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DE

LMU / Rachel Carson Center Digital Environmental Humanities Blog *Ant Spider Bee* ist durch Forschungsmittel der Alfred P. Sloan Foundation ein PressForward Pilotpartner

Dank eines großzügigen Zuschusses der Alfred P. Sloan Foundation wird das Blog [Ant Spider Bee: Exploring the Digital Environmental Humanities](http://antspiderbee.net) (antspiderbee.net) am 1. April als ein PressForward Pilotpartner neu starten. PressForward ist ein Informationsinstrument zur Aggregation und Publikation von Web-Inhalten, welches vom Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media an der George Mason Universität entwickelt wurde.

Der Auftrag von *Ant Spider Bee* ist es, die Aufmerksamkeit von Wissenschaftlern und Praktikern an der Erforschung, Diskussion und Reflexion über digitale Praktiken, Methoden, und Anwendungen in den Umweltgeisteswissenschaften zu wecken. Das Blog ist ein angegliedertes Projekt des Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, eine Forschungseinrichtung der Ludwig-Maximilians Universität. Es wird gemeinsam herausgegeben von der Leiterin des [Environment & Society Portals](http://environmentandsociety.org) (environmentandsociety.org) am RCC, Kimberly Coulter; Wilko Graf von Hardenberg von der University of Wisconsin-Madison, und Finn Arne Jørgensen von der Universität Umeå, Schweden. Am Rachel Carson Center in München beraten und unterstützen Robert Emmett, Martin Spenger und Iris Trautmann das Projekt.

EN

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Thanks to a generous grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the blog [Ant Spider Bee: Exploring the Digital Environmental Humanities](http://antspiderbee.net) (antspiderbee.net) relaunches 1 April as a PressForward pilot partner. PressForward is a web content aggregation and publication tool developed by the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. *Ant Spider Bee* is an affiliated project of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC), an institute of LMU Munich.

The mission of *Ant Spider Bee* is to engage academics and practitioners in the exploration, discussion and reflection on digital practices, methodologies, and applications in environmental humanities work. Its name refers to Francis Bacon's metaphor about ways of "handling" science:

The men of experiment are like the ant, they only collect and use; the reasoners resemble spiders, who make cobwebs out of their own substance. But the bee takes a middle course: it gathers its material from the flowers of the garden and of the field, but transforms and digests it by a power of its own. --Francis Bacon, *The New Organon* [Book One], 1620.

Through its antlike function, PressForward enables the efficient collection of diverse material — environmental, technological, and academic — letting the editors put more resources into its digestion. The blog's category "[The Ant](#)" now features posts from around the Web, drawn from PressForward and curated by the blog's editors. "[The Spider](#)" contains CFPs and conference information, and "[The](#)

[Bee](#)” presents feature articles that contextualize and reflect on current development in the field. Further cross-pollination is planned: the editors look forward to engaging the RCC and environmental humanities community in the nomination and contextualization of posts beginning in summer 2015.

In addition to making curation more collaborative, PressForward can help users discover related environmental content. In piloting PressForward with *Ant Spider Bee*, the team will explore ways to integrate it into the [Environment & Society Portal](#) ([environmentandsociety.org](#)), the Rachel Carson Center’s open access digital archive and publication platform. The Portal publishes peer-reviewed articles and exhibitions and curates a variety of scholarly and popular materials on the relationship between nature and society. Alongside the usual navigation tools, the Portal lets users find spatially, temporally, and thematically related results via map, timeline, and keyword explorer. By extending our reach, PressForward will contribute a new dimension to this discovery process.

The blog is collaboratively edited by the RCC’s director of the Environment & Society Portal, Kimberly Coulter; Wilko Graf von Hardenberg of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Finn Arne Jørgensen of Umeå University, Sweden. At the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, Robert Emmett, Martin Spenger, and Iris Trautmann advise and support the project.

Contact:

Dr. Kimberly Coulter
Director of the Environment & Society Portal
Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society
LMU Munich
Leopoldstraße 11a
80802 Munich, Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 89 2180 72 356
e-mail: kimberly.coulter@carsoncenter.lmu.de

Rachel Carson Center Directors:

Prof. Dr. Christof Mauch, Prof. Dr. Helmuth Trischler

Contact in the US:

Prof. Dr. Wilko Graf von Hardenberg
DAAD Visiting Assistant Professor of History
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Phone: +1 608 283 1851
e-mail: grafvonharde@wisc.edu

Contact in Sweden:

Prof. Dr. Finn Arne Jørgensen
Associate Professor of History of Technology and Environment
Umeå University
Phone +46 90 786 62 46
e-mail: finn.arne.jorgensen@umu.se

Social Media:

Twitter: @AntSpiderBee
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