue.

Issue 1: Michel Pimbert, Rachel Shindelar, and Hanna Schösler, eds. "Think Global, Eat Local: Exploring Foodways."

Issue 2: Siddhartha Krishnan, Christopher L. Pastore, and Samuel Temple, eds. "Unruly Environments."

Issue 3: Frederike Felcht and Katie Ritson, eds. "The Imagination of Limits: Exploring Scarcity and Abundance."

As the RCC moved into its second phase of funding in summer 2015, the journal was retitled and redesigned in order to reflect the center's new focus. The new series, *RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society*, is dedicated to examining the interrelationships between environmental and social changes. As previously, it is open access and all issues are hosted online by the Environment & Society Portal. The first issues of the new series will be released in early 2016.

Global Environment

Global Environment is published by the White Horse Press. It includes peer-reviewed research articles as well as interviews and other special features. The Rachel Carson Center produces one special issue per year on topics that result from research projects at the center.

Volume 8, no. 1: Rebecca Hofmann and Uwe Lübken, eds. "Small Islands and Natural Hazards."

Umwelt und Gesellschaft

Published by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht in Göttingen, the series *Umwelt und Gesellschaft* provides a German-language outlet for quality research on the environment from a humanities perspective.

Volume 13: Tobias Huff. *Natur und Industrie im Sozialismus*.

Volume 14: Sitta von Reden and Christian Wieland, eds. *Wasser: Alltagsbedarf, Ingenieurskunst und Repräsentation zwischen Antike und Neuzeit*.

The Environment in History: International Perspectives

This English-language series is published by Berghahn Books (New York and Oxford) and showcases high-quality research in environmental history and related disciplines from around the world.

Volume 6: Giacomo Parrinello. *Fault Lines: Earthquakes and Urbanism in Modern Italy*.

Volume 7: Ruth Oldenziel and Helmuth Trischler, eds. *Cycling and Recycling: Histories of Sustainable Practices*.

Supported Publications

In addition to the regular series, RCC alumni published a number of books that originated from research conducted at the RCC. The Rachel Carson Center also provided financial support for these publications.

Andrew Denning. *Skiing into Modernity: A Cultural and Environmental History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2015.

Emilian Kavalski. *World Politics on the Edge of Chaos*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2015.

Arne Keeling and John Sandlos, eds. *Mining and Communities in Northern Canada: History, Politics, and Memory*. Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 2015.

John M. Meyer. *Engaging the Everyday: Environmental Criticism and the Resonance Dilemma*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2015.

Shiho Satsuka. *Nature in Translation: Freedom, Subjectivity, and Japanese Tourism Encounters in Canada*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2015.

7. Environment & Society Portal

The Environment & Society Portal (environmentandsociety.org) is a gateway to openly accessible resources about the human-environment relationship. As the digital publication platform and repository for the Rachel Carson Center, it reflects research of RCC fellows, staff, and partners who curate and contribute content—all of which is tagged with place, time, and thematic keywords and browsable on a map, timeline, and keyword explorer. The Portal now attracts around 10,000 unique users from around the world each month.

In 2015, several exciting new projects came to life:

Thanks to a generous grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, our affiliated blog *Ant Spider Bee: Exploring the Digital Environmental Humanities* (antspiderbee.net) implemented the aggregation and publication tool PressForward as part of a collaboration with the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. Co-edited by Portal director Kimberly Coulter, former RCC fellow Wilko Graf von Hardenberg, and Finn Arne Jørgensen, *Ant Spider Bee* curates a feed of news and resources together with featured essays (many by former RCC fellows) about the role of digital tools and methods within environmental humanities research.

The peer-reviewed series *Arcadia*, a partnership between the RCC and ESEH, gained new momentum in 2015 with new *Arcadia* Curator Wilko Graf von Hardenberg's efforts to recruit contributors and reviewers. *Arcadia* now has 87 published articles (several by RCC fellows), and new thematic collections like the “Rights of Nature Recognition,” edited by former fellow Maria Valeria Berros and RCC doctoral candidate Anna Leah Tabios.

The Multimedia Library now boasts more than 1,500 born-digital texts, podcasts, images, and films, reflecting the dynamism and diversity of the environmental humanities today. A major highlight in 2015 is the completion of the “radical environmental journals” collection with high-resolution, full-text searchable archive of *Earth First!* and its successor publications, with an essay by former RCC fellow Bron Taylor.

Places & Events completed its pilot project to engage a select group of RCC fellows' students in the production of born-digital mini-histories of environmentally significant places and events. Although we have frozen further development in order to focus on peer-reviewed content, more than 300 Places & Events items are now published and plottable on the Portal's map and timeline.

In 2015 Virtual Exhibitions published two colonial environmental histories. “Famines in Late Nineteenth Century India,” by former fellow Timo Myllyntaus and Naresh Sourabh, situates the causes and costs of famines within the complex environmental and social contexts of colonial India. In “A German Explorer's Letters Home from Australia” historian Heike Hartmann opens new perspectives on the environmental history of Australia with a presentation and contextualization of the first open-access edition of the letters sent by the

German naturalist Ludwig Leichhardt to his relatives from colonial Australia between 1842 and 1848.

In 2015, the Environment & Society Portal established its strategic plan for the RCC's second phase: to emphasize transformations in environment and society, while aiming for a slimmer, more focused project. The focus will lie with peer-reviewed digital publications (Arcadia and Virtual Exhibitions) and "curated collections" within the Multimedia Library. Past and current Carson fellows are more strongly encouraged to contribute and offered lower-barrier opportunities to do so; contribution to Arcadia is expected from fellows selected in 2015. The Portal also will communicate transformations in environment and society through a new timeline, allowing users to explore Portal content chronologically—to scroll forward and backward in time, or jump to specific moments in history. In addition, the Portal plans to showcase transformations in environment and society through "curated collections," a flexible way for fellows to curate a mini-collection or tell a story related to their projects.

8. Events

Lunchtime Colloquia

08.01.2015

Piers Locke (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) on “Humans, Elephants, and Interspecies Intimacy in Nepal”

15.01.2015

Ulrike Plath (Tallin University, Estonia) on “Food from the Garden: Greening the Baltic History of Modernity”

22.01.2015

Emily O'Gorman (Macquarie University, Australia) will present on “The Invention of Wetlands: Histories of Conservation and Contestation in Australia”

29.01.2015

María Valeria Berros (Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Argentina) on “The Rights of Nature in Latin America: Ethics and Law in Dialogue”

12.02.2015

Nils Petter Gleditsch (Peace Research Institute and Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway) on “Climate Change: A Threat to the Waning of War?”

05.03.2015

Axel Goodbody (University of Bath, UK) on “Climate Scepticism: Cultures and Subjectivities”

16.04.2015

Jim Clifford (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) on “Mapping London’s Industry and Global Hinterlands, 1850-1914”

23.04.2015

Simone Müller (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany) on “Contamination Guaranteed: America's Hazardous Waste in Global Perspective, 1960s-1990s”

30.04.2015

Ruth Morgan (Monash University, Australia) on “Australindia: Australia, India, South Africa and the Ecologies of Empire, 1757 to 1914”

07.05.2015

Andrea Gaynor (University of Western Australia) on “Entangled Histories: Nature and Modernity in Australia”

21.05.2015

Victor Seow (Cornell University, USA) on “Carbon Technocracy: East Asian Energy Regimes”

28.05.2015

Erika Bsumek (University of Texas - Austin, USA) on “Damming Zion: Mormons, Indians, and the Fight for Resources in the Arid West”

11.06.2015

Rita Brara (University of Delhi, India) on “Adjudicating Resource Use: The National Green Tribunal, India”

18.06.2015

Hal Crimmel (Weber State University, USA) on “Drink: The Nature of Beverages and Their Connection to Place”

25.06.2015

Joana Gaspar de Freitas (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal) on “Against the Sand and the Sea: The Dunes in Coastal Defense Strategies”

02.07.2015

Christopher Conte (Utah State University, USA) on “Spices, Slaves and Landscape History on an Indian Ocean Island”

09.07.2015

John Barry (Queen's University Belfast, UK) on “Degrowth, Green Growth, or Greening Growth: Discourses of Green Political Economy”

16.07.2015

Dan Lewis (Huntington Library, Art Collections & Botanical Gardens, USA) on “Chasing Extinction: Hawaiian Avifauna Among Tropical Culture, Politics, and Law”

23.07.2015

Sophia Kalantzakos (New York University, USA) on “From Brussels to Beijing: A Budding Relationship to Shape the Anthropocene?”

15.10.2015

Lisa Sedrez (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) on “A Man, a Woman and an Island in Guanabara Bay: How Two Scientists Turned a Hydrobiology Station into a Pollution Monitoring Center in 1950s Rio de Janeiro”

22.10.2015

Gregory Cushman (Ohio State University, USA) on “The Environmental Contexts of Guaman Poma: An Indigenous Perspective on Ecological Imperialism in the Colonial Andes”

29.10.2015

Graham Huggan (Leeds University, UK), **Martin Spenger** (Rachel Carson Center, Germany) and **Nina Wormbs** (KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, Sweden) on “Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe: A Roundtable”

05.11.2015

Lukas Köhler (Hochschule für Philosophie, Munich), on "Environmental Sustainability in the Context of Intergenerational Justice."

12.11.2015

Bernhard Malkmus (Ohio State University, USA) on “Diffuse Dwelling: The Anthropocene Fenlands in Sebald and Swift”

19.11.2015

Kirsten Wehner (National Museum of Australia) on “Towards an Ecological Museology: Integrating 'Nature' and 'Culture' at the National Museum of Australia”

26.11.2015

Filippo Bertoni (Aarhus University, Denmark) on “Extracting Life: Open Pit Mines on a Mars Analog”

03.12.2015

Sebastian Ureta (Alberto Hurtado University, Chile) on “Give Me a Baseline and I Will Raise a (Toxic) World: Co-Constructing Mining Waste and Natural Environments in Northern Chile”

10.12.2015

Dorothee Brantz (Center for Metropolitan Studies, TU Berlin, Germany) on “Landscape, Photography, and the Memory of World War II”

17.12.2015

Salma Monani (Gettysburg College, USA) on “Indigenous Ecocinema: Animating Relations, Unsettling Spaces”

Lectures and Podium Discussions

18.02.2015

Nikolas Kompridis on “The Question of Agency: Human and Non-Human”
Special lecture, Rachel Carson Center, Munich.

13.04.2015

Jennifer Morgan on “International Climate Policy on the Road to Paris 2015”
Special lecture, Rachel Carson Center, Munich.

13.05.2015

Peter Bunge, Donald Dingwell, Anke Friedrich, Gerald Haug, Christof Mauch, and Franz Mauelshagen on “The Volcano that Brought the Cold: The Eruption of Tambora and a World without Summer (1815/1816)” Organized with Geozentrum München and the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, München

26.05.2015

Eben Kirksey on “Parasites of Capitalism”
Special lecture, Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

28.05.2015

Thomas Princen on “Ending the Fossil Fuel Era”
Book launch, Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

16.06.2015 – 17.06.2015

Münchner Hochschultage, Water Conflicts and Virtual Water Use, events at LMU Munich

13.10.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **BenE München e.v.**

03.11.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **Thomas Frey**, regional representative of Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND)

10.11.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **Max Lössl**, founder and CEO of Agrilution

17.11.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **Erika Littmann**, co-founder and head of Selbach Umweltstiftung

24.11.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **Kate Rigby** on “Dancing with Disaster: Environmental Histories, Narratives, and Ethics”

Book launch, Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

03.12.2015

Jenny Newell on “Reading the Sea: Islander Understandings of a Changing Pacific”

Public Lecture and Panel Discussion, Deutsches Museum, Munich

08.12.2015

Tuesday Discussion with **James Brainard** on “How Climate Protection, Quality of Life, and Economic Growth Can Be Achieved at the Municipal Level”

Conferences and Workshops

13.02.2015 – 14.02.2015

“Mobility and Environment”

Conference at the Kerschensteiner Kolleg, Deutsches Museum, Munich

26.02.2015 – 03.03.2015

“Dipesh Chakrabarty and the Climate of History”

Conference at the College of Arts and Sciences History Center/Provost Visiting Scholar Institute, University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA

13.05.2015 – 15.05.2015

“Animals in Transdisciplinary Environmental History”

European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) Summer School

School held at the Estonian Centre for Environmental History (KAJAK) at Tallinn University

Institute of History, in cooperation with the University of Tartu, ESEH, and the Rachel Carson Center

14.05.2015 – 17.05.2015

“Religion in the Anthropocene: Challenges, Idolatries, Transformations”

5th International Conference of the European Forum for the Study of Religion and Environment, LMU Munich

28.05.2015 – 31.05.2015

“Manufacturing Landscapes—Nature and Technology in Environmental History”

Conference at Renmin University of China

19.06.2015

“Back to the Sustainable Future: Visions of Sustainability in the History of Design”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

28.06.2015 – 30.06.2015

“Toxic Legacies—Agent Orange as a Challenge”

Conference at the Evangelische Akademie, Tutzing

30.06.2015 – 03.07.2015

“Greening History: Studying the Environment across Disciplines, Past, Present and Future.”

Biennial Conference of the European Society for Environmental History, Versailles, France

Various panels and papers by RCC affiliates.

03.07.2015

“Interpreting Vulnerabilities”

Roundtable at the Rachel Carson Center

05.07.2015 – 07.07.2015

“Anthropocene Objects and Environmental Futures”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

16.07.2015 – 17.07.2015

Forumstreffen “Tiere und Geschichte” – Tiergeschichte und Umweltgeschichte / Animal History and Environmental History

Conference at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

14.09.2015 – 15.09.2015

“Global Deserts: Environmental History in the Arid Lands”

Conference at the University of Arizona, USA

16.10.2015

“Discovering Environmental Humanities: Recovering the Environment in Africa and the African in the Environment”

RCC-sponsored panel at the African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA) Conference, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

16.10.2015 – 17.10.2015

“Human Niche Construction”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

29.10.2015 – 31.10.2015

“Trans-Environmental Dynamics: Understanding and Debating Ontologies, Politics, and History in Latin America”

Conference at LMU Munich

14.11.2015–15.11.2015

“The Earth and its Environments” and “Environmental History”

Sponsored panels at the 1st LMU-China Academic Network Scientific Forum, LMU Munich

03.12.2015 – 04.12.2015

“The Anthropocene in Museums: Reflections, Projections and Imaginings”

Workshop at the Deutsches Museum, Munich

Film Screenings

15.01.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Surviving Progress*

Green Visions Film Series

12.02.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Population Boom*

Green Visions Film Series

26.03.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *The Human Scale*

Green Visions Film Series

16.04.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Connected*

Green Visions Film Series

21.05.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Food Design*

Green Visions Film Series

25.06.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Seed Warriors*

Green Visions Film Series

09.07.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Watermark*

Green Visions Film Series

15.10.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *10 Milliarden*

Green Visions Film Series

12.11.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *Bidder 70*

Green Visions Film Series

27.11.2015

Film Screening + Discussion: *This Changes Everything*

8th Hochschultage München, with BenE München and the Katholische Hochschule Gem.

9. Doctoral Program in Environment and Society

The doctoral program Environment and Society (ProEnviron) graduated two new candidates at the LMU Munich and welcomed ten new candidates, four of whom join as part of a European Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network (ITN) “Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe” (ENHANCE):

Veit Braun (Sociology)

Sasha Gora (American Studies)

Dorothea Hutterer (History)

Katrin Kleeman (American Studies)

Claire Lagier (Environmental Science,
ENHANCE ITN)

Vikas Lakhani (Geography, ENHANCE ITN)

Martin Meiske (History of Technology),

Jeroen Oomen (Sociology, ENHANCE ITN)

Eveline de Smalen (Literature, ENHANCE ITN)

Azeb Woku (Geography)

The RCC community congratulates Rebecca Hofmann and Guivion Zumbado, who submitted their dissertations (see below) and received their doctorates in 2015.

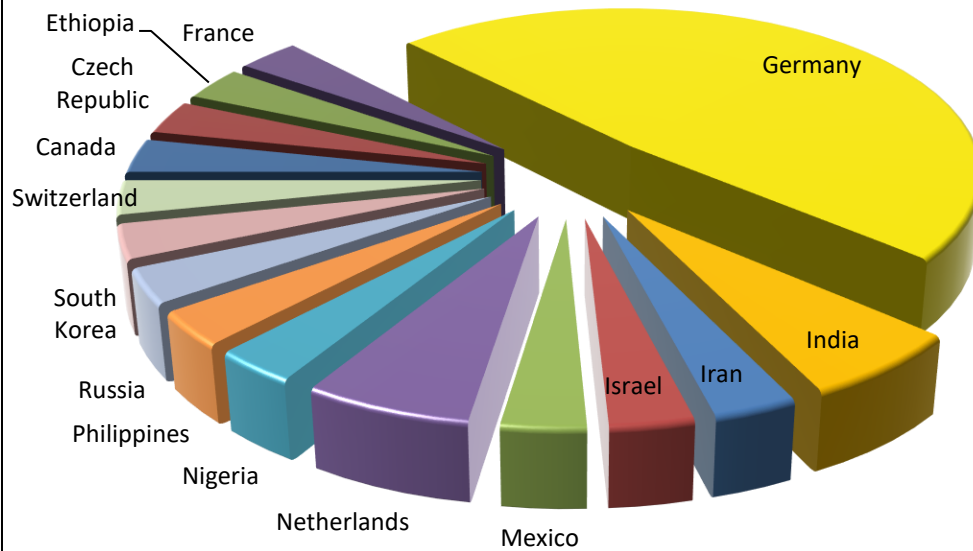
Rebecca Hofmann, Anthropology, “Situating Climate Change in Chuuk. Navigating ‘Belonging’ through Environmental and Social Transformations in Micronesia,” primary adviser: Prof. Dr. Eveline Dürr

Guivion Zumbado, American Studies, “National Parks of Costa Rica. An Environmental History,” primary adviser: Prof. Dr. Christof Mauch

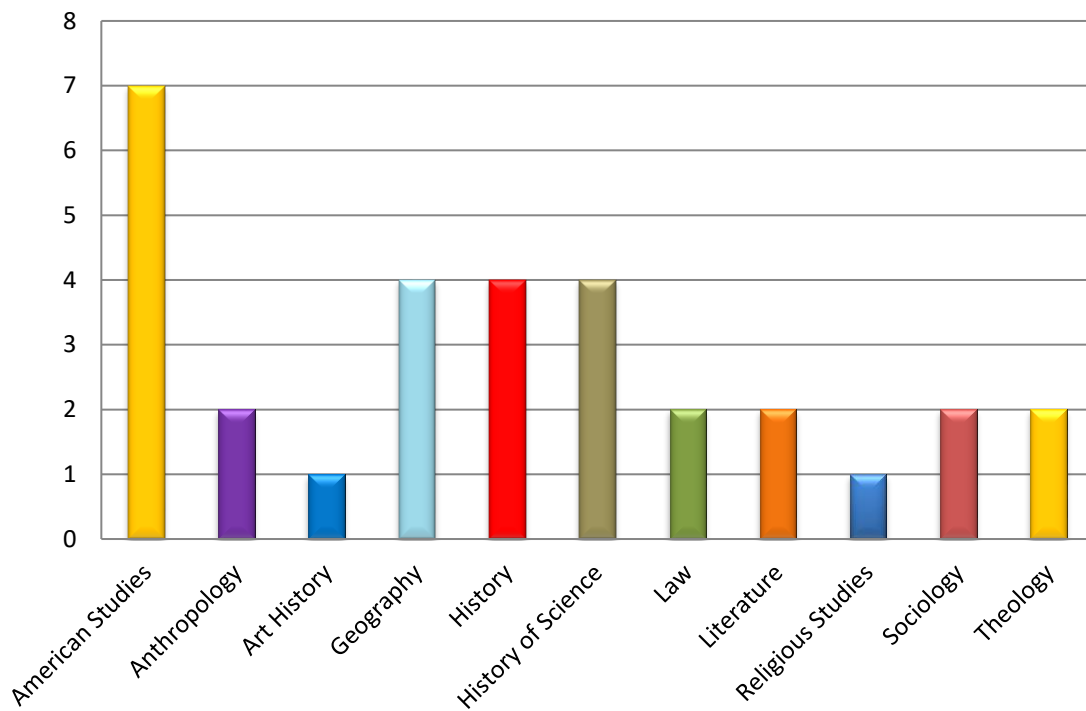


Image: Members of the doctoral program Environment and Society, October 2015.

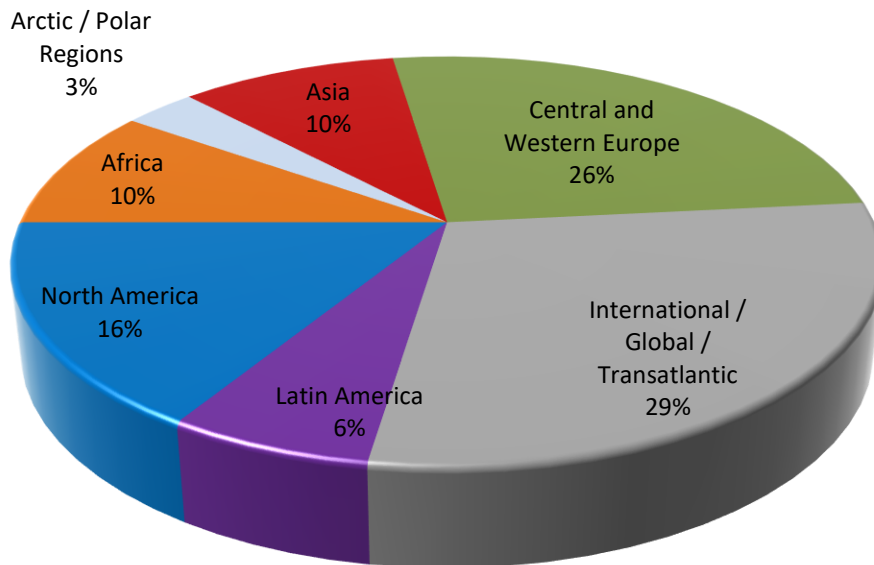
Doctoral Candidates - Home Country (2015)



Doctoral Candidates - Discipline (2015)



Doctoral Candidates - Areas of Research (2015)



In 2015, doctoral candidates initiated many independent projects based on conversations with fellows, staff, and other researchers at the LMU Munich. These included a reading group on the rights of nature (led by Anna Leah Tabios, Law), a spring workshop and digital project on environmentandsociety.org (Martin Spenger, American Studies), and a fall retreat at Schliersee on “Endangered Humans,” co-ordinated with the Munich-based ITN candidates and organized by the 2015 program speakers, Nils Hanwahr (history) and Annka Liepold (American Studies). Six student projects were profiled in a poster presented at the “Greening of LMU” university-wide event in July 2015. Individual students conducted field research in the Andaman Islands and the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico, participated in exchanges with the University of Kansas and University of Minnesota, and presented work in the Czech Republic and across Germany. We also welcomed several visiting doctoral candidates with independent funding to Munich, including Douglas Bell (Texas A & M, USA) and Nicola Gabellieri (Italy).

10. Certificate Program in Environmental Studies

The program offers master's-level students from all disciplines the opportunity to gain an additional qualification in environmental studies alongside their main degree subject. As well as coursework across three main content areas—Environmental History and Society; Environmental Policy and Ethics; and Human Ecology and Natural Sciences—students participate in events and seminars at the RCC. They attend a reading group in conjunction with the weekly lunchtime colloquium, produce a final project in the form of an exhibition or a publication, and have the opportunity to participate in an annual place-based workshop.

The certificate program is thoroughly interdisciplinary: its academic board represents eight faculties at LMU, and students come from all disciplinary backgrounds, including natural and social sciences, law and business management, and the humanities. The certificate program gives participating students a rigorous thematic focus for studying environmental issues from interdisciplinary perspectives, with the flexibility of tailoring course selection and the final project to fit the needs of their primary degree. Above all, the certificate program provides an intellectual home on campus for emerging scholars and professionals who aim to incorporate new understandings of the human dimension of environmental issues into their lives and careers.

The interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Certificate Program graduated its first cohort of fourteen students in 2015 and hosted an afternoon featuring final projects. The following students presented their final projects in July:

Mandana Bender, Art History
Veit Braun, Sociology
Pamela Flores Dávila, Biology
Veronika Degmayr, Geography
Adrian Franco, History
Lukas Kolbeck, Sociology
Sandra Mader, Anthropology

Thomas Müller, Biology (TUM)
Ramona Mayr, Intercultural Communication
Claudia Ricci, Business Management
Carina Schmitz, Anthropology
Julia Wiederer, American Studies
Sibylle Zavala, Environmental Planning and Engineering (TUM)



Image: Environmental studies student leading final project design session, January 2015 retreat, Kochel-am-See.

12. Internship Program

In 2015 interns from Canada, Germany, Ghana, Sweden and the United States supported the center. RCC interns stay for a period of two to three months. The internship program introduces these students to the research of the Carson Center; we aim to strengthen a lasting intellectual commitment to the environmental humanities. Interns work on a variety of projects at the center. Notably, in 2015 interns supported conferences on the legacies of Agent Orange and on human niche construction and the Anthropocene exhibit, the weekly colloquium, and book launches. Interns have regular opportunities to interact with Carson fellows and are encouraged to attend RCC events. Past interns have also worked on a variety of new media projects including editing social media text, managing video content, and cataloging digitized sources hosted by the Environment & Society Portal.

2015 Interns:

Ash Milton (Canada)

Katharina Müller (Germany)

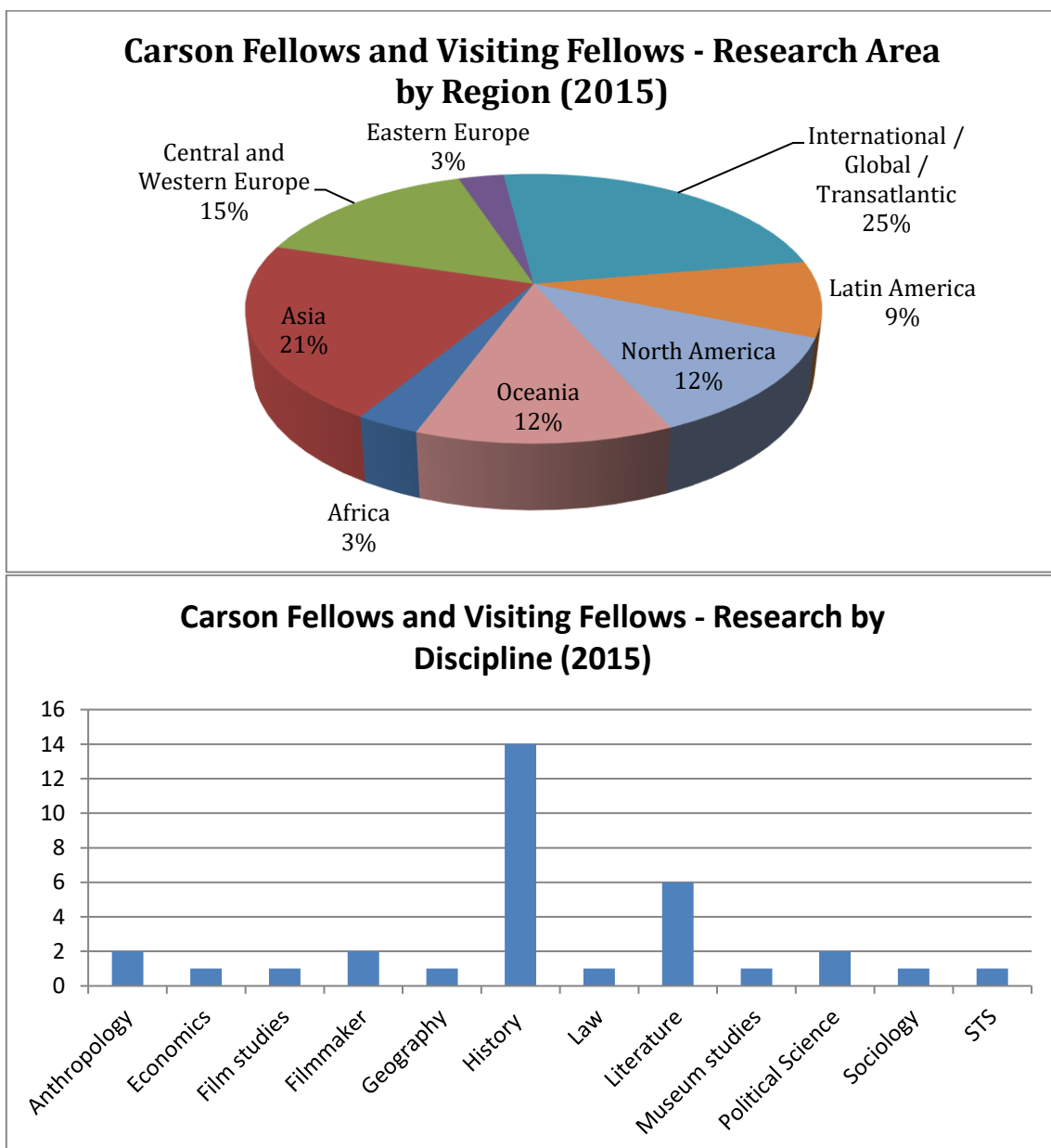
Amanda Norrlander (Sweden)

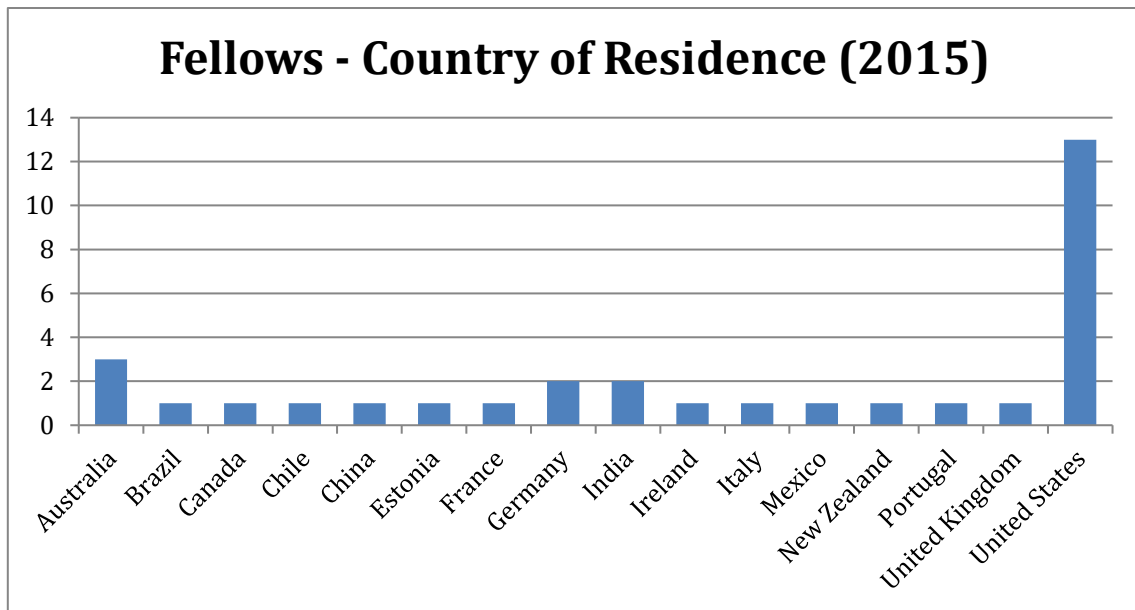
Laurianne Posch (United States)

Nana Oye Williams (Ghana)

12. 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 2015, the RCC supported research and outreach fellows, a Carson professor, LMU fellows, and visiting 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.





John Barry

May 2015 – July 2015

Beyond Economic Growth: The Political, Ethical, and Cultural Dimensions of a Post-Growth Green Economy

John Barry is professor of Green Political Economy at the School of Politics, International Studies, and Philosophy at Queens University Belfast. He has a BA and MA from University College Dublin and a PhD from the University of Glasgow. He is a former coleader of the Green Party in Northern Ireland and is a Green Party Councilor on Ards and North Down Borough Council in Northern Ireland.

Dr. María Valeria Berros

January 2015 – July 2015

Rights of Nature in Latin America: Ethics and Juridical Field in Dialogue

María Valeria Berros is an early professor and researcher at the National University of Littoral and the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research in Santa Fe City, Argentina. She completed her doctoral degree in Law focusing on Sociology of Law at the National University of Littoral. Her work deals with the intersection between environmental law, sociology of risk, and social sciences studies, and she has researched at the Sorbonne University, the School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences in Paris, the Limoges University, and the Nantes University during the last years in different types of research projects. Her current research focuses on matters concerning law, environmental ethics, and social movements in Latin America. She analyzes the processes by which non-anthropocentric ethics are incorporated into the legal field in different countries in Latin America.

Erika Bsumek

May 2015 – July 2015

The Concrete West: Engineering Society and Culture in the Arid West, 1900–1970

Erika Bsumek is associate professor of history at the University of Texas at Austin specializing in environmental history, Native American history, the history of consumption and production, and the history of anthropology. Her current research explores the social, cultural, and environmental implications of large-scale engineering and infrastructure projects in the American West. She recently coedited *The Nation State and Global Environment: New Approaches to International Environmental History*, a collection of essays that integrates the fields of diplomatic and environmental history that shed light on contemporary environmental issues. As an educator, she is especially interested in teaching humanities students how the technology surrounding them has shaped the environment—and teaching STEM majors how history and politics shape technologies and environments.

Jane Carruthers**Honorary Carson Fellow**

Jane Carruthers is an environmental historian at the University of South Africa, where she pioneered the discipline. Her book *The Kruger National Park: A Social and Political History* has become a standard reference worldwide. Her research areas include environmental justice and the history of national parks, the origins of wildlife management and game ranching, land restitution issues, landscape design and ecology, heritage, cartography, and transnational history. Carruthers is widely published in books and scholarly journals, and is a member of numerous editorial boards and academic journals. She has been awarded a number of prizes and is regularly interviewed on radio and television, is a past president of the Southern African Historical Society and member of the South Africa National Research Foundation's History Subject Specialist Panel. Carruthers was named an Honorary Carson Fellow in December 2014 in recognition of her six years of service as the chair of the Academic Advisory Board.

Jim Clifford

January 2015 – June 2015

London's Ghost Acres, 1850–1919

Jim Clifford is an environmental historian in the Department of History at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada. He completed his PhD at York University in Toronto in 2011. His research focuses on London and the British World during the long nineteenth century. He uses digital methods including historical GIS and text mining to explore the environmental and social history of industrialization in London and the global environmental consequences of Britain's growing industrial economy. Clifford also has an interest in the role of historians in providing context and contributing to solutions for the many challenges facing today's cities, societies, and environments. To this end, he is a founding member of ActiveHistory.ca.

Chris Conte

May 2015 – July 2015

Land Use, Landscape History, and Locality on Pemba Island, Tanzania

Chris Conte graduated with a bachelor's degree in history from Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania in 1981. He subsequently served for two years as a US Peace Corps Volunteer teaching high school English and history in Narok, Kenya. His experiences in eastern Africa evolved into an intense scholarly interest in the study of African history and landscapes. Conte subsequently earned MAs in International Affairs and in Linguistics from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and a PhD in African history at Michigan State University. His research has examined environmental history of eastern Africa from the perspective of agroecological change, forest history, the formation of national parks, and the history of science.

Gregory Cushman

September 2015 – December 2015

The Anthropocene: A History of the Earth under Human Domination

Gregory T. Cushman is associate professor of International Environmental History at the University of Kansas, where he teaches courses on Latin America, science and technology studies, and the global environment, often in close collaboration with other faculty in the environmental sciences and humanities. His first book *Guano and the Opening of the Pacific World: A Global Ecological History* (Cambridge University Press, 2013) received the Turku Book Prize from the European Society of Environmental History and the RCC, the inaugural Jerry Bentley Prize in World History from the American Historical Association, and awards from the Agricultural History Society and the Southern Historical Association. He has published a number of articles on climate history and the history of climate science, and several of his students were core participants in an NSF-funded IGERT program on the human dimensions of climate change. The environmental engagement of indigenous peoples in the Andean and Pacific worlds is another important focus of his work, particularly their interaction with the El Niño phenomenon.

While in residence at the RCC, he will be working on his current book on *The Anthropocene: A History of the Earth under Human Domination*, which will examine the history of the realization that our species is making a mark on the planet so distinct and lasting that it will be readily detectable in the earth's layered strata millions of years into the future. His research at the RCC will give special attention to the role that human exploitation of the lithosphere has played in producing these geological-scale outcomes and the "first great acceleration" in human activities that occurred in the immediate wake of the Age of Revolution during the mid- to late nineteenth century.

Joana Gaspar de Freitas

April 2015 – June 2015

Against the Sand and the Sea: Dune Intervention in Coastal Defense Strategies

Joana Gaspar de Freitas is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Literature and Tradition—Heritages, Arts, and Cultures (IELT) of Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa. She has a postdoctoral fellowship from the Portuguese Science and Technology Foundation (FCT) and is a collaborative member of the History Center of the Universidade de Lisboa (CH-FLUL). She received her PhD in contemporary history in 2011 from the Universidade de Lisboa with a thesis about the perceptions, uses, and consequences of human occupancy of the Portuguese coasts in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She belongs to an interdisciplinary network of Portuguese-Brazilian researchers (BRASPOR) working on the margins of the Atlantic. Her research focuses on the environmental history of coastal zones in Portugal, Brazil, Angola, and Mozambique. She is interested in human/coastal environment interactions and their consequences, risks, and vulnerabilities; ecological traditional knowledge; tangible and intangible heritages; the transformation of landscapes; and integrated coastal zones management.

Virginia García-Acosta July, 2015 Disaster Risk Reduction, Prevention, and Resilience: A Global Comparison

Virginia García-Acosta is a social anthropologist (BA and MA) and historian (PhD) from Mexico. Since 1974, she has been a teacher and researcher at CIESAS (Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology) in Mexico City and was the general director from 2004 to 2014. She has published over 100 articles and book chapters, either as a single author or as a coordinator, as well as 24 books in Mexico, the USA, Europe, South America, and China. She has also been principle investigator and co-principle investigator for several research projects funded by Mexican and international entities. Her research relates to food history and disaster and risk from a historical-anthropological perspective, and her research interests center on earthquakes and agricultural disasters (hurricanes, floods, droughts, hailstorms, etc.) in Mexican and Latin-American history.

Andrea Gaynor

March 2015 – June 2015

Australia's Southern Mallee Lands and the Control of Nature

Andrea Gaynor is professor of history at The University of Western Australia, situated on the shores of the beautiful Swan River estuary in sunny Perth. She is primarily an environmental historian, and her research pursues various questions relating to the historical relationships between people and places in diverse Australian contexts. Her specific expertise encompasses the history of food production in Australian cities, Western Australian environmental history, agricultural history, animals in history, and the history of fish and fishing. She also enjoys teaching a first-year unit in global environmental history. Her research interests include Australia, conservation reserves, modernity, and posthumanism. Currently, she is working with researchers from La Trobe University on an environmental history of the southern Mallee lands of Australia, undertaking research on the water history

of Perth for the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities, and contemplating a new project on nature and modernity in Australia.

Axel Goodbody

February 2015 – April 2015

Climate Skepticism: Cultures and Subjectivities

Professor Axel Goodbody is a leading authority on German environmental literature. He has written and edited books, and has also organized conferences on literary and filmic representations of nature and the environment since the Romantic Period, ecocritical theory, and other aspects of twentieth-century German literature, including cultural memory, exile studies, and GDR studies. He graduated from Trinity College Dublin where he was a Foundation Scholar and spent ten years teaching and completing an MA and PhD at the University of Kiel in Germany, before moving to the University of Bath, where he teaches German and European culture and history and German language. He was cofounder of the European Association for the Study of Literature, Culture, and Environment (EASLCE) in 2004. He leads the departmental research group "Memory, History and Identity," is associate editor of *ECOZON@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment*, and is coediting the book series *Nature, Culture and Literature* (Rodopi) and *New Studies in European Cinema* (Lang). He is currently working on energy narratives as part of the three-year AHRC-funded project "Stories of Change: Energy in the Past, Present, and Future," and is also writing on climate skepticism in Germany for a coauthored comparative study of climate change debates in the USA, Britain, and Germany.

Nicholas Humbert

October 2015 – February 2016

Wild Plants (film project)

Nicolas Humbert is a film director and founder (with Werner Penzel) of the production company Cine Nomad. His early writings, paintings and Super-8 films were influenced by French Surrealism. He studied at the Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film in Munich and subsequently worked as a freelance writer and film director. His early films include the feature film *Nebel Jagen* (1985) and the documentary *Wolfsgrub* (1986). *Step across the Border* (1990), a collaboration with Werner Penzel, is about the English musician and composer Fred Frith and attracted international attention. Their next film, *Middle of the Moment* (1995), was made over a period of four years and portrays the nomadic lives of desert dwellers and circus people. His work is frequently experimental in form: *Three Windows* (also a collaboration with Werner Penzel) has the form of a triptych, narrated in black-and-white on three screens.

His project at the RCC will be a new film, *Wild Plants*, which examines how people and plants come together to populate seemingly uninhabitable terrain, creating new habitats through phenomena such as urban gardening, indigenous agriculture projects, and communal farming.

Sophia Kalantzakos

May 2015 – July 2015

EU-China: New Partnerships for the Anthropocene

Sophia Kalantzakos is Global Distinguished Professor in Environmental Studies and Public Policy at New York University (NYU). She studies climate change in the context of international affairs. Her project at the RCC focuses on the threats of international resource competition, the challenges of a new energy mix, and the potential of an EU-China partnership. She entered academia after a decade as a policymaker, an elected member of Parliament, and a deputy minister in the Greek government. Since moving to NYU she has made regular appearances on Bloomberg, CNN, and Fox as a political commentator on Greece, Europe, China, environmental issues, and rare earths. During her political career, she was an active contributor of op-ed pieces in the Greek press and in the wider European press.

Piers Locke

November 2014 – January 2015

Servants of Ganesh: Humans, Elephants, and Landscapes in Nepal

Piers Locke is a senior lecturer in anthropology and codirector of the New Zealand South Asia Centre at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. He works in South Asia, especially Nepal, where he has been conducting field research since 2001. His research concerns historical and ethnographic aspects of captive elephant management, biodiversity conservation, ecotourism, and human-elephant conflict. In this field, he currently supervises research students working on human-elephant conflict in Assam, India, elephant volunteer tourism and social media in Thailand, and photographic practice and elephant conservation in Namibia and Sri Lanka. Piers is currently editing a volume that brings together the work of anthropologists, conservation biologists, geographers, historians, political scientists, and Sanskritists to think through human-elephant relations in South Asia. His most recent research project concerns the historical photography of elephants in pomp and pageantry, in hunting expeditions, in ritual processions, and in capture operations in colonial South Asia. Whilst in residence at the Rachel Carson Center, Piers will be working on *Servants of Ganesh*, a book documenting his field research with captive elephants and their handlers in the Chitwan National Park, Nepal.

Bernhard Malkmus

November 2015 – January 2016

The Scandal of Nature Literature and the Environment

Bernhard Malkmus is an associate professor of German at Ohio State University, USA, where he teaches German and European intellectual history and literature from the eighteenth century to the present. In his essays and scholarship, he explores the history of ecological imaginaries and their relation to other intellectual developments in modernity. He is currently working on two book projects: *Menschwerdung: Das humane im Anthropozän* deals with the epistemological implications of the Anthropocene concept; *The Scandal of Nature: Imagination, Reading, and the Environment* makes a case for the role of imagination

in human relations to natural environments. His interest in theories of space and place have also led him to engage with architecture, and he is currently working on essays on the Swiss architect Peter Zumthor, whose buildings are considered some of the most profound environmental statements in contemporary art.

Forthcoming publications in the environmental humanities include a special issue of *New German Critique* entitled “Between Humanism and Posthumanism: The Challenge of Ecology to the Humanities” (coedited with Heather Sullivan), an essay on Max Frisch's environmental histories in *PMLA*, and a chapter on environmental ethics, Peter Handke, and Stanley Cavell in a volume on German ecocriticism.

Salma Monani

September 2015 – June 2016

Indigenous Eco-visions: The Ecological Sensibilities of Fourth Cinema

Salma Monani is associate professor of Environmental Studies at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania. She is an active researcher in the growing field of ecomedia studies. Her specific research interests in ecomedia studies engage the voices and visions of traditionally marginalized groups and highlight concerns of environmental justice. With Stephen Rust and Sean Cubitt, she coedited *Ecocinema Theory and Practice* and *Ecomedia: Key Concepts*, and is currently lead editor (with Joni Adamson) of *Ecocriticism and Indigenous Studies: Conversations from Earth to Cosmos*. She has also published her research in journals such as *ISLE*, *The Journal of Nature and Culture*, and *Local Environment*, and in various anthologies.

Ruth Morgan

March 2015 – June 2015

Australindia: An Environmental History of Australia in the Indian Ocean World, 1788–1901

Ruth Morgan is an environmental historian and historian of science with a particular focus on Australia, the British Empire, and the Indian Ocean world. After completing her doctoral studies at The University of Western Australia in Perth, she joined the Department of History at Monash University in Melbourne in mid-2012.

Simone M. Müller

March 2015 – July 2015

Contamination Guaranteed: America's Hazardous Waste in Global Perspective, 1960s–1990s

Simone M. Müller is assistant professor of North American History at Albert Ludwig's University of Freiburg and has been a research fellow at the Smithsonian Institutions, as well as at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC. She received her PhD in 2012 from Freie Universität Berlin with a study on the social and cultural constructions of global telegraph networks during the first age of globalization (Columbia University Press, forthcoming). She also coedited a volume on *Global Communication Electric: Business, News and Politics in the World of Telegraphy* (Campus 2013) and a special issue on communicating global capitalism with the *Journal of Global History*. Her research focuses on global history,

economic history, the history of science and technology, media studies, and environmental history. Her current research project, *Contamination Guaranteed: America's Hazardous Waste in Global Perspective*, looks at the discourses and practices of hazardous waste management in the United States from the 1960s to the 1990s.

Ulrike Plath

December 2014 – February 2015

Greening Baltic History: Gardens, Food and Bodies in Early Modern Times

Ulrike Plath is a professor of German history and culture in the Baltic region at Tallinn University in Estonia and a senior researcher at the Literature Institute of the Estonian Academy of Sciences. She is running a project on Baltic food and environmental history, financed by the Estonian Research Council (2012–2015), and is the acting head of the Estonian Center for Environmental History (KAJAK). She is also member of the board of the European Society of Environmental History as the regional representative of the Baltic region. Since 2014 she has been cooperating with the Estonian National Museum on a permanent exhibition on Estonian environmental history. Ulrike has published on different topics on Baltic transnational history in early modern times including literature, and colonial, food, and gardening history. She is currently writing a book with the working title *Greening Baltic History: Gardens, Food, and Bodies in Early Modern Times*.

Greta Schiller

September 2015 – January 2016

Earth Repair

Greta Schiller is an internationally acclaimed documentarian whose first feature, *Before Stonewall*, won two Emmy Awards and was broadcast on more than 30 television stations. Her films have screened on PBS, BBC, ZDF, Sundance Channel and around the world. A Fulbright arts fellow, Schiller holds a BFA in Film/Video and MEd in Science Education, both from the City College of New York. Her alma mater awarded her the Townsend Harris Medal for outstanding contributions to her field. For *The Marion Lake Story* she was named Environmentalist of The Year by the North Fork Environmental Council.

In her project, Schiller will develop a nonfiction film on the topic of ecological restoration. *Earth Repair* features three restoration projects—one in Europe, the second in India, and the third in Australia—each illustrating ecological restoration as it is practiced in distinct cultural and geographical contexts.

Lise Sedrez

September 2015– May 2016

National Waters, Public Space: State and Environment in Guanabara Bay, Brazil, 1995-2005

Lise Sedrez currently teaches at the Instituto de História, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, but until recently she was an associate professor at California State

University, Long Beach. She moved back to Brazil in 2010, after 14 years in the US, where she received an MS in Environmental Policy Studies from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, earned a PhD in History from Stanford University, and drove across the country twice. She is the coeditor of the book series *Latin American Landscapes* (University of Arizona Press). Lise has been teaching in one way or another since she was 18; it is her only addiction, other than chocolate. She has also worked for environmental non-profit organizations in Brazil, such as Greenpeace, IBASE, and WWF. Lise has published her work in Italy, Colombia, Brazil, and the USA. In 2010 she was awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and in Brazil she was the chief editor of the academic journal *Topoi* from 2011 to 2015. She is a proud founding member of SOLCHA (Sociedad Latinoamericana de Historia Ambiental) and coordinates the Laboratório História e Natureza in Rio de Janeiro, together with José Augusto Pádua.

Victor Seow

May 2015 – July 2015

Carbon Technocracy: East Asian Energy Regimes and the Industrial Modern, 1900–1957

Victor Seow is assistant professor of modern Chinese history at Cornell University. His broad interests include energy, science and technology, the environment, industry, labor, and state power. At the Carson Center he is working on his first book *Carbon Technocracy: East Asian Energy Regimes and the Industrial Modern, 1900–1957*, a history of fossil fuels and the rise of technocratic regimes in early twentieth-century China and Japan. Victor received his BA from McGill University in 2006 and his PhD from Harvard University in 2014.

Sebastian Ureta

December 2015 – February 2016

Waste Worlds: The Multiple Lives of Tailings in Contemporary Chile

Sebastián Ureta is an associate professor in the sociology department at the Universidad Alberto Hurtado (Santiago, Chile). He trained as a sociologist, with a focus on science and technology studies. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology from the Universidad Católica de Chile in Santiago and completed his PhD in 2006 in the media and communications department at the London School of Economics (UK). Subsequently, he worked as an assistant professor at the Instituto de Sociología, Universidad Católica de Chile. From November 2007 to March 2008 he was also a British Academy visiting fellow in the sociology department at Lancaster University (UK). From May 2009 to March 2012 he was a Marie Curie International incoming fellow at the Center for Technology and Society (ZTG), Technische Universität Berlin. Currently, he is developing a research project focused on the government of industrial waste in Chile, in particular the massive waste produced by the country's booming mining industry. In March 2015 he became the PI of the Millennium Nucleus for Energy and Society Research (NUMIES), a new research group studying the interrelations between energy issues and society in Chile.

Kristen Wehner

October 2015 – April 2016

The Ecological Museum

Kirsten Wehner is a curator and anthropologist whose practice focuses on developing museums that help communities build ecological understanding and negotiate responses to current environmental crises. Her research interests encompass environmental history in museums, the pasts and futures of natural history objects, and studies of materiality, display, interspeciality and empathy. Kirsten is head curator of the People and the Environment program at the National Museum of Australia and was previously content director for the Museum Enhancement Program. She has developed collections, exhibitions, and digital projects relating to a variety of aspects of Australian history, culture, and environment, including, most recently, the National Museum's Journeys (opened 2009) and Landmarks (2011) galleries, and the temporary exhibition Spirited: Australia's Horse Story (2014). Kirsten holds a PhD from New York University and is a member of the Australia-Pacific Observatory of Humanities for the Environment and a professional associate of the University of Canberra.

While in residence at the Rachel Carson Center, Kirsten is working on a book project, *The Ecological Museum*. This project considers museum, and particularly exhibitionary, practices that in some way engage or overcome institutionalized distinctions between history and natural history, culture and nature, with the aim of working towards a coherent framework for an ecological material history.

More about the National Museum of Australia's People and the Environment program is available at: www.nma.gov.au/pate

Carson Professor 2015**Wolfram Mauser**

Wolfram Mauser works in the fields of hydrology, food security, remote sensing, and Earth System modeling. His major interests are in observing human impacts on Earth from space, the understanding of human-environment relations through simulation, and the impacts of limited water resources and climate change on global as well as regional food security. His book *Water Resources: Efficient, Sustainable, and Equitable Use* gives insights into integrative approaches towards sustainable future water use. Wolfram received his MS in physics, MS in geography, and his PhD in hydrology from the University of Freiburg, Germany. He was a visiting scientist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and the University of Maryland and conducted extended research visits to Africa, China, India, and South America. He holds the Chair for Geography and Remote Sensing at LMU and is a member of the advisory board of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society.

Visiting Scholars

Santa Arias (University of Kansas, USA)
Douglas Bell (Texas A&M University, USA)
Thom van Dooren (University of New South Wales, Australia)
Nicole Graham (University of Technology Sydney, Australia)
Zhaoqing Han (Fudan University, China)
Serenella Iovino (University of Turin, Italy)
Uwe Lübken (LMU Munich)
Angelika Möller (LMU Munich, Germany)
Emily O’Gorman (Macquarie University, Australia)
Ruth Oldenziel (Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands)
Minju Seow (Harvard Extension School, USA)
Nicole Seymour (University of Arkansas, USA)

Erdentuya Urtnast (Mongolian State University of Education, Mongolia)
Bethany Wiggan (University of Pennsylvania, USA)
Andrew Watson (York University, USA)

Affiliated LMU Professors

Claudia Binder (geography, until August 2015)
Eveline Dürr (ethnology)
Anke Friedrich (geology)
Berhard Gill (sociology)
Gisela Gruppe (biology)
Jens Kersten (law)
Christoph Knill (political science)
Hubertus Kohle (art history)
Wolfram Mauser (geography)
Cindy Ott (American studies)
Karen Pittel (economics)
Martin Schulze Wessel (history)
Markus Vogt (social ethics and theology)
Gordon Winder (geography)

13. RCC Staff

Directors

The directors represent the RCC's two parent institutions: LMU Munich and the Deutsches Museum.



Christof Mauch, LMU Munich



Helmuth Trischler, Deutsches Museum

General Operations

The general operations team is responsible for ensuring that everyday life at the RCC runs smoothly. They manage the RCC's budget and finances, staff contracts, organize events, provide IT support, and assist Fellows in adjusting to life in Munich, as well as handling RCC mail, communications, and library loans.



Arielle Helmick (Managing Director)



Cynthia Freudenthal (Office Manager – on leave from Jul. 2015)



Max Bergmann (Research Assistant until Oct. 2015)



Carmen Dines (Office Manager from Jul. 2015 to present)



Daki Galgalo (Research Assistant until Aug. 2015)



Annka Liepold (Events Manager Oct. 2015 to present)



Marie Heinz (Research Assistant, Events Manager until Oct. 2015)



Sonja Menzel (Research Assistant)



Gabriele Pilger (Research Assistant)



Christof Moosmüller (Research Assistant)



Lori Schiesl (Research Assistant)

Thekla Ebbert (Research Assistant)

Academic Programs and Projects

In addition to supervising the RCC's doctoral and certificate students, the academic programs team coordinates the LMU faculty networks and partnerships with universities abroad. They assist with grant writing and arranging speakers, as well as maintaining the RCC's library.



Rob Emmett (Director of Academic programs)



Ursula Münster (Certificate Program Coordinator from Aug. 2015)



Franz Langer (Communications Associate, IT)



Martin Spenger (Research Associate)



Katharina Müller (Program Assistant from Oct. 2015)



Pavla Šimková (Research Associate)



Sonja Weinbuch (Certificate Program Coordinator until Apr. 2015)

Portal and Exhibitions

The RCC curates content in both digital and physical formats. The Environment & Society Portal team manages the content, design, and development of the RCC's digital collections, including researching topics, reviewing submissions, and acquiring permissions. At the Deutsches Museum, curators and interns present on current topics in the form of special exhibitions.



Kimberly Coulter (Director of the Environment & Society Portal)



Susanne Darabas (Research Associate)



Oliver Liebig (Research Associate, until May 2015)



Eliza Encheva (Research Associate)



Nina Möllers (Project Manager, exhibitions)



Katrin Kleeman (Research Associate)



Iris Trautmann (Digital Humanities Research Specialist)

Publications

The editorial team, which consists of native English speakers from around the world, is responsible for editing various publications, including the in-house journal *RCC Perspectives*. In addition, they maintain social media platforms, manage graphic design projects such as flyers and posters, and provide German to English translations.



Katie Ritson (Managing Editor, on leave in 2015)



Brenda Black (Editor)



Stephanie Hood (Editor, Social Media)



Marielle Dado (Editor and Communications Associate until Oct. 2015)



Laurianne Posch (Editorial Assistant, until Sep. 2015)

Hannah Roberson (Editor, from Nov. 2015)



Samantha Rothbart (Editor, from Dec. 2015)



Harriet Windley (Editor, from Nov. 2015)