

The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

Annual Report
2014



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The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

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1 The RCC at a Glance 2014

- The RCC received an unqualified positive report from the evaluation committee appointed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research; the RCC's future through 2021 is thus assured.
- RCC fellows hailed from several countries on most continents, including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Nigeria, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The long-awaited exhibition “Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands” opened its doors on 4 December, becoming the first major exhibition in the world on the epoch during which human activity has been the dominant influence on Earth's ecosystems—the Anthropocene. It had some 14,000 visitors during the first month.
- The RCC sponsored over 20 conferences, workshops, and panels in Germany and internationally, including in the USA, China, Argentina, and India. In addition, the RCC organized numerous lectures by renowned scholars, including a lecture by Jane Goodall that attracted an audience of over 1,400 people.
- Collaborating with representatives from the city of Munich, the local universities, and the general public, the RCC organized the 5th and 6th Münchner Hochschultage on “time” and “waste.”
- RCC Perspectives released six issues on topics that included interdisciplinary collaboration, energy regimes, colonialism, and Asian environments. It also published one issue in Spanish translation and two in Portuguese translation.
- The Environment & Society Portal, an open-access digital project, has reached 147,000 unique users from 205 countries/territories since its launch in 2012; 60,000 of these were new users in 2014.
- The doctoral program Environment and Society completed its fourth year in 2014 and graduated eight candidates at the LMU Munich commencement ceremony in July 2014.
- The Environmental Studies Certificate Program was officially approved by the LMU Advisory Senate; a total of 65 students were enrolled in 2014.

2 Executive Summary

This annual report will be the closing chapter of the first six-year funding period of the Rachel Carson Center. As the RCC looks ahead at the challenges and opportunities that the next period promises, a last backward look at the final months of the RCC's founding phase provides an opportunity to reflect and give credit to the many institutions and people who have influenced and supported the center on its journey.

Perhaps foremost at this juncture, the RCC records its gratitude for the hard work of the evaluation committee that visited the center in May. This evaluation committee recommended the further funding of the center in no uncertain terms, which was a wonderful vote of confidence; but more than that, the committee members—Katharina Kloke from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research, Dorothee Brantz from the Technical University Berlin, Peter Coates from the University of Bristol, Reinhard Jöhler from the University of Tübingen, Hans-Rudolf Bork from the University of Kiel (who sadly couldn't attend the evaluation itself), and the chair David Blackburn from Vanderbilt University—read their way through all of the weighty reports and lists of publications, talked to fellows and staff, listened to presentations by the directors, and spent hours discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the center. They scanned shelves displaying the more than seventy books and journal issues that have been the output of the RCC fellows over five years, and looked in depth at the RCC's own publication series, the Environment & Society Portal, and the RCC's communications and outreach profile. The committee was supported by the two representatives from our funding agents, Volker Schütte and Monika Wächter, and also by our own advisory board chair and vice-chair Jane Carruthers and Verena Winiwarter, who were on hand to consult with the evaluation committee and support the directors. The recommendations and considerations of the committee are an invaluable resource for the future of the RCC.

The opening of the Anthropocene exhibition at the Deutsches Museum represents another milestone in 2014, one that is both the culmination of a long process of planning and conceptualizing, and the start of the public face of this project. The exhibition has drawn on the expertise of RCC staff and fellows at every stage; the original idea for the exhibition came from an RCC fellow, and there were early discussions at the center on

how this complex of ideas might be represented in museum form. Then, RCC alumnus Luke Keogh joined the Deutsches Museum as a curatorial fellow, cementing the link between the RCC fellows and the exhibition. Unconventional events, such as the RCC-sponsored Anthropocene Slam at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, gave some of our fellows and doctoral students the opportunity to engage with the exhibition format and have objects selected for inclusion in a “Cabinet of Curiosities.” RCC fellows also participated in the conference “Environing Exhibits: Science, Technology, and Museums in the Anthropocene” at the Deutsches Museum in October. As planning for the exhibition reached its final stages, it was the turn of RCC staff to become more closely involved: the preparation of the exhibition at the Deutsches Museum was accompanied by a digital exhibition on the Environment & Society Portal and the translation of the exhibition signage and catalogue into English. The opening event on 4 December and the RCC tour of the exhibition the following day were a celebration of months of hard work and years of planning; it was also a celebration of the success of the cooperation between the RCC and the Deutsches Museum, between in-house experts in both institutions, and most importantly between academic research and public outreach on a completely new scale.

Another success story from 2014 has added a new and lively group to the RCC community; that of students. The master’s-level certificate program that was launched at the end of 2013 was officially approved as a course of study by LMU Munich’s legal department and has continued to attract excellent students; there are currently more than sixty young scholars enrolled in the program. In June 2014, the first field trip for the students was held in Iffeldorf, close to the Osterseen Nature Reserve, and included walking workshops on geology, ecology, and local history and trips to the limnological station and a museum and art gallery. The field trip was also enthusiastically attended by RCC doctoral students and fellows, who proved to be experts in campsite camaraderie as well as engaged and thought-provoking discussants. The connections between fellows and students at the RCC have flourished enormously during 2014; students attend the Lunchtime Colloquium each week and have joined RCC reading groups, and many fellows have embraced the chance to discuss their work with young scholars.

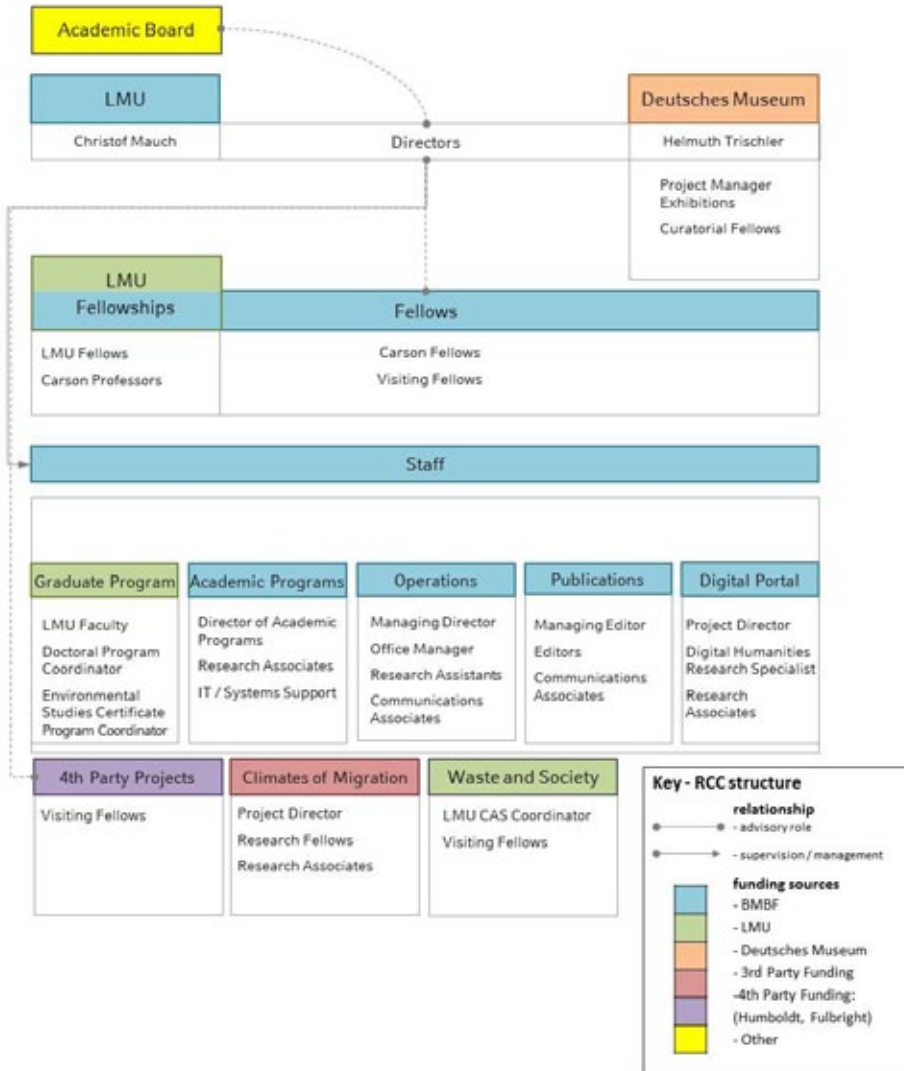
There were other successes to celebrate in 2014. The public lecture by celebrity environmentalist and primate researcher Jane Goodall was one of the biggest and most prestigious events to take place at LMU Munich and was organized by the RCC. Many

fellows and staff enjoyed the chance to meet Jane Goodall informally after the event. The fact that this lecture had been organized at short notice is also tribute to the excellent cooperation that has grown up between staff at LMU Munich and the RCC. The RCC's pivotal role working with and for LMU Munich has been boosted by events such as the 5th and 6th Münchner Hochschultage on the topic of sustainability, held in May and November (focusing on "time" and "waste" respectively), which brought together a range of higher education and environmental institutions across Munich.

The RCC was present at the World Congress in Environmental History held in Guimarães, Portugal, in July 2014. Besides the many panels featuring RCC staff, fellows, and alumni, the RCC sponsored a reception to launch the *RCC Perspectives* volume "Edges of Environmental History." The World Congress demonstrated the truly global breadth of the field of environmental history, and the RCC alumni reception provided an opportunity for fellows from all continents to gather informally and renew their RCC connections. There were many smaller events in different places that gave RCC fellows and alumni the chance to foster new connections; notable in 2014 were the conferences at the Center for Ecological History at Renmin University in Beijing, at the Estonian Centre for Environmental History (KAJAK), and at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, each of which brought the RCC into contact with new research and new ideas, and which will result in new publications and cooperations.

So the first phase ends on a successful note, of celebration, of collaboration, of exciting future plans. But it is right too that it ends with a record of the debt of gratitude that is owed to the many people and institutions that have supported the RCC in these first six years. The wise counsel and encouragement of the RCC's advisory board members have guided the directors in many of their decisions. The support of partner institutions, both in Germany and across the world, has been responsible for many successful projects, events, and publications. The dedication and hard work of RCC staff at all levels has been a consistent feature of RCC life, and the enthusiasm and energy of the many fellows, not just for their own intellectual endeavors, but for the intellectual and cultural flourishing of the center, have consistently been a driving force. The RCC celebrates its successes in full awareness of the many wonderful people and organizations that have been fundamental to their achievement, and looks forward to continuing these successful relationships in the coming years.

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. The board has members from most continents (Africa, Asia, North America, Australia, Europe) and from many different disciplines (history, anthropology, 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 (Ex officio)

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 Projects

Climates of Migration

The three-year research project “Climates of Migration” was successfully concluded in 2014. This joint project of the Rachel Carson Center and the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), looks at the historical intersections between environmental change and migration, and is particularly interested in climate-induced movements of people in the past. The scope was multidisciplinary, including seven researchers from the fields of history, sociology, and anthropology.

Whereas 2013 was dedicated to holding workshops and lectures, in 2014 researchers reflected on the discussions, analyzed their case studies, and arrived at a number of conclusions. The term “migration” is too narrow to describe the various types of displacement resulting from natural disasters, at least if by migration we understand the permanent movement of large groups of people over substantial distances. Instead, the research—which looked at causes as diverse as famine in Ireland, deforestation in Mexico, and the sinking of islands in the Pacific—made clear that the movement patterns cover a much wider spectrum and often begin before the actual catastrophe. Some of these movement patterns, which may be termed “disaster mobility,” may in fact play an even more important role than “classic” migrations as global warming and climate change begin to have an increasing impact on societies around the world. The project also made clear that it is impossible to understand environmental migration without considering the reasons why people settled in vulnerable regions in the first place. Economic reasons often play a role, as well as the marginalization of certain population groups, which in turn increases the vulnerability of people living in disaster-prone regions.

The project culminated in a number of publications by project members. Rebecca Hofmann successfully defended her dissertation on “Micronesian Perceptions of Spatiality and Mobility in Changing Climates,” and Uwe Lübken’s book *Die Natur der Gefahr: Überschwemmungen am Ohio River im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert* was published as part of the RCC-sponsored series *Umwelt und Gesellschaft* by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. Selected

papers from the 2012 conference “Shrinking, Sinking, Resurfacing: Small Islands and Natural Hazards in Historical and Current Perspective” will appear as a special issue of the journal *Global Environment* in early 2015.

Waste and Society

The RCC continued its cooperation, initiated in 2013, with the Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) at LMU Munich on the topic “Waste in Environment and Society.” Most of the CAS working group is affiliated with the RCC; it 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 examine waste beyond the problem of management, disposal, and recycling. Instead, researchers include cultural perceptions and normative dimensions of waste as well as material aspects in their analysis. The approach is thus inherently multidisciplinary.

In 2014 the CAS hosted a number of visiting fellows—sociologists, art historians, historians, and anthropologists—whose work concentrates on waste in some form or another. Public events such as film screenings and podium discussions brought together engineers, practitioners, and politicians as well as humanities scholars to discuss new ways of looking at waste.

Together with the Center for Advanced Studies, the RCC continued a public lectures series on the topic “Was machen wir mit dem Müll?” in early 2014, as well as international symposiums and podium discussions in October and November. The group’s activities also attracted the interest of the media: interviews with affiliates and students of the RCC resulted in several magazine articles. In addition, the German broadcaster WDR produced two radio programs on the basis of interviews with members of the CAS research group.

A highlight in 2014 was an international workshop that brought scholars from many disciplines and from several European countries as well as from Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, and the USA to Munich. Several publications will result from the research project in general and from the workshop in particular.





6 Collaborations

In 2014, the Rachel Carson Center strengthened collaborations with leading research centers in environmental history and environmental humanities. The RCC Alumni Association, our most important and sustaining network, added dozens of new members. We deepened formal collaborations and hosted major co-sponsored events and publications with key international partners: 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).



Renmin University hosted its second international conference in environmental history co-sponsored with the RCC in May 2014, which focused on “the city and the country.” In April, the RCC also sponsored several panels on ecomedia and environmental humanities

Participants at the Anthropocene Slam in Madison, Wisconsin.

with KAJAK and NIES (the Nordic Network for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies) as part of the biennial meeting of the European Society for Literature, Culture, and Environment in Tartu, Estonia. The RCC began a three-part series on environmental futures co-sponsored with KTH Stockholm and the University of Wisconsin–Madison in November; the Center for Culture, History, and Environment at the University of Wisconsin–Madison hosted the first event, a “slam” featuring representative objects of the Anthropocene.

2014 also saw the launch of a partnership with the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, the leading creator of digital research tools for historical research based at George Mason University in Washington, DC. An initial award from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation of 20,000 USD will fund implementation of a social media and digital curation tool, PressForward.

We also continued work with the European Society for Environmental History and related professional networks and associations (including EASCLE, NIES, and others) through annual meetings and smaller workshops. A successful and extremely competitive grant for a European Innovative Training Network—the first of its kind for environmental humanities—developed directly from collaborations led by RCC alumni and our European partners.



The president of Jiangxi University for Finance and Economics (JUFE) in Nanchang welcomes RCC director Christof Mauch, RCC Alumnus Donald Worster, and historian William Cronon before they speak to a large audience of students on campus.

7 Reading Groups

Four different reading groups initiated by RCC fellows, visiting scholars, and students met regularly during 2014. The reading groups provided a forum to explore key texts and discuss common research interests in an informal, collegial setting.

Starting off the year was the climate change group, which consisted of five to seven fellows and met during May and June. Their guiding topic was “cultures of prediction,” covering texts by thinkers such as Elena Esposito, Reinhart Koselleck, and Gary Fine. Inspired by their discussions, several members of the reading group joined forces for a panel-style Lunchtime Colloquium on 3 July.

Meetings of the environment and gender group were attended by eight to ten participants, including staff, fellows, and students. Each meeting was dedicated to examining different questions related to gender, such as: How and to whom is ecofeminist scholarship relevant today? What are the connections between the green economy and the caring economy? Why is there so little research on masculinities and environment? And who is the “anthropos” in the Anthropocene?

The most active group was the multispecies reading group, which met on a nearly weekly basis and focused on the nonhuman organisms with which we share our world. Participants read both works in progress and published articles. They were interested in overcoming anthropocentrism and illuminating the intimate particularities of individual organisms or species, rather than looking at “animals” in general. Nine interdisciplinary scholars attended regularly, including doctoral students as well as fellows and visiting scholars.

In December, members of the RCC doctoral program got together with RCC fellows to form an agricultural reading group inspired by shared research topics. Their meetings included a block seminar-style session that discussed classical texts in agriculture studies, future challenges to global food security, and the emergence of food studies. The eight participants of the reading group will continue to meet in 2015 to look at topics such as “food and power.”

The reading groups are an example of the inclusive and vibrant intellectual environment at the RCC in which scholars at all stages in their career can interact as equals. They arose spontaneously out of ongoing dialogues and brought together students, staff, and fellows who otherwise might not have had the opportunity to collaborate through their regular activities at the Carson Center.



Staff members Lisa Spindler and Rachel Shindelar reading in the RCC library.

8 Library and Film Archive

Since 2012, the Rachel Carson Center library collection has been catalogued on the university's online catalogue, OPAC. The RCC library now holds over 2,000 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*.

The collection continues to grow steadily, thanks in large part to donations and the generous support of the Carl Friedrich von Siemens Stiftung, which gave €10,000 in 2014 to add relevant literature to our library. The new reading room, established in 2013, provides an additional quiet workspace for researchers at the center and is frequently used by fellows and staff as well as LMU students.

The RCC library also includes a constantly growing multimedia section (primarily DVD formatted films). Together with the media hosted on the Environment & Society Portal, the library now holds over 200 films, primarily environmental documentaries. All films screened in the Green Visions Film Series are also 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.



RCC librarian Martin Spenger.

9 Anthropocene

On 5 December 2014 the special exhibition “Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands” opened at the Deutsches Museum, the culmination of more than four years of hard work and extensive collaboration between the Rachel Carson Center and the Deutsches Museum, as well as other institutions in Germany and beyond.



Entrance to the Deutsches Museum with banners advertising the exhibition “Welcome to the Anthropocene.”

Coined by the atmospheric chemist and Nobel Laureate Paul J. Crutzen, the term “Anthropocene” refers to the idea that human-caused changes are affecting the geological record over the long term—whether we are, in fact, living in a new geological era. Beyond this geological interpretation, the Anthropocene denotes a new framework of thinking and action, which builds a bridge between the natural sciences and the humanities and which interlinks the history of our planet and humankind with the present and future.

Following a series of workshops and conferences on the Anthropocene in 2012 and 2013, the Deutsches Museum sponsored the annual ARTEFACTS conference in October 2014, which took the Anthropocene as its topic. One month later, in Berlin, the Anthropocene Campus (sponsored by the RCC, the Deutsches Museum, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), and the Max Planck Society) brought together 100 young researchers for a two-week workshop on a potential Anthropocene curriculum for higher education.

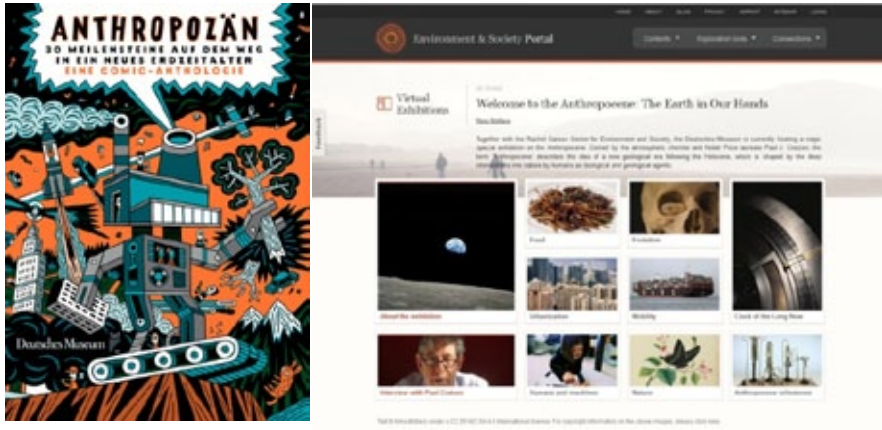
Finally, an event called “The Anthropocene: Cabinet of Curiosities Slam,” held in Madison, Wisconsin, challenged researchers to suggest artifacts for a cabinet of curiosities from the Anthropocene. The winning entries are part of a rotating display at the Deutsches Museum exhibition.



Cutting the ribbon on opening night. Left to right: Director General of the Deutsches Museum Wolfgang M. Heckl; UNEP General Secretary Achim Steiner; curator Nina Möllers; Nobel Laureate Paul Crutzen; RCC Director Helmuth Trischler.

“Welcome to the Anthropocene” is the first major exhibition in the world dedicated to the Anthropocene. In keeping with the tradition of the Deutsches Museum, the exhibition uses historical artefacts to trace the technology that put us on the path to the

Anthropocene and engages the audience by means of interactive demonstrations and direct participation through digital media. Artistic interpretations provide visions for the future and ask us to look at the world in new ways.



Left: Cover of the comic book illustrating milestones of the Anthropocene.

Right: The Environment & Society Portal's virtual companion to the Anthropocene.

The exhibition, which will run into 2016, has been extremely well received by both the public and the press. Some 14,000 people of all ages visited during the month of December alone. Regional and national media outlets such as BR2, the Süddeutsche Zeitung, and the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung published highly positive reviews; leading international newspapers such as Le Monde and Dagens Nyheter also profiled the exhibition.

Together with the exhibition curators, the RCC editing team prepared a catalogue of the exhibition, which includes essays by leading scholars of the Anthropocene; it appeared in German in December and will be published in English in early 2015. The RCC's Environment & Society Portal profiled the exhibition with an accompanying digital companion, enabling it to reach an even wider audience. In addition, they made available a series of 30 eight-panel comics created by students at the University of the Arts in Berlin to illustrate key innovations on our path to the Anthropocene. The comics were also published as a book in German.



Above: German-language catalogue of the exhibition "Welcome to the Anthropocene."

Left: Jan Zalasiewicz, chair of the Anthropocene Working Group of the International Commission on Stratigraphy, talking about the geological evidence for the Anthropocene during the opening of the exhibition.



Above left and right: Anthropocene exhibition, including a model of the 10,000-year "Clock of the Long Now" (left) and media tower, flower landscape, and wall of Anthropocene objects (right).



Visitors looking at the aerial photos in the "nature" installation of the exhibition.



Above:
Making concrete at the Anthropocene Slam in Madison,
Wisconsin.

Above:
Forum held at the HKW on the occasion of the first
meeting of the Anthropocene Working Group.



Right:
A presentation on the Anthropocene at the Centre for
New Technologies of the Deutsches Museum during
the exhibition opening.

Bottom left:
Natalie Jeremijenko's Tree X Office, part of a seminar
on "Valuing Nature" at the Anthropocene Campus.

Bottom right:
Participants at the Anthropocene Campus deep in
discussion.



10 Publications

RCC Perspectives

The online journal *RCC Perspectives* reflects on the diversity of events and dialogues at the Rachel Carson Center and focuses on publishing provocative and less formal pieces of scholarship that are accessible to a wide range of readers. Produced in-house by the RCC's editing team, the journal offers a forum for scholars and thinkers engaged in a broad spectrum of topics related to society and environment. Since 2013, *Perspectives* has been hosted by the RCC's Environment & Society Portal, which allows full-text searching and indexing; recent issues are available in both PDF and e-reader format.

The flexible format of *Perspectives* was particularly evident in 2014, which saw the publication of a special issue dedicated to the influential environmental historian and RCC board member Jane Carruthers that included full-page spreads with artwork by Australian artist Mandy Martin. In addition, the RCC reached out to international audiences by making selected issues available in other languages: "New Environmental Histories of Latin America and the Caribbean" (2013/7) appeared in Spanish and Portuguese, and "The Edges of Environmental History" (2014/1) appeared in Portuguese.

Issue 1: Christof Mauch and Libby Robin, eds. "The Edges of Environmental History: Honouring Jane Carruthers."

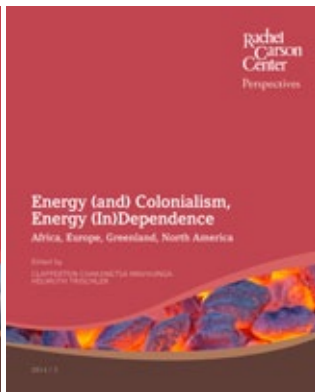
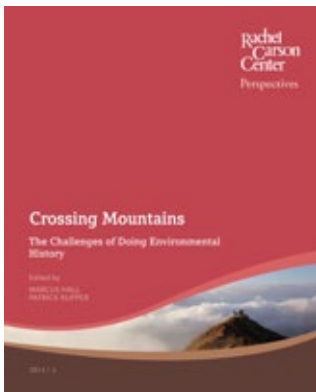
Issue 2: Robert Emmett and Frank Zelko, eds. "Minding the Gap: Working across Disciplines in Environmental Studies."

Issue 3: Ursula Münster, Shiho Satsuka, and Gunnel Cederlöf, eds. "Asian Environments: Connections across Borders, Landscapes, and Times."

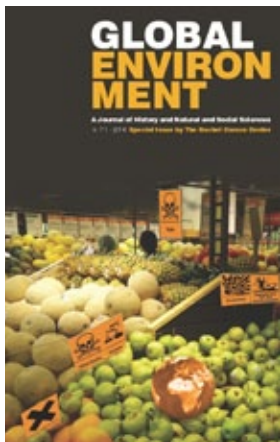
Issue 4: Marcus Hall and Patrick Kupper, eds. "Crossing Mountains: The Challenges of Doing Environmental History."

Issue 5: Clapperton Chakanetsa Mavhunga and Helmuth Trischler, eds. "Energy (and) Colonialism, Energy (In)Dependence: Africa, Europe, Greenland, North America."

Issue 6: Elin Kelsey, ed. "Beyond Doom and Gloom: An Exploration through Letters."



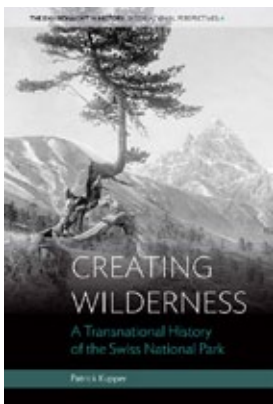
Global Environment



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. In keeping with *Global Environment's* goal to offer a forum for discussion of contemporary environmental topics, including perspectives from the Global South, this year's issue provided global, comparative histories of hazardous substances such as pesticides, asbestos, and mercury.

Volume 8, no. 2: Paul Erker, ed. "Hazardous Substances: Perceptions, Regulations, Consequences."

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. The three volumes published in 2014 reflect the transnational and transdisciplinary perspective that is the goal of the series.

Volume 2: Soraya Boudia and Nathalie Jas, eds. *Powerless Science? Science and Politics in a Toxic World.*

Volume 3: Frank Uekötter and Uwe Lübken, eds. *Managing the Unknown: Essays on Environmental Ignorance.*

Volume 4: Patrick Kupper. *Creating Wilderness: A Transnational History of the Swiss National Park* (published in German in 2012 as *Wildnis schaffen: Eine transnationale Geschichte des Schweizerischen Nationalparks*).

Umwelt & 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. Six volumes were published in 2014 and represent the work of both present and former RCC fellows as well as scholars from the German-speaking world.



Volume 7: Frank Zelko. *Greenpeace: Von der Hippiebewegung zum Ökokonzern.* (published in 2013 in English as *Make It a Green Peace! The Rise of Countercultural Environmentalism*).

Volume 8: Uwe Lübken. *Die Natur der Gefahr: Überschwemmungen am Ohio River im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert.*

Volume 9: Patrick Masius. *Schlangenlinien: Eine Geschichte der Kreuzotter.*

Volume 10: Alexander Kraus and Martina Winkler, eds. *Weltmeere: Wissen und Wahrnehmung im langen 19. Jahrhundert.*

Volume 11: Martina Heßler and Christian Kehrt, eds. *Die Hamburger Sturmflut von 1962: Risikobewusstsein und Katastrophenschutz aus zeit-, technik- und umweltgeschichtlicher Perspektive.*

Volume 12: Annette Meyer and Stephan Schleissing, eds. *Projektion Natur: Grüne Gentechnik im Fokus der Wissenschaften.*

Sponsored Publications

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

Franz-Josef Brüggemeier. *Schranken der Natur: Umwelt, Gesellschaft, Experimente, 1750 bis heute*. Essen: Klartext, 2014.

Robert R. Gioielli. *Environmental Activism and the Urban Crisis*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2014.

Martin Knoll and Reinhold Reith, eds. *An Environmental History of the Early Modern Period*. Vienna: LIT Verlag, 2014. (Papers from a conference held at the RCC in 2011.)

Christopher Pastore. *Between Land and Sea: The Atlantic Coast and the Transformation of New England*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 2014.

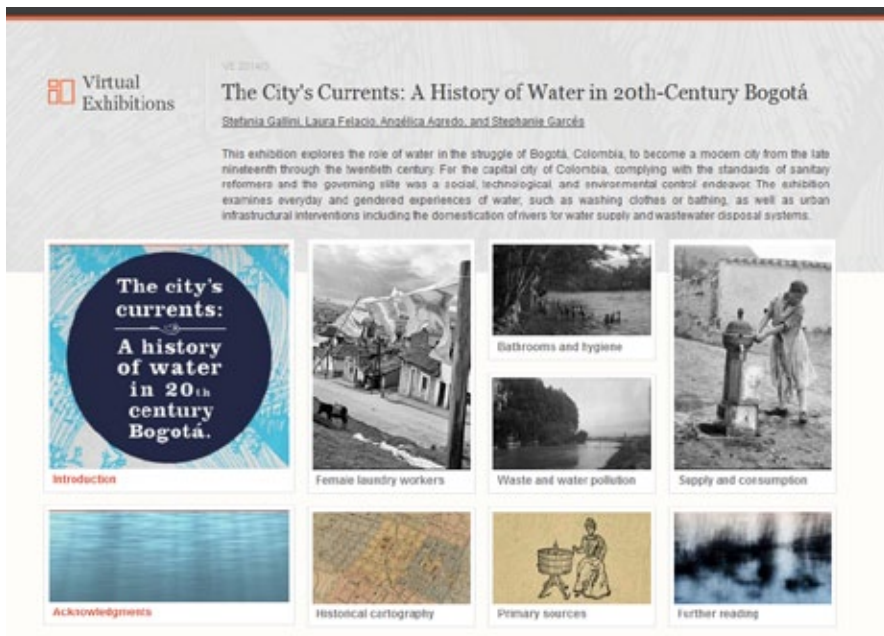
Alexa Weik von Mossner, ed. *Moving Environments: Affect, Emotion, Ecology, and Film*. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier Press, 2014. (Papers from a workshop held at the RCC in 2011).

Frank Uekötter, ed. *Comparing Apples, Oranges, and Cotton: Environmental Histories of the Global Plantation*. Frankfurt/Main: Campus, 2014. (Papers from a conference held at the RCC in 2011.)

Frank Uekötter. *The Greenest Nation? A New History of German Environmentalism*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2014.

11 Environment & Society Portal

In 2014 the Environment & Society Portal (environmentandsociety.org), the Rachel Carson Center's open access digital publication platform, began its third year online. The Portal aggregates and curates both new and old content within a framework that lets users browse by map, timeline, and keyword explorer (in addition to full-text search). Since its launch in 2012, the Portal has reached 147,000 unique users in 205 countries/territories.



Virtual exhibition "The City's Currents" on water infrastructure in Bogotá.

This year we focused on the Portal's sustainability. We planned for long-term archiving; the Bavarian State Library now archives the entire Portal twice a year. We engaged more external partners in content development, recruiting volunteer editors for new thematic Arcadia collections and generating enthusiasm among alumni

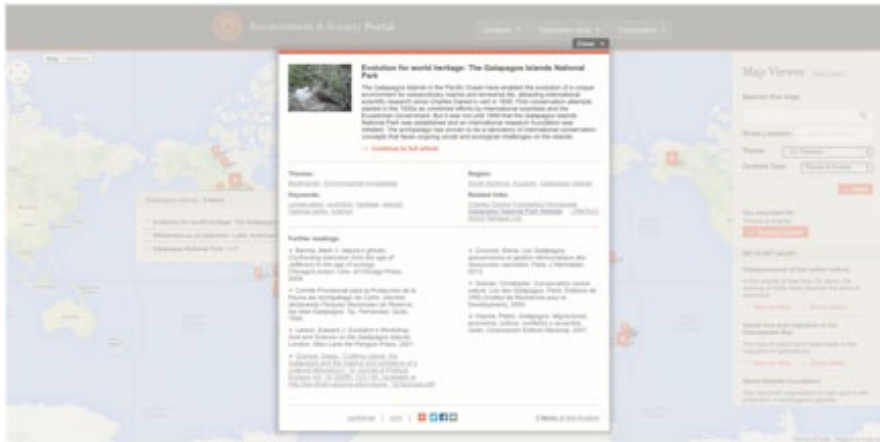
fellows for contributing Places & Events as a class project. We partnered with the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University on two grant proposals: a successful Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant to aggregate online environmental content through PressForward, and a pending NEH-DFG bilateral digital humanities grant. Not least, we streamlined the backend, making the Portal more lightweight and adaptable for a variety of future uses.

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History continues to partner with the European Society for Environmental History to publish short peer-reviewed articles. Arcadia has proven attractive, particularly to early career scholars; it receives submissions from environmental historians worldwide, including RCC graduate students and fellows. Arcadia has now published more than 60 articles and developed collections on water histories, global environmental movements, and national parks and conservation.

The screenshot shows the Arcadia website interface. At the top left is the Arcadia logo. To its right is a navigation menu with the text: "Arcadia, a collaboration of the RCC and the ESEH, publishes short, peer-reviewed environmental histories." Further right is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search the Portal" and a magnifying glass icon, followed by a "Search" button. Below the header, the main content area features an article titled "Evolution for world heritage: The Galapagos Islands National Park" with a sub-header "National Park". The article text begins: "The archipelago of the Galapagos consists of numerous islands, islets, and rocks and is situated some 1,500 kilometers off the Ecuadorian mainland in the Pacific Ocean. Its isolated location at the confluence of three oceanic currents, volcanic origin, and ongoing seismic activity has resulted in a unique environment, where fascinating marine life and terrestrial endemic species of flora and fauna have evolved. Animals like the giant tortoise (*Chelonoidis nigra*), the variety of iguanidae, and numerous subspecies of finches all inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection. Since Darwin's visit in 1835, the archipelago has attracted the attention of international science and, increasingly, nature tourism." Below the text are two images: a close-up of a Giant Tortoise and an Iguana at the coast. To the right of the article are sections for "Collections" (listing National parks in time and space, Global environmental movements, and Water histories), "About the author" (featuring a photo of Elke Ackermann and her affiliation with the Leibniz-Institute of European History), and "Recent Arcadia Items" (listing "The Thames Barrier: London's moveable flood defense" and "Evolution for world heritage: The Galapagos Islands...").

Screenshot of a recent article in the Arcadia Project.

The Portal's **virtual exhibitions** curate digital objects within interpretive contexts. Our most popular content, they have also been resource-intensive. In 2014 we addressed this by developing a template that streamlines backend work while giving exhibitions a more unified, graphic look. The result will allow fellows or volunteer guest curators to more easily create exhibitions or curate collections with tools like image galleries and mini-timelines. Our 2014 exhibitions include Hsuan Hsu's "Representing Environmental Risk in the Landscapes of US Militarization"; "The City's Currents: A History of Water in Twentieth-Century Bogotá" by RCC alumna Stefania Gallini and colleagues; and an online companion to the Deutsches Museum exhibition "Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands."



Screenshot of the Map Viewer with one of the markers open, spotlighting an Arcadia article on the Galapagos Islands.

Places & Events, which plots illustrated summaries of environmentally significant events, sites, and sources on a map and timeline, has proven popular with university instructors and students. A 2014 pilot project engaged instructors at LMU, the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and Beijing University to use the research, fact-checking, and editing of these born-digital mini-publications as class projects; several alumni fellows expressed interest in participating next year.

The Portal's **Multimedia Library** has grown to include more than 1,100 digitized and born-digital materials from journal articles to environmental film profiles. Highlights from 2014 include making open access a high-resolution, searchable digital archive of the radical environmental journals *Earth First!* and *Wild Earth*, and the “Anthropocene Milestones” comic strip series, which was a particular hit on social media.

12 The RCC Online



Twitter conversation with editors at NiCHE Canada.

In 2014, the official RCC website remained a useful resource for information about the center, especially our events calendar and an online directory of our fellows' profiles. We successfully expanded our social media presence across a variety of online platforms. The number of "likes" on our Facebook page increased by over 50 percent to nearly 1,500; our Twitter followers increased from 900 to over 1,600. Facebook and Twitter allow us to promote our events, publications, and news to an audience of scholars and students around the world. These platforms have also helped us to engage and interact with the environmental community. We have built strong links with similar organizations, in particular with Canadian environmental organizations, which have a large online presence. These links allow us to cross-promote our work and to share relevant news and information. We have also used the popular #envhist and #envhum hashtags to ensure that our information reaches our target audience.

In 2014, our blog *Seeing the Woods* was accessed 17,000 times by visitors from 125 different countries. Typically updated on a weekly basis, the blog featured interesting thought pieces and reactions to environmental issues, as well as calls for papers and photos taken by RCC fellows, staff, and students on their travels throughout the world. Our "Making Tracks" blog series, in which RCC fellows and alumni retrace the paths that led them to environmental humanities and the Carson Center, continued to be particularly popular.

Many videos of our events are now available on our YouTube channel, connecting us with those not living in the Munich area. The RCC YouTube channel provided new contributions to our Fellows Film series—a series of documentary shorts in which


 Maya Peterson ▸ [Rachel Carson Center](#)
 15. Juli 2014 · 49

Great new course website exploring questions of rural and urban, the history of urban farming, and the preservation of urban green spaces, using the historic gardens of Istanbul as a case study.

[Übersetzung anzeigen](#)



About the Course
 The topic of urban farming has become popular in recent years because it offers city inhabitants the opportunity to enjoy quiet green spaces, acquire fresh produce, and reconnect with the natural w...

CITYANDAGRICULTUREISTANBUL.ORG

Carson Fellows discuss important aspects of their work. In addition, we continued to film the weekly Lunchtime Colloquium. The videos have attracted considerable interest, with 100–400 unique views from around the globe. Furthermore, the videos are used by students in the RCC's graduate programs as study aids.

Alumni and associates spread the word about conferences and events of note via the RCC Facebook page.

13 Public Outreach

In 2014 the RCC organized several major public events together with universities in the Munich region as well as research initiatives and NGOs; they drew well over a thousand visitors, including students, scholars, and the interested public.

Münchener Hochschultage



Booths at the 6th Münchener Hochschultage offer visitors a chance to explore various aspects of waste.

The RCC was the lead organizer of two Münchener Hochschultage events on topics relating to sustainability and socially and ecologically responsible behavior. The Hochschultage are multi-day events hosted by the universities in various cities in Germany and include podium discussions, workshops, and film screenings. An important goal of these events is for scholars, politicians, and representatives of the private sector to come together and develop ideas for the future, as well as presenting their research to the general public.

In the 5th Münchner Hochschultage, hosted by LMU Munich in spring 2014, speakers investigated “Wa(h)re Zeit”—the acceleration of life, our perception of time, and the commodification of time. The RCC organized a film evening at the Gasteig (featuring *Speed* and a discussion with its director, Florian Opitz), a workshop on speed and time with RCC fellows from Italy and the United States, and a talk and podium with sociologist Hartmut Rosa.

The 6th Münchner Hochschultage in November 2014 was dedicated to the subject of waste. Events were held at the Technische Universität (TUM) and the University of Applied Sciences. It included a discussion on the reality of applying the cradle-to-cradle principle to electronics and interactive workshops on topics such as waste-pickers in developing countries, industrial symbiosis as a way of reducing waste, and upcycling. RCC Director Christof Mauch moderated a podium discussion on “Our Society and Its Waste,” while RCC Affiliated Professor Eveline Dürr and members of the LMU ethnology department led a workshop on the ways waste and sustainability are embedded in everyday practices such as eating. A satellite workshop was held at the Deutsches Museum on the topic of turning waste into valuable material.



Jane Goodall and her stuffed monkey ambassador “Mr. H.”

Other Public Events

One highlight of our public outreach events in 2014 was a lecture by world-renowned researcher, legendary conservationist, and UN Messenger for Peace Jane Goodall. Some 1,400 people flocked to hear her talk about “Reasons for Hope” in a world struggling with climate change and deforestation. They filled the Große Aula in the main building of LMU Munich, as well as a second overflow room where we staged a live screening.



The packed auditorium at LMU Munich during the talk by Jane Goodall.

Green Visions Series

Our “Green Visions” film series, which screens environmental documentaries from around the world, regularly attracted crowds of 80–100 people; on several occasions, the number of interested viewers exceeded seating capacity of the auditorium at the Gasteig. Following the films, experts on topics such as waste, beekeeping, the fishing industry, and the Anthropocene moderated lively discussions.

14 Events

Lunchtime Colloquia

09.01.2014

Donald Worster (University of Kansas, USA; University of Renmin, China) on “Second Earth: Thinking About Environmental History on a Planetary Scale”

16.01.2014

Maurits Ertsen (Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands) on “White Men’s Enterprise: Negotiating Development in the Gezira Irrigation System in the Twentieth Century”

23.01.2014

Elin Kelsey (Royal Roads University, Canada) on “Circumnavigating Hope: Chasing Resilience in a World of Environmental ‘Doom and Gloom’”

30.01.2014

David Rothenburg (New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA) on “Survival of the Beautiful: Aesthetics, Music, and Evolution”

06.02.2014

Francis Ludlow (Yale Climate and Energy Institute, USA) on “Extreme Weather, Volcanic Eruptions, Famine and Mass Human Mortality in Medieval Ireland”

27.02.2014

Gregg Mitman (University of Wisconsin–Madison, USA) on “A Film Never Made: History, Science, and Memory in Liberia”

03.03.2014

Seth Peabody (Harvard University, USA) on “Urban *Heimat*: Environment Fantasies of Weimar Cinema”

20.03.2014

Heather McCrea (Kansas State University, USA) on “Contextualizing the Tropics: Epidemics and Identity in Latin America”

10.04.2014

Thomas Princen (University of Michigan, USA) on “Imagining the End of the Fossil Fuel Era”

17.04.2014

Angelika Krebs (University of Basel, Switzerland) on “‘And What Was There Accepted Us’: *Landscape, Stimmung, and Heimat*”

24.04.2014

Helen Tiffin (University of Wollongong, Australia) on “Philosophies Clash: Conservation versus Animals”

08.05.2014

Seth Stein (Northwestern University, USA) on “German Floods and Japanese Earthquakes: Why Don’t Communities Prepare Better for Disaster?”

15.05.2014

José Augusto Pádua (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) on “A Tale of Two Forests: Historical Patterns of Deforestation and Conservation in Brazil”

22.05.2014

Daisy Onyige (University of Port Hartcourt, Nigeria) on “Gender and Climate Change: Adaptation and Resilience of Farming Households in the Niger Delta”

05.06.2014

Eunice Blavascunas (College of the Atlantic, USA) on “Signals in the Forest: Postsocialist Scientific Legitimacy in Poland’s Białowieża Forest”

12.06.2014

Massimo Moraglio (Technical University of Berlin, Germany) on “Is Transportation Only for Engineers? The 1970s European Tramway Revival”

26.06.2014

Emily Brock (University of South Carolina, USA) on “American Jungle: Ecology and Industry in the Philippines, 1898–1947”

3.07.2014

Panel discussion by **Matthias Heymann** (Aarhus University, Denmark), **Mike Hulme** (King’s College London, UK), **Janet Martin-Nielsen** (Aarhus University, Denmark), and **Birgit Schneider** (University of Potsdam, Germany) on “Cultures of Prediction in Climate Science”

Special colloquium organized by the RCC Environmental Studies Certificate Program

10.07.2014

Matthew Booker (North Carolina State University, USA) on “Why Did Americans Stop Eating Locally in the Twentieth Century?”

17.07.2014

Lukas H. Meyer (University of Graz, Austria) on “Selected Problems in Climate Justice”

24.07.2014

Sherilyn MacGregor (Keele University, UK) on “Heat and Light: Why Environmentalism (Still) Needs Feminism”

31.01.2014

Markus Wilczek (Tufts University, USA) on “When Our Future Is at Stake: A Poetics of Radioactivity”

11.09.2014

Khaled Misbahuzzaman (University of Chittagong, Bangladesh) on “Managing Landscapes in the Bangladeshi Mountains: Traditional Knowledge and Modern Wisdom”

18.09.2014

Mingfang Xia (Renmin University, China) on “Where Is Adam Smith? China’s Rural Economy in Environmental History (1368–1949)”

09.10.2014

Franz Mauelshagen (Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Germany) on “The Climatological Revolution of the Eighteenth Century”

16.10.2014

Irina Wenk (University of Zurich, Switzerland) on “Animals and Anthropology: Equines from an Ethnographer’s Point of View” followed by a discussion with **Julia Breitruck** (Bielefeld University, Germany), **Ursula Münster** (LMU Munich), **Harriet Ritvo** (Michigan Institute of Technology, USA), and **Thom van Dooren** (University of New South Wales, Australia)

Special colloquium organized by the RCC Environmental Studies Certificate Program

23.10.2014

Michael Braungart (EPEA—Environmental Protection Encouragement Agency, Germany) on “Cradle to Cradle—A World without Waste”



Audience at the Lunchtime Colloquium (speaker: Michael Braungart).

30.10.2014

Kathleen McAfee (San Francisco State University, USA) on “Green Economy or Buen Vivir: Can Capitalism Save Itself?”

06.11.2014

Timothy Breen (Northwestern University, USA) on “Maple Sugar and the Plan to End Slavery: Profits, Science, and Reform in the 1790s”

13.11.2014

Harriet Ritvo (Michigan Institute of Technology, USA) on “At the Edge of the Wild”

20.11.2014

Thom van Dooren (University of New South Wales, Australia) on “Living with Crows in Hawai’i”

27.11.2014

Laura Sayre (French National Institute for Agricultural Research) on “Organic Agriculture in History: Tradition, Reaction, Innovation?”

04.12.2014

Celia Lowe (University of Washington, USA) on “Biological Futures: Securing Life in the H5N1 Outbreak”

11.12.2014

Wolfram Mauser (LMU Munich) on “Global Food Futures: Agriculture and What is Left Over”

18.12.2014

Cindy Ott (Saint Louis University, USA) on “Biscuits and Buffalo: Squashing Myths about Food in Indian Country”

Lectures and Podium Discussions

09.01.2014

Kim C. Detloff, Reinhold Leinfelder, and Angeli Sachs on “Plastik statt Plankton: Müllprobleme in den Weltmeeren”

Podium discussion series “Was machen wir mit dem Müll?,” Center for Advanced Studies, Munich

30.01.2014

Jens Kersten and Hubertus Kohle on “Spam und Filter: Müllprobleme im Internet”

Podium discussion series “Was machen wir mit dem Müll?,” Center for Advanced Studies, Munich

23.05.2014

Jacob Darwin Hamblin on “Poison in the Well: Radioactive Waste in the Oceans at the Dawn of the Nuclear Age”

Monday Colloquium, Deutsches Museum

07.10.2014

Jane Goodall on “Reasons for Hope”

Special lecture, LMU Munich

19.10.2014

Christof Mauch, Ines Pohl, and Jürgen Trittin on “Greenpeace: Ein prüfender Blick auf die global agierende Umweltorganisation”

Roundtable discussion at the Göttinger Literaturherbst, Göttingen

22.10.2014

Harriet Ritvo on “At the Edge of the Wild”

Minisymposium at the Center for Environmental History, Vienna

12.11.2014

Paul Bogard on “Light Pollution and the End of Natural Darkness”

Special lecture organized by the RCC Environmental Studies Certificate Program

24.11.2014

Dieter Steiner and Christof Mauch on the book *Rachel Carson, Pionierin der Umweltbewegung*

Book Launch, Münchner Zukunftssalon, Munich

03.12.2014

Geoffrey Parker on “Global Crisis and Climate Change in the Seventeenth Century”

Special lecture at Forschungszentrum Fundamente der Moderne, LMU Munich

09.12.2014

Jane Carruthers on “Environmental History in Southern Africa: Challenges and Opportunities”

Minisymposium at the Center for Environmental History, Vienna

Conferences and Workshops

13–14.02.2014

“Unruly Environments: Ecologies of Agency in the Global Era”

Conference at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, India

12.03.2014

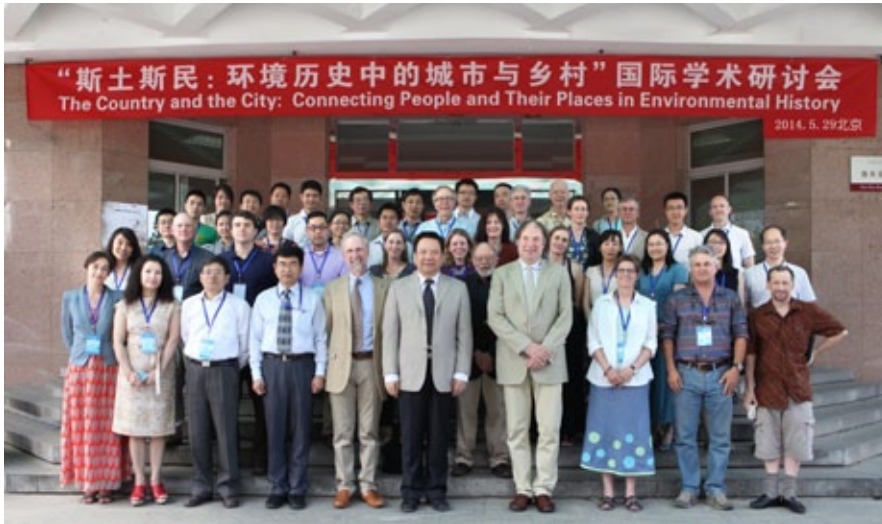
“Digital Environmental History”

Workshop held prior to the 2014 ASEH conference at Stanford University, USA

21.03.2014

“Beyond ‘Doom and Gloom’”

Walking workshop held in various locations in Munich



Conference on "The Country and the City" at Renmin University, Beijing, China.

25–27.04.2014

“Wohin geht die Energiewende? / Where is the German Energy Transition Headed?”
Youth Future Project Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center

29.04–03.05.2014

“‘Framing Nature’: Signs, Stories, and Ecologies of Meaning
Conference at Tartu University, Estonia

29.05–01.06.2014

“The Country and the City: Connecting People and Their Places in Environmental
History”
Conference at Renmin University, China

13.06.2014

RCC Environmental Studies Certificate Program’s Place-Based Workshop
Osterseen Nature Reserve, Germany



Annka Liepold, Nicole Seymour, and Massimo Moraglio brainstorming during the workshop “Beyond Doom and Gloom.”

19–21.06.2014

“The Greening of Everyday Life: Reimagining Environmentalism in Postindustrial Societies”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center

15–17.07.2014

“The Nature State”

Workshop in Gran Paradiso National Park, Italy

04–05.08.2014

“The Global Environmental History of World War I in Perspective”

Workshop at Georgetown University, USA

07–09.08.2014

“Environmentalism from Below: Appraising the Efficacy of Small-Scale and Subaltern Environmentalist Organizations”

Workshop at the University of Alberta, Canada

10–12.09.2014

“Bellies, Bodies, ‘Policy’: Embodied Environments between Catastrophes and Control”

Conference in Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia

25–27.09.2014

“Scarcity and Environment in History and Literature”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center

10–11.10.2014

“Ecological Othering and Biopolitics in the Environmental Humanities”

Postgraduate workshop at the Rachel Carson Center

17.10.2014

“Human Impacts and Their Consequences”

A Forum on the Occasion of the First international meeting of the Anthropocene

Working Group at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany

23–25.10.2014

“Whose Waste? Whose Problem?”

Conference at the Center for Advanced Studies, LMU Munich

26–28.10.2014

“ARTEFACTS XIX: Environing Exhibits: Science, Technology, and Museums in the Anthropocene”

Workshop at the Deutsches Museum, Munich

08–10.11.2014

“The Anthropocene: Cabinet of Curiosities Slam”

Workshop at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, USA

Conferences with RCC Panels and Speakers

12–14.03.2014

“Crossing Divides”

Annual Conference of the American Society for Environmental History in San Francisco, California, USA

Various panels and papers by RCC affiliates

12–15.06.2014

“America after Nature: Democracy, Culture, Environment”

Annual Conference of the German Association for American Studies in Würzburg, Germany

Two workshops sponsored by the RCC



Poster session and RCC booth at the Second Congress of Environmental History in Guimarães, Portugal.

11–12.06.2014

“Performing Forests: Reassessing, Reprioritizing, and Managing Forests and Wood for Low Environmental Impact”

Conference at the Center for Advanced Studies, LMU Munich

Multiple papers given by RCC Fellows and affiliates

26–29.06.2014

“Meteorologies of Modernity: Climate Change and Weather in the Contexts of Postcolonialism and Globalization”

International Conference of the DFG Graduiertenkolleg/Postcolonial Europe Network at the Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Wissenschaft, Munich

Presentations by RCC affiliates

08–12.07.2014

Second World Congress of Environmental History in Guimarães, Portugal

Multiple papers given by RCC Fellows and affiliates

26.07–15.08.2014

Global Environments Summer Academy

Summer school in Bern, Switzerland

4 RCC Fellows and 2 graduate students attended

17.10.2014

FAPESP Week Munich

Symposium of the São Paulo Research Foundation and the Bavarian University Center for Latin America, held at the Deutsches Museum

Panel on human-environment relations co-sponsored by the RCC



Christof Mauch introducing the podium discussion on human-environment relations at FAPESP Week Munich. Panelists: Eveline Dürr, Ricardo Abramovay, Claudia Binder, Gilberto Camara Neto.

Schools and Symposia

23–27.04.2014

“Science, Environment, Infrastructure, and Technology—History of Science in Central and Eastern Europe”

Munich Spring School

LMU Munich

14–16.05.2014

“Wa(hre) Zeit”

5th Münchner Hochschultage on economy and sustainability

LMU Munich

14–22.11.2014

“The Anthropocene Campus”

Young Researcher School

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin

20–28.11.2014

“Planet Müll – Unser Vermächtnis”

6th Münchner Hochschultage on economy and sustainability

LMU and TU, Munich

Film Screenings

09.01.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *There Once Was an Island*

Green Visions Film Series

20.02.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *Peak*

Green Visions Film Series

20.03.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *More than Honey*

Green Visions Film Series

10.04.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *Planet Re: Think*

Green Visions Film Series

15.05.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *Speed*

Green Visions Film Series

26.06.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *Waking the Green Tiger*

Green Visions Film Series

10.07.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *The Last Ocean*

Green Visions Film Series

22.10.2014

Film Screening: *No Impact Man*

Münchener Klimaherbst at the Amerikahaus

23.10.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *Trashed*

Green Visions Film Series

13.11.2014

Film Screening + Discussion: *The Plan*

Green Visions Film Series

15 Doctoral Program in Environment and Society

The doctoral program Environment and Society (ProEnviron) completed its fourth year in 2014 and graduated eight candidates at the LMU Munich commencement ceremony in July.



Doctoral students and staff at the graduation ceremony in 2014

Back row (left to right): Felix Mauch, Ewald Blocher, Dania Achermann, Christof Mauch (program chair), Angelika Möller.
Front row: Tim Aevermann, Antonia Mehnert, Anna Rühl (program coordinator), Agnes Kneitz.

Professor Christoph Knill (political science department, LMU) joined the academic board, bringing the number of participating faculties to an even dozen. Six new students (two in history, two in geography, one in sociology, and one in anthropology) began in 2014; four current candidates are expected to complete their degrees by the end of 2014. The RCC community congratulates the first class of ProEnviron graduates who received an Environment and Society certificate upon completing the program: Dania Achermann, Tim Aevermann, Ewald Blocher, Agnes Kneitz, Felix Mauch, Antonia Mehnert, Angelika Möller, and Anahí Urquiza.

The following dissertations (in alphabetical order by author) were submitted in 2014:

Dania Achermann, “Von der Deutschen Forschungsanstalt für Segelflug zum Institut für Physik der Atmosphäre: Wandel und Kontinuitäten institutioneller Identitäten [From the German Research Institute for Gliding to the Institute of Atmospheric Physics: Changes and Continuities of Institutional Identities]”

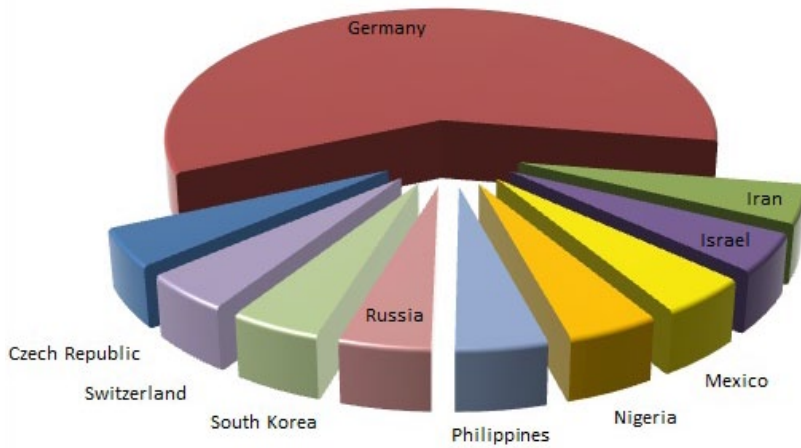
Tim Aevermann, “Monetäre Bewertung urbaner Ecosystem Services am Beispiel der Fallstudie Schlosspark Nymphenburg, München: Analyse aus ökonomisch-ökologischer Perspektive [Monetary Assessment of Urban Ecosystem Services in Schlosspark Nymphenburg, Munich; Analysis from an Economical and Ecological Perspective]”

Antonia Mehnert, “Climate Change Fictions: Representations of Global Warming in American Literature”

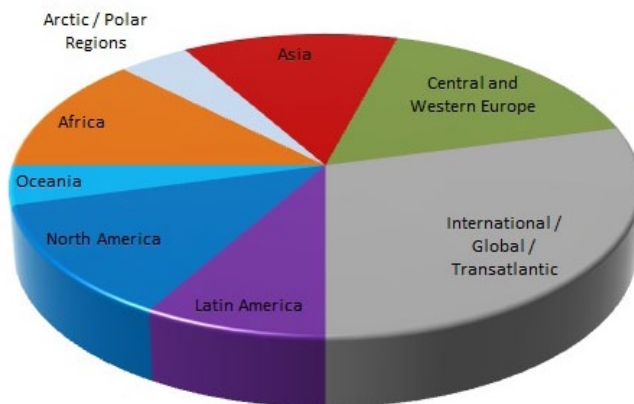
Anahí Urquiza, “Chilean Model of Water Management in the Context of Water Stress: Sociocultural Conditions and Vulnerability to Climate Change”

In 2014, doctoral candidates organized panels on the multispecies turn, climate cultures, and climate ethics during the weekly lunchtime colloquium, served as mentors to new students, and presented their research across Europe, in Israel, and beyond. Participants also co-organized international workshops at LMU Munich on “Meteorologies of Modernity” and “Ecological Othering.” Individual students conducted field research in Oaxaca and the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico, in Michigan and Minnesota in the United States, in Siberia, Nigeria, and the Czech Republic. We also welcomed several visiting doctoral candidates with independent funding to Munich, including Guillermo Andres Ospina Rodrigues (Colombia), Alfredo Ricardo Lopes (Brazil), and Seth Peabody (United States).

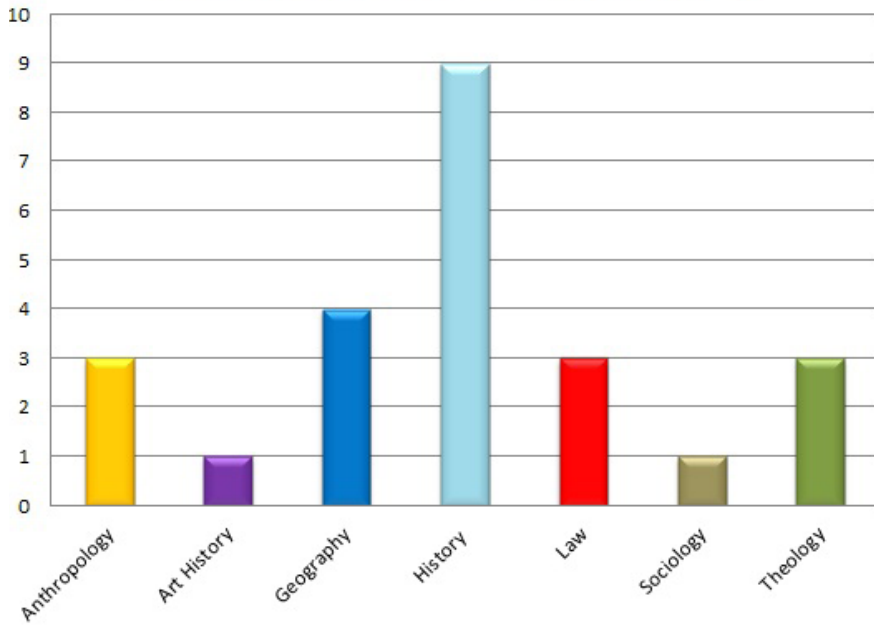
Doctoral Candidates - Home Country (2014)



Doctoral Candidates - Areas of Research (2014)



Doctoral Candidates - Discipline (2014)



16 Environmental Studies Certificate Program

The interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Certificate Program started its second academic year at the Rachel Carson Center during the winter semester 2014/15 with a total of 65 students from Germany, Europe, and Latin America. The LMU Advisory Senate approved the program's curriculum in July 2014, thereby providing support for students from LMU Munich and other universities.

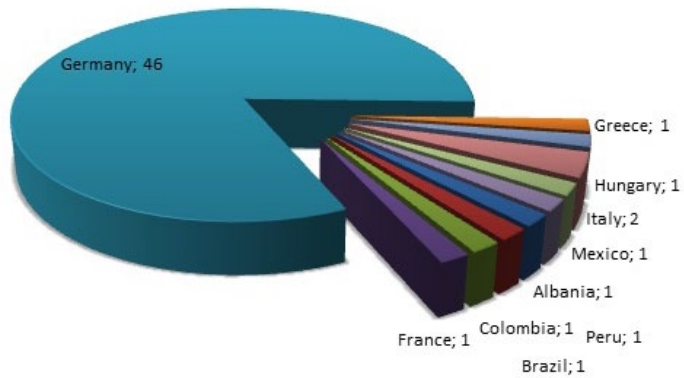
The program offers master's-level students from all disciplines the opportunity to gain an additional qualification in environmental studies alongside their main degree. As well as coursework across three modules—Environmental History and Society; Environmental Policy and Ethics; and Human Ecology and 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.



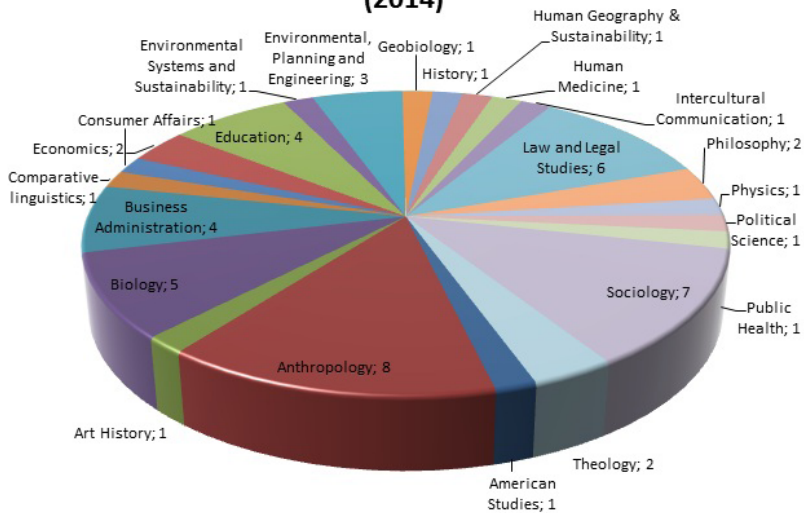
Tobias Schiefer and Anke Friedrich lead modules on vegetation ecology and geology at the Osterseen wetland nature reserve, southern Bavaria, in June 2014 as part of the inaugural place-based workshop.

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 both a rigorous thematic focus, studying

ES Certificate Program - Students by Country (2014)



ES Certificate Program - Students by Discipline (2014)



environmental issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives, with flexibility to tailor course selection and the final project to fit the needs of the master's program in their chosen discipline. Above all, the certificate program provides an intellectual home on campus for emerging scholars and professionals who aim to apply environmental awareness and historical understanding of the human dimension of environmental issues in their lives and careers.

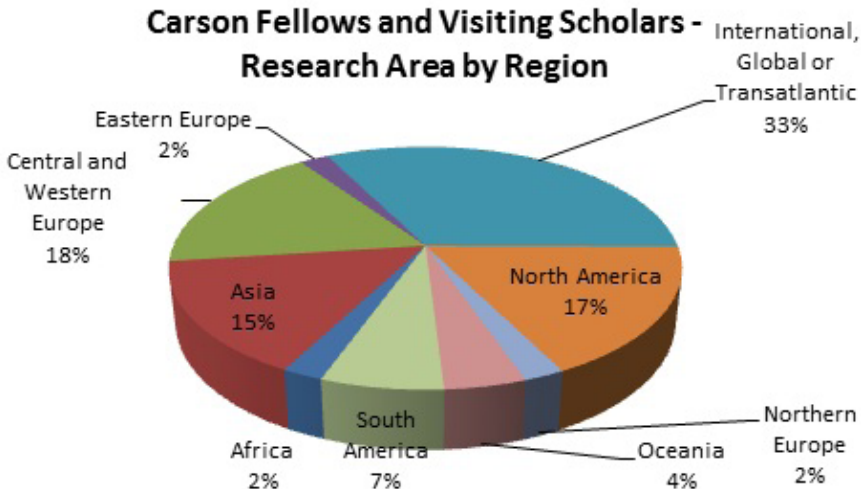
17 Internship Program

The five interns who worked at the RCC in 2014 provided invaluable assistance in ensuring the smooth functioning of the RCC during day-to-day operations as well as special events. They originated from the United Kingdom (Stephanie Hood), France (Émilie Perault), Germany (Miriam Kronester, Oliver Liebig), and the United States (Abby Bongaarts) and included both undergraduate and graduate students. The internships, which typically last two to three months, introduce these students to the research of the Carson Center; we aim to strengthen a lasting intellectual commitment to the environmental humanities and to familiarize the interns with many different aspects of work at the RCC. In 2014 they helped to create and edit content for the Environment and Society Portal and supported the editing team with translations from English into German. They also played a vital role in preparing and assisting at events, ranging from the Münchner Hochschultage to RCC workshops, conferences, and the weekly Lunchtime Colloquium.

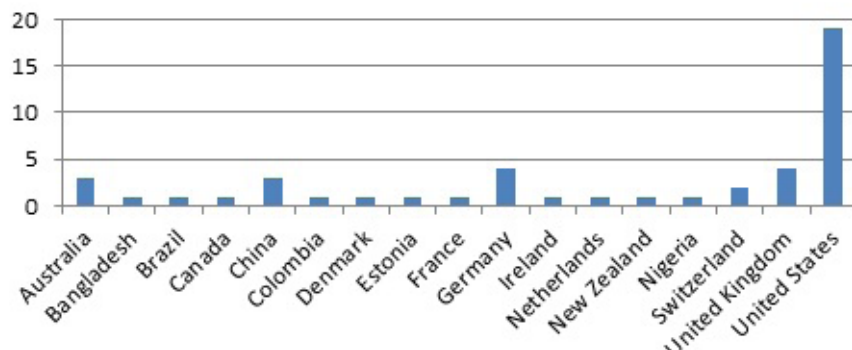
Interns' ties with the RCC do not always end when their internship finishes. In 2014 Oliver Liebig continued in the RCC's doctoral program, and Stephanie Hood joined the in-house editing team. In addition, Filipa Soares, who interned at the RCC in 2013 before joining a doctoral program in Oxford, provided freelance English to Portuguese translation for a special issue of our journal *RCC Perspectives*.

18 Fellows

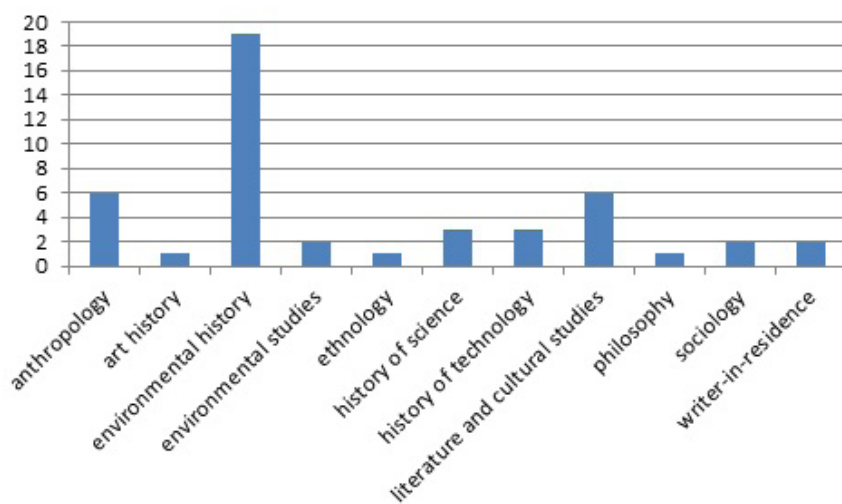
The Carson Fellowship Program provides funding for both highly regarded, established researchers and promising postdoctoral scholars who are looking to complete books or articles that correspond to one of our research themes. In addition to the Carson fellows, the RCC also supports Carson professors, visiting scholars, 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 scholars 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 and Visiting Scholars - Country of Residence



Carson Fellows and Visiting Scholars - Research by Discipline



Carson Fellows



Bao Maohong

July 2014 – October 2014

Transformations of the Land in Chinese Environmental History

Maohong Bao is a senior research associate at the Centre for World Environmental History at the University of Sussex. At his home institution, Peking University, China, he is a professor of environmental history and Asia-Pacific studies, and director of the university's Center for World Environmental History. He is a pioneer of environmental history in China. His recent research focuses on the relationship of environment and development in East Asia.

His RCC project investigated two transformations in Philippine agricultural history. The first is the transformation from subsistence agriculture to industrial agriculture and its environmental consequences; the second is the transformation from industrial agriculture to sustainable or organic agriculture and its ecological dynamics. In the 1780s, the Philippine agriculture was introduced into the world market and was reconstructed according to modern demands. In 2010, the government of the Philippines formally promoted the transformation from industrial agriculture to sustainable agriculture through promulgating the "Organic Agriculture Act."

Eunice Blavascunas

August 2013 – August 2014

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



Eunice Blavascunas is a cultural anthropologist affiliated with the University of Maine (faculty associate) and the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor Maine (research associate), 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 worked on her forthcoming book *Of Forests and Time: Reworking Communist and Peasant Pasts in the Białowieża 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.

**Matthew Booker**

May 2014 – August 2014

Why Twentieth-Century Americans Lost Their Faith in Local Food

Matthew Booker studies the interactions of human beings and the natural world, particularly on urban coasts. His book *Down by the Bay: San Francisco's History between the Tides* is the first joint history of the American West's most important estuary and its first city, from the Gold Rush to the creation of the nation's first urban wildlife refuge. Booker did his PhD at Stanford University and is an associate professor of American environmental history at North Carolina State University.

Booker's RCC project focused on the rise, collapse, and recovery of oysters in the American diet as part of a larger project on why Americans stopped eating locally in the twentieth century. What caused oysters to become the daily protein of the urban working poor, the Big Mac of the nineteenth century? Why did this locally produced, industrial-scale food disappear so quickly and so thoroughly from the city? And how did this dramatic shift in eating habits reorganize Americans' relationship with the natural world?

Emily Brock

January 2014 – July 2014

Another Green World: Tropical Ecology and American Jungle in the Philippines



Emily Brock conducts research on the intersections of science, business, and government in natural resource management, particularly in forest environments in the US and Asia. She studies the resilience of industrial forestlands, the development of American forest science, definitions of wilderness, and the globalization of the lumber trade. She holds a doctorate in history from Princeton University and a master's in biology from the University of Oregon. She has taught at the University of South Carolina and Stanford and was a 2013 Fulbright US Senior Scholar in the Philippines. Brock is now a research scholar at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin.

Science and the state both have roles in creating and controlling environmental change. The field of scientific forestry was designed to plan for long-term stability through the management of forest ecology and human use. Creating locally-determined rules for scientific forest management led to hybrid constructions of American ideas and Philippine realities. Brock's research project at the RCC focused on the rescaling of forest management techniques and predictions in the American-controlled Philippines and on the larger context of globalized industrial tropical forest management in the twentieth century.



Matthias Heymann

February 2014 – July 2014

Environmental Coherence: Investigating Relationships of
Technology and Natural Disaster

Matthias Heymann is an associate professor for the history of technology at the Centre for Science Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark. His research focuses on the history of environmental science and technology. He has published on the history of energy technologies, the history of atmospheric and climate research, and the history of engineering design. He led a Danish-US research project on the history of science and technology in Cold War Greenland (2010–2013) and currently leads the project “Shaping Cultures of Prediction: Knowledge, Authority, and the Construction of Climate Change.” He is Associate Editor of *Centaurus* and Domain Editor of *WIREs: Climate Change* for the domain “Climate, History, Society, Culture.”

At the Rachel Carson Center he investigated the use of cases of natural disaster as a lens to analyze human interaction with technology and environment and relations of culture and environment (“environmental coherence”). Cases of natural disasters in history provide insights into the relationship between cultures and their environment and the changes in that relationship that have occurred over time. Disasters can serve as a lens to analyze human interaction with technology and environment. Investigating natural disasters in a broader historical context offers a rich opportunity to enhance historical understanding not only of the disasters in question, but of the societies and cultures in which the disasters took place.

Michael Hulme

April 2014 – September 2014

Being Human in Times of Climate Change



Mike Hulme is professor of climate and culture in the Department of Geography at King's College London. His work explores the idea of climate change using historical, cultural, and scientific analyses, seeking to illuminate the numerous ways in which climate change is deployed in public and political discourse. He is the author of *Can Science Fix Climate Change? A Case against Climate Engineering* (2014), *Exploring Climate Change through Science and In Society* (2013), *Making Climate Change Work for Us* (2010), and *Why We Disagree about Climate Change* (2009). From 2000 to 2007 he was the founding director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, based at the University of East Anglia, and since 2007 has been the founding editor-in-chief of the review journal *WIREs: Climate Change*.

Although the relationships between climate and culture appear everywhere, and have been extensively written about in an eclectic set of venues and outlets, there lacks a coherent literature that treats this rich interaction between climate and culture in a systematic way. During his stay at the RCC, Hulme worked on a monograph on climate and culture intended to serve as a core reference work for scholars and practitioners in a wide range of fields. It will capture and organize some of the most important writing on climate and culture that has appeared since the 1980s and provide a structure within which the recently growing body of work in human geography, anthropology, sociology, and religious studies can be placed. This major reference work will also lead to a short book spin-off, for which the outline was also prepared whilst at the RCC.



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

Angelika Krebs

March 2014 – August 2014

“And What Was There Accepted Us”—Landscape, *Stimmung*, and *Heimat*



Angelika Krebs works on ethics and aesthetics, with a special interest in nature, love, literature, work, equality, and justice. Her first book, the United Nations study *Ethics of Nature* from 1999, provides a critical taxonomy of environmental ethics. Angelika Krebs studied at Freiburg, Oxford, Konstanz, and Berkeley. She received her PhD in philosophy from the University of Konstanz and completed her habilitation at Goethe University Frankfurt. Since 2001, she has been a full professor of philosophy at the University of Basel in Switzerland. In 2005/2006 she was Rockefeller Fellow at the Princeton Center of Human Values.

At the Rachel Carson Center she worked on a book on the beauty of landscapes. Arguments for the eudaemonic intrinsic value of nature (as opposed to its moral intrinsic value and to its merely instrumental value), should be taken more seriously. Nature is eudaemonically important for us first in its beauty, second as a place with which we can identify, as *Heimat*, and third in its sacredness. We should protect nature not only for its obvious instrumental value but also for these aesthetic, psychological, and religious reasons.

**Piers Locke**

November 2014 – February 2015

Serving Ganesh: Humans, Elephants, and Landscapes in Nepal

Piers Locke is a senior lecturer in anthropology and co-director 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. He 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. 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 worked on *Serving Ganesh*, a book documenting his field research with captive elephants and their handlers in the Chitwan National Park, Nepal. Locke explored elephant handling practice in its social, cultural, and historical context, recognizing the mutualities that bind human and elephant together as they roam across a landscape marked by the traces of human-elephant activity.

Celia Lowe

July 2014 – December 2014

Viral Clouds: Avian Influenza, Biosecurity, and Environmental Flourishing in Indonesia



Celia Lowe is an associate professor of anthropology and international studies at the University of Washington. She works in Southeast Asia, especially Indonesia, in the field of post-colonial science studies, and her main interest is in the travels of biological and other forms of scientific knowledge between EuroAmerica and Southeast Asia. Her first book, *Wild Profusion: Biodiversity Conservation in an Indonesian Archipelago*, was published with Princeton University Press in 2006. She also studies practices of scholarly collaboration in the social sciences between US-based and Southeast Asian scholars. Lowe has served as a consultant for the Ford Foundation and the Asian University for Women in this field.

At the RCC she worked on the recent H5N1 avian influenza outbreak in Indonesia and the way that new forms of biosecurity and risk were in play in relation to the disease. Her book aims to broaden concepts of the global environment and human security away from a narrow concept of species biodiversity and toward a concept of environment that is broad enough to include both human pathogens and animal agriculture. It does this in order to pose the critical questions: Can we successfully live in the global environment alongside the environmental objects we create? What would it take to create objects we can live with?

**Francis Ludlow**

September 2013 – March 2014

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

Francis Ludlow is a postdoctoral fellow (2013–2016) with the Yale Climate and Energy Institute. From 2011–2013, Francis 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. From 2007–2011 he lectured at the School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College, Dublin; he has also lectured at Dublin City University, the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin. 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 project used the Irish Annals to look at climate, conflict, and violence in Ireland. The unique record of societal stresses in the Annals reveals that social vulnerability to extremes varies with underlying socioeconomic contexts (e.g., increased dependency on arable agriculture beginning circa 1100 CE increases famine and mortality incidence due to climatically-induced harvest failure). Combined with paleoclimatic data and insights from paleoecology and archaeology, the evidence of the Irish Annals thus allows a systematic study of the degree to which climate influenced conflict in a complex agrarian society over the course of twelve centuries.

Sherilyn MacGregor

February 2014 – July 2014

Heat and Light: Interdisciplinary Feminist Contributions to Environmental Ethics, Politics, and Movements



Sherilyn MacGregor received her PhD in Environmental Studies from York University in Toronto. She emigrated to the UK in 2004 and since 2006 has been a full time faculty member in the School of Politics, International Relations, and Philosophy at Keele University where she is currently a senior lecturer in environmental politics and director of the Environmental Studies program. Her research expertise lies in the fields of feminist politics and environmental politics, with a special focus on the connections between citizenship, social reproduction, and sustainability, which are explored at length in her book *Beyond Mothering Earth: Ecological Citizenship and the Politics of Care* (2006). MacGregor is joint editor of *Environmental Politics* journal and co-convenor of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Standing Group on Environmental Politics. She is also a director of PublicSpace, a not-for-profit company specializing in research communication in the public interest.

Scholars have provided evidence of material, structural, and ideational links between the degradation of the ecosphere and power asymmetries between men and women. They have mapped out the gender differences in the ways people perceive, experience, and respond to environmental problems in a broad range of contexts. MacGregor's project traced the evolution of what has often been dismissed as a marginal critique into a mainstream principle that now shapes policy at national and global levels.



Michelle Mart

May 2014 – August 2014

Pesticides, A Love Story

Michelle Mart is an associate professor of history at Pennsylvania State University, Berks campus where she teaches a variety of courses in American history, including environmental, foreign policy, and twentieth-century topics. She earned her PhD from New York University under the direction of Marilyn Young, her MA at the University of Michigan, and her BA at Cornell University. Her 2006/7 book, *Eye on Israel: How the United States Came to View Israel as an Ally*, is a work in the then-relatively new subfield of cultural diplomacy, looking at the intersections between culture and foreign policy.

Mart is currently working on a cultural history of synthetic pesticides in the United States from 1945 to the present. Her project focuses primarily on environmental history and builds on some of the themes explored in her earlier research with its interdisciplinary approach to American culture in the late twentieth century. Her book addresses the questions of why Americans continued to embrace the use of toxic chemicals in the environment even after the worldwide publicity about *Silent Spring* and the birth of a new environmental sensibility. And, why did Americans not change their views about pesticides even in the face of human and environmental disasters?

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 that 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 debates 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.

**Franz Mauelshagen**

July 2014 – January 2015

The Climatological Revolution of the Eighteenth Century

Franz Mauelshagen received his PhD in history from the University of Zurich, Switzerland. He was a Senior Fellow and member of the Board of Directors at the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, KWI) in Essen, Germany, where he also coordinated the “Climate & Culture” research program. In 2010 he was awarded a research grant from the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF) for the project “Climates of Migration: Climate Change and Environmental Migration in History.” Franz’s research focuses on the history of climate, natural hazards and adaptation to environmental risk. More recently, he has also worked on great transformations in history and their implications for a future ecological transition. Franz is one of the founders of the International Society for Historical Climatology and Climate History.

His RCC project focuses on the history of climatology. Over the last decade or so, the history of meteorology and climatology has developed rapidly, pushed, to some degree, by the question of anthropogenic global warming and its scientific foundations. Naturally, much of this research focuses on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, while the early days of climatology around 1800 are still somewhat obscure. It has been taken for granted that “climate” has always been a meteorological category—an assumption that does not withstand the test.

Kathleen McAfee

July 2014 – December 2014

Green Economy and Its Others: Scarcity, Rights, and Abundance



Kathleen McAfee received a doctorate in geography from the University of California, Berkeley, after a career in international development, including ten years as a policy analyst for Oxfam. As Associate Professor of International Relations at the San Francisco State University (SFSU), she teaches courses and advises students in international political economy; globalization and development; global food and hunger; and global environmental policy. Before coming to SFSU, Kathleen taught at Yale University and then held the Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Sustainability in 2005–2006. She has been a consultant to United Nations agencies and maintains ties with research centers, NGOs, and activist social movements in different world regions.

Her current research focuses on “selling nature to save it”: payment for ecosystem services, carbon markets, and alternative approaches that link climate change, conservation, and development. Green economy as it is currently conceived overlooks potential, positive synergies between conservation, climate mitigation, food production, meaningful employment, and equity. New, alternative approaches rely on active participation of rural communities as co-producers of vital ecosystem services as well as food. These movements are attempting to create new forms of governance, new conceptualizations of rights, and new forms of food, energy, and cultural sovereignty. Some endorse the goal of “living well” as an alternative ethos to that of ever-increasing material consumption.

**Heather McCrea**

January 2014 – June 2014

Gulf of Disease: Environment, Medicine, and State-Building
in Cuba, Mexico, and Panama, 1880–1940

Heather McCrea received her PhD in history from Stony Brook University in 2002. She is currently an associate professor of history at Kansas State University. She also taught at California State University at Fullerton between 2003 and 2006.

Her research draws medical and environmental histories together to further understand the overlapping roles of disease, illness, health, and the environment in the construction of modern nation-states and the formation of identity during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Mexico, Central America, and the trans-Caribbean. Her RCC project examined the interaction between foreign aid initiatives and domestic development processes designed to curb contagion and sanitize tropical environments, and its connection to processes of state-building and identity formation in Cuba, Mexico, and Panama.

Mei Xueqin

June 2014 – September 2014

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



Mei Xueqin is a scholar 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.

Xueqin’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. Xueqin’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.

**Khaled Misbahuzzaman**

January 2014 – September 2014

Traditional Environmental Knowledge Systems of the Ethnic Communities of Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh

Khaled Misbahuzzaman received his PhD in Forest Restoration Ecology from Edinburgh University, UK, through a UK Commonwealth Scholarship. He completed post-doctoral research in tropical forestry at Copenhagen University in Denmark through a European Commission scholarship. As a senior Fulbright scholar he conducted research on ethno-ecological knowledge systems at Pennsylvania State University in the USA. He is now professor of Forest Restoration Ecology at the University of Chittagong in Bangladesh.

He works on ecology, conservation of forests, and environmental knowledge systems with a special interest in forest ecosystem restoration using traditional ecological knowledge systems. His recent research projects involved mangrove ecology, ecology of hill forest ecosystems, participatory mangrove restoration, forest-based livelihood analysis, agroforestry for rural livelihood development, and enrichment of environmental science curricula. At the Rachel Carson Center, he looked at traditional environmental knowledge systems of the upland region of Bangladesh and their importance for ecological restoration.

Massimo Moraglio

January 2014 – June 2014

Social Movement in the Car Century: Tramway Revival and the Hope for a New Urban Environment, 1980–2010



Massimo Moraglio's research career and professional records focus on mobility and its wide effects on political, social, and cultural fields, in particular investigating city infrastructure and transport technologies in contemporary urban environments. He received his MA in political sciences at Turin University, and was awarded a PhD in urban planning history in 2003 from the Politecnico di Torino. In the past, beyond the teaching and teaching assistance tasks, his training has been supported by grants and research for public and private institutions in Italy, France, and Germany. He was Marie Curie fellow at the Technische Universität Berlin.

His RCC project investigated how public transport revival after the 1970s involved technological, social, and environmental dilemmas. The tram renaissance emerges as an attractive crossover research field, involving large-scale urban policy, social requests for efficient mass transport, and widespread concerns about pollution and traffic (im)mobility. After the first groundbreaking experiences in the 1960s, the success of tramways has mainly been considered a consequence of environmental issues, such as the oil crisis and urban pollution, benefitting from the new attention to electric mobility. Public participation and user involvement have accompanied the tram resurgence in the past decades, seen as fundamental tools in reshaping the city and addressing contemporary challenges.



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 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 worked on 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.

Emily O’Gorman

July 2014 – March 2015

Remaking Wetlands: Cultural Histories of Environmental Change in the Murray-Darling Basin, 1800s–2000s



Emily O’Gorman is an environmental and cultural historian with interdisciplinary research interests. Currently a lecturer in the Department of Environment and Geography at Macquarie University, she holds a PhD from the School of History at the Australian National University and undertook a postdoctoral candidacy in the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research at the University of Wollongong, Australia. She is an associate editor of the journal *Environmental Humanities*.

Her research within the environmental humanities focuses on how people live with rivers, wetlands, and climates. Her research examines both historical and contemporary changes in environmental understandings, their connection with specific places, and the particular environmental experiences of actors. Her RCC project studied the changing understandings of wetland environments, their diversity, and the related history of water and wetland management in the Murray-Darling Basin, Australia. These issues are animated by contested uses of wetlands by, for example, governments, farmers, ecologists, and local Aboriginal people, and the exclusion of locals from important management decisions.

**Ruth Oldenziel**

August 2014 – January 2015

Century of Cycling: Paths towards Sustainability

Ruth Oldenziel is a scholar of American-European history at Eindhoven University of Technology, where she spearheaded its sustainability agenda by helping to integrate research, education, and campus management into a living laboratory. Together with Mikael Hård, she is the author of *Consumers, Tinkerers, Rebels: The People Who Shaped Europe*.

In recent years, she has focused on the history of cycling and how a better understanding of its history will prepare policymakers to make better informed choices when they are investing most of their political capital on building bicycle lanes as the path towards sustainable urban mobility. 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 threatens to be a policy dead end. Instead of focusing on technology-driven solutions like bike lanes, historical research suggests that investing in inclusive bicycle culture is a more important ingredient in creating successful solutions for sustainable mobility.

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, where she earned a PhD in sociology with specialization in criminology, police science, and social work in 2007. 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 Rachel Carson Center, she worked on a paper based on empirical data collected from her fieldwork that looks at rural farming households' adaptation and resilience to climate change using their local knowledge in the Niger Delta region. She is the editor of "Indigenous Knowledge Responses to Climate Change in Africa" (www.africaclimatechange.com).



Cindy Ott

August 2014 – December 2014

Biscuits and Buffalo: Squashing Myths about Food in Indian Country

Cindy Ott is an associate professor of American Studies at Saint Louis University. In addition to publishing articles in the fields of environmental history, food studies, visual and material culture, and history and memory, Cindy has organized exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum of the Rockies, community development projects at Saint Louis University, and historic preservation projects the National Park Service. Cindy is the graphics and Gallery essay co-editor of *Environmental History* and a regular grant reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities, from which she was awarded a grant in 2006. She was a fellow at Harvard University's Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History during the academic year 2013–2014 and a visiting researcher at Stanford University's Bill Lane Center of the American West in 2012.

At the RCC she worked on a book titled *Biscuits and Buffalo: Squashing Myths about Food in Indian Country* about the history of food consumption and production on reservations in the American northern Plains in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The book aims to bring to light the dynamics and mechanisms by which American Indians have reconciled their own experiences in a modern globalized world with the persistently romantic expectations of what it means to be Indian. The working argument is that Plains Indians, the Crows in particular, look to recent generations for a sense of heritage and food traditions, rather than clinging to pre-colonial eras that so many hold up as the “true” Plains Indian culture.

José Augusto Pádua

April 2014 – June 2014

A Tale of Two Forests: Comparing the Historical Patterns of Deforestation and Conservation in the Brazilian Atlantic and Amazon Forests 1930–2012



José Augusto Pádua is a professor of Brazilian environmental history at the Institute of History, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, where he is also one of the coordinators of the Laboratory of Nature and History. Since 2011, he has been president of the Brazilian Association of Research and Graduate Studies on Environment and Society (ANPPAS). He has also been a member of the creation team of the “Museum of Tomorrow,” which will be inaugurated during the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games in 2016.

Pádua’s project looked at deforestation and conservation in Brazil. When the Europeans first arrived in what is now Brazilian territory in the sixteenth century, they found two major tropical forest complexes: the Atlantic Forest, originally measuring some 1,300,000 square kilometers, and the Amazon Forest, which at that time encompassed some 4,000,000 square kilometers. The different fates of these two forest complexes reveal a lot about the geography and the main patterns of Brazilian environmental history.



Ulrike Plath

December 2014 – February 2015

Baltic Food Cultures: Bodies and the Environment
(Seventeenth–Nineteenth Century)

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 Centre for Environmental History (KAJAK). She is also a 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.

At the RCC she worked on a book with the working title *Greening Baltic History: Gardens, Food and Bodies in Early Modern Times*. The book unravels the history of productive gardening, focusing in the first part on the changes it meant for landscapes, local food cultures, health, society, and economy in three important phases of modernization in the 1680s, 1780s, and 1880s by looking at the life and work of leading gardeners and cooks. In a second part, it will exemplify the innovations gardening brought, using three case studies that will deepen knowledge about processes of biocultural transfer: apples and asparagus, breast milk and surrogates, diseases and grafting.

Jenny Price

June 2014 – August 2014

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



Jenny Price is a public writer, artist, and historian focusing on US environmental topics. She has written about urban nature and environmentalism in Los Angeles, urban river revitalization and public beach access in California, and 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 University 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. With the LA Urban Rangers art collective, she has conducted such projects as Downtown LA Trail System and Public Access 101: Malibu Public Beaches. In 2014, she returned to Princeton as the Barron Visiting Professor in the Environment and the Humanities.

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 US 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.



Thomas Princen

February 2014 – July 2014

1. *Distant Horizons: An Ethic of the Long Term*; and
2. *Urgent Transition: Reconnection in a Biophysically Constrained, Ethically Challenged World*

Thomas Princen explores issues of social and ecological sustainability at the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan. He works on principles for sustainability (e.g., sufficiency), overconsumption, the language and ethics of resource use, localization, and the transition out of fossil fuels. Princen is the author of *Treading Softly: Paths to Ecological Order* and *The Logic of Sufficiency*, and lead editor of *Confronting Consumption*. He is co-editor of *The Localization Reader: Adapting to the Coming Downshift*, co-author of *Environmental NGOs in World Politics: Linking the Local and the Global*, and author of *Intermediaries in International Conflict*.

At the RCC Princen worked on two book-length projects. *Distant Horizons: An Ethic of the Long Term* represents his ongoing attempt to construct a “language of sustainability” by developing social organizing principles and complementing them with world views, both seeking consonance between the biophysical and social. *The Politics of Urgent Transition* considers the implications of energy descent at the same time that environmental costs are rising. Not only is this energy transition unlike all previous ones (there will be less concentrated available energy, not more) but its social dimensions, especially its politics, is largely unexplored.

Harriet Ritvo

August 2014 – December 2014

At the Edge of the Wild



Harriet Ritvo is Arthur J. Conner Professor of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a past president of the American Society for Environmental History. Her research interests lie at the intersection of environmental history, the history of human-animal relations, and the history of natural history; she has focused on the Anglophone world since the eighteenth century.

Her current book project, *At the Edge of the Wild*, explores shifting understandings of what constitutes wildness in animals, and the practices that these understandings have inspired and shaped. As human impact on the environment has become increasingly pervasive, the juxtaposed categories of “wild” and “domesticated” have altered in resonance; the animal wild becomes more appealing as it becomes less available. As the valence of wildness has altered, the stakes around its definition have increased, with implications for such varied enterprises as livestock breeding and environmental conservation.



Laura Sayre

August 2014 – January 2015

A Short History of Organic Farming: From Reaction to Innovation

Laura Sayre is an independent writer and researcher whose work focuses on the culture of agriculture from a literary and historical perspective. She received her PhD in English from Princeton University in 2002, where her dissertation, *Farming by the Book: British Georgic in Prose and Practice, 1697–1820*, received the Agricultural History Society’s Gilbert C. Fite “best dissertation of the year” award. From 2003 to 2007 she worked as a writer and editor for *NewFarm.org*, the online magazine of organic and sustainable agriculture published by the Rodale Institute; from 2008 to 2009 she was a fellow with the Program in Agrarian Studies at Yale University; and from 2009 to 2014 she was employed as a visiting researcher with the French National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA). She has also worked as an organic farmworker, organic inspector, and technical translator, and is a member of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements 2014–2015 Organic Leadership group.

Sayre’s project proposes that an understanding of the history of organic agriculture is essential to future agricultural sustainability. Her core claims are 1) that organic agriculture must be understood in terms of both its principles and its practices; 2) that its advocates have consistently engaged in an interrogation of agricultural history; and 3) that organic agriculture’s innovations have been as much about new forms of inquiry, observation, and communication as they have been about new agronomic techniques.

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 (Literature and the Environment) at California State University at Fullerton. Her first book, *Strange Natures: Futurity, Empathy, and the Queer Ecological Imagination* (University of Illinois Press, 2013), rereads well-known contemporary queer novels and films as ecologically-minded.

Seymour's RCC project is her second book, which will draw attention to "bad" expressions of environmentalism from the past three decades: expressions that defy mainstream environmentalism's sincerity and sentimentality through irony and irreverence. 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."



Sainath Suryanarayanan

May 2014 – August 2014

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, beekeeping, and agriculture in order to arrive at a better understanding of the circumstances that led to CCD.

Louis Warren

May 2014 – August 2014

The Rising of God's Red Son: The Ghost Dance Religion and the Dawn of the Twentieth Century



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 California 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.

Returning to the RCC, Warren continued to work on his book exploring 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 rewrite 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.

**Markus Wilczek**

May 2014 – August 2014

The History and Function of Sustainability in German Literature from the Early Eighteenth to the Early Twentieth Century

Markus Wilczek is associate professor of German at Tufts University. He studied German literature and language, political science, sociology, and pedagogy at the Georg-August-Universität in Göttingen (Staatsexamen, 2000). He came to the United States as a Fulbright scholar, and received his PhD from Johns Hopkins in 2007. His research has previously been supported by grants from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Harvard University Center for the Environment, where he served as a faculty associate. In addition, Wilczek has been awarded a fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Currently, he is writing a book on literary, philosophical, and economic discourses of *Nachhaltigkeit* (sustainability) from the eighteenth century to the present. At the Rachel Carson Center, he continued work on this project and on a “Poetics of Radioactivity.”

Xia Mingfang

July 2014 – September 2014

Natural Disasters, Environmental Changes and Rural Market Development in North China since the Ming Dynasty



Xia Mingfang is professor of history at Renmin University of China and director of the Center for Ecological History and the Institute of Qing History (IQH). He is also chairman of the Disaster History Committee of China Associate for Disaster Prevention. He contributed to *The Sequel to the Chronological Record of Disasters and Famine in Modern China* (1993), and *The Top Ten Disasters in Modern China* (1994) and is the author of *Natural Disasters and Rural Society in the Republic of China* (2000), and *The Bumpy Road: China's Modernization in Ecological Transformation* (2012). He also co-edits the book series *Ecology and People*, which publishes Chinese translations of scholarly work on environmental history.

Mingfang's research focuses on the history of disaster and famine, exploring the process of interactions between social changes and natural disasters. His RCC project challenges the prevalent arguments about North China's rural market and explores the differences of the market economy between this region and Jiangnan. It also explains the mechanism of population increase and proliferation, the trends of natural disasters, environmental degradation, and the simplification of ecological diversity, and demonstrates the environmental dynamic of the rural market development in North China.

Carson Professors



Eveline Dürr

Carson Professor 2013–2014

Eveline Dürr studied social and cultural anthropology, sociology, and literature at the Universities of Heidelberg, Mexico City, and Freiburg. She received her PhD and (Habilitation) from the University of Freiburg, Germany, and held a position as associate professor at the School of Social Sciences, Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. Since 2008, she is a professor at the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, LMU Munich. She has conducted fieldwork in Mexico, the United States, New Zealand, and Germany on topics ranging from mobilities and migration to the formation of cultural identities. Her research projects and publications reflect her interests in perceptions of the environment, garbage, slum tourism and ecotourism, urban anthropology, spatiality, and globalization, and take into consideration the historical trajectories that have formed present conditions. She is a member of the RCC Advisory Board and co-chair of the doctoral program.

Wolfram Mauser

Carson Professor 2014–2015



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 RCC Advisory Board; he was also part of the committee that selected the 2014 Carson Fellows.

Visiting Scholars

Catherine Ashcroft (University of New Hampshire, USA)

Etienne Benson (Pennsylvania State University, USA)

Peter Cox (University of Chester, England)

Axel Goodbody (University of Bath, England)

Reed Evans (sustainability consultant)

Christian Lahnstein (Munich Re)

Ursula Münster (LMU Munich)

Guillermo Andres Ospina Rodrigues (University of Cauca, Colombia)

Seth Peabody (Harvard University, USA)

Maya Peterson (University of California, Santa Cruz, USA)

Rebecca Potter (University of Dayton, USA)

Patrick Reed (University of Iowa, USA)

Adam Rosenbaum (Colorado Mesa University, USA)

Susanne Schmidt (LMU Munich)

Birgit Schneider (University of Potsdam, Germany)

Thom van Dooren (University of New South Wales, Australia)

Tamara Venit-Shelton (Claremont McKenna College, USA)

Affiliated LMU Professors

Claudia Binder (geography)

Anke Friedrich (geology)

Bernhard Gill (sociology)

Gisela Grupe (anthropology and human genetics)

Jens Kersten (law)

Christoph Knill (political science)

Hubertus Kohle (art history)

Uwe Lübken (American studies)

Karen Pittel (economics)

Martin Schulze Wessel (history)

Markus Vogt (ethics and theology)

Gordon Winder (geography)

19 RCC Staff



RCC staff during an outing to Starnberger See and Buchheim Museum in 2014.

Directors



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.



Max Bergmann
Research Assistant



Cynthia Brittner
Office Manager



Carmen Dines
Research Assistant



Thekla Ebbert
Research Assistant



Daki Galgalo
Research Assistant



Marie Heinz
Research Assistant

General Operations



Arielle Helmick
Managing Director



Annka Liepold
Communications
Associate



Rachel Shindelar
Events Manager

Programs and Projects

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



Sabine Buchczyk
Research Associate



Rob Emmett
Director of Academic
Programs



Anna Rühl
Certificate Program
Coordinator



**Constanze
Sabathil**
Communications
Associate



Pavla Šimková
Research Associate



Martin Spenger
Research Associate

Programs and Projects



Lisa Spindler
Research Assistant



Sonja Weinbuch
Certificate Program
Coordinator

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 research on current topics in the form of special exhibitions.



Kimberly Coulter

Director of the
Environment &
Society Portal



Susanne Darabas

Research Associate



Eliza Encheva

Research Associate



Nina Möllers

Project Manager –
Exhibitions



Iris Trautmann

Digital Humanities
Specialist



**Alexa Weik von
Mossner**

International
Curatorial Fellow

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 translation.



Brenda Black
Editor



Marielle Dado
Editor and
Communications
Associate



Stephanie Hood
Editor



Dominic Kotas
Editor



Katie Ritson
Managing Editor



Maeve Storey
Editor



20 Outlook

Looking ahead into 2015 and beyond, we will be orienting ourselves by means of the findings of the evaluation committee and their recommendations for the future of the Rachel Carson Center. The center officially enters “Phase II” on 1 August 2015, and there are two main changes to the functioning of the center that will shape the research community from the outset of this second phase. Firstly, we will have a stronger focus and yet simultaneously a greater openness to other disciplines. Instead of “International Environmental History,” our project will be called “Transformations in Environment and Society.” This focus should help to bring scholars into dialogue with one another and also with professionals from different fields. The second major change will be the introduction of new kinds of fellowships. Interdisciplinary fellowships will be awarded to researchers working together as a tandem or trio, with one fellow a field practitioner or scientist; this kind of interdisciplinary collaboration and the jointly authored work that results is a tangible answer to the calls for a greater dialogue between the “two cultures.” Outreach fellowships will recognize the contribution of the creative arts (e.g., documentary filmmaking, creative writing, fine art) in communicating issues and raising questions relating to Transformations in Environment and Society.

Many of the other projects at the RCC will continue, but with a double emphasis—maintaining momentum on the one hand, and reevaluating and refocusing on the other. We will work on redeveloping the growth strategy for the Environment & Society Portal to ensure that this resource is distilled to meet the specific needs of its target user group. The alumni network of the RCC will continue to expand; we hope that the selection of a new President of the Alumni Association in 2015 will help this group not just to enjoy new activities and connections, but also to develop key strategies in furthering the successes of the Rachel Carson Center in the future.

Having identified strong partnerships with other institutions in the first phase, the RCC will aim to both expand these partnerships in 2015 and look for new opportunities to collaborate internationally and within Germany. A number of joint fellowships, funded by the RCC together with a European or North American partner institution, are currently foreseen and will afford increased mobility for students, staff, and fellows at the RCC.

The Anthropocene exhibition, which was such a big part of 2014 at the RCC, will continue into the future, but in new spheres of influence. The exhibition and the conversations and projects it has provoked will go out into the world in 2016, touring a number of national and international museums. While the RCC powerhouse continues to produce words and ideas, the many tangible results of this—the books and articles and multimedia resources—will carry on reaching people all over the world, provoking new reflections on environment and society and on the transformations our world has undergone and must continue to undergo.

RCC Annual Report 2014

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Editors

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LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

Deutsches Museum

