CITAS and ScienceCampus Newsletter - Summer Semester 2022

We are looking forward to the summer semester of 2022, with in-person events returning. CITAS and the ScienceCampus have a busy few weeks and months ahead. Starting on 25 April is the next Lecture Series (Ringvorlesung) - Frictions and Transformations of Globalization. As with the research colloquium, which begins on 28 April, a large number of international visiting scholars will be involved.

From 19-21 May, there will be a large international conference on Crisis Narratives and the Pandemic. There will be a full programme of Brownbag Sessions - albeit still minus lunch.

Our partners in Regensburg also have a wide range of events coming up, while the ScienceCampus looks forward to collaborating with the new seminar series of the VW Foundation Network on Rare Subjects.

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Lecture Series | Ringvorlesung

Frictions and Transformations of Globalization

Mondays from 25 April, 18:15-19:45 in person in H19 at UR.
Motion produces frictions. These have the potential to stall, inhibit or halt shifts. But frictions also release energy, thus producing new movements. Whether in large-scale tectonic shifts or micro-level encounters, interactions between people, technologies, ideas, natural conditions, and the flows of capital and goods shape the diverse, long-term and often contradictory processes termed globalization. It has become apparent that globalization is neither a smooth nor unidirectional process; but rather it is something that undergoes constant challenges, re-direction, and re-appropriation so that its course is neither predictable nor controllable. Nor, for that matter, has globalization led to convergence; rather it has given rise to new divergences across and within countries and continents. This lecture series focuses on three interlinked elements that are crucial to understanding globalization in its diversity across multiple spaces and throughout history: the environment, migration and labor. Drawing on the expertise of colleagues in Regensburg and around the world, the lecture series will offer interdisciplinary perspectives informed by area studies that combine macro-perspectives and critical place-oriented scholarship, in order to highlight the intersections between different scales. Rather than posit a seamless globalization, the speakers highlight the productive and destructive frictions emerging from the interaction and interdependencies between local action and large-scale forces. In this story, natural resources, mobility and human labor are paramount.

In the opening lecture of the new series, Ulf Brunnbauer - spokesperson of the ScienceCampus and director of IOS - will give an introductory talk. This will be followed by the awarding of the 2021 Area Studies Master's Prize to three master's graduates, who will also present their innovative research.
literatures as migrant literatures, positioning them between a postcolonial and a global history of literature. On the rather telling date of 9 May, the expert on Russian history Ronald Suny, of Ann Arbor and visiting fellow at the ScienceCampus, will explore The Making and Faking of Nationalisms in Our Own Times.

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**International Conference: Crisis Narratives and the Pandemic**

19-21 May - online and at UR

CITAS and the ScienceCampus are co-organizing a large international conference that explores the COVID-19 pandemic and the crisis narratives around it from a multi-scalar area studies perspective. The keynote lecture on 19 May by Kristen Ghodsee and Mitchell Orenstein will explore the consequences of post-socialist transformation for attitudes and practices relating to the pandemic. The panels feature experts from across a range of disciplines, from cultural studies through history and social sciences to economics, tracing the global, regional and local scales of narratives relating to the pandemic and its transformative impact on the world.

A preliminary programme is available here. Anyone wishing to attend the panels, whether in person or online, should register at info@europeamerica.de. The keynote lecture will be held via Zoom, with a public viewing in H44 at UR.

Find out more about the event here.

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**Research Colloquium: Anna Mazurkiewicz**

(Gdansk / ScienceCampus Visiting Professor)

**Cold War Instruments? Exiles from East Central Europe in U.S. Political Warfare**

The first lecture of the summer semester's Research Colloquium, organized together with the Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies, will be held by Anna Mazurkiewicz, Visiting Professor at the ScienceCampus on 28 April at 14:15 at IOS (Room 319).

Her lecture, “Cold War Instruments”? Exiles from East Central Europe in U.S. political warfare, will draw on her expertise in transatlantic Cold War history and the
experiences of émigrés. Focussing on the notion of exile agency, she will examine the intersections of public diplomacy, soft power, propaganda, tracing particular partnership that emerged between the American Cold War political/psychological warfare instrument and a multinational political exile organization that claimed legitimacy to represent a hundred million captive compatriots.

For more details on the talk, please follow this link. We look forward to seeing you at the talk, while Anna Mazurkiewicz will be pleased to build contacts with colleagues in Regensburg and beyond during her time here.

Further talks in the series will take place throughout the semester.

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The Danube-Black Sea Canal

A Communist Experiment in Infrastructural Modernization, 1949-1984

LECTURE

27 April 2022 | 17:00
Room 017, Altes Finanzamt, Landshuter Str. 4, 93047 Regensburg

Talks by ScienceCampus visiting fellows - Constantin Iordachi (27 April) and Joshua Newell (3 May)

Constantin Iordachi, Visiting Fellow at the ScienceCampus, will give a talk on "The Danube-Black Sea Canal" on 27 April 2022 at 17:00 at IOS (Room 017). This talk is part of the new SNAKLAB of the new Volkswagen Foundation-funded network on Southeast European Studies as a Rare Subject. He will argue that in order to understand the communist strategy of modernization, one needs to compare the communist policies with previous imperial or national plans of exploiting the Lower Danube, from the Ottoman Empire and the European Commission of the Danube to Greater Romania.
On 3 May, at 14:00 at CITAS (SG.214), another visiting fellow, the geographer and associate professor in the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Joshua Newell (Ann Arbor), will discuss **Tracking the Economic Geography of Commodities: Avocados, beef, and wood**. Have you ever wandered into a store and wondered to yourself, where do the products we consume come from? And under what conditions are they produced? As a result of our globalized world, we are largely disconnected from where and how these products are made. This presentation tracks the lives of three commodities familiar to all of us—avocados, beef, and wood—from the production geographies where they are sourced to their point of consumption. This event will take place in hybrid format, in person and via Zoom. It is part of the IOS Economics Seminar Series.

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On 4 May, 12:15 in CITAS (SG.214) Edith Feistner and Verena Ebermeier will present on **Discovering Space in the Historiography of the (Early) Modern**, which traces the origin and foundation in 15th century vernacular chronicle writing based on the example of Old Bavaria. It is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and based at the Chair of Medieval German Studies at the UR. In this Brownbag Session, we will focus on aspects of our research that might provide foundations for transdisciplinary models of interest to other fields. Precisely because the texts we consider come from a period of transition between the Middle Ages and the Modern, where beyond physical movements and actions embodied in a particular conception of space (equivalent to “street view”) there also emerged something akin to a bird’s eye view of mapped spaces (equivalent to a “map”), the chronicles reveal in statu nascendi the wealth of preconditions and implications that are considered self-explanatory in current notions of space (and as such, are no longer explored critically).

Further talks in the series will take place throughout the semester featuring visiting scholars from Canada and the USA.

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Further events in Regensburg
CITAS is pleased to be supporting the study day accompanying the exhibition "Jakobsweg und Europäische Identität". The opening takes place on 8 May, 17:15, with the study day on 9 May featuring experts from Spain, Poland and Germany discussing the significance of the Way of St James for local, national and European identities.

Our friends at cinEScultura are launching their film festival on 28 April. Find the programme here.

Our partners at the Chair of European History have full programme of events in the research colloquium there.

IOS Regensburg has a packed semester programme

The Graduate School also has a busy summer semester ahead
Europe Week at UR - Do you know Georgia?
9-22 May

Our friends at the Europaeum at UR have a host of events starting on 9 May and running until 22 May on Georgia as part of the Europawoche series. There will be talks, film showings, theatre performances and even a special menu in the canteen.

Find out more here.

BlogJournal: Frictions

The Leibniz ScienceCampus is developing its new blog/E-journal hybrid at www.frictions.europeamerica.de

After launching in April 2021, more contributions have since appeared covering a range of themes including: working through the past in computer games; environmental destruction in northern Russia and its entanglements with binary thinking and anti-indigenous policies; a fascinating discussion on how German studies can be viewed as area studies; transatlantic circulations of conspiracy theories; and an exploration of the history of transatlantic migration, as well as reports on events taking place in Regensburg. Contributors include visiting scholars in Regensburg, as well as faculty and doctoral researchers involved in the ScienceCampus.
Frictions explores Europe and the Americas in the context of global transformations, past and present. It welcomes contributions from scholars based in Regensburg and around the world addressing the blog's core themes of social, cultural and economic relations within and between Europe and the America. Historical and present-focused discussions are equally welcomed.

- The Essays section publishes fully-referenced, peer-reviewed articles of around 3000-4000 words.
- The Research Notes section features comment pieces on salient current events and contributions outlining ongoing and developing research projects, including methodological, conceptual and theoretical explorations as well as findings from empirical and field research.
- The Current Debates section features interviews, conference reports, reviews of exhibitions, films and other cultural works, and discussions of recent publications.

For Notes and Debates more experimental formats including photo-reportages or video-reportages are very much welcome. Contributions can be in English or German.

To discuss submission for the project, contact the editorial team at frictions@europeamerica.de

Impressum:
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