# Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society Annual Report 2017

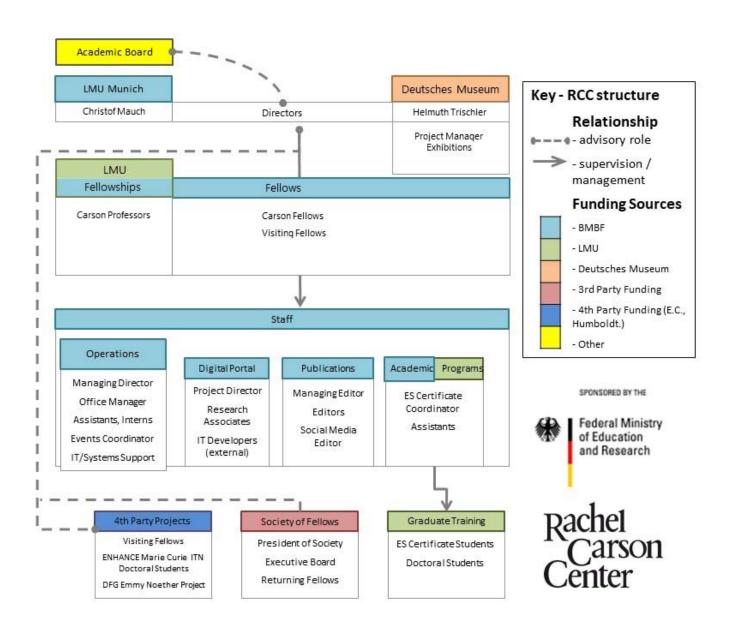
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# 1. The RCC at a Glance 2017

- The DFG Emmy-Noether Research Project "Hazardous Travels: Ghost Acres and the Global Waste Economy" entered its second year. The team is now at full capacity and was involved in several activities throughout the year, including Klimaherbst München and a workshop at the Carson Center.
- The RCC strengthened its ties with China through the LMU China Academic Network (ChAN).
   Thanks to funding from the German Academic Exchange Service, the RCC and ChAN held a satellite conference on "Asia and the Pacific: Environments—Cultures—Histories."
- The RCC received funding for a new Innovative Training Network entitled "Building Resourceful and Resilient Communities through Adaptive and Transformative Environmental Practice (RECOMS)." The project is scheduled to begin in 2018.
- The doctoral program and certificate program are in the process of establishing an alumni organization to enable networking among graduates.
- Current and former RCC staff, fellows, and scholars reunited at the ESEH biannual
  conference, which was held in Zagreb in 2017. More than 40 past and current fellows, as well
  as doctoral students and board members, presented their research or chaired sessions.
   Berghahn Publishers organized a book launch and reception during the conference to
  celebrate the publication of several new volumes in its series "The Environment in History:
  International Perspectives."
- RCC Perspectives published six volumes, two of them monographs showcasing Chinese history. Other volumes explored multispecies relationships, Australian history, men and nature, and the Rights of Nature.
- Students of the RCC's Environmental Studies Certificate Program organized Ecopolis
   München: Environmental Histories of a City. The interactive multimedia exhibition showcased
   Munich's environmental histories through the students' final projects. The exhibition ran
   from 25 July to 27 July 2017 and concluded with "Ecopolis Night": an evening of eco-slams,
   discussions and presentations. The exhibition has since been launched as a virtual exhibition
   on the Environment & Society Portal.
- A number of RCC alumni published books in 2017, thanks to their time spent working on these projects during their RCC fellowships. Alumni also collaborated on a number of activities, including workshops, conferences, field trips, research projects, and several publications.
- The Deutsches Museum and the Rachel Carson Center teamed up in 2017 to produce "energie.wenden," which officially opened on 15 February. The exhibition explores the challenges of present and future energy transitions.

# 2. Organigram



# 3. The Academic Advisory Board

The chair of the Advisory Board, Prof. Dr. Verena Winiwarter, finished her period of office in 2017. She was awarded an Honorary Fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center.

The members of the Advisory Board as of the end of 2017:

- Prof. Dr. Dorothee Brantz (Technical University of Berlin)
- Prof. Dr. Anke Friedrich (LMU Munich), Deputy Chair
- Prof. Dr. Simon Goldhill (Director of CRASSH, University of Cambridge, UK)
- Prof. Dr. Poul Holm (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)
- **Prof. Dr. Bruno Latour** (Sciences Po, Paris, France)
- Prof. Dr. Catherine Rigby (Bath Spa University, UK)
- Prof. Dr. Libby Robin (Australian National University, Canberra, Australia)

# 4. Collaborations

The RCC's ongoing collaboration with **Renmin University's Center for Ecological History** in Beijing, China saw the conference "Knowing Nature: The Changing Foundations of Environmental Knowledge" take place from 25 to 27 May 2017. The event tackled issues of knowledge production—how knowledge develops, what factors impact knowledge production, and who has authority.

The RCC was awarded generous EU funding from the European Commission as part of their Horizon 2020 initiative for an Innovative Training Network entitled "Building Resourceful and Resilient Communities through Adaptive and Transformative Environmental Practice (RECOMS)." Together with four other European universities, and in collaboration with **Green City Munich** and the **Bavarian Forest National Park**, the RCC will collaborate on this project.

Together with the **Center for Culture**, **History and Environment at the University of Wisconsin–Madison** and the DAAD, the RCC organized the second event in a collaborative research project on rivers: the place-based workshop, "Danube: Environments, Histories & Cultures," which took place in June. Exploring by bus, boat, bike, and on foot, the seminar discussed the river, its watershed, and its culture with local experts and with scientists from a dozen different academic disciplines.

In 2017, the RCC cohosted several events with Amerikahaus München. Two film screenings took place at Amerikahaus München in January and December respectively. *The Age of Consequences* was co-organized with the Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations. The screening was followed by a conversation between RCC director Christof Mauch and Carson fellow Gregg Mitman (University of Wisconsin-Madison). *Beyond Fordlândia: Henry Ford's Amazonian Adventures—90 Years Later* was followed by a discussion with the film's director, Marcos Colón, environmental historian Antoine Acker (University of Zurich), and Carson fellow Kata Beilin (University of Madison-Wisconsin). In October, author William Powers was invited to speak at two events: In "How to Live the Good Life—Lessons from Bolivia," Powers and Christof Mauch discussed the concepts of Living Well (Buen Vivir) and the experience of the Bolivian eco-municipality Samaipata. The second event, "Living Slow and Well," was a lecture by Powers on the dominant culture of speed prevalent in many urban spaces. Here, Powers drew on his research from his most recent book, which investigates the possibility of counteracting this culture by finding happiness through sustainable living.

The *Hochschultagen: Ökosoziale Marktwirtschaft & Nachhaltigkeit* are a series of events hosted by various universities throughout Germany on topics relating to sustainability and the possibility of creating a socially and ecologically healthy economy. These multi-day events include podium discussions, workshops, and film screenings. In 2017, the RCC held a special film screening for the twelfth *Münchner Hochshultage* event. The screening and discussion of *In Transition 2.0* were part of our Green Visions film series.

In October, the center contributed to the **11**<sup>th</sup> **Münchner Klimaherbst 2017** with three further film screenings from its Green Visions series: *AGROkalypse, Tomorrow*, and *Bikes vs Cars*.

# 5. Events

## **Lunchtime Colloquia**

All lunchtime colloquia are recorded (audio and video). The Interns are responsible for editing and uploading the videos to the <u>RCC'S YouTube channel</u>. In addition to the usual program, the RCC also held two special all-day colloquium events.

12.01.2017

**Elizabeth Hennessey** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) on "On the Backs of Tortoises: The Past and Future of Evolution in the Galápagos Islands"

19.01.2017

**Almo Farina** (International Institute of Ecoacoustics) on "Ecoacoustics: Investigating and Interpreting the Earth Voice"

26.01.2017

**Lisa FitzGerald** (National University Ireland) on "Re-Place: Performative Landscapes as Conceptual Ecological Environments"

02.02.2017

**Lisa M. Brady** (Boise State University) on "Capitalist Pigs: International Aid Agencies and Agricultural Development in South Korea, 1945–1961"

09.02.2017

**Monica Vasile** (Institute of Sociology of the Romanian Academy) on "Associative Environmentality: The Revival of the Forest Commons in the Romanian Carpathians"

20.04.2017

**Jennifer Carlson** (Rice University) on "Unruly Energies: Thinking Citizenship beyond Ecocapital in Germany's Energy Transition"

**Hayal Desta Yimer** (Addis Ababa University) on "Land and Water Uses in Ethiopia: Challenges for Sustainability"

**Philippe Forêt** (Nazarbayev University) on "How the 'Gentlemen of Science' Obscured the Truth about Global Warming"

27.04.2017

Jim Webb (Colby College) on "The Guts of the Matter: Enteric Disease and Human History"

04.05.2017

**Paula Ungar** (Alexander von Humboldt Institute) on "What's in a Line? Science and Politics in the Conservation of Colombian Páramos"

11.05.2017

**Laurence Delina** (Boston University) on "Energy Transitions from Below: Self-Sufficiency in Rural Thailand"

18.05.2017

Ulrich Brand (University of Vienna) on "Great Transformation as a New Critical Orthodoxy?"

24.05.2017

**David Biggs** (University of California at Riverside) on "Footprints: The Militarized Landscape in Central Vietnam"

**Elia Apostolopoulou** (Oxford University) on "Biodiversity Offsetting and 'Equivalent Natures'"

**Sara Gregg** (University of Kansas) on "Bee's-Eye View: Re-Capturing the Sensory Dynamism of Montana's High Plains"

01.06.2017

Azeez Olaniyan (Ekiti State University) on "Forest Reserves as Security Threats in Nigeria"

08.06.2017

**Teresa Sabol Spezio** (Pitzer College) on "How Clean is Clean? Risk Assessment, Environmental Justice and Environmental Contamination"

22.06.2017

Anna Storm (Stockholm University) on "Scarred Ground: Industrial Temporalities"

29.06.2017

Irus Braverman (Lund University) on "Coral Whisperers: Scientists on the Brink"

06.07.2017

**Sofia Teives Henriques** (University of Gloucestershire) on "Energy Transitions in the City: Lisbon 1856–2006"

13.07.2017

**Ryan Jones** (University of Oregon) on "Soviet Whalers and the Problem of Evil in Environmental History"

20.07.2017

**Adrián Gustavo Zarrilli** (University of Quilmes/CONICET-National Council of Scientific and Technical Investigations) on "Green Gold? The Expansion of the Soybean Frontier in Argentina"

27.07.2017

**James Beattie** (University of Victoria) on "Chinese Merchant Networks, Migration, and Environmental Transformation in the Southern Pacific, 1790s–1920s"

12.10.2017

Christopher Cokinos (University of Arizona) on "Atlas of the Long Tomorrow"

19.10.2017

**Nancy Trautmann** (Cornell University) on "Beyond Doom and Gloom: Inspiring Student Learning and Action"

26.10.2017

**Kata Beilin and Sainath Suryanarayanan** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) on "Hispanic Agri-Cultures: Interspecies Alliance and Resistance to GM Crops"

02.11.2017

Noel Healy (Salem State University) on "Limiting Climate Chaos: Disruptive Climate Politics"

09.11.2017

**Tom Idema** (Utrecht University) on "Environmental Posthumanism: Narrating Humans and Worlds in Transformation"

16.11.2017

**Amy Moran-Thomas** (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) on "Planetary Health and the Global Diabetes Epidemic"

23.11.2017

**Cecilia Åsberg** (Linköping University) on "Feminist Environmental Humanities and a Thousand Tiny Anthropocenes"

30.11.2017

**Claiton da Silva** (Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul) on "Science, Environment, Society: Transforming a Brazilian Biome"

07.12.2017

Kate Rigby (Bath Spa University) on "Roadkill: Multi-species Mobility and Everyday Ecocide"

14.12.2017

**Tony Weis** (The University of Western Ontario) on "Ghosts and Things: The Trajectory of Animal Life"

21.12.2017

Marcela Lopez (Technische Universität Berlin) on "Contested Urban Waterscapes in Medellín, Colombia"

# **Conferences and Workshops**

27.04.2017 - 29.04.2017

"Transitions in Energy Landscapes and Everyday Life in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries"

Workshop at Kerschensteiner Kolleg / Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany <a href="https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/05/29/transitions-in-energy-landscapes-and-everyday-life-in-the-nineteenth-and-twentieth-centuries/">https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/05/29/transitions-in-energy-landscapes-and-everyday-life-in-the-nineteenth-and-twentieth-centuries/</a>

16.05.2017 - 17.05.2017

"East Side Story of Ecological Globalization"

Workshop at the Leibniz-Institute, Regensburg, Germany

25.05.2017 - 27.05.2017

"Knowing Nature: The Changing Foundations of Environmental Knowledge"

Conference at Renmin University of China, Beijing, China

https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/06/22/knowing-nature-the-changing-foundations-of-environmental-knowledge

30.05.2017 - 31.05.2017

"Household Consumption and Environmental Change in the Twentieth Century"

Workshop at the University of Bologna, Italy

https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/06/09/household-consumption-and-environmental-change-in-the-twentieth-century/

04.06.2017 - 11.06.2017

"Danube: Environments, Histories, Cultures"

Place-Based Workshop with the University of Wisconsin–Madison https://seeingthewoods.org/category/danube-environments-histories-and-cultures/

03.07.2017 - 04.07.2017

"Radical Hope: Inspiring Sustainability Transformations through Our Past"

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/07/26/radical-hope-inspiring-sustainability-transformations-through-our-past/

28.07.2017

#### "Environmental Histories of Architecture"

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/08/28/environmental-histories-of-architecture/

18.08.2017

## "Communicating the Climate"

14.09.2017 - 15.09.2017

# "New Materialisms at the Crossroads of the Natural and Human Sciences"

scholarly-findings-on-climate-and-weather-in-a-controversial-time/

COST WG2 Meeting and Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

03.11.2017 - 05.11.2017

# "Asia and the Pacific: Environment-Cultures-Histories"

Satellite Workshop, LMU - China Academic Network at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/11/14/asia-and-the-pacific-environments-cultures-histories/

30.11.2017 - 02.12.2017

"Hazardous Time-scapes: How to Make Sense of Toxic Landscapes from Multiple Timed, Spaced, and Embodied Perspectives?"

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

https://seeingthewoods.org/2018/01/24/hazardous-time-scapes-how-to-make-sense-of-toxic-landscapes-from-multiple-timed-spaced-and-embodied-perspectives/

## **Exhibitions and Presentations**

10.05.2017

#### "Doctoral Program Film Presentations"

Screening of Short Films at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich <a href="https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/07/18/proenviron-presents/">https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/07/18/proenviron-presents/</a>

29.05.2017

# "The Last Grass"

Photography Exhibition by Monica Vasile, Arryn Snowball, and Ștefan Voicu at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

25.07.2017 - 27.07.2017

"Ecopolis München: Umweltgeschichten einer Stadt"

A Student Exhibition on Munich's Environmental Histories at LMU Munich https://seeingthewoods.org/2017/09/13/ecopolis-munchen-ecopolis-night/

# **Green Visions Film Series Screenings and Special Screenings**

The RCC hosts the film series "Green Visions" in cooperation with the Deutsches Museum and the Münchner Volkshochschule. Each academic semester, the series screens environmental documentaries from across the world that focus on a given theme for that semester. The themes for 2017 were "Global Justice," "Agriculture," and "Green Cities." The screenings are followed by discussions with directors, environmental experts, and film scholars.

12.01.2017

The Last Ocean

17.01.2017

Wild Plants

02.02.2017

Cowspiracy

09.03.2017

Landraub

27.04.2017

**Growing Cities** 

12.05.2017

The Land beneath Our Feet

18.05.2017

The Harvest

06.07.2017

Gekaufte Wahrheit

17.10.2017

Münchner Klimaherbst 2017: AGROkalypse

18.10.2017

Münchner Klimaherbst 2017: Tomorrow

19.10.2017

Münchner Klimaherbst 2017: Bikes vs. Cars

23.11.2017

Racing to Zero

11.12.2017

Beyond Fordlândia: Henry Ford's Amazonian Adventures-90 Years Later

14.11.2017

In Transition 2.0

#### **Lectures**

24.04.2017

Prof. Thomas Bohn on "Wisent-Wildnis und Welterbe. Der polnisch-weißrussische Nationalpark von Białowieża"

Lecture at Carl Friedrich von Siemens Stiftung München

12.06.2017

Sofia Teives Henriques on "Energy Transition in the City: Lisbon 1854–2006" 8th RCC Lecture at ZUG Wien

15.11.2017

Martin Müller on "Der improvisierte Nationalpark: Natur und Mensch im Bayerischen Wald" 5th RCC Lecture at Institut für Bayerische Geschichte

# **Tuesday Discussions**

10.01.2017	Bettina Heimann (EURAGRI/Aarhurst University) on Agricultural Research
17.01.2017	Walter de Vries (TUM, Munich) on Environmental Risk Management
24.01.2017	Regine Keller (Landscape Architecture, TUM, Munich) on City Planning

31.01.2017	Veronika Lohr (Bavarian Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection) on Environmental Education
07.02.2017	Falko Müller (Climate Action Plan, Munich) on Environmental Projects and NGOs
25.04.2017	Fritz Lietsch (Forum Nachhaltig Wirtschaften, Munich) on Environmental Technologies, Management, and Communication
02.05.2017	Sylvia Scherer (BMW Group) on Sustainability
09.05.2017	Manju Menon and Kanchi Kohli (Namati, India) on Environmental Justice
16.05.2017	Margarete Bause (Green Party Leader, Bavaria) on Environmental Politics
23.05.2017	Daniel Überall (Kartoffelkombinat, Munich) on Urban Farming and Alternative Economies
30.05.2017	Kirk W. Junker (IMES, Cologne University) on Multidisciplinary Education
06.06.2017	Marcus Andreas (Adelphi, Berlin) on Environmental Communication and Bridge Building
13.06.2017	Timothy J. LeCain (Montana State University/Oslo Institute for Advanced Study) on His New Book: <i>The Matter of History</i>
20.06.2017	Barbara Wolter (BürgerStiftung, Munich) on Educational and Ecological City Projects
27.06.2017	Lisa Brady (Editor-in-Chief of <i>Environmental History</i> ) on Her Oxford Press Journal
04.07.2017	Hunter Lovins (Natural Capitalism Solutions, Colorado) on Sustainable Development
11.07.2017	Oliver Szasz (Macromedia University, Munich) on Communication Design, Sustainability, and Ethics
18.07.2017	Günther Langer (AWM, Munich) on Advanced Waste Disposal
17.10.2017	William Powers (World Policy Institute, New York) on Conservation and Sustainable Lifestyles and Initiatives
24.10.2017	Ernst Rauch (Munich Re) on Environmental Risk Management
07.11.2017	Jane Carruthers (University of South Africa) on National Parks
14.11.2017	Rasem Baban (Tierpark Hellabrunn, Munich) on Geozoos

21.11.2017	Markus Guddat (Greenpeace Munich)
28.11.2017	Alexandra Caterbow (Health and Environment Justice Support e.v.) on Environmental Policy and Justice
05.12.2017	Susanne Schmitt (ForGenderCare) and Laurie Young (Arts and Science in Motion) on Moving Natural History Museums
19.12.2017	Walter Haefeker (European Professional Beekeepers Association) on Politics, Advances, and Future of Beekeeping

# 6. Publications

Alongside the production of the RCC series *Perspectives, Global Environment*, and *The Environment in History*, the publishing team worked in 2017 to raise the profile and extend the reach of the RCC blog, <u>Seeing the Woods</u>.

In 2017, the blog received a record 15, 065 visitors, up from 12, 837 the previous year. Total views also increased from 20, 945 in 2016 to 26, 156 views in 2017. Just under a third of these views were the result of organic searches, while roughly one-fifth of total views were referred by our social media platforms and affiliated Carson Center websites.

Notable additions to the blog in 2017 included three series: *The Uses of Environmental History* (which emerged from a roundtable forum published in the first issue of the new *Journal for Ecological History*, edited by Renmin University's Center for Ecological History); *The Taproom*, an ongoing series on the history of beer; and *Trash Talks*, a series on everyday encounters with waste developed by the "Hazardous Travels" research group. These series in particular have travelled well: the "Uses of" series, for instance, was set as prescribed reading for a course taught at Emory College on "Environmental History's Audience Challenge." The well-loved *Making Tracks* and *Bookshelf* series continue to develop.

# **RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society**

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

**2017/1**: The Multispecies Editing Collective, ed. "Troubling Species: Care and Belonging in a Relational World."

**2017/2**: Christof Mauch, Ruth Morgan, and Emily O'Gorman, eds. "Visions of Australia: Environments in History."

2017/3: Xia Mingfang. "The Ecology of Home."

**2017/4**: Sherilyn MacGregor and Nicole Seymour, eds. "Men and Nature: Hegemonic Masculinities and Environmental Change."

2017/5: Don Worster. "The Good Muck: Toward an Excremental History of China."

**2017/6**: Anna Leah Tabios Hillebrecht and María Valeria Berros, eds. "Can Nature Have Rights? Legal and Political Insights."

#### **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 that give "voice and space to historical experiences from the most remote regions of the globe." The Rachel Carson Center produces one special issue per year on topics that result from research projects at the center. The RCC has been a partner for the last six years. In 2017, Global Environment celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year of success.

**Volume 10, no. 1**: Helmuth Trischler and Don Worster, eds. "Manufacturing Landscapes: Nature and Technology in Environmental History."

#### 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.

While there were no publications in 2017, two edited collections are forthcoming in February 2018.

#### **Supported Publications**

In addition to the regular series, RCC alumni published a number of books that originated from research conducted at the RCC.

# 7. Environment & Society Portal

The Environment & Society Portal is a gateway to open-access resources on the human-environment relationship. As the digital publication platform and repository for the Rachel Carson Center, it reflects research of RCC fellows, staff, and partners who curate and contribute content. All content is tagged and is browsable on a map, timeline, and keyword

explorer. Since its launch in 2012, the Portal has attracted more than half a million users from 224 countries and territories.

To celebrate its five years online in 2017, the team collected user and expert feedback and updated the Portal's design and structure in a major overhaul. The most visible update was to make the Portal mobile responsive: the design and information structure adjusts to accommodate users' mobile phones or tablets. The Portal's entire interface is now more dynamic and accessible, with more complete and user friendly search results; a more interactive map, timeline, and keyword explorer; and better integration of publications with databases worldwide.

The Portal's Multimedia Library is a digital archive that makes images, podcasts, scholarly texts, documentary films, and other materials openly accessible. There are eight "collections": Archival Gems (offering users new paths to discover digitized primary sources embedded in the Portal's publications); Art & Graphics; Books & Profiles; Earth First! Movement Writings (to be published as an exhibition in 2018); Periodicals; Places & Events; Sound & Vision; and a new category, Web Resources, which helps users find related digital projects such as environmental websites, blogs, and networks.

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History is an open-access, peer-reviewed publication platform for short, illustrated, and engaging environmental histories. Embedded in a particular time and place, each story focuses on a site, event, person, organization, or species as it relates to nature and human society. Arcadia promotes accessibility and visibility of original research in global environmental history and cognate disciplines. In 2017 Arcadia published 34 articles (for a total of 139) and introduced a new thematic collection, "Disaster Histories."

The Portal's most popular feature, Virtual Exhibitions are peer-reviewed interactive projects that put digitized multimedia materials into interpretive contexts. In 2017, the Portal published the exhibition "The Northwest Passage: Myth, Environment, and Resources," in which Elena Baldassarri takes readers on a multimedia tour of the Arctic including interactive maps, photographs, videos, and interviews with elders of Cambridge Bay, Nunavut. A particular highlight is the interactive timeline. A second virtual exhibition, "Ecopolis München: Environmental Histories of a City," showcases the final projects of students in the Rachel Carson Center's Environmental Studies Certificate Program. Also in 2017 the Portal team worked on three ambitious virtual exhibitions to be published in early 2018, and introduced a new "short form" virtual exhibition for fellows interested in introducing multimedia work in a brief digital format.

# 8. Research Group Hazardous Travels

The Hazardous Travels team is now complete and comprises the research group's principal investigator, Simone Müller, three doctoral candidates, and a student researcher.

Müller was selected to join Academia.Net, a database of high-profile women scientists that is run by the Robert Bosch Foundation and Spektrum der Wissenschaft. She was also awarded a fellowship from the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia to support her archival research in 2018.

The group held three workshops in 2017: "HazTrav: Visions for the Future" (2–3 May), "What is Waste in the Global Waste Economy?" (10–11 July), and an internal workshop, "Trash Talks? Conversations about Communicating Waste Research" (23–26 October). Müller co-convened the LMU-China Academic Network Workshop "Asia and the Pacific: Environments-Cultures-Histories" (3–5 November) at the RCC. The team hosted the workshop "Hazardous Timescapes: How to Make Sense of Toxic Landscapes from Multiple Timed, Spaced, and Embodied Perspectives?" (30 November–2 December) in collaboration with the Deadly Dreams Network, The Center for the History of Global Development Shanghai, and the RCC.

In addition to numerous articles published by Müller, the group members launched a collaborative series on the RCC's blog called "Trash Talks: Hazardous Waste and the Everyday," which seeks to highlight our everyday encounters with hazardous waste material. The blog series received positive feedback and was republished online by Discard Studies: Social Studies of Waste, Pollution, and Externalities and the *Northeast Recycling Council* blog. The latest issue of LMU's research magazine *Einsichten* features Müller's article "Die Logik von Kolonialherren," which offers insights into the twisted logics and dynamics of the international toxic waste trade. The article reached a wide audience through the @haztravrcc Twitter account.

The group was also actively involved in several events, giving talks at various workshops and colloquia including the Berlin-Brandenburg Umweltcolloquium, the Deadly Dreams workshop in Kristiansand, the American Politics Summer Academy in Lamprecht, and the RCC's New Materialisms workshop. In October, one team member was invited to speak at an event organized by the Latin America Working Group of the Nord Süd Forum Munich. The event, "Environmental Justice in the Amazon? And Chevron Makes Every Effort to Thwart It," was part of Munich's 11<sup>th</sup> Klimaherbst festival.

# 9. Doctoral Program Environment and Society

As of December 2017, the Doctoral Program Environment and Society was home to 30 active doctoral candidates (14 women and 16 men) from 14 different countries.

Eight new students joined the program in 2017: Ayushi Dhawan, Max Feichtner, and Jonas Stuck (all part of the Hazardous Travels project), and Arun Adhikari, Claudio de Majo, Fausto

Ignatov, and Eline Tabak. Sabine Buchczyk, Annka Liepold, Zarrin Monajati, and Martin Spenger all graduated in 2017, and Yolanda Lopez Maldonado submitted her dissertation at the end of the year, with a defense scheduled for early 2018.

Twenty students in the program (two-thirds) have received external scholarships (DAAD, Studienstiftung, Gerda Henkel, Friedrich Ebert, DFG, Marie-Curie-ITN, HazTrav etc.), and most of the others had jobs with the RCC, Deutsches Museum, or other institutions at LMU Munich on part-time academic contracts (teaching or research assistance positions) during 2017.

Program members met for monthly colloquiua during term time, as well as monthly Stammtisch socials every month throughout the year. The two current elected program representatives are Katrin Kleemann and Ruhi Deol. In May, the program held a summer retreat/workshop funded by the LMU Graduate Center and the RCC called "Envisioning Environments: Visual Media in the Environmental Humanities," and led by Henrike Rau, CAS fellow Ricca Edmondson, Carson fellow Gregg Mitman, and HFF student Lion Bischof. The workshop culminated in an evening of short film presentations at the RCC and was a great success. In November the annual Doktorandentag took place and the program members invited Cecilia Åsberg from Linköping University in Sweden to be the visiting speaker at Lunchtime Colloquium.

Doctoral students continue to be active members of the RCC community, attending events and lectures together with fellows and ESCP students, and representing the RCC at a range of international conferences and workshops.

# 10. Certificate Program in Environmental Studies

In 2017, the Environmental Studies Certificate program reached a record 152 registered students from all 18 of LMU's faculties. The students come from 50 different master's programs (from LMU and other universities) to gain an additional certificate in Environmental Studies at the RCC.

Besides the RCC's weekly lunchtime colloquium and a subsequent reading course on international environmental topics, the program offered a number of interdisciplinary seminars. During both the winter semester 2016/17 and the summer semester 2017, the introductory reading course on key readings in environmental studies offered the students insights into diverse topics and fields of environmental history, political ecology, environmental anthropology and ethics, conservation biology, ecocriticism, and science and technology studies.

A short seminar on blog-writing was held for the first time by the RCC editorial team to introduce students to writing for a wider audience. Select pieces written by the students were then published in a new section dedicated to student research on the RCC Blog. A course on Digital Environmental Communication led by the Portal's digital project director examined the role of digital technologies in environmental communication, focusing on translation of scholarly research for the public.

The weekly Tuesday Discussion, the RCC's environmental practice seminar, introduced students to a wide variety of fields, both academic and beyond, in which environmental practitioners are active. Each session provided participants with the opportunity to meet speakers who function as heads of environmental foundations, as members of environmental research institutions, green businesses, environmental nongovernmental organizations (ENGOs), or as representatives of the Ministry of Environment.

In the summer, students were offered the experimental seminar "Ecopolis Seminar: Understanding and Imaging Munich's Environments." Students formed multidisciplinary groups and prepared exhibits and presentations for the 2017 "Ecopolis" event in collaboration with the course leaders Christof Mauch (RCC), Nina Möllers (curator, Deutsches Museum), Ursula Münster (RCC). The Ecopolis exhibition was turned into a virtual exhibition on the Portal.

Highlights of the Certificate Program included an excursion to Munich's botanical garden, the experimental interdisciplinary teaching seminar "National Parks in Bavaria: Environment—History—Politics," and a workshop on "Designing Research in Environmental Studies" at Studienhaus Gut Schönwag.

In winter 2017, the Environmental Studies program founded the Alumni Association Rachel Carson Center e.V., which will enable graduated PhD and Certificate students to stay connected with each other and the RCC.

# 11. Internship Program

During 2017, interns from Sweden, Germany, the United States, the Netherlands, Italy, Croatia, and Indonesia supported the center. RCC interns stay for a period of two to three months. The aim of our internship program is to give these students an insight into the research and daily work of the Carson Center, while at the same time strengthening a lasting intellectual commitment to the environmental humanities. Interns work on a variety of projects and have regular opportunities to interact with Carson fellows and to attend RCC events.

By spending their first week at the center moving between all the RCC teams for a short introduction, they quickly assimilate and familiarize themselves with the various activities of the center, and have the chance to find particular projects they want to get more involved in during their stay.

In 2017, the interns took over the independent production and release of the Lunchtime Colloquium films; created and edited content for the Environment & Society Portal; and helped with the execution of the Environmental Studies Certificate Program's "Ecopolis Night" in the LMU main hall. In addition, they were able to gain valuable research experience in assisting the DFG Emmy Noether Research Group "Hazardous Travels: Ghost Acres and the Global Waste Economy." The interns also provided crucial support by documenting and assisting with the colloquia, Tuesday discussions, conferences, and workshops.

Fortunately, three of our 2017 interns joined the RCC in new capacities after the successful completion of their internships: Eline Tabak and Jonatan Palmblad joined the Doctoral Program Environment and Society; Jonatan additionally took up a position as a Research Associate with the Environment & Society Portal. Sophia Hörl joined the as a student assistant.

#### 2017 Interns

Amanda Norrlander (SWE)
Megan Barry (USA)
Eline Tabak (NED)
Laura Maria Springmann (GER)
Jonatan Palmblad (SWE)
Sophia Hörl (GER)
Achmad Hawi (INDO)
Ivan Vilovic (ITA/CROATIA)
Noemi Quagliati (ITA)

# 12. Fellows and Visiting Scholars



Map indicating the countries of origin of RCC fellows and visiting scholars in 2017.

In 2017, 58 fellows were in residence at the RCC: 33 women and 25 men. They came from across the globe, from Albania, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Turkey, and the United States. The projects ranged across the following disciplines: anthropology, art history, biology/ecology, documentary film, ecocriticism, film/theater studies, geography, geology, history, literature, museum studies, political science, sociology, and urban studies.

We were fortunate to have several (ca. 13) visiting scholars who contributed significantly to the intellectual culture of the RCC. All visiting scholars bring their own funding; this included grants from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Humboldt fellowship program, and the Minerva Foundation, among others.

#### **Fellows**

# Elia Apostolopoulou

**April 2017 - October 2017** 

"A Historical-Geographical Analysis of the Evolution of Market-Based Conservation in Europe: The Case of the UK"

Elia's main research interest is the investigation of nature-society relationships in capitalism, with a particular emphasis on the political ecology of nature conservation. Her current

research focuses on conservation in relation to the economic value of nonhuman nature and is guided by radical research on the neoliberalization of nature, the historical-geographic conception of neoliberalism, uneven development, and the capitalist production of nature and space, as well as by Marxist political economy—particularly the Marxian theory of value and rent.

Since 2009, she has been conducting research on critical geographies of nature. From 2009 to 2013, she was a postdoctoral fellow in the multidisciplinary EU project SCALES, coordinated by the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research. She was a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Geography, University of Cambridge from 2013 to 2016 and, in 2014, was awarded an Individual Intra-European Marie Curie Post-doctoral Fellowship to conduct interdisciplinary research on the social, economic, cultural, and ecological implications of the application of environmental markets in the UK. Elia was a visiting scholar at the Finnish Environment Institute (2011) and the Center for Place, Culture, and Politics at City University of New York (2015). Since 2016, she has been a lecturer of human geography in the School of Geography and the Environment at Oxford University.

#### Abosede Babatunde

## September 2017 - March 2018

"Environmental Change, Traditional Institutions, and Security in Nigeria's Oil-rich Niger Delta"

Abosede Omowumi Babatunde holds a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and currently lectures at the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. She is a member of the Society for Peace Studies and Practice, the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), and she was a senior research fellow at the French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA). She has also been awarded several academic fellowships and grants, including a 2016 Individual Research Grant from the African Peacebuilding Network of the Social Science Research Council (APN/SSRC). Most recently, she was awarded a 2017 fellowship at the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) of Brown University, the United States. Babatunde is the author of "Oil, Environmental Conflict and the Challenges of Sustainable Development in the Niger Delta." Her research interests include conflict resolution with an emphasis on traditional models of conflict resolution, resources governance, human rights and security, peacebuilding, and gender.

#### **James Beattie**

# **July 2017 – September 2017**

"Chinese Merchant Networks, Migration and Environmental Transformation in the Southern Pacific, 1790s—1920s"

James Beattie is an environmental and world historian whose work focuses on the Asia-Pacific region, mostly over the last 200 years. He is especially interested in cross-cultural exchanges occasioned by British imperialism, and the nexus between environment, gardens, health, and art. James's work bridges different disciplines and has appeared in a variety of journals, such as *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, Environment and History, WIRES: Climate Change, East Asian History, Health History,* and *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Art.* In addition, he has worked on books, a feature-length documentary film and curated exhibitions with Richard Bullen on cultural diplomacy and Chinese art. He is founding editor of the interdisciplinary, refereed journal, *International Review of Environmental History,* and coedits the book series, Palgrave Studies in World Environmental History. James is also working on several other projects, including works on gardens and parks in environmental history, ecological change, and Chinese art and cultural diplomacy.

#### Kata Beilin

## September 2017 – December 2017

"Interspecies Resistance to Genetically Engineered Crops in Luso-Hispanic Agricultures"

Kata Beilin is a writer and researcher. She is a professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a faculty affiliate at the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies; the Center for Culture, History, and Environment; the Latin American, Iberian, and Caribbean Studies Program; and the Holtz Center for Science & Technology Studies.

Specializing in environmental cultural studies in the Hispanic world, Kata promotes transdisciplinary and collaborative research across different fields, including nonacademic partners and knowledges. She is particularly interested in how alliances between humans, plants, and animals in rural cultures and in the cultures of the forests play out in the debates on land use and agro-technologies. Her current project, led in collaboration with Sai Suryanarayanan, seeks new understandings of acceptance and resistance to GE crops in Argentina, Paraguay, Mexico, and other countries of the Hispanic world by developing novel concepts—interspecies alliance, interspecies resistance and interspecies re-existence—to attend to the intertwined dynamics between plants, insects, microbial communities, and human bodies in the debates over future agri-cultures. Her parallel solo book focuses on alternative economies and cultures of environmental renewal in Spain and Latin America that involve agro-ecology, feminist economies, and indigenous environmental ethics and philosophies.

#### Roberta Biasillo

## October 2017 – June 2018

<u>"Fascist Ecologies, Colonial Natures: An Environmental History of the Italian Imperialism</u> (1922–1945)" Roberta Biasillo is an environmental historian and is currently affiliated with the University of Roma 3, Italy. She holds a PhD in early modern and modern European history from the University of Bari, Italy. Her doctoral dissertation explores the interaction between forests and modernization in Italy in the nineteenth century. In 2016, she was a visiting scholar at the Environmental Humanities Laboratory at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, carrying out a project on a nineteenth-century Italian flood and the analysis of related intervention policy and practice. Her research areas also cover political ecology and environmental humanities, and research interests include property regimes, territorial and forest issues, and natural disasters. Roberta is a member of the European Society for Environmental History and a member of the editorial board of the Italian journal *Historia Magistra—Rivista di Storia Critica*. She has also been actively involved in integration activities for refugees and migrants, as well as detention center educational programs.

## **David Biggs**

## May 2017 - September 2017

"In the Footprints of War: Environmental History, Militarization, and Landscape in Central Vietnam"

David received a BA with honors in American history from the University of North Carolina in 1992, where he helped develop a student environmental action coalition and worked in rural development. He left his homeland (quê hương) to become a volunteer English teacher in Vietnam and explore the other side of the world. David returned to the United States to pursue a PhD in environmental and Southeast Asian history at the University of Washington in Seattle (1996 to 2004). His dissertation examined social and historical dimensions of water politics in the delta through periods of imperial, colonial, and wartime government. *Quagmire: Nation-Building and Nature in the Mekong Delta* (University of Washington, 2011) received the George Perkins Marsh Award in 2012 and led him to new collaborations with social scientists and policymakers as well as historians. Since 2012, he has shifted his focus to the war-torn landscapes of central Vietnam near the former imperial capital, Hue. He is nearing completion of a manuscript titled *Footprints: History and the Militarized Landscape in Central Vietnam*, which draws on historical geographic information systems (hGIS), extensive research in aerial photography and map collections, and years of site visits to villages and former military sites.

#### Lisa Brady

#### **January 2017 – March 2017**

"Capitalist Pigs: International Aid Agencies and Agricultural Development in South Korea, 1945–1961"

Lisa M. Brady is professor of history at Boise State University and editor-in-chief of the journal *Environmental History*, published by Oxford University Press. She has degrees from

the University of New Mexico, University of Sydney (Australia), Montana State University-Billings, and the University of Kansas. She is the author of *War upon the Land: Military Strategy and the Transformation of Southern Landscapes during the American Civil War* (University of Georgia Press, 2012) and of several articles including "Life in the DMZ: Turning a Diplomatic Failure into an Environmental Success" (*Diplomatic History*, 2008). Her current research project focuses on the history of conflict and environment in Korea during the twentieth century with a specific focus on the 1950–53 war.

#### **Irus Braverman**

May 2017 – August 2017

"Coral Whisperers: Scientists on the Brink"

Irus Braverman is a professor of law and an adjunct professor of geography at the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York (SUNY), where she teaches wildlife and biodiversity law, law and genetics, Israel/Palestine environmental justice issues, and topics related to law and animals. Her main interests lie in the interdisciplinary study of law, geography, anthropology, and science and technology studies. Writing within this nexus, Braverman has conducted ethnographic research on illegal houses, trees, checkpoints, public toilets, and zoos, among other sites. Braverman has written several books, covering issues from the bureaucracy that fostered and facilitated the construction of discriminatory urban landscapes in East Jerusalem, and how trees are employed in the struggle over land and identity in Israel/Palestine, to the complexities of managing zoo animals, and the intensifying management of imperiled species in wild nature. She is currently working on a monograph about coral scientists (forthcoming, University of Chicago Press). Braverman's edited collections include The Expanding Spaces of Law: A Timely Legal Geography (coedited) (Stanford University Press, 2014), Animals, Biopolitics, Law: Lively Legalities (Routledge, 2016), and Ocean Legalities: The Law and Life of the Sea (Duke University Press, forthcoming).

# **Helin Burkay**

**December 2017 – June 2018** 

"Politics of Conservation and Development: Shifting Narratives of Sustainability"

Helin received her PhD in sociology from Carleton University in 2016. She works on history and politics of development, environment, and state building with a particular focus on border settlements and military landscapes in the Middle East and Mediterranean. Her work is also situated in social theory and critical methodological inquiry, and tackles ethics and politics of "experimentation" as a research tool in social and policy research. She pays particular attention to the challenges that global environmental, technological, and political puzzles pose to conventional research methodologies, social theory, and policy design. Currently, she is working on the role of environmental narratives and negotiation of cultural heritage in border islands. She focuses particularly on the histories and memories of

displacement, mobility, and settlement, as well as the legacy of militarization and land politics in shaping the narratives of insularity and cultural heritage from a comparative perspective.

Before coming to RCC, she taught in the sociology department at Carleton University and worked as a researcher in equity and inclusion policy design for the Government of Canada.

#### Mu Cao

## September 2016 - March 2017

"The Water Supply and Drainage System of Tianjin (1860–2000)"

Mu Cao is a Chinese historian whose research interest is in Chinese environmental history, and urban environmental history in particular. She previously carried out research on river pollution in Northeast China, during which she noticed the severe water problems in Chinese cities and their influence on the neighboring environment. It was then that her focus turned to urban environmental history. Her recent works focus on the problems associated with the use and discharge of urban water. She aims to explore modernization processes in Chinese cities and their influence on water issues, as well as the relationship among human beings, the city, and nature. Her project at the Rachel Carson Center addresses the changing water supply and drainage system of modern Tianjin. Mu obtained her bachelor's degree in 2007, her master's degree in 2010, and a doctorate in history in 2015 from Nankai University. She also studied environmental history at the University of Kansas from 2011 to 2012. She currently works as a lecturer in the College of History and Culture at Tianjin Normal University.

## Jennifer Carlson

January 2017 - July 2017

"Unruly Energies: Citizenship beyond Ecocapital in Germany's Energy Transition"

Jennifer Carlson is an anthropologist and research fellow at Rice University's Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences in Houston, Texas. As a cultural anthropologist, her research focuses on the affective dimensions of energy development and the relationship between public feeling and environmental citizenship, particularly in rural areas. Her current book project, *Unruly Energies*, explores how sentiment shapes public engagement with wind power, photovoltaics, and biofuel in Germany's transition to renewable energy. More broadly, her work asks how ordinary senses of plenitude, uncertainty, and struggle might furnish a resource for environmental action in a postliberal world. Jennifer has lectured in anthropology at Southwestern University and she is also a member of the editorial team in Cultural Studies & Critical Theory at the Open Library of the Humanities. She holds a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin and an MA from the University of Chicago.

# Jane Carruthers (Honorary Carson Fellow) November 2017

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

# **Christopher Cokinos**

# September 2017 – November 2017

"Atlas of the Long Tomorrow: Radical Engineers, a Forgotten Journey, and Our Quest for a Better World"

An associate professor of English at the University of Arizona, Christopher Cokinos is the author of three books of literary nonfiction, two poetry collections, and an anthology that combines contemporary poetry and prose with a field guide format. He is the lead mentor in a science communication program at Arizona and is affiliated faculty with the Institute of the Environment, and the Global Change program. He has won a Whiting Award, a Glasgow Prize, and an NSF Antarctic Visiting Artists and Writers Fellowship, among several prizes. In 2015, he won an Outstanding Mentor of Graduate/Professional Students Award at Arizona. His poetry, essays, reviews, and criticism have appeared in such venues as *TYPO*, *Diagram*, *Ecotone*, *Orion*, *Pacific Standard*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, *Salon*, *The American Scholar*, *Science*, and *Extrapolation*. A recent finalist for the Iowa Review poetry prize, he has work forthcoming in *Foundation*. He contributes occasional op-eds to the *Los Angeles Times*. Cokinos divides his time between Tucson's Barrio Libre and Logan Canyon, Utah.

#### Claiton da Silva

#### September 2017 – March 2018

"Science, Environment, and Society: Transformations of Brazilian Biome Cerrado (1950–1990)"

Claiton Marcio da Silva currently teaches at the Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul (UFFS) in Santa Catarina, Brazil. His studies on the environment, society, and modernization of Brazilian agriculture began in 2002. He completed his MA in history at the Universidade

Federal de Santa Catarina (UFSC) with a thesis on rural youth in Southern Brazil. At Casa de Oswaldo Cruz (COC/Fiocruz), his doctoral dissertation explored the work of Nelson Rockefeller's American International Association for Economic and Social Development (AIA). Since then, his main topic of research has focused on the US influence in Latin America in terms of agricultural experiments. At UFFS, he teaches undergraduate courses in interdisciplinary topics such as history, agronomy, geography, and environmental engineering, among others. He also teaches in the master's program at UFFS, where he supervises projects related to environment and society. His book about the AIA was published in 2015.

#### **Laurence Delina**

# February 2017 – August 2017

"Stewarding the Earth: Transformative Strategies for the Climate Action Movement" //
"Sustainable Energy Transitions in Developing Countries: The Challenges of Climate Change
and Sustainable Development"

Laurence Delina explores issues of governance in the politics and policy of sustainability at the Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future at Boston University. He works on sustainable energy transitions, rapid climate mitigation, the climate action movement, international climate finance, and universal energy access. Delina is the author of Strategies for Rapid Climate Mitigation: Wartime Mobilisation as a Model for Action? (Routledge-Earthscan 2016). The book investigates what can be learnt from wartime mobilization to rapidly mobilize the large-scale deployment of sustainable energy technologies. Delina is currently working on two book-length projects: Stewarding the Earth: Transformative Strategies for the Climate Action Movement, and Sustainable Energy Transitions in Developing Countries: The Challenges of Climate Change and Sustainable Development (Routledge-Earthscan 2017). Delina completed a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a master's degree in Public Administration from Mindanao State University in General Santos City, Philippines. He also holds a Master of Arts in Development Studies from the University of Auckland, and a PhD from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. He held visiting appointments at Harvard Kennedy School in 2013 and 2016.

#### Merita Dollma

September 2017 – August 2018

"Protected Areas of Albania: Challenges of a Developing Country"

Merita Dollma is a lecturer at the University of Tirana in the geography department of the Faculty of History and Philology. She worked as a scientific researcher at the Albanian Academy of Sciences from 1995 to 2007. Since 2008, she has been a full-time professor in the geography department, where she teaches natural and cultural heritage, human ecology, and economic evaluation of natural resources at both bachelor and master's level.

She is author and coauthor of three books, two university textbooks, and two high school textbooks. She has published more than forty scientific papers in both Albanian scientific journals and foreign journals, including *Population Geography, International Journal of Ecosystems and Ecology Science*, and *Geologia dell'Ambiente*. Dollma is the scientific editor of two geographical atlases and 11 books. Her main fields of study include natural and cultural heritage, ecology, and GIS/RS.

## **Carrick Eggleston**

December 2016 – May 2017

"Cultures of Energy: Societal Transformations in the Service of Sustainable Systems"

Carrick Eggleston is a geochemist with a research focus on mineral surface chemistry; nearly all chemical interaction between the Earth's solid materials and our environment (water, air, organisms) takes place at mineral surfaces. He received his BA from Dartmouth and PhD from Stanford, and was a postdoctoral fellow at ETH Zurich (EAWAG) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, before starting a faculty position at the University of Wyoming. He has been a visiting professor at EPFL, Switzerland (Laboratory for Photonics and Interfaces), and the Université Henri Poincaré (CNRS Laboratoire de Chimie Physique et Microbiologie pour l'Environnement), and more recently at Pondicherry University, Puducherry, India (Madanjeet School of Green Energy Technology) as part of a Fulbright fellowship. He is the associate director of the Center for Photoconversion and Catalysis in the School of Energy Resources, and has been an adjunct professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Wyoming. He has also given presentations internationally on energy transitions and the time limit for the usefulness of research on new renewable energy technology as a mitigating factor in climate change. He is currently collaborating with Sarah Strauss on interactive strategies to enact the cultural changes required by energy transitions and the movement to a lower carbon society, and is working on a textbook entitled The Earth System in the Anthropocene.

#### Lisa FitzGerald

**September 2016 – July 2017** 

"Re-Place: Performative Landscapes as Conceptual Ecological Environments"

Lisa FitzGerald is a theatre historian and literary scholar whose research interests include: nature in theatre and performance; theatre history (in particular, Irish landscape and place); environmental art practice; ecodigital art; urban ecologies; and nature and technology. From an interdisciplinary background in fine art and site-specific theatre performance, Lisa received her PhD from the National University of Ireland, Galway, in 2016 where she taught modules on ecocriticism, theatre performance, and English literature. At the Rachel Carson Center, she is completing a book project, *Re-Place: Performative Landscapes as Conceptual Ecological Environments*, which brings together disparate theatrical, radiophonic, and digital representations of the natural world under the umbrella of conceptual ecological

environments. She is also working on an upcoming project, *Digital Evolution: (Re)Visioning* the Natural World Digital Evolution, which will examine the ecological implications of artistic representations of the natural world in new media and the emergence of new natures from within the digital sphere.

## Philippe Fôret

January 2017 - July 2017

"Unwelcome News from the Field: Transformations in the Environment and Societies of Ancient Asia"

A historical geographer trained at the Universities of Chicago and of California at Berkeley, Philippe has led projects with major universities in China, Europe, and Switzerland. The activities of his teams have focused on the history of Sino-European exchanges, fieldwork in the geosciences, mountain and desert studies, sustainable development in emergent countries, energy and climate policy, the transition from collapse to post-collapse, new markets in the cultural economy, and the development of the environmental humanities. Philippe is the codirector of Environmental Humanities Switzerland, a program that SAGUF (Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences) has supported at ETH Zurich since 2013. He is currently a visiting scholar in geography at the University of Geneva, and the professor of environmental history of Nazarbayev University, which is the only research-intensive university of Central Asia.

#### Sara Gregg

May 2017 – August 2017

"Free Land: Homesteading the American West"

Sara Gregg is an associate professor of history and environmental studies at the University of Kansas. She teaches the environmental history of North America, with a particular focus on the intersections of environmental change with politics, law, and agriculture. Her current book project, *Free Land: Homesteading the American West*, examines the history of the several Homestead Acts and their environmental impacts between 1862 and 1986. This project uses historical GIS to map the landscapes of homesteading and is animated by microhistories of the Great Plains grasslands and peoples of Kansas, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and Montana.

Gregg received her PhD from Columbia University and her BA from Middlebury College. She taught at Iowa State University and was a fellow of the Smithsonian Institution and the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library before moving to the University of Kansas in 2010. She is an associate fellow of the Center for Great Plains Studies and a member of the editorial board for *Agricultural History*, and served on the board of directors of the Forest History Society and the executive committee of the American Society for Environmental History.

#### **Noel Healy**

# **August 2017 - February 2018**

"Overcoming Carbon Lock-in: Fossil Fuel Divestment and the Delegitimization of Fossil Fuels"

Noel's research, teaching, and community engagement focus on responses to the climate crisis and normative dimensions of rapid climate change mitigation. More specifically, his research explores issues pertaining to the politics of rapid decarbonization, social and political aspects of renewable energy transition, energy justice, just transitions, and the link between academic knowledge, political activism, and policymaking. Noel's projects have secured over \$170,000 in research grants and have spanned Ireland, the US, China, France, and Latin America. Recent projects include investigating the fossil fuel divestment movement, energy transitions in Massachusetts, energy justice in La Guajira, Colombia, and decision making and civil society participation at the UNFCCC.

Noel received his PhD at the National University of Ireland, Galway and spent a research period at the Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management at UC, Berkeley. He is currently an associate professor in the geography department at Salem State University. During his sabbatical, Noel will also be exploring cross-scalar issues of global energy justice in the shift from coal to natural gas (investigating community impacts of openpit coal mining in Colombia and hydraulic fracking in Pennsylvania). He is also actively involved in the fossil fuel divestment movement within the US.

# Sofia Teives Henriques June 2017 – August 2017

"Energy Transitions in the City: Lisbon from 1854 to 2006"

Sofia Teives Henriques completed her PhD in economic history at Lund University (Sweden) in 2011. In 2012–2013 she was the recipient of a Carlsberg Foundation postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense. Since 2014, she has been a research fellow in the Department of Economic History at Lund University, where she studies energy transitions in a long-run international comparative perspective.

One focus of her research is on the role of energy resources as a crucial contributor to the industrialization process of coal-poor countries, such as Portugal and Denmark. Another is on the identification of the drivers that influence the ever-changing interplay between environment and economic growth as countries evolve their economic structures from agriculture towards industry and services. During her stay at the Rachel Carson Center, Sofia will study the energy transitions of Lisbon (Portugal) in the last two hundred years.

# **Elizabeth Hennessy**

January 2017 - June 2017

"On the Backs of Tortoises: The Past and Future of Evolution in the Galápagos Islands"

Elizabeth Hennessy is an assistant professor of world environmental history in the Department of History and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She completed her PhD in geography in 2014 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and works at the intersection of political ecology, science and technologies studies, animal studies, and environmental history. She is writing her first book, On the Backs of Tortoises: The Past and Future of Evolution in the Galápagos Islands, which focuses on the islands' most iconic species, giant tortoises, to trace intertwined transnational histories of capitalist development, evolutionary science, and conservation in the archipelago. In Madison, she has been on the board of the Center for Culture, History, and the Environment (CHE) and serves as the faculty advisor for Edge Effects, a digital magazine run by CHE graduate students. She is also affiliated with the Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies program and the Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies. She teaches on the history of the Anthropocene, Latin American environmental history, and animal history.

#### Tom Idema

# September 2017 – December 2017

"Environmental Post-humanism in Literature and Science: Narrating Humans and Worlds in Transformation"

Tom Idema received an MA in American studies from the University of Groningen, an RMA degree with honors in gender and ethnicity from the University of Utrecht, and a PhD in philosophy and science studies from Radboud University Nijmegen. In 2010 Tom was a Fulbright visiting fellow at Duke University. During his PhD research, he was also involved with the Dutch Green party (GroenLinks), where he coordinated a working group on international politics, mainly dealing with issues in the global South. Currently, he lectures in the Department of Comparative Literature at Utrecht University. Idema's work focuses on how literary and scientific texts explore alternative approaches to (human) evolution. These narratives of evolution have repercussions for academic and societal debates around post-humanism, which tend to be dominated by a focus on how technologies transform human beings. His work has appeared in various edited volumes and journals including *Frame*; *Configurations*; *Bulletin of Science, Technology, and Society*; *Biosocieties*; and *Ecozon@*. He is a board member of the Benelux Association for the Study of Culture and the Environment and the Dutch representative of the European Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA-EU).

## **Ryan Jones**

June 2017 - August 2017

"Red Spouts: A Global Environmental History of Soviet Whaling"

Ryan graduated with a BA in German history from Walla Walla College (Washington State, USA) in 1998, before sojourning in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Kamchatka to learn Russian and witness the chaos of the Yeltsin years. He returned to the United States and completed his PhD in global history at Columbia University in 2008. Ryan's book, *Empire of Extinction: Russians and the North Pacific's Strange Beasts of the Sea, 1741–1867* (Oxford, 2014), examined the interrelationships of early modern empire and ecological change, and detailed the history of the first known anthropogenic extinction, the death of the last Steller's sea cow in 1768. His research awoke an interest in the Pacific and the ocean, and took him to the University of Auckland for several years, where he taught Pacific and environmental history. Ryan began research on the Pacific and global history of whaling, working with marine biologists and policymakers and putting together several public events on the topic; he also started research on his current book: a global environmental history of Russian and Soviet whaling. He now teaches at the University of Oregon in the United States.

## Marcela López

October 2017 - March 2018

"Contested Urban Waterscapes in Medellín, Colombia"

Marcela López is a geographer with an interdisciplinary background in urban and environmental studies. Currently, she is a lecturer at the Technische Universität Berlin. Situated at the nexus of urban political ecology and urban geography, her research explores the intersections between access to water, citizenship, and infrastructure networks within cities. Marcela received her PhD in geography from the Freie Universität Berlin, for research on conflicts around access to and control over water in Medellín. She is the founder of the platform Contested Urban Waterscapes, which promotes dialogue and interdisciplinary exchange between scholars, social movements, and public service providers to search for alternatives to reduce water inequalities.

# **Gregg Mitman**

**September 2016 – May 2017** 

"Forgotten Paths of Empire: Firestone and the Promise of Liberia"

Gregg Mitman is the Vilas Research and William Coleman Professor of History of Science, Medical History, and Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His interests span the history of science, medicine, and the environment in the US and globally, and reflect a commitment to environmental and social justice. His recent works include *Documenting the World: Film, Photography, and the Scientific Record* (University of Chicago Press, 2016), *Breathing Space: How Allergies Shape our Lives and Landscapes* (Yale University Press, 2007), and *Reel Nature: America's Romance with Wildlife on Film*, rev. ed. (University of Washington Press, 2009). Mitman is the founding director of the Nelson Institute's Center for Culture, History, and Environment (CHE) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is a past president of the American Society for Environmental History.

During the last decade, Mitman has increasingly focused on public humanities projects. In 2007, he created the *Tales from Planet Earth* film festival, which has brought together artists, academics and the public to explore the power of storytelling through film as a force of environmental and social change. Under his leadership, CHE, in collaboration with the RCC and Stockholm's KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, hosted a 2014 experimental performance, *The Anthropocene Slam: A Cabinet of Curiosities*. Mitman's current work is a multimedia project—film, book, and public history website—exploring the history and legacy of the Firestone Plantations Company in Liberia. He recently coproduced and codirected with Sarita Siegel *In the Shadow of Ebola*, an intimate portrait of the Ebola outbreak in Liberia, and *The Land Beneath Our Feet*, a documentary on history, memory, and land rights in Liberia.

Amy Moran-Thomas

July 2017 – December 2017

"Metabola: Planetary Health and the Global Diabetes Epidemic in Belize"

Amy Moran-Thomas is a cultural anthropologist, interested in the material and ecological entanglements that shape health and medicine in practice. She became an assistant professor of anthropology at MIT in 2015, after completing postdoctoral fellowships at Princeton and Brown University. Focusing on metabolic and parasitic disorders, her research bridges the anthropology of health and environment (chronic disease, ecological and agricultural change, metabolism and nutrition) with ethnographic studies of science and technology (medical devices, epigenetic debates, technology and kinship). Moran-Thomas has conducted fieldwork and archival research in Belize, Guatemala, Ghana, and the US, supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Mellon-American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), the Woodrow Wilson Society of Fellows, the Rachel Carson Center, the West African Research Association, and the American Philosophical Society. Her forthcoming book project, blending ethnographic stories and science writing with mixed-media anthropological analyses, offers a humanistic account of the global diabetes epidemic.

Birgit Müller

**September 2017 – July 2018** 

"Seeds, Soils, and Politics: Cultivating Citizenship and Growing Food"

Birgit Müller received her PhD from Cambridge University. She is a research director at the IIAC-LAIOS, CNRS/EHESS and a professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. Her early research concerned social and environmental movements in Germany and Nicaragua. Since 1990, her research has focused on questions of power, ideology, and economic change in postsocialist Eastern Europe, in particular East Germany and the Czech Republic. She has written about the informal functioning of the planned economy, mechanisms of ideological control under socialism, state-organized privatization of state-

owned enterprises, postsocialist labor struggles, grassroots democratization, and environmental mobilizations in postsocialist countries. She published *Disenchantment with Market Economics: East Germans and Western Capitalism* in 2006. Her current research explores global governmentality of food and agriculture at the FAO, and local practices of food producers in Canada and Nicaragua. She examines links between agricultural practice, political worldviews, and structures of power and how these shape and are shaped by global agricultural policies. Müller coordinates the EASA network for the anthropology of international governance and recently published *The Gloss of Harmony: The Politics of Policy Making in the Multilateral Organisations*.

#### **David Munns**

### November 2017 – May 2018

"To Live Among the Stars: The Cold War Crusade to Engineer an Artificial Environment for Space Travel"

David Peter Dell Munns earned his PhD at Johns Hopkins University in 2003. After teaching at Imperial College London between 2006 and 2009, he now teaches in New York City at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, promoting curiosity, scholarship, and enthusiasm among his students. His first book was entitled *A Single Sky: How an International Community Forged the Science of Radio Astronomy* (MIT Press, 2013). His latest book, *Engineering the Environment: Phytotrons and the Quest to Control Climate in the Cold War* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2017), explores the prehistory of the scientific understanding of climate change and the Anthropocene. His research and teaching stretch globally, including environmental history, the history of science and technology, American history, and postcolonial studies.

#### **Anitra Nelson**

### October 2016 - January 2017

"Small is Necessary: Shared Living on a Shared Planet"

Associate Professor Anitra Nelson (Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia) has taught undergraduates and postgraduates and pursued research on community-based environmental sustainability, housing, urban studies, and socialism. Her postdoctoral research focused on the conflict between environmental and monetary values in East Gippsland forests (Victoria). Current research includes Australian environmental (in)justice (an RMIT partnership project with Friends of the Earth Australia) associated with the global EJAtlas. Her doctoral thesis was published by Routledge (1999). She has edited *Steering Sustainability in an Urbanising World: Policy Practice and Performance* (Ashgate, 2007) and coedited *Planning after Petroleum: Preparing Cities for the Age Beyond Oil* (Routledge, 2016), *Sustainability Citizenship in Cities: Theory and Practice* (Routledge, 2016), and Life Without Money: Building Fair and Sustainable Economies (Pluto Press, 2011). During

her fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center she will complete writing *Small is Necessary:* Shared Living on a Shared Planet (London: Pluto Press, forthcoming).

## **Azeez Olaniyan**

January 2017 - July 2017

"Forest Reserves as Security Threats in Nigeria"

Azeez Olaniyan is a senior lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Ekiti State University, Ado Ekiti in Nigeria, where he is also the assistant director of the Institute of Peace, Security, and Governance. He completed his PhD in political science at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria in 2007. He obtained postdoctoral research fellowships from the American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) for the African Humanities Progamme (AHP) and the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa. In addition to teaching and supervising students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, he has conducted significant research in areas related to conflict and security, ethnic politics, social movements, and environmental politics. Lately, he has concentrated his research efforts on conflicts associated with environmental issues. In particular, he has conducted extensive research in Nigeria and Ghana on the phenomenon of famer-herder violent conflicts.

### Ekin Özdemirci

### September 2017 - September 2018

"Green Filmmaking and Environmental Practices in European Film Industries; Ecological Identities in New Turkish Cinema"

Ekin Özdemirci is an assistant professor in film studies and is passionate about ecological living. Combining communication studies, women's studies, and sociopolitical studies, her main research interest is filmic representations. Recently, she has been working on ecocinema and green filmmaking, focusing on the analysis of representations of the environment in Turkish films and examining environmental practices in the film industry. Between 2014 and 2015, she was a visiting scholar at Brunel University London, where she conducted research on environmental sustainability in the British film industry. In addition to her academic research, she participated in Findhorn Ecovillage's course on Applied Ecovillage Living, gained a permaculture design certificate, and visited ecological communities and sustainable living centers, where she did volunteer work. Ekin is part of an NGO in Turkey that aims to create projects combining ecology and art. She also writes about ethical consumption and ecological living. At the Rachel Carson Center, she will be working on her book project about green filmmaking in European film industries, as well as an article about ecological identities in New Turkish Cinema.

### Lisa Pettibone

November 2016-April 2017

"The Role of Ideational Change in Sustainability Transitions"

Lisa Pettibone is a political scientist looking at the role of discourse and citizen engagement in sustainability. Her first book, *Governing Urban Sustainability: Comparing Cities in the USA and Germany* highlighted the role of "sustainability-minded groups" in pushing local discourse related to sustainability. She also edited a symposium in the *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences* on integrated approaches to sustainable cities, appearing in March 2017. Seeking to link sustainability to participatory research approaches, she coordinated the citizen science capacity-building project funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research from 2014 to 2016. This led to publications on citizen science and participation, lifelong learning, and sustainability, as well as a guide for citizen science practice coordinated with 32 coauthors. At the Rachel Carson Center, she is examining the role of ideational change in sustainability transitions. Lisa holds a BFA from New York University, an MPA from George Washington University, and a PhD from the Freie Universität Berlin's Environmental Policy Research Centre (FFU). She has worked in the US Senate and Department of Energy, the German Bundestag, and the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin.

### **Birgit Schneider**

### **August 2017 – October 2017**

"An Interdisciplinary Scheme for Assessing Transformation in Public Climate Visualization"

Birgit Schneider holds a PhD in cultural studies and is currently a professor of media ecology at the Potsdam University Institute for Arts and Media in the European Media Studies program. She studied art history and media studies, philosophy, and media art at the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design, Goldsmiths College in London, and the Humboldt University of Berlin. Her research focuses on technical and scientific images with a strong emphasis on questions of scientific imagery, mediality, codes, diagrams, and textility from the seventeenth century to the present. Her current research concentrates on the visual communication of climate since 1800 and a genealogy of climate change visualization between science, aesthetics, and politics.

### **Teresa Spezio**

### May 2017 – August 2017

"How Clean Is Clean?: Changing Ideas of Environmental Pollution in US Environmental Policy"

Teresa Spezio's research interests involve the historical relationship between humans and human-created industrial pollution. In her projects, she is engaged by humans' reactions to the presence of industrial chemicals and oil in their communities. Her current research project explores the intersections of environmental risk, environmental contamination, and environmental justice. Specifically, she is interested in the practice of the remediation of uncontrolled hazardous waste sites in the United States. While at the Carson Center, she will

be working on her new project tentatively titled *How Clean Is Clean?: Changing Ideas of Environmental Pollution in US Environmental Policy*. Additionally, she is interested in sustainability practices and education. Her first book, *Slick Policy: Environmental and Science Policy in the Aftermath of the Santa Barbara Oil Spill*, is forthcoming from the University of Pittsburgh Press. She teaches environmental analysis, policy, and history at Pitzer College in Claremont, California.

#### Sarah Strauss

### December 2016 - May 2017

"Cultures of Energy: Societal Transformations in the Service of Sustainable Systems"

Sarah Strauss is professor of cultural anthropology at the University of Wyoming. Her research focuses on the intersection of environmental and health issues, values, and practices, especially as they relate to climate change and energy resources. Professor Strauss has conducted ethnographic fieldwork in Rishikesh and Auroville, India, as well as Leukerbad, Switzerland, and her home state of Wyoming, USA. She has been a visiting scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado (2008–2009), visiting professor in the Department of Geosciences of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland (2005–2006), and most recently Fulbright-Nehru visiting professor in the Department of Anthropology at Pondicherry University, India (2012–2013). Her books include *Weather, Climate, Culture* (2003, edited with Ben Orlove), *Positioning Yoga* (2004), and *Cultures of Energy* (2013, edited with Stephanie Rupp and Thomas Love). She is currently working on a new book, *The Yoga of Change: Tales of Energy, Climate, and Culture in the Anthropocene*, and collaborating with Carrick Eggleston on interactive strategies to enact the cultural changes required by energy transitions and the movement to a lower carbon society.

# Sainath Suryanarayanan

### September 2017 – January 2018

"Interspecies Resistance to Genetically Engineered Crops in Luso-Hispanic Agricultures and Be(e)ing Human: The Socio-Historical Dimensions of Collapsing Beehives"

Sainath Suryanarayanan is an assistant scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA) in the Population Health Institute. He is affiliated with the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, the Center for Culture, History, and Environment (CHE), and the Holtz Center for Science & Technology Studies. With a background in molecular biology, behavioral ecology, and science and technology studies (STS), Sai's scholarship sits at the juncture of biology, environment, and society. He has published widely in a variety of refereed journals, including *Engaging Science*, *Technology*, and *Society*; *Social Studies of Science*; *Science*, *Technology* & *Human Values*; and *Current Biology*. He recently coauthored *Vanishing Bees: Science*, *Politics*, and *Honeybee Health* (Rutgers University Press, 2017).

### **Bron Taylor**

### May 2017 - August 2017

"Radical Environmentalism: From an Ethnographic and Historical Study to an Assessment of its Political, Ecological, and Moral Claims"

Bron Taylor is professor of religion and environmental ethics at the University of Florida, where in 2002 he was recruited to develop a graduate program in Religion and Nature, and was appointed as the Samuel S. Hill Ethics Professor. His research focuses on the affective and spiritual dimensions, and political impacts, of grassroots environmental movements around the world, as well as upon the complex relationships between human beings, their religions, and the environments they inhabit. He has led or participated in a number of international initiatives promoting the conservation of biological and cultural diversity. He also edited the award-winning *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* and subsequently founded the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture and its affiliated *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, which he edits.

### Vanessa Taylor

June 2017 - July 2017

"Transitions in Energy Landscapes and Everyday Life in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries"

Vanessa Taylor is a historian of modern Britain interested in the political and environmental histories of water and energy. Much of her work has focused on the politics of water use and debates around urban rivers (especially the River Thames). More recently she has been researching transitions in energy consumption and everyday life as part of the project team for "Material Cultures of Energy: Transitions, Disruption, and Everyday Life in the Twentieth Century," funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. Vanessa completed her PhD (on Victorian temperance and the free drinking water movement) in 2006 at Birkbeck College, University of London. She is now a lecturer in history at the University of Greenwich, London.

### **Charlie Trautmann**

### August 2017 - December 2017

"The Impact of Early Experiences on Later Interest in the Environment"

Charlie received his undergraduate degree in geophysics from Amherst College, master's degrees in geology and geotechnical engineering from Stanford, and a PhD in civil and environmental engineering from Cornell. He has been on the engineering faculty of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York since 1983. In 1990, he became the first director of the Sciencenter, an independent, hands-on science museum in Ithaca, where he organized the construction of the museum with 4,000 volunteers and grew the staff to 30 and attendance to 100,000 guests per year.

Charlie's primary focus at RCC is on how to get very young children curious about their world and how to encourage them to develop good learning habits early on that will last a lifetime, particularly those related to the environment and attachment to nature. His project involves studying how the experiences of preschool children (ages 0–5) with nature affect them as adults in terms of interest, behavior, and advocacy related to the environment.

### **Nancy Trautmann**

### **August 2017 – December 2017**

"Fighting for Survival: Environmental and Societal Transformations in the Peruvian Amazon"

Nancy is director of education at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. She and her team develop curriculum resources, lead professional development workshops, and create online courses designed to help people build closer connections with nature, learn about the natural world, and participate in citizen science and conservation action. She has published 10 books for teachers, on topics ranging from biodiversity to toxicology. The most recent, *Birds Without Borders*, won an educational award from the Association of American Publishers. Nancy earned a BA in environmental studies from Hampshire College, an MSc in natural resources from Cornell University, and PhD in communication from Cornell. Nancy is also a faculty member of the Educator Academy in the Amazon Rainforest, which led to her RCC fellowship. At the RCC, she will produce curriculum resources in support of a marginalized group of indigenous people in the Peruvian Amazon, aiming to help them protect their ancestral homeland and way of life through ecologically and culturally responsible ecotourism and education.

### **Paula Ungar**

### **August 2016 – October 2017**

"Drawing Ecosystems: Negotiations between Science and Politics around the Delimitation of Páramos in Colombia"

Since studying biology, Paula has been interested in the relationship between different values, narratives, and forms of knowledge around biodiversity conservation in Colombia—an area she has investigated both as a practitioner and from a scholarly perspective.

Between 2003 and 2010, she worked with National Natural Parks of Colombia and NGOs closely related to Parks, particularly in the Colombian Amazon region. She completed her PhD thesis in 2012, a critical reflection on her experience with protected areas, in which she analyzed how scientific knowledge and managerial protocols were disputed and resignified in an intercultural Amazonian National Park. From 2012 to 2016, Paula worked at the Humboldt Institute, the national institute responsible for research on biodiversity in Colombia. There, she coordinated an interdisciplinary team tasked with research on "delimiting strategic ecosystems" in response to the public policy agenda. They published recommendations for the governance of páramos in Colombia based on the main findings of

their research on biodiversity, environmental history, actors, ecosystem services, and production systems in 21 páramos. Paula is the editor of *Hojas de Ruta*, a collection of methodological guidelines that invites practitioners to carry out integrative research and recount significant stories about upper mountain ecosystems.

#### **Monica Vasile**

### December 2016 - May 2017

"Associative Environmentality: The Revival of Forest Commons in the Romanian Carpathians"

Monica Vasile is a social anthropologist. Currently, she is head of the research group "Associative Environmentality" at the Institute of Sociology of the Romanian Academy. She studied and taught sociology and social anthropology at the University of Bucharest, where she obtained her PhD in 2008. From 2008 to 2009 she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Köln, and from 2009 to 2013 a researcher at the Max-Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle-Saale. She has conducted research in the mountainous regions of Romania and is concerned with issues of collective action in relation to natural resources, both historically and in the present, trade and illegal logging, and changing environmental practice. She has published and presented on themes related to the local governance of forest commons, property relations, forest-dependent economies, illegal logging, corruption, and environmental conservation. At the Rachel Carson Center, she is working on *The Revival of Forest Commons in the Romanian Carpathians*, which maps and extensively describes contemporary forest and pasture commons across the Carpathian Mountains.

### Lynda Walsh

### September 2017 – October 2017

"An Interdisciplinary Scheme for Assessing Transformation in Public Climate Visualization Projects"

Lynda Walsh is an associate professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno. She studies the rhetoric of science—particularly the public reception of visual arguments in climate change debates. Her most recent book, *Topologies as Techniques for a Post-Critical Rhetoric* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017), edited with Casey Boyle, explores topology as a spatial method for inventing new ways to deliberate over issues of science and technology. Her monograph *Scientists as Prophets: A Rhetorical Genealogy* (Oxford, 2013) traces a dominant strand in the public role played by scientists back to its historical roots in religious rhetoric.

#### Jim Webb

### **February 2017 – August 2017**

"The Guts of the Matter: A Global Environmental History of Sanitation, Intestinal Disease, and Public Health"

James L. A. Webb, Jr. is a professor of history at Colby College in Maine, where he teaches courses in ecological history, health history, and world history. His research is in the emerging field of the historical epidemiology of contemporary disease challenges. It focuses on the history of environmental and biomedical interventions to control disease and their impacts on disease transmission. His work synthesizes evidence from the biological sciences and the social sciences to develop historical perspectives that are useful to practitioners and planners in global public health. In 2010, Prof. Webb received a grant from the Wellcome Trust to conduct research on the historical epidemiology of African malarial infections and interventions. From 2011 to 2013, he was the recipient of a National Institutes of Health/National Library of Medicine Grant for Scholarly Writing in Biomedicine and Health; in 2015 he was awarded a grant from the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton; and in the spring of 2016, he held the Sanofi Chair at the Centre Virchow-Villermé (Paris-Descartes). He is the founding editor of two series at the Ohio University Press: Perspectives on Global Health, and Ecology and History.

# Tony Weis

**September 2017 – June 2018** 

"Ghosts and Things: Trajectories of Animal Life"

Tony's research is broadly located in the field of political ecology, with a focus on agriculture and food systems. His research was initially rooted in the Caribbean, examining the economic and environmental challenges facing small farmers within highly inequitable landscapes, and how neoliberal policy restructuring, trade liberalization, and surging imports have compounded enduring injustices. Attention to the historical and political economic dimensions of small farmer's struggles led him towards his first book, *The Global Food Economy: The Battle for the Future of Farming*, which analyzed the historical foundations, structural imbalances, and socioecological instabilities of world agriculture and food systems. Following this, much of Tony's research has focused on the illusions of cheap food and the biophysical contradictions of industrial agro-food systems, with particular attention to the phenomenal growth of livestock production. His second book, *The Ecological Hoofprint: The Global Burden of Industrial Livestock*, develops a conceptual framework for understanding the wide-ranging costs of this momentous aspect of agrarian (and dietary) change.

Tony has been in the Department of Geography at the University of Western Ontario since 2004, where he teaches courses centered on agriculture and food, environment and development, and animal geographies.

### **Hayal Desta Yimer**

### December 2016 - August 2017

"Scrutiny of Integrated Land and Water Use Management Scenario in Lake Ziway Watershed with Main Unit of Analysis on Lake Ziway"

Hayal Desta is an assistant professor of Environmental Planning at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, and currently works at the EiABC institute in the Environmental Planning Competence Center. He holds a BSc in Biology, an MSc in Environmental Science, and a PhD in Environmental Planning. In his teaching and research, he focuses primarily on land and water resources management, watershed management, urban ecology, and urban environmental problems. His various publications address the sustainable use and management of natural resources, with a particular emphasis on aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity conservation. He is also interested in how local communities perceive and interact with natural resources within the context of sustainable utilization. Hayal's current works explore the effects of anthropogenic-induced land and water deterioration in lake and watershed areas involving different stakeholders; farmers' perceptual and attitudinal dimensions of watershed management; land use/land cover change detection; and modelbased simulation to examine spatio-temporal hydrological processes and sediment load changes in the Ethiopian Central Rift Valley region, specifically Lake Ziway and its watershed areas. At the Rachel Carson Center, he will be working on his project "Scrutiny of Integrated Land and Water Use Management Scenario in Lake Ziway Watershed with Main Unit of Analysis on Lake Ziway."

### Adrian Zarrilli

### June 2017 - July 2017

"Deforestation and Environmental Crisis in Modern Argentina"

Adrián Zarrilli is a researcher at the National Council of Scientific and Technical Investigations and a professor at the National University of Quilmes, Argentina. He is also director of the Rural Studies Center of Argentina (UNQ), and was president of the Latin American and Caribbean Society of Environmental History (SOLCHA) from 2014 to 2016. He was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro. His research centers on Latin American environmental history. In particular, he explores the relationship between society and nature, focusing on issues related to rural development and sustainability, deforestation and expansion, as well as environmental conflicts in the Gran Chaco region of Argentina. His recent studies explore the expansion of the agricultural frontier, driven mainly by the growth of soybean cultivation, which has produced some of the largest economic, social, demographic, and environmental changes in the country's history.

### **Short-Term Fellows**

### **July 2017**

"New Directions in Russian Environmental History" (Group Project)

#### **Catherine Evtuhov**

Catherine Evtuhov is a professor of history at Columbia University in New York. Her interests lie at the intersection of ideas, culture, and society in Russia, ranging broadly over the eighteenth to twentieth centuries. She published the first translation of Russian philosopher Sergei Bulgakov's *Philosophy of Economy: The World as Household* (1912; Yale UP, 2000), a work of social theory based deeply on the relationship between human beings and nature. Her most recent book, *Portrait of a Russian Province: Economy, Society, and Civilization in Nineteenth-Century Nizhnii Novgorod* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011), delves into the ecology of ravines, rivers, and forests, and contemporary scientific thinking about them. With David Moon (York University, UK) and Julia Lajus (Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia), Catherine has received funding from the British Leverhulme Trust and the Georgetown University Environment Initiative for an international collaborative project seeking to establish and broaden the field of Russian environmental history.

### **Julia Lajus**

Julia Lajus is an associate professor in the Department of History at the St. Petersburg School of Social Sciences and Humanities in the National Research University Higher School of Economics. She is head of the Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History and the academic director of the International Master Program in Applied and Interdisciplinary History, "Usable Pasts."

Her research interests include environmental and technological history of biological resources, especially in marine and polar areas, and history of field sciences such as fisheries science, oceanography, and geophysics. Julia has published four books in Russian, as well as numerous chapters and papers in monographs and international journals. She has considerable experience in international projects, such as "History of Marine Animal Populations," led by Poul Holm, ESF EUROCORES "Boreas: Histories from the North" with Ronald Doel, "Assessing Arctic Futures: Voices, Resources and Governance" with Sverker Sorlin, and "Exploring Russia's Environmental History," with David Moon (funded by the Leverhulme Trust). From 2011 to 2015, Julia Lajus served as vice president of the European Society of Environmental History (ESEH).

#### **David Moon**

David Moon is Anniversary Professor in History at the University of York, UK. The main focus of his research has been the rural world of the lands ruled by Russia from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries. Originally a social historian of peasants, over a decade and a half ago he moved into environmental history. In recent years, his work has become increasingly transnational and comparative.

He was lead investigator on a Leverhulme International Network (2013–16): "Exploring Russia's Environmental History and Natural Resources," involving specialists from UK, US, and Russian universities, which involved annual field trips to key locations in Russia and Ukraine. In addition, he is exploring parallels and connections between Russia and Ukraine's steppes and America's Great Plains. He currently holds a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (2015–17) for a project entitled "The Amerikan Steppes: Russian Influences on the Great Plains."

### September 2017

#### Jessica J. Lee

"Der Stechlin: A Lake and Its Legacy in the Context of Climate Change"

Jessica J. Lee is a Canadian-Chinese-British author and researcher. Her first book, Turning: A Swimming Memoir (published in German as *Mein Jahr im Wasser*), was published in 2017. She completed a doctorate in environmental history and aesthetics in 2016, focusing on the history of Hampstead Heath. During her doctorate, she was a visiting scholar at the Royal College of Art in London and a pre-doctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. She lives and writes in Berlin.

#### **Evi Zemanek**

"Caricatures of Man-Made Nature: Reflections on Environmental Change in German Magazines from the Era of Industrialization"

Evi Zemanek is an associate professor of German, interart, and media studies at the University of Freiburg (ALU). She holds a PhD in comparative literature from LMU Munich. Besides intermedia and intercultural studies, her main research interests lie within the fields of ecocriticism, literary ecology, and cultural ecology. She has published on the aesthetics of nature, risk narratives, ecotopia, and, more generally, on the history and poetics of "ecological genres." She is a member of the Transatlantic Humboldt Network Environmental Humanities, and in 2013 founded the DFG-sponsored network Ethik und Ästhetik in literarischen Darstellungen ökologischer Transformationen (Ethics and Aesthetics in Literary Representations of Ecological Transformations). Since 2016, she has been a member of the Upper Rhine Cluster for Sustainability Research with a project on cross-cultural sustainability

communication focusing on the rhetorics of sustainabilty in German, French, and English mass media. In 2016, she was awarded a research fellowship at FRIAS and in 2017 she received the Heinz Meier-Leibnitz Award from the DFG. She is currently writing a book on "Caricatures of Man-Made Nature," which investigates the entanglements of environmental history and media history.

#### October 2017

### **David Stradling**

"Explorations beneath the Surface: Linking Fresh and Salt Water History"

David Stradling has taught urban and environmental history at the University of Cincinnati since 2000. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1996, after having earned a BA and MAT from Colgate University. His most recent book was coauthored with his brother, Richard Stradling. Where the River Burned: Carl Stokes and the Struggle to Save Cleveland narrates the environmental crisis together with the urban crisis, allowing for a fuller accounting of both. He has also published two books on New York: The Nature of New York: An Environmental History of the Empire State and Making Mountains: New York City and the Catskills. His career began with a study of early efforts to control air pollution and resulted in Smokestacks and Progressives: Environmentalists, Engineers and Air Quality in America, 1881–1951. He serves as coeditor of the Urban Life, Landscape, and Policy series at Temple University Press.

"Development of an International, Transdisciplinary Journal of Media + Environment" (Group Project)

#### Adrian Ivakhiv

Adrian Ivakhiv is the Steven Rubenstein Professor of environment and natural resources, and a professor of environmental thought and culture, at the University of Vermont. His research and teaching are focused at the intersections of ecology, culture, religion, media, philosophy, and the creative arts. He is the author of *Ecologies of the Moving Image: Cinema, Affect, and Nature* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press 2013) and *Claiming Sacred Ground: Pilgrims and Politics at Glastonbury and Sedona* (Indiana University Press 2001). Adrian is also an executive editor of the *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (Thoemmes Continuum Press 2005), a past president of the Environmental Studies Association of Canada, and has served on the editorial boards of several journals including *Environmental Communication, The Journal of Ecocriticism, Green Letters*, the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture,* and three book series in the environmental humanities. His current book projects include *Shadowing the Anthropocene: Eco-Realism for Turbulent Times* and *Ecocritique across the Arts: Resonant Themes for Precarious Futures*.

#### James Schwoch

James Schwoch is a professor at Northwestern University, with appointments in the Department of Communication Studies; the PhD Program in Media, Technology, and Society; the PhD Program in Technology and Social Behavior; and the PhD Program in Science and Human Culture. He is also a faculty affiliate with Northwestern's Buffett Institute for Global Studies, and the Institute for Sustainability and Energy. His areas of research and teaching include global media, media history, international studies, global security, and media-communication-environment. His forthcoming new book, *Wired into Nature: The Telegraph and the North American Frontier* (University of Illinois Press) brings together media history and environmental studies to narrate the story of the telegraph and North America west of the Mississippi River during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

### **Hunter Vaughan**

Hunter Vaughan is an associate professor of English and cinema studies at Oakland University, and a 2017–18 visiting lecturer with University of Miami's Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy. He did his PhD at the University of Oxford, and is the author of Where Film Meets Philosophy (Columbia University Press 2013) and numerous articles and book chapters on ecocriticism, film theory and philosophy, and identity in screen culture. His recent scholarship focuses on the relationship between media and the environment, and his upcoming book, Hollywood's Dirtiest Secret (Columbia University Press 2018), explores the environmental impact of film culture. Combining ecological cultural ethics, production studies, natural philosophy, and ethnography, Hollywood's Dirtiest Secret offers an alternative environmental history of Hollywood—and of the social function of screen culture—from the classical era to the contemporary digital turn, looking in particular at the material consequences of how we make, watch, and dispose of movies.

#### Janet Walker

Janet Walker is a professor of film and media studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she is also affiliated with the Carsey-Wolf Center's Environmental Media Initiative. A specialist in documentary film, trauma and memory, and media and environment, her six books include *Trauma Cinema: Documenting Incest and the Holocaust* (University of California Press 2005), *Documentary Testimonies: Global Archives of Suffering* (with Bhaskar Sarkar, Routledge 2010) and, most recently, *Sustainable Media: Critical Approaches to Media and Environment* (with Nicole Starosielski, Routledge 2016). She was founding co-chair with Hunter Vaughan of the Media and the Environment Scholarly Interest Group of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies and has recently received, with several other University of California, Santa Barbara co-PIs, a Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar grant for a collaborative project on energy justice. Her current research involves the development of a cartographically attuned analytic for the study of documentary film and other geolocational technologies.

### **Visiting Scholars**

#### **Daniel Barber**

June 2017 - August 2017

"Climatic Effects: Architecture, Media, and the Globalization of the International Style"

Daniel A. Barber is assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. He was recently a visiting professor of Environment and Humanities at the Princeton Environmental Institute. His research explores the relationship between architecture and the emergence of global environmental culture across the twentieth century. Daniel's book *A House in the Sun: Modern Architecture and Solar Energy in the Cold War* will be published by Oxford University Press in October. He is currently at work on his second book, *The Nature of the Image: Architecture, Climate, and Media*; research for this book is supported by the American Society of Environmental Historians, the Graham Foundation, and through an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center in Munich. Daniel has published extensively, in *Grey Room, Technology and Culture*, and forthcoming in *Public Culture*; in *The Avery Review, Praxis*, and *Agenda*; and in the Catalogue of the US Pavilion of the 2014 Venice Biennale. He also lectures internationally, including a recent keynote for the conference "Que Fait l'Énergie à l'Architecture?" at ENSA Belleville in Paris. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the Society of Architectural History*.

Cameron Blevins
August 2016 – July 2017
"The Postal West"

Cameron Blevins is an assistant professor of History at Northeastern University and is affiliated with the NU Lab for Maps, Texts, and Networks. He studies the nineteenth-century United States, the American West, and digital history. Some of his broader interests include geography, gender history, and information visualization. Cameron received his PhD from Stanford University, where he worked at the Spatial History Project and the Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis (CESTA). He then moved to New York City as a postdoctoral fellow at Rutgers University's history department and the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, where he taught the university's first course in spatial history. His current research project, *The Postal West*, presents a spatial interpretation of the western United States and the nineteenth-century American state by mapping the sprawling infrastructure of the nation's postal network. Cameron can be found online at http://cameronblevins.org.

# Amelia Fiske October 2017 – February 2018

Amelia Fiske is a cultural anthropologist, interested in the toxic entanglements of life, extraction, and science. Thinking across and within the disciplines of environmental studies,

feminist science studies, and medical anthropology, her research addresses the effects of extractive industries on people and places, sensorial experiences of toxic exposure and struggles for environmental justice, and public debates over knowledge production at the intersection of science and medicine. Her doctoral research investigated how the effects of the oil industry are made manifest, paying specific attention to the techniques that expert and lay people use to apprehend and address harm in the Ecuadorian Amazon. This work was supported by the National Science Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the UNC Institute for the Study of the Americas, and the Mitchell Foundation. At present, she is a senior research fellow at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel researching the ethical, political, and social implications of citizen science of biomedicine and bioscience. While at the RCC, she is working on a comparative ethnographic project that traces toxicity through aesthetic and sensory practices, and their relations with struggles for environmental justice.

#### **Helen Gilbert**

### **April 2016 - August 2017**

"Transnational Perspectives on Contemporary Indigenous Performance"

Educated in Australia and Canada, Helen Gilbert is Professor of Theatre at Royal Holloway, University of London, and author of several influential books, notably *Performance and Cosmopolitics: Cross-Cultural Transactions in Australasia* (with J. Lo, 2007) and *Postcolonial Drama: Theory, Practice, Politics* (with J. Tompkins, 1996). From 2009 to 2014, she led a large, ERC-funded project, Indigeneity in the Contemporary World, focusing on indigenous performance across the Americas, the Pacific, Australia, and South Africa. She has curated experimental performance work in universities and museums and brought performance-based insights to scientific research, notably in *Wild Man from Borneo: A Cultural History of the Orangutan* (written with R. Cribb and H. Tiffin, 2014). In 2015, she won a Humboldt Prize for lifetime achievements in international theatre and performance studies.

### **Travis Klingberg**

### June 2016 - July 2018

<u>"Exploring Place: Domestic Tourism and the Politics of Geographic Knowledge in Post-reform China"</u>

Travis Klingberg is a human geographer specializing in the culture and politics of geographic knowledge in contemporary China. His research has focused on the relationship between domestic independent tourism and new knowledge of China's places, regions, and national geobody. He has worked primarily in Sichuan Province, between the Chengdu metropolitan area and the Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. Travis is a lecturer at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he received his PhD, and was an NSF Graduate Research fellow and Fulbright-Hays fellow. While at the Rachel Carson Center, Travis will be working on a book manuscript titled *Exploring Place: Domestic Tourism and the Politics of Geographic* 

Knowledge in Post-reform China, which will examine how new desires to experience rural, remote, and natural places by urban Chinese over the past 20 years have become an integral part of the politics of territory in China.

Karoliina Lummaa

April 2017 – May 2017

"The Poetics of the Anthropocene"

Karoliina Lummaa is a researcher of literature and environmental humanities. She completed her doctoral thesis on Finnish environmental poetry at the University of Turku in December 2010. From 2012 to 2015, she worked on a post-doctoral research project, "Avian Poetics," funded by the Academy of Finland. In 2016, together with colleagues working in the fields of arts and social and natural sciences, she cofounded the multidisciplinary environmental research unit BIOS. Currently, she is working on a research project, "Messy Worlds" (Department of Finnish Literature, University of Turku), funded by the Kone Foundation. Lummaa is a docent in ecocriticism and has coedited Finnish anthologies devoted to multidisciplinary environmental research (2012), poetry criticism (2007; 2012), and posthumanism (2014).

#### **Bernhard Malkmus**

### September 2017 - December 2017

Bernhard Malkmus is designated professor of German Studies at the University of Newcastle in England, where he will, starting in January 2018, teach German and European intellectual history and literature from the eighteenth century to the present. In his essays and scholarship he explores the history of ecological imaginaries and their relation to other intellectual developments in modernity. He is currently working on two book projects: *Menschwerdung: Vom Leben in einer anthropomorphen Welt* deals with the epistemological and ethical implications of the Anthropocene concept; *The Scandal of Nature: Imagination, Reading, and the Environment* makes a case for the role of imagination in human relations to natural environments.

His publications in the environmental humanities include a special issue of New German Critique entitled *Between Humanism and Posthumanism: The Challenge of Ecology to the Humanities* (co-edited with Heather Sullivan), an essay on Max Frisch's environmental histories in *PMLA*, and various book chapters on environmental ethics and aesthetics in the writings of Peter Handke, W.G. Sebald, Graham Swift, as well as in Stanley Cavell and the French and German phenomenological traditions.

Stephen Milder June 2017 – July 2017

"West German Anti-Nuclear Activism during the 1970s"

Steve Milder studied social studies at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts and is currently studying history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He wrote his master's thesis at UNC on Petra Kelly's international politics and her role in the founding of the German Green Party, receiving his MA in 2008. He conducted dissertation research at the center during the academic year 2009–10 and returned as a Researcher in Residence in 2017.

### **Ruth Morgan**

January 2017 – December 2017

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

Ruth Morgan is an environmental historian and historian of science with a particular focus on Australia, the British Empire, and the Indian Ocean world. After completing her doctoral studies at The University of Western Australia in Perth, she joined the Department of History at Monash University in Melbourne in mid-2012. Ruth is a Humboldt postdoctoral research fellow from January 2017 until December 2017.

#### **Liam Phelan**

August 2017 - September 2017

"Challenging Perverse Resilience in Social-Ecological Systems"

Liam Phelan is a senior lecturer at the University of Newcastle, Australia. He has a long-standing engagement at the nexus of climate change, finance, human rights, and ecological sustainability and, before joining the academy, worked with civil society organizations in advocacy roles. His primary research interest is sustainability and how to achieve it.

Recently, he has been focusing on governance of the Earth system as a complex adaptive system—comprising human-social and ecological elements—and its key characteristics, including thresholds, nonlinear change, and capacity for surprise. In particular, he examines the relationship between the Earth system and the global economy as a subsystem of the Earth system, and ways towards bringing the global economy into alignment with the Earth system. He engages in critical research and in his teaching aims to equip and encourage students to participate consciously, actively, and effectively in wider society as highly functioning citizens. Phelan is particularly interested in connections between education, social justice, and sustainability.

Libby Robin
November 2017 – December 2017
"Fear of Ferals"

Libby Robin is a historian of science and environment who works in both universities and museums. At the Australian National University, Canberra, she is a professor in the Fenner School of Environment and Society, in the College of Science. She is an affiliated professor

with the Division of History of Science, Technology, and Environment at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm and with the National Museum of Australia in Canberra. Libby co-convenes the Australian Environmental Humanities Hub with former RCC fellow Thom van Dooren, and is immediate past president of the International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations (ICEHO). She was appointed to the International Advisory Board of the Rachel Carson Center from 2012 to 2018. Libby's current research in progress includes *Expertise for the Future*, an international collaboration with Sverker Sörlin, KTH, Stockholm and Paul Warde, Cambridge Centre for History and Economics; outcomes of the project include *The Future of Nature: Documents of Global Change*, published in 2013 (Yale UP) and *The Environment: A History* (a monograph, forthcoming 2017). *Understanding Australia in The Age of Humans: Localising the Anthropocene* with University of Sydney (Iain McCalman), former Carson fellow Kirsten Wehner, and RCC affiliates Josh Wodak and Gregg Mitman 2016—2019, includes a festival (August 2017) and exhibition (National Museum of Australia) in 2019. At the Rachel Carson Center, she will be working on her monograph *Fear of Ferals*.

### **Byron Santangelo**

May 2017 - August 2017

"A Crisis of Liberty: Climate Change and Traumatic Displacement in Teju Cole's Open City"

Byron Santangelo is a professor of English and environmental studies at the University of Kansas. His research focuses on the intersection of sub-Saharan African literature, grassroots environmental activism and writing, and environmental justice. Deploying an interdisciplinary critical framework informed by postcolonial studies and political ecology, his work makes visible legacies of African environmental writing that challenge dominant Western conceptions of nature and environmentalism and point to the impossibility of separating environmental projects from issues of social struggle and injustice. Recently, Byron codirected a project entitled Migration Stories: Africans in Midwestern Communities, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and run by the Kansas African Studies Center at the University of Kansas. The project gathered and disseminated stories in various forms about both the experience of immigration for Africans and the impact of changing demographics for Midwestern communities.

## Diana Villanueva-Romero June 2017 – August 2017

"The New Alliance: Environmental Humanities"

Diana Villanueva-Romero is an assistant professor at the University of Extremadura, Cáceres, Spain. She is a member of the research group on ecocriticism, GIECO, affiliated to the Franklin Institute of the University of Alcalá, Spain. Diana is one of the pioneer voices of ecocriticism in Spain. Her scholarship on ecocriticism mainly focuses on the study of ecocriticism as a global phenomenon and on animal studies. She is currently working on

several projects that focus on the intersections and crosspollination between literature and philosophy ("The Rhetoric of Environmental Denunciation in the Spanish Fable: The Case of José Antonio Jáuregui's *Juicio a los humanos*," forthcoming), as well as on postcolonial literatures in English ("Animal Sisterhood: An Animal Ecofeminist Reading of *Wide Sargasso Sea* and *Jane Eyre*"). She is also a member of the research projects, Acis & Galatea Ref. S2015/HUM-3362 (CAM/FSE), funded by the Comunidad de Madrid and the European Social Fund, and HUAMECO: Relatos para el Cambio [HUAMECO: Stories for Change] Ref: HAR2015-67472-C2-2-R (MINECO/FEDER), funded by the Ministry of Economy, Industry, and Competitiveness of Spain and the European Regional Development Fund.

### **Zhen Wang**

### March 2016 – February 2017

"Changing Cultural Landscapes—A Case Study on Minority Villages in Southwest China"

Zhen Wang received a BA in Industrial Design at the Hubei Institute of Fine Arts. She completed an MA in Architectural History and a PhD in Landscape Architecture at the Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST). Her doctoral thesis focused on landscape architecture and the engineering of hard armoring for urban riverbanks, and was revised and published as a book in 2014. Zhen joined the Huazhong University of Science and Technology in 2000 as an associate professor, where she has taught Theories and Methods of Landscape Design, Sustainable Environmental Design, and several other courses in the School of Architecture and Urban Planning. From 2009 to 2010 she was a visiting scholar at Cardiff University in Wales, UK. She is the cofounder and current director of the Administration Committee of the Water Fund, which is supported by the China Overseas-Educated Scholars Development Foundation—a nonprofit organization focusing on environmental problems caused by urbanization, as well as the design, regeneration, and conservation of cultural landscapes in China. While at the Rachel Carson Center, Zhen is beginning a new project on cultural landscape research focusing on minority villages' changing landscapes in southwest China.

#### **13. Staff**

#### **Directors**

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

Christof Mauch, LMU Munich
Helmuth Trischler, Deutsches Museum

### **General Operations**

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

Arielle Helmick (Managing Director)

Anna Rühl (Administrative Coordinator)

**Carmen Dines** (Office Manager)

Annka Liepold (Events Coordinator)

Alina Becker (Research Assistant)

Thekla Ebbert (Research Assistant)

Maximilian Heumann (Research Assistant)

Sophia Hörl (Research Assistant)

Lisa Ketzer (Research Assistant)

Franz Langer (IT, Coordinator of the Internship Program)

**Christof Moosmüller** (Research Assistant)

Lori Schiesl (Research Assistant)

**Annika Spenger** (Research Assistant)

Martin Spenger (Research Associate)

**Tim Voss** (Research Assistant)

Yannick Winter (Research Assistant)

### **Academic Programs and Projects**

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

Ursula Münster (Certificate Program Coordinator)
Katharina Müller (Program Assistant)
Pavla Šimková (Research Associate)

#### **Portal and Exhibitions**

The RCC curates content in both digital and physical formats. The Environment & Society Portal team manages the content, design, and development of the RCC's digital collections, including researching topics, reviewing submissions, and acquiring permissions. At the

Deutsches Museum, curators and interns present on current topics in the form of special exhibitions.

Kimberly Coulter (Director of the Environment & Society Portal)
Ruhi Deol (Research Associate)
Katrin Kleeman (Research Associate)
Nina Möllers (Project Manager – Exhibitions)
Jonatan Palmblad (Research Associate)
Iris Trautmann (Digital Humanities Research Specialist)

#### **Publications**

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

Katie Ritson (Managing Editor / Coordinator of Doctoral Program)
Hannah Roberson (Editor)
Samantha Rothbart (Editor)
Harriet Windley (Editor)