

The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

Annual Report
2016



Rachel Carson Center
for Environment and Society
Annual Report 2016

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1. The RCC at a Glance 2016

Continuing with the theme for phase two—transformations in environment and society—the RCC hosted, sponsored, and participated in many conferences, workshops, seminars, and other events throughout 2016. A majority of the research conducted at the center has been more interdisciplinary in focus and method than in previous years, something that was reflected in the events and activities.

2016 saw the launch of the new DFG Emmy-Noether Research Project Hazardous Travels: Ghost Acres and the Global Waste Economy. The project investigates structures and dynamics of international hazardous waste trade since the 1970s. The team, consisting of three PhDs and one head of research, works with an asymmetrical comparison of “ghost acre” case studies from North America, Germany, Ecuador, and India.

The RCC has recently submitted and sponsored a number of applications for Humboldt and LMU research fellowships as well as for research grants (Volkswagen Foundation). If successful, several of these grants would bring additional funds for research assistants, research staff, and conferences.

The center’s networks in China continue to grow stronger. Thanks to funds from the LMU-China Academic Network (ChAN), the RCC was able to support several participants from China at a workshop in Freiburg in July and organize a graduate student conference in May with partners in Renmin.

The doctoral program and certificate program are in the process of establishing an alumni organization to enable networking among graduates.

Christof Mauch attended the Direktorentreffen (meeting of directors) of the Käte Hamburger Institutes in Erlangen in January, together with Arielle Helmick. The question of the sustainability (or institutionalization) of the individual institutes was addressed as part of this evaluation. The Geschäftsführerinnentreffen (annual meeting of the managing directors of the Käte Hamberger Institutes) was held in Munich on 4–5 February.

Rob Emmet, the Director of Academic Programs, moved back to the US and his position will not be refilled. Instead, the RCC has created “Researcher-in-Residence” positions. These contracts will run for 6–9 months and are conceived as seed money for academics to write proposals for grants that will be hosted at the RCC. The application deadline for the first round was 30 November; the RCC hopes that the first researchers-in-residence will begin in February or March 2017.

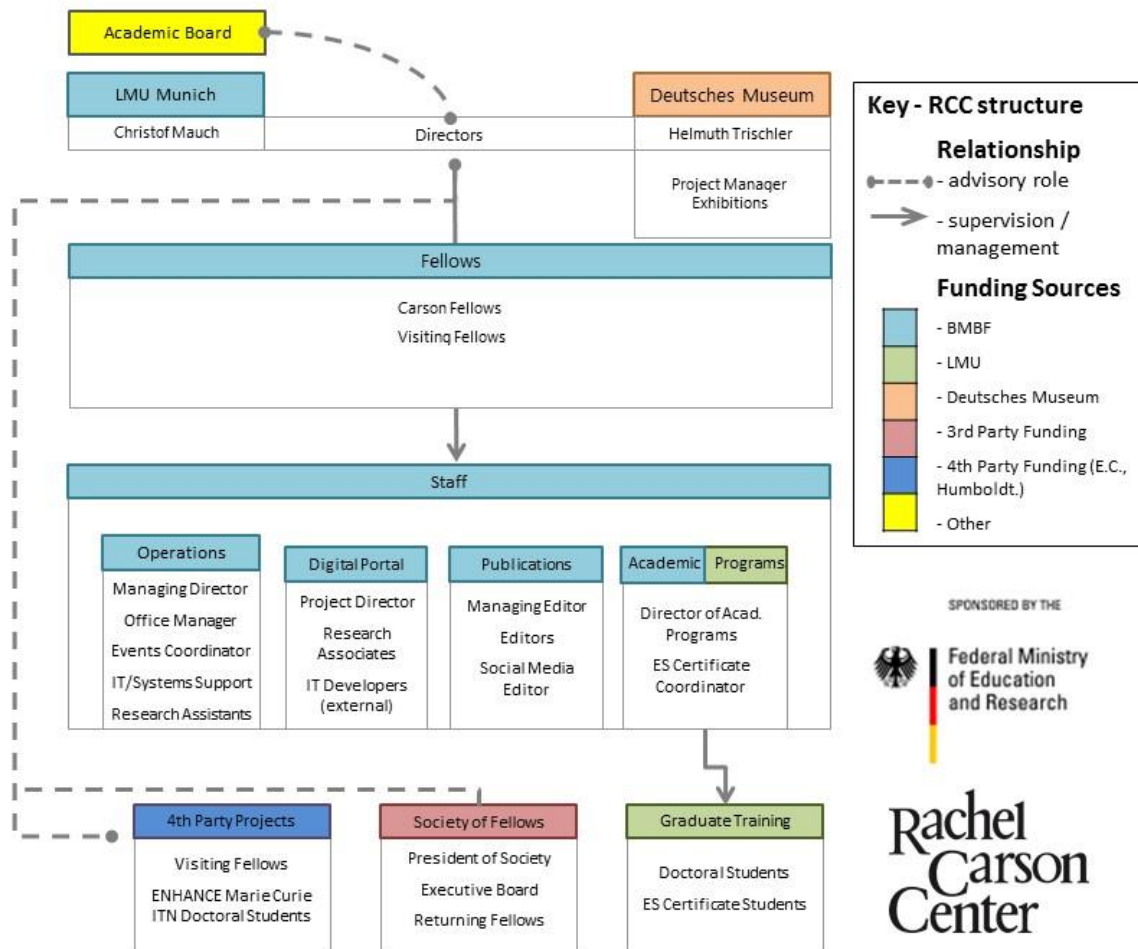
The RCC has implemented a Code of Conduct, which all members of the RCC community are asked to sign. The code makes explicit some key aspects of the RCC community including communal responsibility for common areas of the building such as the kitchen and expectations regarding respectful behavior.

A collaborative project between the RCC and Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL) in Santa Fe, Argentina, entitled Rights of Nature in Transatlantic Perspective received important funding from the Bavarian Academic Center for Latin America (BAYLAT), enabling the project to host a workshop at the RCC and a conference at UNL in 2016. RCC director Christof Mauch and fellow Valeria Berros coordinated the project with help from Anna Leah Tabios-Hillebrecht, a candidate of the Doctoral Program Environment and Society.

Many current and former RCC staff, fellows, and scholars reunited at the ASEH annual conference in Seattle, reinforcing the strong networks maintained by the RCC. In total, more than 40 past and current fellows, as well as doctoral students and board members, presented their research or chaired sessions.

2016 marked the close of the RCC's hugely successful collaborative special exhibition "The Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands" with the Deutsches Museum. After attracting significant numbers of visitors as well as media attention, the exhibition was extended for an additional 6 months, receiving 22,000 visitors in its final month. Among other prominent guests, the exhibition was visited by two German ministers during a Zukunftskongress (Future Congress) hosted by the Deutsches Museum.

2. Organigram



3. The Academic Advisory Board

Three members of the Advisory Board finished their three-year periods of office in 2016:

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

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

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

The members of the Advisors Board as of the end of 2016:

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

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 strong ties between **Renmin University's Center for Ecological History** in Beijing, China, and the RCC were further reinforced in 2016. In May, the groups co-hosted an international graduate student workshop in environmental history, "Transformations of the Earth," at Renmin University. The workshop focused on sharing new research on how societies, large or small, have transformed the natural world around them materially and in the process have changed their own structure, views of the world, or social-economic relations. Then in June, a special conference was held in honor of Don Worster (founder of Renmin's Center for Ecological History) and his contributions to the field of environmental history. The conference, "Riches of Nature, Limits of Nature: Donald Worster and Environmental History," was held in Renmin. The event was co-sponsored by the Center for Ecological History and School of History, Renmin University, the International Office and China Academic Network, LMU Munich, and Rachel Carson Center.

A new cooperative project between the RCC and **Universidad Nacional del Litoral** in Santa Fe, Argentina (UNL), "Rights of Nature in Transatlantic Perspective," won funding in the form of a startup grant (*Anschubfinanzierung*) from the Bavarian Academic Center for Latin America (BAYLAT). The project aims to promote transatlantic dialogue on the rights of nature. Two workshops on the theme were held in 2016, one at the RCC in July and a second at the UNL in September. An issue of RCC's *Perspectives* based on the discussions from these events is being compiled for publication in 2017.

Maintaining its close associations with LMU's academic circles, the RCC teamed up with the University's **Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (LMU)**, hosting the international workshop, "Environmental Context of Human Evolution and Dispersal," which took place in October.

The Rachel Carson Center is participating in a new European graduate training network, the Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe (ENHANCE) Innovative Training Network (ITN), known as **ENHANCE/ITN**. Its aim is to provide young researchers with multidisciplinary doctoral training in Environmental Humanities and prepare them for a wide variety of careers. In 2016, the environmental film "Land Beneath Our Feet," directed by RCC fellow Gregg Mitman, saw its premier screening at the Leeds International Film Festival. The

screening was made possible by an ENHANCE/ITN grant. The program also co-hosted the Early-Career Researcher Conference “The Future of Wild Europe” at the University of Leeds in September, which resulted from the RCC ENHANCE/ITN project examining wildness as a key theme across many European societies. The RCC co-convened the event, with the **KTH Environmental Humanities Lab and Leeds University**. The RCC and ENHANCE/ITN group were also involved with the interactive, interdisciplinary, and multimedia based “Stories of the Anthropocene Festival” held in Stockholm in October.

The center also strengthened its networks with other institutions in 2016 by contributing to several other collaborative events. Together with the **Center for Culture, History and Environment at the University of Wisconsin–Madison** and the DAAD, the RCC co-sponsored a field trip, “Exploring the Upper Mississippi,” in May as part of an ongoing series of events examining the concept of place in understanding human-environment interactions over time. Plans are underway to take next year’s explorations to Europe, focusing on the Danube. In September, the RCC hosted the inaugural conference of the **Environmental Anthropology Working Group** (a subgroup of the German Anthropological Association). The meeting was convened to discuss the key debates and standpoints in environmental anthropology, as well as its diverse engagements with current environmental problems.

Other events in which the RCC collaborated in 2016 were the symposium “Foreign Bodies, Intimate Ecologies: Transformations in Environmental History” with the University of Sydney, the Australian National University, Macquarie University, and Monash University, in Australia (February); a workshop and webinar on “Phosphorus and the Opening of the Plantationocene” with Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (April); and the international graduate workshop “Urban Cultures of Sustainability” at the **Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies** (FRIAS) (July).

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. An important goal is for scholars, politicians, and representatives of the private sector to come together and develop ideas for the future, as well as presenting their research to the general public. The RCC has

been involved with the project since 2014, and in 2016, sponsored two special Lunchtime Colloquium talks for the ninth and tenth **Münchner Hochshultage** event.

5. Events

Lunchtime Colloquia

All lunchtime colloquia are recorded (audio and video). After a pause in the processing of these videos, the Interns together with support of the editorial team finished editing the backlog of colloquia videos and uploaded many to the [RCC'S youtube channel](#). This project will be brought up to date and continued into 2017.

The Lunchtime Colloquium sessions were mostly well attended in 2016, and a talk by esteemed philosopher and sociologist Bruno Latour received so much advance interest that it was moved to a larger venue to host the record number of visitors (over 500 people).

07.01.2016

Patrick Reed (DAAD Visiting Scholar) on “Drawn to Disaster: Dark Ecology and Creative Practice”

14.01.2016

Marc-Denis Weitze (Acatech—National Academy of Science and Engineering) on “Technology Futures for Artificial Photosynthesis”

21.01.2016

Vimbai Kwashirai (University of Zimbabwe) on “Transformations in Environment and Society in Makonde District, Zimbabwe: 2000–2015”

28.01.2016

Bernd Draser (ecosign/Akademie für Gestaltung) on “On Natural and Cultural Resources: The Ecosign Approach to Sustainable Design”

04.02.2016

Tom Brookings (University of Otago) on “Telling Transformations: The Slow Emergence of Environmental History in New Zealand, 1843–2015”

14.04.2016

Ernst Langthaler (Institute of Rural History, St. Pölten) on “‘Miracle Bean’: Soy and Agro-Food Globalization since 1870”

21.04.2016

Robert Wilson (Syracuse University) on “Forging the Climate Movement: Global Warming and American Environmental Activism”

28.04.2016

Allen Thompson (Oregon State University) on “Novel Ecosystems and Adapting Nature Conservation”

12.05.2016

Sarah Strauss and **Carrick Eggleston** (University of Wyoming) on “Energy Transitions in the Twenty-First Century: Science, Culture, and Sustainable Systems”

19.05.2016

Pey-Yi Chu (Pomona College) on “Conquest versus Adaptation: Permafrost and Socialist Industrialization in the Soviet Union”

02.06.2016

Alan MacEachern (University of Western Ontario) on “Respecting Borders: Two Nations’ Histories of a Natural Disaster”

09.06.2016

Oliver Richters (University of Oldenburg) on “Why Can’t We Stop?—A Survey of Growth Imperatives”

16.06.2016

Vidya Sarveswaran (Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur) on “Under another Sky—A Story from Rajasthan”

23.06.2016

Benjamin Hale (University of Colorado) on “The Wild and the Wicked: Why You Don't Have to Love Nature to be Green”

30.06.2016

Arnab Dey (State University of New York) on “Unkempt Edens: Tea and the ‘Culture’ of Commerce in Eastern India, circa 1840–1920”

07.07.2016

Saskia Beudel (University of Sidney) on “Science, Imagination, and Narrative: Rachel Carson as Interdisciplinary Thinker”

14.07.2016

Arran Stibbe (University of Gloucestershire) on “Ecolinguistics: The Search for New Stories to Live By”

20.10.2016

Paul Sutter (University of Colorado) on “Pulling the Teeth of the Tropics: American Public Health during the Construction of the Panama Canal”

27.10.2016

Mu Cao (Tianjin Normal University) on “Well Water or River Water: Tianjin’s Choice of Water Resources”

03.11.2016

Yan Gao (Independent researcher) on “Yangzi Waters: A Social and Environmental History of the Jiangnan Plain”

10.11.2016

Amanda Boetzkes (University of Guelph) on “Contemporary Art, New Materialisms, and the Aesthetics of Waste”

17.11.2016

Werner Krauß (Universität Hamburg) on “Extension of the Combat Zone: The Anthropology of Climate Blogs”

24.11.2016

Tom Griffiths (Australian National University) on “The Lore of the Land: Australian Natural Histories”

01.12.2016

Franklin Ginn (University of Bristol) on “Anthroposcenes in the Firth of Forth, Scotland”

08.12.2016

Bruno Latour (Sciences Po Paris) on “From the Anthropocene to the New Climatic Regime”

15.12.2016

Anitra Nelson (RMIT University) on “Small is Necessary: Sharing Housing on a Shared Planet”

22.12.2016

Lisa Pettibone on “The Role of Ideological Change in Sustainable Transformation”

Conferences and Workshops

11.02.2016 – 13.02.2016

“Foreign Bodies, Intimate Ecologies: Transformations in Environmental History”

Symposium at Macquarie University, Australia

http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/download/events/conference_reports/160211_foreignbodies_confrep.pdf

26.02.2016 – 28.02.2016

“Men and Nature: Gender, Power, and Environmental Change”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/download/events/conference_reports/160226_mennature_confrep.pdf

11.03.2016 – 12.03.2016

“Consuming the World: Eating and Drinking in Culture, History, and Environment”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/download/events/conference_reports/160311_consuming-the-world.pdf

26.04.2016

“Phosphorus and the Opening of the Plantationocene”

Workshop and Webinar at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

15.05.2016 – 20.05.2016

“Exploring the Upper Mississippi”

Place-Based Workshop with the University of Wisconsin–Madison

21.05.2016 – 23.05.2016

“Transformations of the Earth”

Graduate Student Workshop at Renmin University, Beijing

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/08/29/workshop-transformations-of-the-earth/>

26.06.2016 – 29.06.2016

“Riches of Nature, Limits of Nature: Donald Worster and Environmental History”

Conference at Renmin University, Beijing

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/09/13/conference-riches-of-nature-limits-of-nature/>

11.07.2016 – 14.07.2016

“Urban Cultures of Sustainability”

Graduate Student Workshop at Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), University of Freiburg

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/10/17/urban-cultures-of-sustainability/>

20.07.2016

“Rights of Nature in a Transatlantic Perspective”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/download/events/conference_reports/rights-of-nature-confrep.pdf

05.09.2016 – 06.09.2016

“Derechos de la naturaleza: Perspectivas transatlánticas y trans-disciplinares”

Workshop at National University of the Littoral, Santa Fe, Argentina

12.09.2016 – 14.09.2016

“The Future of Wild Europe”

Early Career Researcher Conference at the University of Leeds

Organized as part of the ENHANCE ITN program

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/10/27/the-future-of-wild-europe/>

26.09.2016 – 27.09.2016

“Key Debates in Environmental Anthropology”

Inaugural Conference of the Environmental Anthropology Working Group, German Anthropological Association (GAA)

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/12/08/key-debates-in-environmental-anthropology-a-report-on-the-inaugural-conference-of-the-environmental-anthropology-working-group/>

12.10.2016 – 14.10.2016

“Environmental Context of Human Evolution and Dispersal”

Workshop at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich

<https://seeingthewoods.org/2016/11/15/snapshot-human-evolution-workshop/>

26.10.2016 – 29.10.2016

“Stories of the Anthropocene Festival”

Workshop at KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, Stockholm

Organized as part of the ENHANCE ITN program

02.12.2016 – 03.12.2016

“Chernobyl—Turning Point or Catalyst? Changing Practices, Structures and Perceptions in Environmental Policy and Politics (1970s–1990s)”

Conference at the Heinrich Böll Foundation

Green Visions Film Series Screenings

The RCC hosts the film series “Green Visions” in cooperation with the Deutsche 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 2016 were “Green Activism,” “Movements,” and “Global Justice.” The screenings are followed by discussions with directors, environmental experts, and film scholars.

14.01.2016

Elemental

25.02.2016

Voices of Transition

02.03.2016

Tell the Prime Minister

10.03.2016

How to Change the World

14.04.2016
Slow Food Story

09.06.2016
Occupy Love

14.07.2016
Taking Root

20.10.2016
Inhabit

10.11.2016
DamNation

15.12.2016
Dukale's Dream

Lectures

03.02.2016
Jon Mathieu on "Die Alpen"
Book presentation and discussion

02.05.2016
Allen Thompson on "Novel Ecosystems and Adapting Nature Conservation"
5th RCC Lecture at ZUG Wien more

29.06.2016
Jamie Lorimer on "Living Well with Worms"

04.07.2016
Eben Kirksey on Multispecies Pedagogy
21.07.2016 at 19:00
Jens Harder on "Das Anthropozän im Comic."
Book presentation and discussion

22.09.2016
Christof Mauch on "Die Environmental Humanities: Wie verletzlich ist unsere Welt?"
Ringvorlesung Universität Zürich

28.09.2016
Henrik Ernstson on "One Table Two Elephants"

29.09.2016

Tim Flach on “Who’s Upside Down; Us, or the Bats?”

10.10.2016

Alan MacEachern on “Respecting Borders: Two Nations' Histories of a Natural Disaster”

6th RCC Lecture at ZUG Wien

24.10.2016

Dipesh Chakrabarty on “Climate Change and the Small Voice of History”

Munich History Lecture

07.11.2016

Paul Sutter on “Pulling the Teeth of the Tropics: Towards an Environmental History of US Public Health Efforts during the Construction of the Panama Canal”

7th RCC Lecture at ZUG Wien

17.11.2016

Libby Robin on “The Anthropocene from Off-Centre: The Environmental Humanities and the Imagination in Australia, Sweden, and other Smaller Nations”

Ringvorlesung Universität Zürich

Tuesday Discussions

12.01.2016 Franz-Theo Gottwald (Schweisfurth Foundation)

19.01.2016 Claire Lagier (environmental humanities blogging at Unevenearth.org)

26.01.2016 Alexander Ochs (Worldwatch Institute)

02.02.2016 Sebastian Huber (Green City e.V.)

16.02.2016 Kristina Notz (Social Entrepreneurship Academy)

22.03.2016 Elin Kelsey (podcasting and the project “Beyond Doom and Gloom”)

12.04.2016 Marco Heurich (conservation in the Bavarian Forest National Park)

19.04.2016 Eva Kraus and Franziska Stöhr (curators of exhibition “WEtransFORM”)

03.05.2016 Martin Delker (Bürgerlobby Klimaschutz)

10.05.2016 Joachim Holder (Empetus)

31.05.2016 Elisabeth Merk (Munich City Building Officer)

07.06.2016 Laura Rottensteiner (Green City Energy)

14.06.2016 Johannes Geibel (netzwerk n)

21.06.2016	Christoph Hirsch (oekom)
28.06.2016	Phillip Sprau (behavioral ecologist, LMU)
05.07.2016	Johannes Kollmann (restoration ecology, TU Munich)
12.07.2016	Maximilian Lössl (Agrilution)
25.10.2016	Robert Wager (End Ecocide)
08.11.2016	Christa Müller (Anstiftung)
15.11.2016	Marc Haug (Ökologisches Bildungszentrum)
22.11.2016	Helmut Paschlau (Umweltakademie)
29.11.2016	Tanja Gschlößl and Veronika Lohr (Bavarian Ministry for Environment)

6. Publications

Alongside the production of the familiar RCC series *Perspectives*, *Global Environment*, and *The Environment in History*, the publishing team worked to increase the profile of the RCC blog. Conference reports, which were formally found on the main RCC website, are now hosted on the blog site, [SeeingTheWoods](#). With some general restructuring, more posts, and new sections for the conference reports as well as student blog posts and book reviews, the blog received a slight overall increase in visitors and views compared to 2015, as well as a higher level of engagement in the form of “page likes,” comments, and followers.

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.

2016/1: Christof Mauch, ed. “Out of Sight, Out of Mind: The Politics and Culture of Waste.”

2016/2: Robert Emmett and Thomas Lekan, eds. “Whose Anthropocene? Revisiting Dipesh Chakrabarty’s ‘Four Theses’.”

2016/3: Christof Mauch, ed. “A Future without Waste? Zero Waste in Theory and Practice.”

2016/4: Jonathan Clapperton and Liza Piper, eds. “Environmental Knowledge, Environmental Politics: Case Studies from Canada and Western Europe.”

2016/5: Maurits W. Ertsen, Christof Mauch, and Edmund Russell, eds. “Molding the Planet: Human Niche Construction at Work.”

Global Environment

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

Volume 9, no. 1: Agnes Kneitz, ed. “The Country and the City”

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. In 2016, Volume 6: Giacomo Parrinello’s *Fault Lines: Earthquakes and Urbanism in Modern Italy* (published 2015) won both the SISSCO (Society of Historians of Modern Italy) Anci-Storia Book Prize and the American Association of Italian Studies (AAIS) Book Award for 20th and 21st Century Category.

Volume 8: Stefan Dorondel. *Disrupted Landscapes: State, Peasants and the Politics of Land in Postsocialist Romania.*

Volume 9: Bernhard Gissibl. *The Nature of German Imperialism: Conservation and the Politics of Wildlife in Colonial East Africa.*

Volume 10: Doubravka Olšáková, ed. *In the Name of the Great Work: Stalin's Plan for the Transformation of Nature and its Impact in Eastern Europe.*

Volume 11: Wolfram Kasier and Jan-Henrik Meyer, eds. *International Organizations and Environmental Protection: Conservation and Globalization in the Twentieth Century.*

Supported Publications

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

Jens Kersten, ed. *Inwastement: Abfall in Umwelt und Gesellschaft*. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2016.

Ruth Oldenziel, Martin Emanuel, Adri Albert de la Bruhèze, and Frank Veraart, eds. *Cycling Cities: The European Experience; One Hundred Years of Policy and Practice*. Eindhoven: Foundation for the History of Technology and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, 2016.

Anya Zilberstein, *A Temperate Empire: Making Climate Change in Early America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

7. Environment & Society Portal

The [Environment & Society Portal](#) is an online gateway to openly accessible 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 of which is tagged with place, time, and thematic keywords and browsable on a map, timeline, and keyword explorer. Over 2016, Portal user traffic grew 35% to close with 12,500 unique users in December. Google Analytics reports access to the Portal from 193 countries/territories.

In 2016 we were delighted to beta-launch our new interactive timeline. Built on the open-source Wellcome Library timeline, this feature allows users to browse Portal content chronologically by zooming, scrolling, and discovering significant environmental events and resources.

Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History, a collaboration with the ESEH, publishes short, born-digital, peer-reviewed environmental histories. In January, Katrin Kleemann, who was already coordinating *Arcadia* and Virtual Exhibitions, took over as managing editor of the series and streamlined the peer review process. In 2016, *Arcadia* published 20 new articles (totaling 105) and introduced new thematic collections on “Terms of Disaster” and “Diseases and Pests in History.”

The Portal’s Multimedia Library (MML) is a dynamic digital archive that makes images, podcasts, scholarly texts, documentary films, and other materials openly accessible. In 2016, Ruhi Deol took

over the coordination of the MML and introduced structural improvements. The MML now boasts more than 1,800 items including contributions from RCC fellows, full-text excerpts from RCC series with Berghahn Books and Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, a digitized and annotated collection of publications from the Earth First! movement, and more than 200 environmental film profiles.

In 2016, the Portal published two Virtual Exhibitions. In “Beyond Doom and Gloom: An Exploration through Letters,” alumna fellow Elin Kelsey uses personal letters to focus on hope in a world in which “doom and gloom” has become the de facto cultural construct not only for environmental communication but for the environmental science it seeks to communicate. In “Energy Transitions,” Nuno Luís Madureira explains how human practices of energy consumption both transform, and are transformed by, social structures. He showcases, in three galleries, the Portal’s open-access resources on “histories of transitions,” “contrasting transitions,” and “imagining transitions.”

At the close of 2016, the team solicited external expert reviews and planned a redesign of the Portal focusing on peer-reviewed publications, generous images, and mobile responsiveness.

8. Research Group Hazardous Travels

The new research group, *Hazardous Travels. Ghost Acres and the Global Waste Economy*, began at the RCC in September 2016, coinciding with the arrival of the head of research for the project, Simone Müller. The research group is funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinde, DFG) through its Emmy-Noether Program.

The research group investigates the structures and dynamics of international hazardous waste trade since the 1970s. It works with an asymmetrical comparison of “ghost acres” case studies from North America, Germany, Ecuador, and India. It seeks to understand how this system could seemingly be built simultaneously on structures of “voluntary exchange” of toxic materiality and “garbage imperialism.” The project works with two concepts identified as fundamental to the running of the global waste economy post-1970s: (1) hazardous waste mobility and (2) emergence of “ghost acres” in the aftermath of the environmental turn. Applying a global perspective, economic thinking, and constructivist approaches informed from the cultural turn, the project postulates the existence of regional, national, and transnational toxic waste regimes at the core of the global waste economy after industrial countries’ 1970s environmental turn.

The HazTrav team consists of three PhDs and Simone M. Müller as head of research. The selection process for the three PhD candidates began in the first three months and received a very competitive range of applications. Three highly qualified PhD students were selected and each will focus on a specific area of research. Maximilian Feichtner will start working on Texaco's oil business in Ecuador in April 2017, Jonas Stuck will begin in September 2017 and will focus on the waste trade between former East and West Germany, and Ayushi Dhawan will investigate shipbreaking in India, starting in September 2017.

9. Doctoral Program Environment and Society

Director of Academic Programs Robert Emmett went on parental leave in March 2016 and then returned to live in the US in the summer. His responsibilities were divided up among other staff members, with Managing Editor Katie Ritson taking on a new role as coordinator of the Doctoral Program Environment and Society. Katie was assisted by Anna Rühl in her transitional role as administrative coordinator.

In 2016, the doctoral program in Environment and Society was home to 29 doctoral candidates from 14 different countries. The topics of the dissertation projects ranged across disciplines, including Law, History of Art, Anthropology, History, Theology, and Geography. Two of the doctoral candidates in the program had previously graduated from the MA Certificate Program in Environmental Studies and thus joined the program with experience of working across disciplines. Four of the doctoral candidates were members of the ENHANCE ITN (Innovative Training Network in the Environmental Humanities) program funded by an EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant, which is designed to support productive interdisciplinary cooperation between doctoral students at the three host institutions in Munich, Stockholm, and Leeds.

Around half of the students were in receipt of external scholarships (via the DAAD or ENHANCE ITN), and a further eight candidates were working for the RCC, Deutsches Museum, or LMU Munich on part-time academic contracts (teaching or research assistant positions) during 2016.

Six students graduated from the program in 2016: Julia Blanc, Barbara Brandl, Stefan Esselborn, Sebastian Kistler, Anna Leah Tabios, and Amir Zelinger. Two further members (Sabine Buchczyk and Martin Spenger) completed all of the formal requirements for the program, including the submission

of their dissertations. Four new members joined the program in 2016: Saskia Brill, Christina Littlejohn, Chijoke Francis Nwosu, and Noemi Quagliati, and a further two places were offered to applicants still considering funding options. The second round of applications in 2016 closed on 15 November with 66 completed applications.

Program members met for monthly colloquia during term time and also organized regular social evenings. The group went on a field trip to the Bavarian Forest National Park, with a guided tour led by Dr Marco Heurich in July 2016 and convened a *Doktorandentag* (workshop to present doctoral research), which was open to RCC fellows and staff as well as members of the doctoral program on 7 November 2016.

Individual members of the doctoral program presented their work at the international graduate student workshop in Environmental History in Beijing, which was co-convened by the RCC together with Renmin Center for Ecological History. They also presented at the international graduate and doctoral student workshop on Urban Cultures of Sustainability at the Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS) at the Albert-Ludwig-University in Freiburg, as well as the early-career researcher conference “The Future of Wild Europe” in Leeds. Members of the doctoral program were involved with the place-based workshop with UW-Madison entitled “Exploring the Upper Mississippi,” which will be followed by a place-based workshop on the Danube in 2017. Program member Anna Leah Tabios-Hillebrecht co-convened a workshop on “Rights of Nature in a Transatlantic Perspective” together with Carson fellow Maria Valeria Berros, with funding from BAYLAT (Bavarian Academic Center for Latin America).

10. Certificate Program in Environmental Studies

More than 40 students joined the Environmental Studies Certificate Program (ESCP) in fall 2016, making a total of 99 students from more than 30 disciplines registered in the program. While most students came from LMU Munich, 12 enrolled students were from TU Munich and other institutions. The Environmental Studies Certificate Program provides early career scholars with excellent opportunities for networking and interdisciplinary exchange. Besides the RCC’s weekly lunchtime colloquium and a subsequent reading course on international environmental topics, the program offered a number of interdisciplinary seminars.

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.

The introductory course to Environmental Studies (lectured by Ursula Münster, Academic Coordinator of the program) offered the students insights into diverse topics and fields of environmental history, political ecology, environmental anthropology and ethics, conservation biology, eco-criticism, and science and technology studies.

The weekly Environmental Practice Seminar (organized by Christof Mauch and Ursula Münster) invited speakers from the world of environmental practice: students could interact and participate in discussions with prominent practitioners such as Elisabeth Merk (design and construction department of Munich's city council, Stadtbaurätin), Marco Heurich, (head of the Bavarian National Park Bayerischer Wald), Laura Rottensteiner (PR manager of Green City Energy), Alexander Ochs (director of Climate and Energy at the Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC), Johannes Kollmann (head of department of Ecology and Ecosystem Management Restoration Ecology), who was in charge of Munich river Isar's restoration plan and Eva Kraus (head curator of WEtransFORM, Neues Museum Nürnberg).

In early May, a particular highlight in the field of environmental practice was the field seminar on Alternative Agricultures (organized by Ursula Münster, RCC), during which permaculture teacher and consultant Jochen Koller took the students to four different organic farms in the Allgäu region in order to watch, work, and experience the joys and challenges of non-conventional farming methods. From 3 to 5 June 2016, the ESP held its annual place-based workshop in Berchtesgarden/Bad Reichenhall. This event taught the students to read and experience place and landscape through different disciplinary methods (geology, geography, ecology, botany, environmental history, anthropology, and political ecology). It featured an interdisciplinary team of teachers, including Anke Friedrich (Geology, LMU), Andreas Groeger (head conservator and botanist, Botanical Garden, Munich), Matthias Möller (Geography, University Bamberg), Ursula Münster (Anthropology), and Dorothea Hutterer (History, RCC).

From 14 to 17 June, four ESCP students attended the "Days of the Future" event in Kärnten, Austria, together with Christof Mauch (RCC) and former Carson fellow Gary Martin (Global Diversity Foundation). There, they presented their work and held discussions with politicians, scientists, and activists on how life could look in the future.

In July, two more workshops introduced the students to the work of ecolinguist Arran Stibbe (University of Gloucestershire) and the realm of sustainable city planning with Mark Roseland (Director of the Center for Sustainable Community Development at Simon Fraser University). On 19 July the semester reached an exciting end with the second cohort of 12 ESCP students presenting and exhibiting their final projects, displaying a great diversity of topics—from a food exhibition on unwanted weeds, a 3D simulation of a future city, to the designing of an eco-board game.

On 20 October 2016, the newly elected board of the Alumni Association Rachel Carson Center e.V. held its first meeting. The goal of the association is to enable graduates of the RCC's Doctoral Program in Environment and Society and its master's-level Environmental Studies Certificate Program to stay connected with each other and the RCC.

11. Internship Program

In 2016, interns from India, Germany, the US, Norway, Italy, and Croatia supported the center. RCC interns stay for a period of two to three months. The internship program introduces these students to the research of the Carson Center and aims to strengthen 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. As part of a slightly new format for introducing new interns, they now spend their first week at the center moving between all the RCC teams for a short introduction, in order to familiarize themselves with the different areas of work and staff and to indicate suitability for particular projects or tasks. They are also invited to contribute to the RCC blog.

In 2016, the interns played a particularly important role in reinitiating and improving the production and release of the Lunchtime Colloquium films; the organization of a special photography exhibition by Zhen Wang; in creating and editing content for the Environment and Society Portal; and setting up an interactive map for the Hazardous Travels research project. The interns also provided crucial support by documenting and assisting with the colloquiums, Tuesday Discussions, conferences, and workshops.

2016 Interns

Shruti Neelakantan (India)

Hannah Walker (USA)

Anja Rieser (Norway)

Anna Amarotti (Italy)

Ivan Vilović (Croatia)

Maria Ilker (Germany)

12. Fellows and Visiting Scholars



Map indicating the countries of origin of RCC fellows and visiting scholars in 2016.

In 2016, 35 fellows were in residence at the RCC: 19 women and 15 men. They came from all parts of the globe, with countries including Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, South Korea, the United States, and Zimbabwe. 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.

2016 saw the first interdisciplinary fellowships, short-term fellowships, and alumni fellowships. While the first interdisciplinary fellowship indicated some of the challenges associated with such projects (the practitioners in the project were not able to accept the limits of academic funding), these new formats have, on the whole, functioned very well and have greatly enriched and expanded the intellectual discussions at the RCC.

We were fortunate to have many (ca. 25) 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.

2016 represented an ideal number of fellows and visiting scholars at the RCC. In the past, we've had years with either too many or not enough fellows. Moreover, in 2016 we were able to bring together our most interdisciplinary and international group of scholars to date. This contributed to a particularly wide-ranging (yet not overfilled) calendar of events. The weekly Works in Progress session organized by the fellows has been especially lively, with fellows, visiting scholars, and doctoral students praising the multitude of viewpoints on offer.

Fellows

Saskia Beudel

April–October 2016

"Science as Culture: Transgressing Disciplinary Boundaries 1850–2050"

Saskia Beudel is a writer and researcher whose research interests span cross-boundary forms of writing, environmental history, histories of science and anthropology, connections between place, memory, and narrative, and interdisciplinary approaches to environmental issues. Her book *A Country in Mind* examines how distinctive desert ecologies of Central Australia inform aesthetic, scientific, cross-cultural, and narrative responses. It is especially concerned with interrelationships between places and processes of memory, and between Western and Indigenous understandings of the desert environment. Her book *Curating Sydney: Imagining the City's Future* (with Jill Bennett) turns to artists, architects, writers, and designers to ask what might happen if we stopped "developing" cities and started curating—or caring—for them instead. The book aims to contribute to the imagining of sustainable urban futures in creative ways. Saskia recently completed a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the University of Sydney (2013–2016) and after completing her PhD in 2011, held a Postdoctoral Research Associate position at the University of New South Wales (2011–2013). Her essays appear in *Best Australian Essays*, and literary journals including *The Iowa Review*, *HEAT*, and *Overland*. Her new research examines the history and future directions of innovative interdisciplinary approaches to environmental issues. It focuses on key figures whose

work has crossed between and integrated scientific, humanistic, and literary fields, forging unlikely connections between things and communicating to public audiences.

Amanda Boetzkes

August 2016–March 2017

“Contemporary Art and the Drive to Waste: Locating Aesthetic Transformations in their Relationship to the Oil Economy and Global Warming”

Amanda Boetzkes is an associate professor of contemporary art history and theory at the University of Guelph, Canada. Her research and publications focus on the intersection of visual and creative practices with the biological sciences (particularly ecology and neurology). Her first book, *The Ethics of Earth Art* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010), considers the development of the earth art movement, focusing on how ecology transitioned from a scientific discourse to a domain of ethical and aesthetic concern. She is coeditor of *Heidegger and the Work of Art History* (Ashgate Press, 2014). Currently, she is completing a book entitled *Contemporary Art and the Drive to Waste*, which examines the interplay between the aesthetics of contemporary art, global systems of energy use, and the life cycle of garbage. Her upcoming book project, *Ecology: Vision and Art for a World to Come*, analyzes the aesthetic and perceptual dimensions of imagining the ecological condition. Other areas of research and publication include: currency, economic exchange, and the concept of value; theories of consciousness and perception, specifically ecological perception and neuroplasticity; art and visual culture that problematizes the ontological and political status of animal species; phenomenology and art historiography; art of the American counterculture; and landscape art and aesthetics from the eighteenth century to the present.

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 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.

Pey-Yi Chu

April–July 2016

“The Life of Permafrost: A History of Frozen Earth in Russian and Soviet Science”

Pey-Yi Chu is an historian of Russia and the Soviet Union. Her research aims to understand the environment and environmental change through the history of science and technology. She is interested in how nature and culture interact to shape perceptions of the environment and transform physical spaces. This focus has led her to explore such topics as the history of the earth sciences, science policy, the politics of expertise, and the transnational circulation of ideas. Other areas of interest include infrastructure, engineering, resource extraction, and economic development under colonialism and socialism. At the Rachel Carson Center, she is working to complete her first book, an intellectual history of permafrost that places the phenomenon in the political, social, and material contexts of Russian and Soviet science. Born in Taiwan and raised in the United States, Pey-Yi studied History at Stanford University (BA, 2003) and Princeton University (PhD, 2011), and held a postdoctoral fellowship at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. Currently, she is an assistant professor of History at Pomona College in Claremont, California.

Arnab Dey

February–July 2016

“Unkempt Edens: Tea and the Culture of Commerce in Eastern India, 1840–1940”

Arnab Dey is an assistant professor in the Department of History at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton, NY. He also holds an affiliated appointment in the South Asia Program, Cornell University. His current research examines the interface of ecology, law, and economy in the making of the Assam tea plantations in colonial eastern India. This project looks at the manner in which nature both conditioned and constrained the operation—and character—of this commodity and its production. At the Rachel Carson Center, he will be working on his book manuscript provisionally titled *Unkempt Edens: Tea and the Culture of Commerce in Eastern India, 1840–1940*. Broadly, his areas of interest span modern South Asia, the environmental humanities, law, and historical methods. He completed his PhD at the University of Chicago (2012), and received his MPhil and MA from the University of Delhi (2004). He has also held appointments at St. Stephen's College,

Delhi, and fellowships from the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the Nicholson Center for British Studies, University of Chicago.

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 is a graduate of Dartmouth (BA, 1983) and Stanford (PhD, 1991), and was a postdoctoral fellow at ETH Zurich (EAWAG, 1991–1994) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (1994–1995) before starting a faculty position at the University of Wyoming (1995). 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–March 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.

Yan Gao

June–December 2016

“Transforming the Water Regime: State, Society, and Ecology of the Jiangnan Plain in Late Imperial and Modern China”

Yan Gao is a historian of late imperial and modern China. She works at the juncture of social and environmental history. Her main areas of interest include water management in Central China, the history of the Yangtze and the Han Rivers, and the relationship between water and society from a comparative and global perspective. She also delves into thematic topics, such as ethnicity and environment, and war and the environment. At the Rachel Carson Center, she is working on her first book on the interactions among the state, society, and ecology that transformed the Middle Yangzi region in late imperial and modern China. She is also starting her second project on waterway transport and resource mobilization on the Yangtze and its tributaries from the nineteenth century onwards. She has a BA and MA from Wuhan University (2000 and 2003) and PhD from Carnegie Mellon University (2012). She taught in Qatar and Bangladesh, and held an instructor position at the University of Memphis.

Franklin Ginn

September–December 2016

“Anthropocenes in the Firth of Forth”

Franklin is a lecturer in cultural and historical geography at the University of Bristol, UK. From 2011 to 2015 he was a lecturer in human geography at the University of Edinburgh. Franklin is author of *Domestic Wild: Memory, Nature, and Gardening in Suburbia* and numerous articles and book chapters on cultural geographies of nature, the nonhuman, and environment–society relations. Franklin’s research has been funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Carnegie Trust, and the Royal Geographical Society. His current research focuses on the politics and philosophy of plant life, including fieldwork in urban Pakistan, and on Anthropocenic landscapes in Scotland. Franklin has a PhD in Geography from King’s College London.

Tom Griffiths**September–December 2016**“The Lore of the Land: Australian Natural Histories”

Tom Griffiths is the WK Hancock Professor of History in the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University, Canberra. His books and essays have won prizes in literature, history, science, politics and journalism; he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2014. His research, writing, and teaching are in the fields of Australian social, cultural, and environmental history, public history, comparative global environmental history, the writing of nonfiction, and the history of Antarctica. In the summer of 2002–2003, he traveled to Antarctica as a humanities fellow with the Australian Antarctic Division, and in 2012 he was invited by the Australian Government to join the centennial voyage to Douglas Mawson’s historic huts in Antarctica. In 2008 he was the Distinguished Visiting Professor of Australian Studies at the University of Copenhagen and was then appointed by the Vice-chancellor as Adjunct Professor of Climate Research at Copenhagen (2009–2013). In 2009 he coordinated and funded a community historical project with people in the Yarra Valley of Victoria who suffered in the “Black Saturday” firestorm of 7 February: two collaborative books and a film were released in 2012–2013. Tom is chair of the editorial board of the Australian Dictionary of Biography, a professorial associate of the National Museum of Australia, a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and director of the Centre for Environmental History at ANU.

Chihyung Jeon**June 2016–February 2017**“A Dredged Nation: The Four Rivers Restoration Project and the Envirotechnical Transformation of South Korea”

Chihyung Jeon is an assistant professor at the Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in South Korea. He is also affiliated with the KAIST Institute for Disaster Studies, which was established in the wake of the Sewol ferry disaster in 2014 to conduct collaborative research on disasters. Trained in the history of technology and STS (science, technology & society), Jeon’s research interests include the sociocultural relationship between humans and technologies, the cultures of robotics and simulation, the entanglement of politics and engineering, and the sociotechnical understanding and education of disasters. As a Carson fellow, he plans to write about the Four Rivers Restoration Project (2008–2012), which has had enormous ecological, social, and political consequences in South Korea.

Vimbai Chaumba Kwashirai

January–December 2016

“Transformations in Environment and Society in Makonde District, Zimbabwe: 2000–2015”

Vimbai Kwashirai is a Zimbabwean and Oxonian scholar. His research interests are in economic and environmental issues, specifically in modern Zimbabwe, and Africa more generally. The author of *Green Colonialism in Zimbabwe, 1890–1980*, Vimbai has published extensively on these themes as well as on the social and political developments in Zimbabwe. He has taught at several universities in Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom, including Durham and Liverpool. Vimbai has been awarded many academic awards and fellowships in the UK and Germany. His forthcoming book with Cambridge University Press is called *Ballot or Bullet—Election Violence in Zimbabwe, 1980–2015*. A leading expert on Zimbabwean human rights, land rights, poverty, and ecological transformations, he has successfully carried out wide-ranging consultancies with various governments, churches, private companies, and non-governmental organizations on the big questions regarding contemporary Zimbabwe. Currently, he is working on the corruption of the lobola culture and women’s rights in Africa.

Ernst Langthaler

January–July 2016

“The ‘Miracle Bean’ and the Transformations of the Global Food Regime since 1870”

Ernst Langthaler was a teacher at a secondary school before he studied history at the University of Vienna (MA 1995, PhD 2000, habilitation in Economic and Social History 2010). After years as a freelance researcher he joined the newly founded Institute of Rural History in St. Pölten (researcher 2002–2005, Deputy Director 2005–2011, Director since 2011), where he has been Executive Editor of the journal *Jahrbuch für Geschichte des ländlichen Raumes* since 2004. He was visiting professor of Economic and Social History at the Universities of Innsbruck (2010) and Vienna (2010–2012), and an Erasmus visiting scholar at the University of Santiago de Compostela (2011). He is co-founder of the European Rural History Organization and has been its secretary since 2010. He has also been a member of the Commission for Interdisciplinary Ecological Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences since 2013. His research is focused on agricultural, food, and environmental history at regional, national, and global scales from the nineteenth to the twenty-first centuries.

Alan MacEachern

May–October 2016

"The Miramichi Fire" and "Tracking Climate & Its Transformation: Phenology in Canada"

Alan MacEachern grew up on Prince Edward Island, Canada, and completed his PhD at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He has taught history at the University of Western Ontario since 2001. The founding director of NiCHE: Network in Canadian History & Environment, Professor MacEachern has been active for the past decade and a half in promoting Canadian environmental history nationally and internationally. He has written and edited textbooks on environmental history methodology, on Canada's history, and on digital history; has written "The Academic Alphabet" and "The Associate" columns for the Canadian magazine *University Affairs*; has edited special issues and forums for *Environmental History* and *Canadian Historical Review*; and is the editor of the *Canadian History & Environment* series at University of Calgary Press. His own research areas include the history of national parks, climate, natural disasters, environmentalism, back-to-the-land movements, tourism, and Canada's size and territorial expansion.

Bernhard Malkmus

November 2015–January 2016

"The Scandal of Nature Literature and the Environment"

Bernhard Malkmus is an associate professor of German at Ohio State University, USA, where he teaches German and European intellectual history and literature from the eighteenth century to the present. In his essays and scholarship, he explores the history of ecological imaginaries and their relation to other intellectual developments in modernity. He is currently working on two book projects: *Menschwerdung: Das Humane im Anthropozän* deals with the epistemological implications of the Anthropocene concept; *The Scandal of Nature: Imagination, Reading, and the Environment* makes a case for the role of imagination in human relations to natural environments. His interest in theories of space and place have also led him to engage with architecture, and he is currently working on essays on the Swiss architect Peter Zumthor, whose buildings are considered to be some of the most profound environmental statements in contemporary art.

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

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.

Salma Monani

September 2015–June 2016

“Indigenous Eco-visions: The Ecological Sensibilities of Fourth Cinema”

Salma Monani is an associate professor of environmental studies at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania. She is an active researcher in the growing field of ecomedia studies. Her specific research interests in ecomedia studies engage the voices and visions of traditionally marginalized groups and highlight concerns of environmental justice. With Stephen Rust and Sean Cubitt, she co-edited *Ecocinema Theory and Practice* and *Ecomedia: Key Concepts*, and is currently lead editor (with Joni Adamson) of *Ecocriticism and Indigenous Studies: Conversations from Earth to Cosmos*. She has

also published her research in journals such as *ISLE, The Journal of Nature and Culture*, and *Local Environment*, and in various anthologies.

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).

Ruth Oldenziel

August–October 2016

“Century of Cycling: Paths Towards Sustainability”

Ruth Oldenziel has published widely in the areas of American, gender, and technology studies. She is a scholar of American-European history at the Eindhoven University of Technology, where she spearheaded its sustainability agenda by helping integrate research, education, and campus management into a living lab. Trained at Smith College at the University of Massachusetts and Yale University, where she received her PhD in American history, she is interested in how people re-appropriate material objects into their daily lives. Her book with Mikael Hård, *Consumers, Users, Rebels*, was published with Palgrave (October 2013). In recent years, she has focused on the history of cycling to understand how a technology that was once new turned into a symbol of backwardness and poverty in the 1940s, before being embraced as the ultimate tool for sustainability in the last decades.

Cindy Ott

August 2015–July 2016

“Biscuits and Buffalo: Squashing Myths about Food in Indian Country”

Cindy Ott is an associate professor of American Studies at Saint Louis University. In addition to publishing articles in the fields of environmental history, food studies, visual and material culture, and history and memory, Cindy has organized exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum of the Rockies, community development projects at Saint Louis University, and historic preservation projects the National Park Service. Cindy is the graphics and Gallery essay co-editor of *Environmental History* and a regular grant reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities, from which she was awarded a grant in 2006. She was a fellow at Harvard University’s Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History during the academic year 2013–2014 and a visiting researcher at Stanford University’s Bill Lane Center of the American West in 2012. She is currently writing a book with the working title, “Biscuits and Buffalo: Squashing Myths about Food in Indian Country” about the history of food consumption and production on reservations in the American northern Plains. She is also working on an article about the Miss Indian America pageant, which took place in Sheridan, Wyoming from 1952 to 1983.

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.

Vidya Sarveswaran

May–August 2016

"Where the Bougainvilleas Bloom: Stories of Place from a Resilient Landscape"

Vidya Sarveswaran works as an assistant professor of English in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jodhpur. She completed her BA, MA, and Mphil programs in Literary Studies at the University of Madras. Having completed her doctoral studies in the field of American Ecocriticism, with a special focus on the ecological integrated orientation of Terry Tempest Williams, she received her doctoral degree from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras. She was a gold medalist at the University of Madras at undergraduate and postgraduate level, and a Fulbright fellow at the University of Nevada, Reno. She was the student editor of the *Indian Journal of Ecocriticism* and has worked as a script writer for several documentary films. She served as the coeditor (with Scott Slovic and Swarnalatha Rangarajan) of two books, *Ecoambiguity, Community, and Development: Towards a Politicized Ecocriticism* (2014) and *Ecocriticism of the Global South* (2015) published by Lexington books, Maryland. She is interested in creative writing, water narratives, and narratives of natural disasters. At the Rachel Carson Center she is working on her project titled, *Where the Bougainvilleas Bloom: Stories of Place from a Resilient Landscape*.

Greta Schiller

September 2015–January 2016

"Earth Repair"

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

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

Lise Sedrez

September 2015–May 2016

“National Waters, Public Space: State and Environment in Guanabara Bay, Brazil, 1995–2005”

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

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.

Paul Sutter

June–December 2016

“Pulling the Teeth of the Tropics”

Paul Sutter is a professor of History at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He received his PhD from the University of Kansas in 1997. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Virginia from 1997 to 2000, and then a member of the History Department at the University of Georgia from 2000 to 2009. Paul is the author of *Driven Wild: How the Fight against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement* (University of Washington Press, 2002) and *Let Us Now Praise Famous Gullies: Providence Canyon and the Soils of the South* (University of Georgia Press, 2015). He is coauthor of *The Art of Managing Longleaf: A Personal History of the Stoddard-Neel Approach* (University of Georgia Press, 2010), and coeditor of *Environmental History and the American South: A Reader* (University of Georgia Press, 2009). Paul has published numerous articles and book chapters on the American wilderness movement, southern environmental history, US imperial environmental history, and environmental historiography—including a recent state-of-the-field essay in the *Journal of American History*. He is the series editor for Weyerhaeuser Environmental Books, published by the University of Washington Press, and he was the founding editor of the *Environmental History* and the *American South* book series published by the University of Georgia Press. Paul has held fellowships from the Smithsonian Institution, the Huntington Library, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Institutes of Health. He is currently working on a book, tentatively titled *Pulling the Teeth of the Tropics: Environment, Disease, Race, and the US Sanitary Program in Panama, 1904–1914*, which interprets American expansion and imperial public health through the lens of environmental history.

Allen Thompson

April–June 2016

“An Introduction to the Ethics of Novel Ecosystems”

Allen Thompson is an associate professor of ethics and environmental philosophy at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. His research concerns broadening our conception of environmental virtue and moral responsibility as a part of understanding human excellence in adapting to emerging and anthropogenic global environmental conditions. He is the vice president and president-elect of the International Society for Environmental Ethics. In addition to authoring many journal articles and book chapters, Thompson is the lead editor of *Ethical Adaptation to Climate Change: Human Virtues of the Future* (MIT, 2012) and co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental*

Ethics (forthcoming from Oxford University Press). Thompson has co-authored articles with ecologists, land managers, geographers, and atmospheric scientists, as well as other philosophers.

Helen Tiffin

October–November 2016

“Saving Indigenous Flora and Fauna in the Anthropocene”

Helen Tiffin has degrees in humanities and science from Australia and Canada, and was formerly a professor of English at the Universities of Queensland and Tasmania. She also held a senior Canada Research Chair in English and postcolonial studies at Queen's University, Canada. She is currently a research fellow in animal studies at the University of Wollongong, Australia. Her research interests include postcolonial literatures and literary theory, the representation of animals in scientific and literary works, and environmental history and the preservation of biodiversity. She is currently working on the philosophical and practical clashes between environmental conservationists and animal welfare proponents, and on problems with traditional conservation measures in an era of climate change. She has published numerous articles on postcolonial literatures and literary theory, animal representation, and, with Bill Ashcroft and Gareth Griffiths, three books on postcolonial subjects. She authored *Postcolonial Ecocriticism* (2006) with Graham Huggan, and her most recent publication, with Robert Cribb and Helen Gilbert, is *Wild Man from Borneo: A Cultural History of the Orangutan* (2015). She is a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

Paula Ungar

August 2016–July 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.

Sebastián Ureta

December 2015–February 2016

“Waste Worlds: The Multiple Lives of Tailings in Contemporary Chile”

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

Monica Vasile

December 2016–May 2017

“Associative Environmentalism: The Revival of Forest Commons in the Romanian Carpathians”

Monica Vasile is a social anthropologist. Currently, she is head of the research group “Associative Environmentalism” 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.

Kirsten Wehner

October 2015–April 2016

“The Ecological Museum: Re-imagining Collections and Exhibitions in the Anthropocene”

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

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

Robert Wilson

January–June 2016

“Forging the Climate Movement”

Robert Wilson is associate professor of geography in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, and he has research interests in historical geography, environmental history, animal history and geographies, and environmental activism. His book *Seeking Refuge: Birds and Landscapes of the Pacific Flyway* examined the fate of migratory birds in western North America during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; conflicts among irrigated agriculture, sport hunters,

and bird conservationists over the birds' habitat; and efforts to carve out spaces in the North American West for the birds' survival. In his recent work, Wilson continues to do research on conservation and environmentalism by studying the evolution of the climate movement in the United States and Canada over the past five years and the coalition of groups and interests that comprise the movement. In addition to his research, Wilson has also served as chair of the Association of American Geographers' Historical Geography Specialty Group and is the host of the *New Books in Geography* podcast.

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 model-based 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.”

Visiting Scholars

Omer Aloni

August 2016–September 2017

“Early Environmentalism and Diplomacy at the Birth of Modern International Law: The League of Nations, 1919–1939”

Omer Aloni is a PhD Candidate at the Zvi Meitar Center for Advanced Legal Studies in the Buchmann Faculty of Law at Tel Aviv University. He obtained his LLB and BA in History (cum laude), as well as his LLM (cum laude) from Tel-Aviv University. Supervised by David Schorr, Omer’s dissertation explores the League of Nations, focusing on its prominence in the first half of the twentieth century, as well as its influence in the international arena beyond 1945. He also studies hidden chapters in the League’s history and the evolution of international environmental law. The project examines the ways in which the pioneer institution created and regulated relations between nature, the environment, people, and communities between 1919 and 1939.

Omer has received various research grants and prizes such as the 2015 Raoul Wallenberg Prize, as well as funding from the David Berg Foundation Institute for Law and History and the Yad Tabenkin Foundation.

Daniel Barber

May–August 2016

“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.

Douglas Bell**October 2015–July 2016**“Occupying Nature: Germans, Americans, and the Environment, 1945–1949”

Douglas Bell is a PhD candidate studying history at Texas A&M University. He earned a BS in Business Administration and a BA in History from West Virginia University, and completed an MA in History at George Mason University. Douglas’s dissertation seeks to integrate the environment into the American occupation of Germany and show the importance of the natural world to the social, economic, and political interactions between the occupied and the occupiers.

María Valeria Berros**July–August 2016**“Rights of Nature in Latin America: Ethics and Juridical Field in Dialogue”

María Valeria Berros is a junior professor and researcher at the National University of the Littoral and the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research in Santa Fe City, Argentina. She completed her doctoral degree in law with a focus on the sociology of law at the National University of the Littoral. Her work deals with the intersection between environmental law, sociology of risk, and social sciences studies, and she has participated in research projects at Sorbonne University, the School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS) in Paris, Limoges University, and Nantes University. Her current research focuses on law, environmental ethics, and social movements in Latin America. She analyzes the processes by which non-anthropocentric ethics are incorporated into legal structures in different countries in Latin America.

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.

Thom van Dooren

November 2015–February 2016

“Encountering Crows: World-making with Scientists and Hunters”

Thom van Dooren is a senior lecturer in environmental humanities at the University of New South Wales in Australia and co-editor of the international, open-access journal *Environmental Humanities* (Duke University Press). His current research and writing focus on some of the many philosophical, ethical, cultural, and political issues that arise in the context of species extinctions. These themes are explored in a sustained manner in his second book *Flight Ways: Life and Loss at the Edge of Extinction* (Columbia University Press, 2014). Van Dooren completed his BA Honors degree at the Australian National University (ANU), in 2003, and his PhD in the Fenner School of Environment and Society, also at the ANU, in 2007. His background is in environmental philosophy and anthropology. He has held postdoctoral positions at the University of Technology Sydney and the University of Hull (UK) and visiting positions at the University of California at Santa Cruz, USA (2005, 2010) and the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory in Stockholm (2014). He was a Humboldt Research Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center in 2015.

Hannah Eglinger

April 2016–December 2016

“Magic, Ecstatic, Nomadic: Arctic Primitivism in Scandinavia around 1900”

Hanna Eglinger studied Nordic philology, modern German literature, and education at LMU and in Uppsala, Sweden, and worked as a lecturer in the Department of Nordic Philology at LMU. From 2001 to 2003, she was a research assistant for the project “Dialogues between Word Art and Picture Art in Modern Scandinavia (Nordic Image and Text)”; in 2006, she received her doctorate on the poetic dimension of the human body in Scandinavian contemporary literature; and she was a member of both the DFG research group “Beginnings (in) Modernity” at LMU (2006–2009) and the international research group “Arctic Modernities” at UiT The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, Norway (2013–2016). She was appointed professor of comparative literature with a focus on Northern European literature and Scandinavian studies at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in 2015. As a visiting scholar at the Rachel Carson Center, her research project focuses on Scandinavian Arctic primitivism.

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.

Emily O’Gorman

December 2015–January 2016

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

Emily O’Gorman is an environmental and cultural historian with interdisciplinary research interests. Her research within the environmental humanities focuses on how people live with rivers, wetlands, and climates. She is especially interested in the changing environmental practices and knowledges of town and urban dwellers, industry members (farmers, miners), managers and scientists (meteorologists, ecologists, industry technicians, engineers), as well as the institutions that connect them. Her research examines both historical and contemporary changes in environmental understandings, their connection with specific places and the particular environmental experiences of actors. Currently a lecturer in the Department of Environment and Geography at Macquarie University, she holds a PhD from the School of History at the Australian National University and undertook a postdoctoral candidacy in the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research at the University of Wollongong, Australia. She is an associate editor of the journal *Environmental Humanities*.

Zhaoqing Han**July–August 2016**“The Digitalization and Study of Huang yu quan lan tu”

Zhaoqing Han is a professor at the Center for Historical Geographic Studies of Fudan University in China. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Geography from Nangjing University and her PhD in History from Fudan University. She worked at Harvard University from 2000 to 2001 and Yale University from 2010 to 2011 as a visiting scholar. Her research explores the historical physical geography of China. She has written papers on climate change in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, and on changes in the lower reaches of the Yellow River and its effects on the landscape of the North China Plain. Currently, her research focuses primarily on the history of cartography in China, and the relationship between human activities and the environmental evolution of western China over the past 600 years.

Emily Jones**January–March 2016**“Disaster Narratives and Climate Change”

Emily E. Jones is an assistant professor of German and environmental humanities at Whitman College. She received a BA in German Studies at Smith College and received her PhD in Germanic Languages and Literatures from Harvard University in 2012. Her main research interests are the environment in the works of W. G. Sebald, contemporary literature, gender and environment, children's literature, digital humanities, and language and writing pedagogy. Professor Jones offers courses on Romanticism and the environment, environmental disasters in literature, science fiction, and German language at all levels. While at the Rachel Carson Center, Emily is beginning a new project on disaster narratives and climate change fiction in German literature, focusing on works by Christa Wolf, Ilija Trojanow, W.G. Sebald, and others.

Eun Sook Kang**January–June 2016**“A Comparative Analysis of the Nuclear Power Policy between Korea and Germany from the Perspective of Behavioral Economics”

Eun Sook Kang is a professor of the maritime administration department at Korea Maritime and Ocean University in Busan, South Korea (2004–present). She received her PhD in Public Administration (concentrating on environmental policy and policy network) from Seoul National

University (SNU, 2001). Her main research concerns are in understanding human behavior, and increasing social rationality through the improvement of public policies.

She has been a member of the Government Performance Evaluation Committee at the Korean Intellectual Property Office (May 2004–May 2008) and worked in the Department of Labor (May 2004–May 2006) in the Korean Central Government. She was a senior researcher at KIPA (The Korea Institute of Public Administration, Seoul) from March 2003 to March 2004. She was also a postdoctoral researcher in the BK21 project team at GSPA (Graduate School of Public Administration, SNU) from April 2001 to February 2003.

Elin Kelsey

March 2016

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

Elin Kelsey conducts research into the emotional responses of children, environmental educators and conservation biologists to the culture of "hopelessness" that permeates environmental issues. She received her PhD in Science Communication/International Environmental Policy from Kings College London. She consults and collaborates on academic, public engagement, and writing projects with a wide variety of institutions including the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University in the USA; the Zoological Society of London; the Monterey Bay Aquarium; Royal Roads University in Canada, and The Cairns Institute at James Cook University in Australia. At the Rachel Carson Center, Elin will be working on a popular book that is part of a multi-year collaboration of the Zoological Society of London, the Smithsonian Institution, other ISE partners, and a popular press entitled Circumnavigating Hope. The project draws on an array of disciplines and creative approaches to shift the dominant environmental narrative beyond doom and gloom.

Luke Keogh

October 2016–January 2017

“The Storied Landscape: A Queensland Connection”

Luke Keogh is a curator and historian. He received his doctorate in environmental history from the University of Queensland, Australia. In 2012–2014, he worked in Munich as a curator of the special exhibition “Welcome to the Anthropocene: The Earth in Our Hands” created by the Deutsches Museum and the RCC. While curating this exhibition he encountered the Wardian case, which is the focus of his current research. Invented in 1829, these plant boxes are named after the surgeon and amateur naturalist Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward who accidentally discovered that plants enclosed in

airtight glass cases can survive for long periods without water. It revolutionized the movement of plants around the globe.

Keogh has received many awards and prizes for his work. In 2010, he was awarded the National Museum of Australia Prize for the History of Science for his essay on the pituri plant, an Australian Aboriginal resource. Recently, he won the 2015-2016 Sargent Award from the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

Travis Klingberg

June 2016–

“Exploring Place: Domestic Tourism and the Politics of Geographic Knowledge in Post-reform China”

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.

Scott Knowles

July 2016

“Disaster Research and Policy in Contemporary Germany”

Scott Knowles is a professor of the Maritime Administration Department at Drexel University in Philadelphia. He received his PhD in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology from Johns Hopkins University. His work focuses on risk and disaster, with particular interests in modern cities, technology, and public policy. His most recent book is *The Disaster Experts: Mastering Risk in Modern America* (UPenn Press, 2011), and he is series coeditor of *Critical Studies in Risk and Disaster* (UPenn Press, launch 2014). Presently he is also a faculty research fellow of the Disaster Research Center at the University of Delaware. Since 2011, he has been a member of the Fukushima Forum collaborative research community, with which he is currently coauthoring an edited volume on the Fukushima disasters.

Uwe Lübken

August 2015–February 2016

Uwe Lübken joined the Rachel Carson Center in 2009 as a research fellow; he is currently the director of the project “Disaster Migration in a Historical Perspective,” which is part of “Climates of Migration,” a joint project between the RCC and the KWI Essen. He completed his habilitation thesis on the history of flooding on the Ohio River in 2010; it will be published as part of the RCC series, *Umwelt und Gesellschaft*, with Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht in 2012. He studied history and economics at the University of Cologne, where he received an MA in 1996. He was awarded a dissertation fellowship by the Gerda Henkel Foundation and research grants by the German Historical Institute (Washington, DC), the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library (Hyde Park, New York), the Rockefeller Archive Center (Sleepy Hollow, New York), and the Roosevelt Study Center (Middelburg, Netherlands). In 2002, he received his PhD from the University of Cologne, where his dissertation “Bedrohliche Nähe: Die USA und die nationalsozialistische Herausforderung in Lateinamerika” was awarded the Erhardt Imelmann Prize. The revised dissertation was published as a book in 2004 by the Steiner Verlag. From 2004 to 2008, he worked as a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC. He has taught American history at the University of Cologne and LMU Munich, and postwar German and European history at the Cologne School of Journalism.

Amelia Polonia

January 2016

“Environmental Impacts of Colonial Dynamics: A Comparative Approach in the Colonial America(s). 1500–1700”

Amélia Polonia is a visiting scholar at the Rachel Carson Center. She is currently an associate professor at the University of Porto in the Department of History, Political and International Studies, and is Director of the MA in African Studies.

She studied History at the University of Porto, where she was awarded her PhD (2000) and habilitation thesis (2009). She is the scientific coordinator of “The Governance of Atlantic Ports,” and was a visiting fellow of the Institute for Latin American Studies at Freie Universität Berlin, as well as a guest professor at Goa University, University of Southern Brittany, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Brown University. Amélia is the chair of Portuguese Overseas Expansion at the University of Porto and her primary focus is colonial studies in the Early Modern Age. She focuses on the mechanisms of individual enterprise and informal participation in empire building processes (informal and self-organized). She applied network analysis and theories of cooperation and self-organization to her individual research and to the work teams she coordinated. Currently, she is

researching the environmental impacts of colonial dynamics in the First Global Age, a multidisciplinary project linking some of the main strands of her career.

Patrick Reed

September 2014–July 2016

“Apocalyptic Themes of Natural Disaster in Sixteenth and Twentieth Century Woodcut Prints”

Patrick J. Reed is an artist and researcher originally from Iowa City, Iowa, USA. He holds an MFA in printmaking from the University of Alberta and several degrees from the University of Iowa. After studying papermaking at the University of Iowa Center for the Book, he joined the Rachel Carson Center as a 2014/2015 US Student Fulbright Scholar. He continues his tenure at the RCC with the support of the DAAD. Mr. Reed’s current project is a series of drawings that focus on conceptual and historical ties between depictions of disaster in early modern print culture and the aesthetics of twenty-first-century ecological crises.

Libby Robin

September–December 2016

“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 forthcoming monograph for 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*.

Rachel St. John**July–September 2016**

“The Imagined States of America: The Unmanifest History of Nineteenth-century North America”

Rachel St. John is an associate professor of History at the University of California, Davis, where she joined the faculty this summer. She teaches courses in US history, environmental history, and transnational borderlands history. A California native, she received her BA and PhD from Stanford University and has been on the faculty at New York University and Harvard University. St. John’s research focuses on nineteenth and twentieth-century North American history with a particular emphasis on state formation, nation building, and national space. Her first book, *Line in the Sand: A History of the Western US-Mexico Border* was published by Princeton University Press in 2011. She is currently at work on a new book, *The Imagined States of America: The Unmanifest History of Nineteenth-century North America*, which explores the histories of the many nation-building projects that developed across the continent over the course of the nineteenth century.

Erdenetuya Urtnast**October–December 2016**

“Environmental Conservation among the Residents of Eastern Mongolia”

Erdenetuya Urtnast is a lecturer of ethnology, anthropology, Manchu written language, and classical Mongolian script in the Department of Mongolian History at the Mongolian State University of Education in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Her research interests include ethnic history; translation and transliteration of Manchu and classical Mongolian handwritten texts; environmental anthropology with special focuses on “traditional” approaches to environmental conservation of the Mongols; and urban ecology and issues related to climate change and its impacts on Mongolian history. She has published a monograph, several brochures, and over twenty research papers. Erdenetuya graduated from the National University of Mongolia with a BA in textology and Manchu study, and obtained an MA in ethnology. She received her PhD from the Mongolian State University of Education in history and has worked at, among others, the University of Cambridge, the University of British Columbia, the University of Montreal, and the European University in Saint Petersburg as a visiting fellow and a visiting scholar. Erdenetuya has participated in conferences, seminars and workshops in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, the Russian Federation, Hungary, China, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. She has implemented several joint and individual research projects funded by the Central Asia Research and Training Initiative (CARTI), OSI, the Community of Research and Exploration, NGS, and other local funding organizations. Her current research focuses on “Indigenous” Ecological Knowledge and Eco-friendly Technologies. Erdenetuya was a Carson Fellow

from September 2012 to August 2013, and returned to the RCC as a Visiting Fellow in November 2013.

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 co-founder 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.

Louis Warren

July–September 2016

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

Louis Warren is W. Turrentine Jackson Professor of Western US History at the University of California, Davis, where he teaches environmental history, the history of the American West, and California history. He is currently writing an environmental and cultural history of the Ghost Dance of 1890, an American Indian religious movement that swept the interior West. His previous books include *The Hunter’s Game: Poachers and Conservationists in Twentieth-Century America* (1997), *Buffalo Bill’s America: William Cody and the Wild West Show* (2005), and an edited textbook, *American Environmental History* (2003). He has won numerous awards for his writing, including the Albert J. Beveridge Award of the American Historical Association, the Caughey Western History Association Prize, and the Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize. He was founding coeditor and is now Editor-in-Chief of *Boom: A Journal of California*, a peer-reviewed, magazine-format quarterly published by the University of California Press and recipient of a Best New Magazine Award of 2011 from *Library Journal*. He holds a Guggenheim Fellowship for the academic year 2012–13.

Devin Zuber

May–August 2016

“Transforming the Wilderness: Painting the Case of Hetch Hetchy”

Devin Zuber teaches as an associate professor in the Department for Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion at the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) in Berkeley, California. He received his PhD, MA, and MPhil in Literature and American Studies from the City University of New York (CUNY) and, prior to moving to Berkeley, he taught American Studies at the University of Osnabrück. Currently on sabbatical from the GTU, he has spent the 2015–2016 year as a visiting research professor in Stockholm University’s Department for Aesthetics and Culture, and as a fellow at the Ingmar Bergman Estate on Fårö Island in the Baltic. His current book, *A Language of Things* (University of Virginia Press, 2017) explores the dynamics between religious ideology and environmental aesthetics in nineteenth and early twentieth-century American nature writing. While at the Carson Center, he will be completing a related project on the landscape paintings of artist William Keith (1838–1911) that became instrumental for the visual iconography and early advocacy efforts of the Sierra Club.

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, on maternity leave Feb.-Sept.)

Anna Rühl (Administrative Coordinator)

Angelika Möller (Administrative Coordinator, Jan.–Oct.)

Carmen Dines (Office Manager)
Annka Liepold (Events Coordinator)
Thekla Ebbert (Research Assistant)
Sonnja Menzel (Research Assistant until Feb.)
Christof Moosmüller (Research Assistant)
Gabriele Pilger (Research Assistant until August)
Lori Schiesl (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.

Rob Emmett (Director of Academic Programs until 1 April)
Ursula Münster (Certificate Program Coordinator)
Franz Langer (IT, Coordinator of the Internship Program)
Katharina Müller (Program Assistant)
Martin Spenger (Research Associate)
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)
Susanne Darabase (Research Associate until May)
Ruhi Deol (Research Associate from July)
Katrin Kleeman (Research Associate)
Nina Möllers (Project Manager – Exhibitions)
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 from April)

Brenda Black (Senior Editor)

Stephanie Hood (Editor until March)

Hannah Roberson (Editor)

Samantha Rothbart (Editor)

Harriet Windley (Editor)