

## **POLITICAL CULTURE AND THE HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE: ACTORS, INSTITUTIONS, PRACTICES**

Conference at the German Historical Institute Washington DC, June 6-8, 2019

Organized by

Kerstin von der Krone, Simone Lässig (GHI)

Kijan Espahangizi, Nils Güttler, Monika Wulz

(Center "History of Knowledge" at the University Zurich and the ETH Zurich)

Shadi Bartsch-Zimmer (Institute on the Formation of Knowledge at the University of Chicago)

### **PROGRAM**

#### **THURSDAY, June 6, 2019**

1:30-2:00 pm **WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

2:00-4:30 pm **I. TRUTH, FACTS AND POPULISM**

**Chair:** Elisabeth Engel (GHI)

Jens Wietschorke (University of Vienna / LMU Munich), Rethinking Cultural Cleavage: History of Knowledge and the Idea of the "Common People"

Martin Beddeleem (Aarhus University), A History of Neoliberalism: From the Economics of Ignorance to Post-Truth Politics

Jamie Cohen-Cole (George Washington University), An Alternative History of "Alternative Facts": Postmodernism and Center-Right Knowledge Ecology

**Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

Comments by:

Monika Wulz (Center "History of Knowledge," Zurich)

Julia Adeney Thomas (University of Notre Dame)

6:00 pm

**Keynote Panel:**

**KNOWLEDGE / POWER / POLITICAL CULTURE –  
A TRANSATLANTIC CONVERSATION**

Suzanne Marchand (Louisiana State University) / Jakob Tanner (Zurich University)

**Moderated by** Anna von der Goltz (Georgetown University)

**FRIDAY, June 7, 2019**

9:00-12:00 am **II. EXPERT KNOWLEDGE & EDUCATING THE CITIZEN**

**Chair:** Simone Lässig (GHI)

Benno Nietzel (Bielefeld University), Knowing the Enemy: Propaganda Experts, Intelligence and Total War 1941-1945

Bregje F. van Eekelen (Technical University of Delft), Knowing Otherwise: The Midcentury Travel of Creative Thinking Expertise

**Coffee Break**

Bryan McAllister-Grande (Northeastern University), Education for a Free Society? Ancient Knowledge, Universities, and the Neoliberal Disorder

Fei-Hsien Wang (Indiana University Bloomington), "Affordable" Civilization: Education Reform, Textbook Piracy, and the Question of "New Knowledge" in Modern China

**Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

Comments by:

Shadi Bartsch-Zimmer (The University of Chicago)

Johan Östling (Lund University)

12:00-2:00pm **Lunch Break**

2:00-4:30pm **III. THEORY AND PRACTICE**

**Chair:** Sarah Beringer (GHI)

Malcolm MacLaren (University of Zurich), Projecting 'World Government': The Creation of the League of Nations as a Case Study in International Policy-Making

Zoé Kergomard (German Historical Institute Paris), Knowledge on a Democratic Silence: Political Science and the Rise of Electoral Abstention in Post-War Switzerland (1945-1989)

Fabian Grütter (ETH Zurich), Practopia, est. 1973: Science in the Wasteland of Materialism

**Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

Comments by:

George Steinmetz (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

Kijan Espahangizi (Center "History of Knowledge," Zurich)

**SATURDAY, June 8, 2019**

9:30-12:00 am **IV. GOVERNING KNOWLEDGE**

**Chair:** Nils Güttler (Center "History of Knowledge", Zurich)

Gregory Afinogenov (Georgetown University), Ideology and Knowledge: Rethinking China in the Russian Empire, 1790-1820

Anna Ross (University of Warwick), Knowledge of the State after 1848

Felix Römer (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), The Politics of Measurement: Knowledge about Economic Inequality in the United Kingdom since the Post-War Era

**Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

Comments by:

Kerstin von der Krone (GHI)

Anne Kwaschik (University of Konstanz)

12:00-1:00pm **Lunch Break**

1:00-3:30pm **V. KNOWLEDGE, SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM**

**Chair:** Claudia Roesch (GHI)

Ian P. Beacock (University of British Columbia), Searching for Queer Ancestors: Gay Activism & Historical Knowledge in Germany, c. 1890–1930

Oxana Kosenko (University of Ulm), Hygiene Propaganda and Theatrical Biopolitics in the Soviet Union in the 1920's-40's: The Moscow Theatre of the Sanitary Culture as a Factory of the New Man

Danielle Taschereau Mamers (University of Toronto), Identifying "Indians": Racial Taxonomy and Identity Documentation as a Settler Colonial Politics of Knowledge

**Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

Comments by:

Richard Wetzell (GHI)

Peter Wien (University of Maryland, College Park)

3:30–4:00pm **Coffee Break**

4:00-5:00pm **CONCLUDING DISCUSSION**

**Chair:** Axel Jansen (GHI)

Last update: 25-May-19