

# Briefe aus Alumni Newsletter

# Berlin

10 '14

of the KRUPP INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR STANFORD STUDENTS IN GERMANY



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Alfried Krupp von Bohlen  
und Halbach-Stiftung

# Grußwort der Krupp-Stiftung by Prof. Dr. Ursula Gather



**Seit 2005** informiert der „Alumni Newsletter“ aktuelle und ehemalige Stipendiaten des „Krupp Internship Program“. Es ist zur schönen Tradition geworden, dass es in jeder Ausgabe ein Grußwort der Krupp-Stiftung gibt.

Ich persönlich habe mich sehr gefreut, in der über dreißigjährigen Geschichte dieses Programms im Frühjahr 2014 erstmals die Stanford-Stipendiaten bei dem traditionellen Treffen auf Villa Hügel begrüßt und kennengelernt zu haben. Der Enthusiasmus und das Interesse der jungen Studierenden an Deutschland haben mich beeindruckt.

2014 gab es aber noch zwei weitere Premieren. Einige „Stanfordianer“ hatten die Möglichkeit, am Stiftungstag des Bundesverbandes der deut-

schen Stiftungen in Hamburg teilzunehmen. Ferner war eine Gruppe der Stipendiaten zu Gast im Krupp-Kolleg in Greifswald und hat sich dort an zwei Tagen mit Greifswalder Studenten und Dozenten über das Studieren in Deutschland und in Amerika ausgetauscht. Ich hoffe, das war eine Bereicherung für das Programm und die Studierenden.

Ich wünsche mir, dass auch in Zukunft mit dem Newsletter und den jährlichen Treffen der Kontakt untereinander und mit der Stiftung in bewährter Weise gepflegt und aufrechterhalten wird. ■

**Prof. Dr. Ursula Gather**

Vorsitzende des Kuratoriums der  
Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung

The photograph on the front page shows spring quarter students and interns with guest pro-

fessors Sheri Sheppard and Ed Carryer in front of the Cologne Cathedral following a tour of the

cathedral and the modern art collection of the Museum Ludwig on the same (rainy) day.

Spring quarter students, interns, staff, and faculty with members of the Krupp Foundation and

the Stanford Club of Germany at Villa Hügel, Essen, May 8, 2014.



# What's new in Berlin

by Karen Kramer



In the Gobelín Hall at Villa Hügel on May 21, 2014.

L-R: Sarah Gonzaga (Engineering: Design for Educational Technology), guest professor Sheri Sheppard (Mechanical Engineering Department – Design Division),

Karen Kramer, Ursula Gather, Steven Shepard (Neuroscience Engineering, Art Practice), Matthew Wasko (Electrical Engineering), Nicholas Freybler (Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, German Studies).

**2014** was a very special year for the city of Berlin, with the Brandenburg Gate right at the heart of the celebrations. On November 9, 1989, Berliners and Germans everywhere celebrated the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which paved the way for the unification of

Germany the following year: some of you even danced on the Wall at the Brandenburger Gate that night, a quarter of a century ago. The cell phone camera had yet to be invented, but in case you did take photos of your festivities during that mind-boggling time, we would be delighted if you would share them with us. And 25 years later, it was on a catwalk built through the Brandenburg Gate where the German national *Fußball* team celebrated their fourth World Cup victory with 400,000 fans, strutting and playing air guitar.

2014 was also an exciting year for students of the Bing Overseas Studies Program in Berlin. Over 100 Stanford students took advantage of the opportunity to study in this ever-changing city, and to enjoy its rich cultural offerings and engage with its history. The H.G. Will Field Trips on European Expansion took students on extended trips to Istanbul, Cyprus, and Estonia, where they encountered firsthand the challenges and promises that accompany EU membership in constrained economic times by meeting with policy actors, scholars,



public personalities, and local students. Two unforgettable highlights of these trips were an extended and candid discussion with Estonia's President Toomas Ilves, a Stanford dad, and a keynote talk by Krupp Alumnus Allan Pettai, whose Tallinn business facilitates trade between Estonia and Brandenburg. (Allan contributed an essay describing the journey that eventually led him from his internship in Germany back to his ancestral homeland in the 2012 issue of this newsletter).

A very interesting development regarding the German program at Stanford emerged in a study I recently completed for a periodic review of the Berlin Center's academic program. Beginning in 2001, we dropped our lan-



Allan M. Pettai (Electrical Engineering, 1987), Tallin, contributed this photograph from 1985. He studied in Berlin in the autumn of 1985 and interned with Siemens in Munich during the winter and spring of 1986

guage requirement in the autumn and winter quarters and, instead, began teaching beginning intensive German on-site. That year, 70 students took first quarter German on campus, and one (!) student took the intensive Berlin offering, while last year, 100 students began learning German in California and 54 began in Berlin – over twice as many as those who were learning the language over a decade ago. A surprising dynamic emerges if you look at the figures in more detail: the increasing popularity of the Berlin program (annual enrollment has increased from 48 in 1996 to 110 in 2013, not counting the wait list) has prompted many students to take German voluntarily before coming to Berlin, even though it is no longer required, as a means of improving their chances of being accepted to this now very competitive program. Indeed, twice as many students will arrive in Berlin who have taken a quarter of German voluntarily as will those with no previous knowledge of the language.

Thomas Südhof, Stanford School of Medicine, during his lecture at the Freie Universität Berlin on January 29, 2014.

In January, the new Nobel laureate in Medicine, Stanford Prof. Thomas Südhof, accepted the Center's invitation to come to Berlin to address the Berlin life sciences community. The visit was a spectacular success. An audience of over



The participants of the workshop at the Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg in front of one of the museum harbor's ships in the old city of Greifswald (above) and during the workshop at the Wissenschaftskolleg on May 24, 2014 (right). Links: <http://www.wiko-greifswald.de> <http://www.museums-hafen-greifswald.de>

2,000 Berliners more than filled the Freie Universität's largest auditorium, as Prof. Südhof, a native German, described his research and findings in a brilliant bi-lingual lecture, "Mein Weg nach Stockholm: A molecular approach to understanding how neurons communicate at synapses." (<http://www.fuberlin.de/campusleben/videos/2014/20141-suedhof/index.html>). Südhof's visit, which was co-hosted and funded by the Will Foundation of Stanford alumnus George Will, featured a week of specialized lectures, lab visits, and meetings with students and peers.

In May, two programs supported by the Krupp Foundation – your internship program and the Junges Kolleg (merit scholarship students of the University of Greifswald under the auspices of the Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg) – met in Greifswald for a two-day workshop on comparative higher education. Students from each group presented and discussed key issues concerning college students in the US and in Germany. This year, the Berlin Program will invite the Junges Kolleg to Berlin to join the spring quarter d.school global event. Modeled after and mentored by the Stanford d.school, Stanford and local Berlin students meet each quarter for a bi-cultural workshop on design thinking, exploring challenging aspects of life in the metropolis, and approaches to mastering them.

Tens of thousands of people visited Potsdamer Platz on November 9, 2014 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of

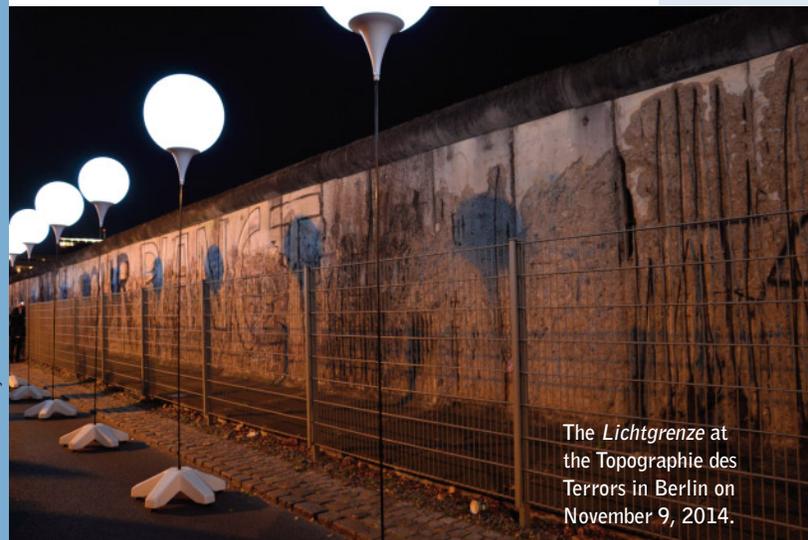
the fall of the Wall in 1989 while waiting for 8,000 balloons to be released along the symbolic *Lichtgrenze* tracing the former

borderline. Link: <http://www.berlin.de/mauerfall2014/> January 29, 2014.

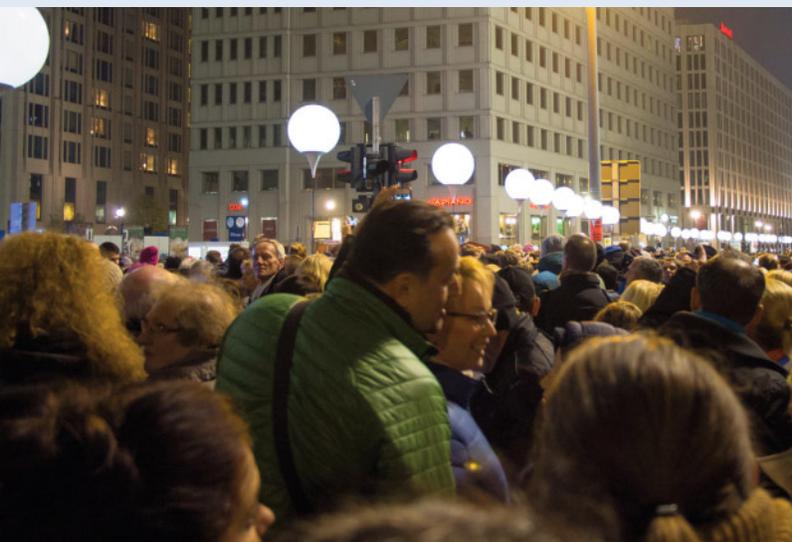


After 15 years of devoted service, Edeltraut Krüger, Finance Officer of Stanford in Berlin, will retire. Edeltraut developed our network of homestay hosts, managed the financial transactions of the program, and oversaw countless reconstruction and refurbishment projects on the historic Haus Cramer. We are indebted to Edeltraut for her years of service and we will miss her as a beloved and respected colleague. At the same time, we share her joy as she moves on to the next phase of her life, in which she will have more time for her extended family and for all the things she loves to do. *Wir wünschen Edeltraut schöne Tage und Jahre! In Dankbarkeit und Freundschaft, das Team von Stanford in Berlin.* ■

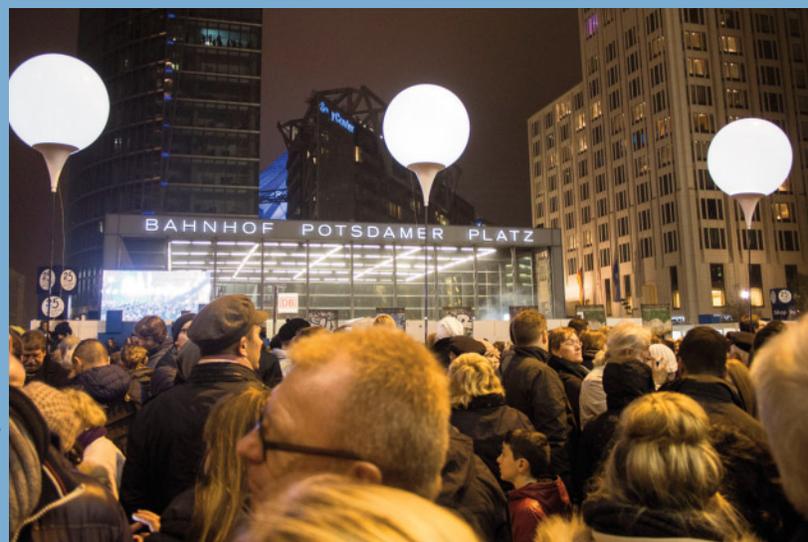
**Dr. Karen Kramer,**  
Director, Bing Overseas Studies Program in Berlin



The *Lichtgrenze* at the Topographie des Terrors in Berlin on November 9, 2014.



Photos: David Herman



# Bound to the City Life: My Immersion in Berlin

by Brittany Hallawell

**I am not sure** exactly what I was expecting to do on the first day of my internship at mehnert corporate design (MCD) in Berlin, or for the entire summer. My only experience with the company was the one half-hour interview I had had with them three months earlier. Beyond that, all I knew was what I could gather from their website — MCD is a company that designs industrial products and has won many design awards for its work. But “industrial products” and perhaps “medical devices” were the only words I had available to vaguely describe the work I was going to do. Ultimately, during the first few weeks I mainly sat at my computer (with my very own monitor and deskpace!) and watched tutorial videos on Solidworks. While this was an awesome learning experience, it was at times frustrating, as I felt like I wasn’t contributing to the company. Everyone around me was working to complete projects, and I was stuck watching videos. It was frustrating to be so far behind, and it made me feel like I wasn’t an adequate member of their team. But I think this served as a good learning experience and an example of what could happen at a lot of companies and positions beyond a summer internship at a small design firm in Berlin. Learning Solidworks in particular was a great experience for me as a designer, engineer, and team member at MCD.

Once I finished the tutorials, I was ready to move on to the “real work.” For the next few weeks, real work meant helping out with the detail designs of what we were giving to our clients. This work felt immediately more meaningful because I knew I was helping our company toward its goal, if only in a small way. I worked primarily in InDesign and Illustrator on icons for presentations, templates, and guideline documents that would be given to assemblers of our products. Even from my very first Adobe assignments, I was excited by how much German I was able to understand and respond to. These assignments were primarily given to me by Fabian, a coworker who was especially patient about not switching to English and who helped me practice and better understand German. I was empowered and surprised by the extent of my own German abilities as just a few months before, I was barely able to give a five-minute presentation in German, let alone receive professional instructions in the language.

Our office in Kreuzberg was full of posters, awards, and prototypes from MCD’s past and current projects. The most noticeable of these were the life-size pressure compressors made of cardboard that hung above our

workspace. Directly across from the compressors was a lifelike rendering of the final product. Just being able to see the prototype next to its final version, and the design award it received, was inspiring and exciting. At times, Fabian and our boss, Antje, would have focused conversations in German while looking up at these prototypes. During those first few weeks, when I wasn’t listening to Solidworks videos with headphones, I pieced



Brittany Hallawell working at mehnert corporate design on a prototype for General Electric.

together the fact that we were working on a project for GE and would need make similar cardboard prototypes soon. They later told me that I could work with Fabian on the proto-

types. I was excited by the fact that, when the time came, I would not be working at a computer all day; instead I would actually have the chance to build something. This was such an exciting prospect that for the first month and a half or so of my internship, I would come to work on time each day wondering if maybe we would get to start building that day!

But we didn’t. Meanwhile, a new intern arrived. Tim was a Product Design student from Berlin who had recently returned from his study abroad year in New Zealand. We quickly realized we shared a love for design, the ocean, and travel and we became fast friends. After Tim and I bonded, work became a lot more interesting and fun. Tim and I hung out outside of work — we met each other’s friends at a barbeque in Tempelhof and we occasionally went out for dinner and drinks after work. Having Tim as a friend helped me to feel genuinely connected to the culture and the city I had been living

in since January. It also marked a point when I felt I transitioned from having a study abroad experience to actually living abroad.

A key part of this feeling of “belonging” was my involvement in the Every Nation Church of Friedrichshain. I began going to church there during the school year, but because it was so far east I rarely attended. Once I began attending over the summer again, however, I was hooked. It was a great way to practice my German and internalize words I learned because they had more significant meaning in a different context. More importantly, it was spiritually and personally fulfilling to be a part of the Every Nation Church fellowship. In addition to the Saturday church service, I became involved with a small Wednesday night women’s group near Rosenthaler Platz in Mitte.

Aside from work, Bible study, church, and spending time with my friends, I occupied my free time with my project at the Kunsthochschule Weissensee. As part of my spring quarter studies, as well as for my Product Design major, I had enrolled in a class called “Mahlzeit”. The premise of Mahlzeit was to design a meal: the food, the tableware, the drinks, everything. It seemed like a daunting yet interesting task: designing tableware with a specific meal in mind. During my summer at MCD, I would ride my bike to Weissensee many nights after my internship to work on my ceramics project. I formed bowls, cups, and trays based on the idea of German bread and bread culture. This was an interesting and fun way to learn more about both industrial design as well as German culture.

Another of the most fulfilling parts of the summer for me was riding my bike. It may sound simple, but it was, in a way, my lifeline in Berlin. It was how I got from my home near Treptower Park to work every morning in Kreuzberg, to church and Bible study on the weekends, to the Kunsthochschule north of Prenzlauer Allee in the evenings, to picnics in Tiergarten or Gleisdreieck, and to my friends living out in Dahlem. Biking in Berlin is more than just a mode of transportation; it is an incredibly enjoyable way to see the city. As I was living in the east, I discovered a new favorite piece of street art

on a weekly, or even daily, basis on my bike. Biking was also a way to become a part of the city. I felt like I had assimilated into the Berlin bike culture, or was at least faking it pretty well. Biking also helped me stay connected to my hometown. Biking for transportation is a big part of where I am from in California, as well as at Stanford. Keeping this tradition alive while living abroad meant a lot to me.

My home near Treptower Park was also a big part of my Berlin immersion experience. My *Mitbewohnerin*, Susie, and I spoke frequently in German and got along very well. Susie was probably ten to fifteen years older than me and living with her was like having an older sister. Having her as a friend and role model was invaluable to me. I had a lot of fun hanging out with her two children, Aidan (4) and Elias (6), who also lived with us. The four of us had dinner, story time, and played games many evenings after work.

Come August, we finally did get to make those prototypes for GE. Tim, Fabian, and I built them to 1:1 scale based on the Solidworks files we had. This was the most intensive work I did for MCD. Because the designs were still being finalized, we couldn’t start on them until a few days before the presentation to GE. Once we got started, we worked long hours trying to get them finished before their big debut. As I had expected, it was tons of fun solving the problems that come with figuring out how to build something “right”: doing calculations, finding the right materials for each job, and lots of trial and error. I even started to think in the metric system! Once they were done, Tim and I got to be a part of the big meeting with GE representatives, which was a great opportunity for my German as well as my design and business skills.

My summer in Berlin truly was an amazing experience. My immersion into the city helped me to learn about Berlin and German culture, my professional career, and myself personally. ■

#### **Brittany Hallawell**

(Product Design) studied in Berlin in winter and spring and interned with mehnert corporate design in summer of 2014.

Kimberly Saechao (Linguistics, German Studies) visited the neighboring royal palaces Hohenschwangau near the Alpsee (left) and Neuschwanstein (right) in southern Bavaria.





# Status Report on the Krupp Internship Program by Wolf-Dietrich Junghanns

**This past academic year** brought us 39 new students who, together with the three students who interned in Berlin for a second time, completed 43 internships in total. One student, Juan Posadas-Castillo (Computer Science, Modern Languages), even tried out two different start-up companies in Berlin; to be more precise, he *had to* because his first host, Asuum GmbH, lost its funding out of the blue just after Juan had successfully completed two months of work there. Luckily, we quickly found a new host for him so that after gaining experience in the field of monetizing publishers' content with Asuum, he could explore the world of fashion with Outfittery GmbH. He learned a lot at both companies, as you can imagine, not only about software but also about business development. But this experience of something close to a *Bankrott* for the first time in the history of the program reminded us how fragile business and employment can be in the much-praised start-up world, even if the product itself works. The incident also demonstrated the suitability of the good old legal form of a *Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung*, the GmbH, for such companies. While the GmbH is considered to be the world's first

Connor Woodson (Computer Science) with manager Andreas Graf on the roof of the Nokia building where he worked for the mapping and location service [HERE](#).

Clara McCreery (Chemical Engineering) with her supervisor Antje Colligs at the Global Market Access department at Bayer Pharma AG in Berlin.



Above: Keenan Molner (Electrical Engineering, Theater & Performance Studies) checks a spotlight at Sumolight, Berlin, where he worked on compact and energy-efficient optical and power systems of LED lights for television and film sets.

Right above: Erin Antono (Material Science & Engineering) at the Berlin-based renewable energy storage company Younicos where she developed software for battery management.

Right: Ari Bennett (Mechanical Engineering) demonstrates Kiwi's wireless door opener which substitutes for a key ring.



Above: Mikaela Grace (Mathematical and Computational Sciences) in front of Humboldt University's Gründerhaus where she developed software for mobile market research at Pollion GmbH.





Vivan Ly (Earth Systems: Sustainable Agriculture) explores alternative farming around the world. During the summer she interned with the Vierfelderhof in Berlin-Gatow.

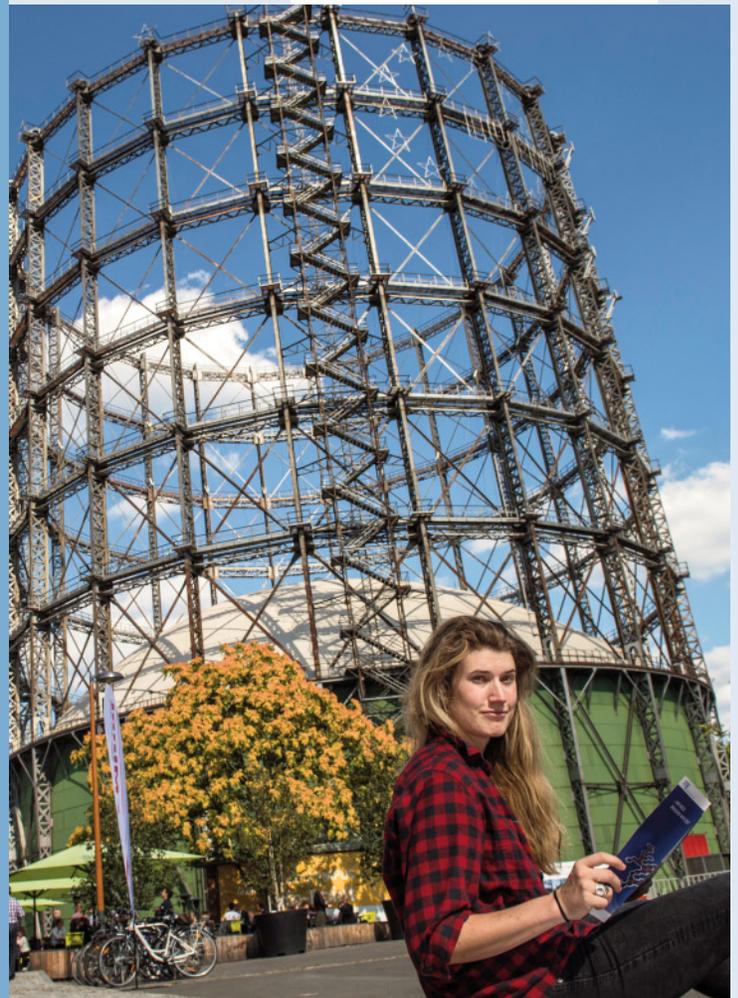
stockholder company of this type, a new variant of it was introduced in 2008 to facilitate the founding of companies: the *Unternehmergesellschaft* or *Mini-GmbH*, which requires only one Euro of starting capital compared to 25,000 Euro for a standard GmbH. Of course, such setbacks will not prevent us from further exploring the world of innovative small companies, be it in Berlin, Munich (where we continued our cooperation with *UnternehmerTUM*, the incubator of the Technische Universität), or elsewhere.

However, not only young but also time-honored companies can surprise us. Marshall Haltom (Mechanical Engineering) interned with the truck manufacturing department of Deutz AG, founded in 1864, as our first intern with them. There he experienced firsthand the phenomenon of *Kurzarbeit*: a temporary reduction of working time and pay permitted under German labor law which allows for the use of state subsidies to avoid

layoffs when, for instance, orders are falling off due to unusual market changes or other extraordinary circumstances. During the financial crisis, the German government spent billions of Euro on *Kurzarbeit* to save hundreds of thousands of jobs in manufacturing, and in the long run it paid off: less money was spent on unemployment benefits and qualified workforce could be held intact. Luckily, Marshall's internship was not endangered and he enjoyed both his work and the many abundant summer activities in the wonderful city of Ulm.

A fearless approach to new hosts – this past season we had 23 of them – seems to be the name of the game in light of the fact that we again placed more than 30 applicants from the School of Engineering or students who interned in a field of engineering in internships. This number included not only ten Mechanical Engineering and six Computer Science majors, well-established fields in the Krupp program, but, for instance, also one major from the growing

Leigh Hagestad (Computer Science) interned with the Innovationszentrum für Mobilität und gesellschaftlichen Wandel (InnoZ), located on the EUREF-Campus (<http://www.euref.de>) in Berlin-Schöneberg where various companies develop new energy and mobility solutions.





Graham Davis (Symbolic Systems) at the Kreuzberger Musikalische Aktion where he helped Berlin children and youth to make and arrange music.

field of Neuroscience Engineering. Steven Shepard interned with the Fraunhofer Institut für Biomedizinische Technik in St. Ingbert, close to Saarbrücken, not far from the French border. Many of our engineers are interested in working for start-ups, focusing both on software and on hardware. During the study quarters, we try to engage with this interest in technological innovation and new business models by holding workshops which are organized in cooperation with the d.school, the Hasso-Plattner-Institut in Potsdam, and the betahaus in Berlin. These are effective forums for students to cooperate with German students and, not least, to get to know new German companies and organizations.

Before I report more on the world of technology, I would like to highlight two internships from other fields. After completing her internship with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik in the summer of 2013, Sarah Kunis (Political Science) got the unique chance to return for six weeks to the Deutsche Bundestag to support the office of Agnieszka Brugger, a member of the parliamentary faction of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen since 2009 and then the youngest member of the Bundestag. As an expert in international security issues, Ms. Brugger became a member of the Bundestag's Security Council – a constellation which perfectly fit

Sarah's academic interests and which allowed her to follow parliamentary debates live and (very) close-up.

Vivian Ly (Earth Systems major with a concentration in Sustainable Agriculture) completed another unusual internship this summer. We have had interns in agriculture before, especially with the ZALF, the Zentrum für Agrarlandschafts- und Landnutzungsforschung e.V. in Müncheberg, east of Berlin, but these were all in research (an e. V., *eingetragener Verein*, is a non-profit association). The last intern to do actual field work was

Rebecca Deubler (Management Science & Engineering, Computer Science) with controller Julia Heggemann at Cassantec AG where she supported the development of prognostic solutions for industrial assets.



Jennifer Holliday (Human Biology), who shadowed and aided a veterinarian in the state of Brandenburg. Now Vivian is doing field work with the Vierfelderhof GmbH – a *gemeinnützige GmbH*, a charitable limited company – in Berlin-Gatow, right at the Havel. To better acquaint herself with the variety of farming in Germany, Vivian even took on a second internship this fall with the Gärtnerhof Oberreute, a certified biodynamic "Demeter"-farm in Baden-Württemberg. These are exceptional experiences insofar as they require either specific academic interests or advanced German proficiency

Marshall Haltom (Mechanical Engineering) interned with Deutz AG in Ulm where he participated in the Nabada (Swabian for Hinunterbaden) on

Schwörmontag, July 21, 2014, a 7 km-long carnivalesque boat procession on the Donau. Schwörmontag (from *schwören*: to swear) is a traditional Ulm festivity

which dates back to the 14th century when political conflicts between the city's patricians and guilds were settled by an oath.





In the Gobelin Hall at Villa Hügel on May 21, 2014. L-R: Ari Bennett (Mechanical Engineering), Marshall Haltom (Mechanical Engineering), Hayley Ritterhern (Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science), guest professor Ed Carryer (Mechanical Engineering Department – Design Division).

or both. They are also perfect tools to attain the latter.

Back to engineering: specific qualifications and experience were also required for

Keenan Molner’s work with Sumolight in Berlin-Pankow. He studies Electrical Engineering as well as Theater and Performance Studies and spent his summer working on the optical and power systems of a new LED light for the entertainment industry.

As exciting as new hosts are, we of course continue to cooperate with companies and institutions who tend to take our students every year, such as BMW in Munich (Helen Fang: Computer Science), Deutsche Bahn, this year again in Mainz instead of

Berlin (Cyril Straughn-Turner: International Relations, Computer Science, German Studies), RollsRoyce in Blankenfelde-Mahlow south of Berlin (Bryan Lopez: Mechanical Engineering), SAP (Kelley Luyken: Management Science & Engineering, German Studies), and recently Bosch in Schwieberdingen (Zachary Stuart: Mechanical Engineering). Hosts for which we find applicants only now and then are, e. g., still EHLA-MASCHINENBAU Liemke KG in Hövelhof near Paderborn (Henry Coggins: Mechanical Engineering; a *Kommanditgesellschaft*, or KG, is an entity with partners of limited and restricted liability), the Institut für Infor-

matik der FU Berlin, Arbeitsgruppe Intelligente Systeme und Robotik (Jordan Miller: Mechanical Engineering) or Duane Phillips Architektur und Städtebau, where Maxence Ryan practiced his architecture major in the summers of 2013 and 2014.

It was a thrilling placement season with academic and administrative challenges, and only with support from within and outside Stanford were we able to master them. Therefore, in closing, I would like to point out at least three internships that were made possible by our network. In Mannheim, a huge conversion project is under way after the US military closed down bases on 1.2 million acres of land: <http://www.konversion-mannheim.de>. Stanford alumnus Anton Bergmann (PhD in Physics, 1991) invited Julia Schmitz (Civil Engineering) to join city development projects like planning the water supply infrastructure, and researching how electric cars can be implemented in the transportation system. Edeltraut Krüger, our long-standing finance and housing expert who retired this fall, helped us to get in contact with the Berlin-based architecture firm KSV Planung und Kommunikation where Austin Trinkle (Architectural Design) participated for six months in planning the reconstruction and restoration of buildings, particularly of kindergartens – see his report in this issue. Finally, our alumnus Justus Brown (Computer Systems Engineering, History, 2001) saved us in an emergency when another company backed out of a promised position by offering an internship with HERE, Nokia’s map service, where Connor Woodson (Computer Science) developed Android applications for transportation systems. Many thanks to all of our supporters! ■

## My Search for Knowledge in the “Valley of the Clueless” by Mitchell Hokanson

**I walked down** the street to get to my newly-rented apartment, dodging slightly tipsy old and young folks alike. I apparently had not only picked the best place to live in Dresden, but also the best day to move in. The anniversary of the creation of the Bunte Republik Neustadt (which declared its independence from Dresden in the 1990s) is celebrated every year with a gigantic festival – street after street of live music, dancing Dresdeners, and great food – and I had landed right in the middle of it. As far as first impressions go, Dresden made a solid one. I fell in love with the city that day, and I had not even seen the best of it yet!

Before I tell you more about my adventures and everything I learned, however, I’d like to provide some background information on Dresden. As you may have read

Mitchell Hokanson at the *Fanmeile* in Berlin.



in history books, learned in class, or read in Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*, Dresden was firebombed by the Allies in World War II in an attempt to crush the will of the German people. The center of the city, the Altstadt, was almost completely destroyed by the flames. It has since been rebuilt, and Dresden now boasts a Neustadt, or new city center, that is older than its Altstadt. After the war, the Iron Curtain went up, and Dresden was cut off from the Western world. Dresden and other areas of Saxony (along with parts of North-East Germany) were unable to pick up Western television signals and could only watch East German broadcasts. Limited in what they could learn about the outside world, the area was satirically referred to as the *Tal der Ahnungslosen*, or the Valley of the Clueless. It was here that I came to learn more about Germany; it was here that I came to learn from the clueless.

As a political science student, I have always been interested in military history and how it influences modern day strategy and policy, so when I was hired as a research intern at the Military History Museum of the Bundeswehr (<http://www.mhmbw.de>), I was ecstatic. I was finally going to be able to see how Germans saw their history, and see how that history influenced the way they think. To be completely honest, though, I had no idea what to expect when I finally got there.

I showed up bright-eyed and bushy-tailed on my first day, fully expecting to be shuffled off to a small desk in the corner of a library to read books all day and pass on information to the researchers I would be working under. Instead, I was signed in, informed I had a meeting with the Head of Research, Dr. Gorch Pieken, in 10 minutes, and thus my internship was underway. Dr. Pieken welcomed me into his office and informed me that I was going to work directly under him before sending me off to meet the freelance researchers I would be working with. A couple who worked on the museum's grounds also decided that I ought to get a tour of the archives on my first day, and there was no way I would turn that down. I got the full tour of the thousands of paintings and sculptures in the art archives, the massive armored-vehicle garage, and the collections of maps, charts, letters, and communiques.

After the tour, I met the other freelancers. I would spend the next three months with these guys, and I knew we were going to hit it off the moment I stepped into their office. Located in the cool part of Dresden, their office had a couch, which I spent quite a bit of time on, foam swords, which we fought with, and housed some of the most knowledgeable people I have ever met. By the end of my internship, they not only showed me the ins and outs of working in a museum, but also of Dresden.



The Militärhistorisches Museum der Bundeswehr in Dresden with the new extension designed by Daniel Libeskind.

My time spent with them camping in Swiss Saxony, chatting in the bars of the Neustadt and cooking and relaxing at the "American-style" backyard barbeques I convinced them to throw were just as valuable a learning experience for me as the work I did in the museum.

That is not to say, however, that I did not do much at the museum. While I was technically a research intern, in practice I was a *Mädchen für Alles*. I did more than conduct research for the various exhibits, as I was also responsible for interacting with the BBC and the British Council on behalf of the museum, gathering exhibit pieces for our exhibitions (including a MK/B53 Thermonuclear Bunker Buster) from other museums, and translating important texts. I even got some hands-on experience in the actual creation of an exhibition. I learned a lot about the red tape that comes with every job – something I have never really experienced before – but the most important thing I took away from the experience was how to look at history from a German perspective. Talking to former GDR soldiers, listening to the ideas of current students at the military academy in Dresden, conversing with researchers from all disciplines and from all over Germany, and chatting with anyone else who would listen to me allowed me to partially understand and study the ways in which Germans all saw the world and the ways in which they interpreted their own history. My interactions also helped me realize that for all I thought I knew about history and politics, I saw and understood the world through Red, White, and Blue colored glasses. I will never be able to truly see the world through Black, Red and Gold colored glasses, but this experience has at least given me a glimpse into a world I had never imagined I would see. I am incredibly indebted to the Krupp Foundation and Stanford University for helping me take my first journey outside of the US and for providing me with such a phenomenal experience. As the Tralfamadorians from Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five* would say, there is and always will be a piece of me in Dresden. ■

#### Mitchell Hokanson

(Political Science) studied in Berlin in the spring and interned in Dresden in the summer of 2014.



Some traditions seem not to die out: spring quarter students in front of the Konzerthaus Berlin.

Photo: Mitchell Hokanson, Sloane Sturzenegger



Springtime: Im Dol.



Above: This is Berlin: the U-Bahn station at Podbielskiallee.

Right: Participants of the summer internship seminar on August 29, 2014 at Haus Cramer.



The shaft tower of the Deutsche Bergbaumuseum in Bochum (<http://www.bergbaumuseum.de>). As in 2013, we took a tour through the underground tourist mine.

**Das Haus ist nun gerichtet,  
geschmückt mit einem Baum.  
Es scheint im Sonnenlichte  
und ist der wahre Traum.  
Das Haus schützt Euch vor Wind und Regen  
und soll Euch bringen Glück und Segen.**

Imagine a man named Herr Zimmermann dressed in traditional thick German corduroy bell-bottomed pants with a matching blazer with large white buttons, a red bandana around his neck, and a large brimmed funny black hat. To complete the outfit, he's wearing tall boots with shiny buckles. Herr Zimmermann is standing atop the scaffolding of the building I've been working on while reading these verses to the crowd below. But he's not just reading. He's yelling. No, he's not yelling, he's bellowing at the top of his lungs! Not only was he bellowing in German, he was speaking in rhyme!

**Wie die Steine fest vermauert,  
so das Haus nun überdauert  
jeden Sturm und Regen.  
Wir wünschen Euch viel Glück und Segen.**

Combined with his peculiar outfit and the fact that I was not expecting his bellowing tone, I found myself trying quite forcefully not to laugh out loud. At the conclusion of his rhyming, bellowing speech, he proposed three toasts after which he smashed his champagne glass on the scaffolding and threw the stem down to the ground. This was my first *Richtfest*.

I learned later that a *Richtfest* is a traditional German celebration hosted by the owner of a new building when construction of the building reaches its maximum height. Food and drinks are often present as well. An entire roasted pig lay on the table at this particular occasion. Of the many traditions and peculiarities in the German construction and design culture, *Richtfest* is my favorite tradition that I learned about throughout the course of my architecture internship at KSV Krüger Schubert Vandreike.

The start of my internship was not all rhymes and champagne however... Learning a foreign language at times entails playing a guessing game of picking and choosing the instances when you ask for clarification. A lot can be interpreted from informed inferences. Most of the time, we interpret these ambiguities correctly, as our brains are surprisingly capable of connecting the gaps in our understanding. This was, however, not the case on the first day of my internship with KSV.



Austin Trinkle at his desk at KSV Krüger Schubert Vandreike...

I took a deep breath and knocked for the first time on the big heavy steel door on the second floor – really the third floor – of a building located two courtyards back from the street near the bustling and picturesque Rosenthaler Platz. I was cordially introduced to everyone in their beautiful, clean, and organized office with black two-ring folders lining the shelves throughout in an elegant array of continuity. Before long I was sitting at my new desk with two computer monitors and my new neighbor was explaining how to operate the computer program I would be using: MicroStation. MicroStation is a CAD program, loaded with countless tools and capabilities to produce all sorts of design and construction documents. I had learned a few CAD programs in my classes, but this one was completely foreign to me. In fact, it was doubly foreign! I was not only trying to learn a new computer program, a difficult task in itself; I had to find my bearings in German, with a computer in German nonetheless. As if that wasn't enough, there was even a third layer of difficulty on top of these challenges. Not only was I learning a foreign computer program in a foreign language, I was also learning to speak another language at the same time, the language of architecture. Architecture truly is its own language. If you ever have spoken with an architect, you may understand what I mean. Words like parapet, annular, plinth, superimpose, bifurcation, and fecundity (which are *Brüstung*, *Ringraum*, *Sockel*, *überlagern*, *Verzweigung*, and *Fertilität* in German, respectively) are simply not a part of our everyday vernacular. After that first day, I took the U8 to the U7 home from work exhausted from all the linguistic struggles.

Throughout the six-month duration of my internship, my German language abilities improved immensely. Nevertheless, it was and continues to remain a challenge, notwithstanding that fact that I feel very accomplished,

yet at the same time humbled, for achieving as much success as I had.

My first project involved a row of seven new townhouses the company had designed in Rummelsburg, a neighborhood on the outskirts of eastern Berlin. Construction was already underway, warranting the *Richtfest* I attended. I simultaneously worked on the renovation of an apartment building from the 1800s in Steglitz out in the west part of the city. My role for both of these projects was essentially the same. I would travel with the project manager to these sites and walk through them, taking notes on what we were focusing on for that day. I



... and while surveying one of Berlin's Kindergarten buildings.

did my best to understand the conversations my supervisor was having with the subcontractors. He routinely would ask me what questions I had and clarify

aspects about the building or renovation process. Back at the office, I made all the changes to the CAD files of the construction documents. I very quickly learned that I would not be getting coffee for my coworkers in this internship.

Two months later, after I had an appropriate grasp of the daily office operations and the three languages I was learning, I was assigned to work with a coworker to produce 30–40 page building survey and cost estimation reports for different kindergartens. This became the defining project of my internship. I did not think I would be back in a kindergarten so soon, but I can now say that I have visited no less than 22 different kindergartens (more commonly referred to as *Kitas*) throughout the city of Berlin. I found this to be an immensely intriguing cultural experience. Looking at the way we raise and instruct our children provides a unique glimpse into the way we view our society and ourselves. This was apparent from the very first *Kita* we visited: the *Mäusevilla*,

or *Mice Villa*. All of the *Kitas* I visited in Berlin have whimsical names such as this. Picking a favorite is difficult; personally, I'm torn between *Dreikäsehoch* (Three Cheese High) and *Hopsekäse* (Jumping Cheese). Apparently I have a soft spot for cheese-named *Kitas*.

I was utterly amazed after visiting my first *Kita*. I couldn't believe how large they were, both physically as well as in terms of the number of children, which usually averaged around 4,100m<sup>2</sup> and 110, respectively. The playgrounds were always particularly impressive. They were typically characterized by large open areas, spruced up with all manner of children's play-structures. Occasionally these play-structures would be akin to the ones I'm familiar with from the States, but it was more often the case that these toys and structures were all handmade by the *Hausmeister*, or caretaker, responsible for that *Kita*. This impressed me the most. Not only did the *Hausmeister* hand make these awesome toys that would endure for generations, but they were the toys of a child's dream, like life-sized boats and cars carved out of wood, spaceships, and fire trucks. As a mature professional on the cusp of an engineering degree, I held back my excitement, though with difficulty.

Our task was to walk through every room of the *Kita* and take photos and notes, particularly of things like water damage, the absence of acoustic ceilings, broken tiles, old windows, broken doors, and the like. The rooms were bright and utterly filled with color, wall designs, pictures, plants, and objects. As I'm a creative person myself, I was impressed with the creativity of the *Kita* directors. For example, I once noticed a tree branch hanging parallel to the floor, from which hung a collection of student artwork and mobiles.

Walking through the rooms also titillated my introverted posture toward ideas. The rooms were characterized by diversity, as if to instill in the children a sense of the many possibilities available to them when they grow up. There were science rooms, art rooms, exercise rooms, building rooms, music rooms, group rooms, theatre rooms, eating rooms, and sometimes even saunas. I noticed child-sized microscopes next door to a soccer ball, which was in turn next door to a classroom full of adorable little German children being read a story from their teacher. It was refreshing to see such an egalitarian approach to education, one that embodies the idea that perhaps not everyone is capable of obtaining a college degree. I suppose this is congruent with the German educational system I have learned about during my quarter studying abroad, but I was surprised to see evidence of it at such a young age. The concept that young people should feel free to become whatever kind of person they desire therefore seems to be truly instilled in Germans

from a young age and deeply entwined in German culture. I reckon this is the ultimate example of having the free will to decide your own destiny.

Back in the office, far away from the screams and tears and questions of "Wie heißt du?" and "Was machst du hier?", I organized photos, then made each person in the photos anonymous and selected pertinent photos to be included in the report. I compiled the reports in InDesign using documents we received from the owner of the *Kitas*, old construction documents, and conversations with my supervisor. An additional task of mine was to organize the massive amount of information we were accumulating on each *Kita*. This proved to be a formidable task, but I was given some freedom to devise a functional and effective organizational system.

By the end of my internship, I had firsthand experience of the condition of many *Kitas* in the city of Berlin. The majority of these buildings were constructed during the GDR era. I became intimately acquainted with what the civil architecture of that time was like. Moreover, my language skills – for all three languages – had improved dramatically. There were even a few instances when my supervisor asked *me* how to accomplish a specific task in the program we were using. I walked through construction sites, climbed over the roofs of buildings, listened to children ask me if I was already *verliebt*, climbed scaffolding, properly used the words *Moin*, *Feierabend*, and *Mahlzeit*, learned two new computer programs, spoke German, ate lots of *Döner*, *Rotkohl*, *Klöße*, *Flammkuchen*, *Spätzle*, and *Kartoffeln*, memorized the subway network, made new German friends, experienced the Christmas markets, understood the comedy surrounding the development of the new and still-unopened airport, learned to shake hands and sort my trash, concluded my favorite pastry to be *Franzbrötchen*, remembered to bring my own bag to the grocery store, and laughed at a man named Herr Zimmermann rhyming in bell-bottom corduroy pants.

**Das Haus hat nun seine Form angenommen.  
Die Balken auf dem Dach sind fest gezimmert.  
Jetzt einfach Ausatmen, tief Luft holen,  
neue Kraft schöpfen  
und ganz zwanglos feiern – das Richtfest!  
Alles Gute zum weiteren Gelingen! ■**

Austin Trinkle,

an Architectural Design major, studied in Berlin in the winter of 2012 and interned with KSV Krüger Schubert Vandreyke in Berlin in the autumn of 2013 and winter of 2014.

## Filmtips

### Die geliebten Schwestern

<http://www.senator.de/movie/die-geliebten-schwestern>

Nach „Goethe!“ (2010) und dem erfolgreicheren und vielfach ausgezeichneten „Fack ju Göhte“ (2013) folgt nun endlich und wohl unvermeidlich auch ein neuer Film über Friedrich (von) Schiller (Florian Stetter). Der Regisseur Dominik Graf (re-)konstruiert dessen unkonventionelle Liebesgeschichte mit den Schwestern Caroline (Hannah Herzprung) und Charlotte (Henriette Confurius) von Lengefeld, die sich den Dichter als Schwägerin und Ehefrau gleichsam teilten – nicht konfliktfrei und nicht immer geschwisterlich. Das in der Berlinale-Version 138 Minuten lange, aber kurzweilige Epos kreist um die Frage „Was gilt die Liebe?“ und erzählt die sich nicht zuletzt über Briefkommunikation entfaltende Dreiecksgeschichte im Kontext deutscher Ständegesellschaft, Aufklärung, Französischer Revolution und Revolutionskriegen. Der Film gilt als sehr gelungen und wurde als bester deutscher Film für die Academy Awards von 2015 nominiert.

### Phoenix

<http://www.phoenix-der-film.de>

Die Auschwitz-Überlebende Nelly (Nina Hoss) kehrt 1945 in das zerstörte Berlin zurück, wo sie nach einer Operation ihres im KZ verletzten Gesichts ihren Ehemann Johnny (Ronald Zehrfeld) sucht, der sie, die Jüdin, möglicherweise an die Gestapo verraten hat. Er hält seine Frau für tot, erkennt Nelly nicht, sieht aber die Ähnlichkeit und erkennt darin die Möglichkeit, an das von seiner Frau hinterlassene Vermögen zu kommen, während Nelly die verlorene Liebe sucht. – Können wir zurück ins Paradies? Nein, aber die Erinnerung und die Sehnsucht konnte auch der Nationalsozialismus nicht zerstören. Diese Erkenntnis legt Regisseur Christian Petzold in den Ogdan Nash-Kurt Weill-Song „Speak low (if you speak of love)“ (1943). Christian Petzold war zuletzt erfolgreich mit „Barbara“ (2012), ebenfalls mit Hoss und Zehrfeld in den Hauptrollen; ein Film über Verantwortung, der in der späten DDR spielt. „Phoenix“ variiert eine Kriminalgeschichte der Wiederkehr aus dem Holocaust von Hubert Monteilhet, „Le retour des cendres“ (1961), und verarbeitet filmische Vorbilder wie Hitchcocks „Vertigo“ und Alexander Kluges „Liebesversuch“. Petzolds kinematographische Frage lautet, ob Auschwitz-Überlebende Kinofiguren wie alle anderen sind. Die deutsche Kritik ist skeptisch und fragt nach *Wahrscheinlichkeit und Wahrhaftigkeit*, internationale Beobachter, etwa aus Frankreich und den USA, scheinen eher bereit, an gute *Geschichten* zu glauben und bejubeln den Film.

### Das finstere Tal

<http://www.dasfinsteretal.at/>

<http://www.dasfinsteretal.x-verleih.de/de/Der+Film>

Diese mehrfach ausgezeichnete deutsch-österreichische Koproduktion nach dem gleichnamigen Buch von Thomas Willmann ist ein Hybrid: ein Western und ein Heimatfilm. Ein mit Akzent Deutsch sprechender Fremder aus Nordamerika läßt sich Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts als Photograph in einem Hochalpendorf nieder, um, wie sich allmählich herausstellt, alte Rechnungen zu begleichen. Die Verdichtung des im Südtiroler Schnalstal auf spektakuläre Weise gefilmten Dramas beruht auf einem doppelten Einschluß: Die Dorfgemeinschaft wird von einer einzigen, allmächtig scheinenden Bauernfamilie beherrscht und in

den langen Wintern halten auch die Schneemassen die Bewohner im Tal gefangen. Die lokale Gemeinschaft als Ort der Gewalt und evolutionäre Sackgasse. So kommt eine der Figuren zu der Erkenntnis: „Die Freiheit ist ein Geschenk, das sich nicht jeder gern machen lässt.“

## Alles was wir wollen

<http://www.alleswaswirwollen.de>

Die Suche nach Orientierung und Lebenszielen „junger Menschen“ um die 30 beschäftigt weiterhin die Filmemacher. Wie mit der großen Freiheit und der zumindest ebenso großen Unsicherheit umgehen, wenn einem heute fast die ganze Welt offensteht, aber, z. B., sich die Chancen auf eine Festanstellung nach dem Studium verringert haben und Partnerschaften nicht auf Dauer angelegt sind. Wann soll man sich entscheiden und festlegen, auf eine Tätigkeit, auf die Gründung einer Familie? – Nicht zu früh, nicht zu spät... Die Regisseurin Beatrice Möller porträtierte über drei Jahre hinweg drei gut ausgebildete Frauen, die derzeit als Journalistin, Projektmanagerin und Schauspielerin arbeiten. Sie bezieht auch die Mütter, deren Lebensentwürfe nicht mehr modellhaft zu sein scheinen, in die Diskussion über das Erwachsenwerden als Frau ein.

## In Sarmatien

<http://www.volker-koepf-film.de/in-sarmatien>

Nach über 40 Jahren greift Volker Koepp einen eigenen Titel auf: „Grüße aus Sarmatien“ (DDR 1972), den er einem damals ungewöhnlichen Dokumentarfilm über das Memelland, die kulturelle Landschaft des deutschen Schriftstellers Johannes Bobrowski, gab (Tilsit/Tilze/Sowetsk 1917 – (Ost-)Berlin 1965; u. a.: „Sarmatische Zeit. Gedichte“, 1961; „Levins Mühle“, 1964; „Litauische Clavier“, 1966). Als Sarmatien bezeichneten Griechen und Römer den weiten Raum zwischen den Flüssen Weichsel und Wolga, von der Ostsee bis zum Schwarzen Meer. In diesem Gebiet filmte Koepp über die Jahrzehnte in Litauen, Polen, Weißrußland, das Kaliningrader Gebiet (Rußland), Ukraine, Moldawien und Rumänien. Am bekanntesten wurde die Dokumentation „Herr Zwilling und Frau Zuckermann“ (1999) über jüdisches Leben in Czernowitz, Ukraine. Nun kehrt Koepp an diese „Erinnerungsorte“ zurück und spricht vor allem mit jungen Menschen, die zum Teil schon in früheren Filmen auftauchten, speziell als Übersetzerinnen. Sie stehen heute vor der Frage „Gehen oder bleiben?“. Vielfach pendeln sie zwischen Ost und West.

Zu hoffen ist, daß die zu erwartende DVD Untertitel enthält, denn wer nicht eine der osteuropäischen Sprachen spricht, wird vom Originalton, der weitestgehend unübersetzt bleibt, nichts verstehen. Für die interviewten Frauen sind Fremdsprachen ein Tor zu neuen Welten geworden – ein Ausweg aus den wirtschaftlichen und politischen Notlagen ihrer Herkunftsländer. Man kann aus diesem interessanten Film schließen, daß Westeuropa ohne vergleichbare sprachliche und kulturelle Kompetenzen keine effektive Hilfe bei der Lösung aktueller Konflikte, wie denen zwischen Rußland, Moldawien und der Ukraine, leisten kann.

## Art's Home is my Kassel

<http://www.arts-home-is-my-kassel.info>

Hin und wieder kommen auch Krupp-Stipendiaten durch ihr Praktikum in den Genuß der documenta, der bedeutendsten internationalen Ausstellung für moderne Kunst, die seit 1955 alle fünf (früher: vier) Jahre für exakt 100 Tage in Kassel, im Bundes-

land Hessen, stattfindet und von wechselnden Kuratoren präsentiert wird. Kassel beherbergt mit dem Fridericianum (1779) eines der ersten öffentlichen europäischen Museen. Es ist jedoch nur einer von 60 Ausstellungsorten. Der Film gibt unterhaltsame Einblicke in die Ausstellung und ihre Vorbereitung. Er porträtiert Künstler, Handwerker und Besucher und deren Gedanken über Kunst. Von den etwa eine Million Besuchern kommen die wenigsten aus Kassel, aber durch sie leben die Stadt und ihre Bewohner auf. Nicht alle Kasseler sind glücklich über die ausgestellte Kunst, aber doch stolz darauf, daß die Ausstellung die Stadt zu einer Metropole macht. Dabei ist Kassel auch ohne dieses Ereignis, das zum „Event“ geworden ist, einen Besuch wert. Dennoch, für alle Fälle: Die nächste documenta findet vom 10. Juni bis zum 17. September 2017 statt.

## Nowitzki. Der perfekte Wurf

<http://www.derperfektewurf.de>

Dirk Nowitzki, 2011 Meister mit den Dallas Mavericks, ist ein NBA-Star und mit Abstand der bekannteste deutsche Basketballspieler. Er selbst möchte kein „Star“ sein – er könne eben bloß „relativ gut einen Ball in ein Körbchen reinschmeißen“ – und er hätte diese Dokumentation nicht gebraucht. Nowitzki versteht sich als „privater Mensch“ und sein Leben sei doch eher „langweilig“. Der Film zeichnet Nowitzkis von Würzburg in die Welt führende Karriere nach, zeigt seinen Alltag mit Training, Reisen und Spielen – die mit Überwältigungsabsicht in Szene gesetzt werden – und den „bigger than live“-Betrieb der NBA. Beeindruckend ist aber vor allem die bis heute enge Beziehung des Spielers zu seinem deutschen Entdecker, Trainer und Berater Holger Geschwindner, einem ehemaligen deutschen Basketballnationalspieler. Insgesamt ist dies ein typischer Sportfilm für Fans über einen untypischen Berufssportler, der eher wider Willen zum Sympathieträger geworden ist.

WDJ

# Kinofenster

## Filmportale

deutscher und internationaler Filme, Filmliteratur u.a.:

<http://www.filmportal.de>

<http://www.film-zeit.de>

<http://www.kinofenster.de>

(Das Onlineportal für Filmbildung) <http://www.bpb.de>

(Mediathek, Shop/ Filmhefte)

Kinderfilminformationen:

<http://www.kinderfilmwelt.de>

<http://www.top-videonews.de>

<http://www.kinderfilm-gmbh.de>

Deutsches Fernsehen in den USA:

<http://www.onlinetvrecorder.com>

Berliner Filmfestivals

<http://www.festiwelt-berlin.de>

# Jack

by Jeremy Gilfor



**There** are certain films that, as you're watching them, you just can't help but think to yourself, "this is a really good film." You don't know why it's having that effect; you just know you're watching a quality piece of cinema. Great acting, cinematography, and story all play into it. But it's not really any of that. Maybe it's none of those things, maybe it's all of them, and maybe the point is that we can't quite put our finger on it: it's just the feeling. All I really know is that *Jack* is like this – it is a quality, quality film.

The film centers on the titular *Jack* and his brother Manuel, latch-key kids with a young and over-stressed mother who puts a huge burden on *Jack* by asking him to take care of his brother. One time *Jack* slips up, and it's off to a children's home for him. The majority of the film then centers on Jack's escape from the home and his subsequent journey to find his mother and reunite their family.

The young Ivo Pietzcker gives a beautiful performance as *Jack*, and Georg Arms is adorable as Manuel, a child with his head in the clouds. The acting in this film is superb, to the point where I forgot I was watching a movie at one point and really felt like a part of their world. And for that to happen in a theatre like the Friedrichstadt-Palast, surrounded by 2,000 people on the second night of Berlinale, is really something.

*Jack* derives its substance from the simple subtleties of life, which is both its triumph and its greatest weakness. The beauty in the small moments, like when *Jack* checks for notes from his mother in the spot where the keys are hidden, is what makes the movie sing. But this also sometimes slows the film down to a near documentary pace. While this does lend the movie a feeling of authenticity, it bogs down the action somewhat. Sure, there are cinematic moments that elicited audible gasps from the audience – I won't spoil them here – but ultimately, by focusing on such a realistic portrait, the final half of the film is a bit scarce on real action. I wanted *Jack* to actually do something. And then I remembered that he's just a kid.

The movie is named *Jack* after the main character, but it could have easily switched titles with another film in the festival: *Boyhood*. *Jack* is a boy, not a man, and in fact, he is let down by every man in his life. And

being a kid, he makes childish decisions and reacts in childish ways, and many of the film's triumphs come from the celebration of this young naïveté. Water gun fights in the park, scarfing sugar packets instead of coffee, drinking a cold glass of chocolate milk poured by your mom – that's what being a kid is all about. And it only makes you feel it more when young *Jack* is forced to grow up that much faster.

I grew up in a similar manner to *Jack* – my mom worked, and so I often took care of my little brother and had to be older than my years. But I never had to go on a journey to find my mom, and the little bit of *Jack* that crept into my mind while watching this film is the same thing that made me call my mom right after and tell her I love her. Because if *Jack* teaches us anything, it's that love from your family is the most important thing there is. ■

Link: <http://www.jack-film.de>

## Jeremy Gilfor

(Science, Technology, and Society, '15) studied in Berlin in the winter quarter of 2014.

## How to come back?

### Tips for recent alumni

The *Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung* offers fellowships for U.S. scientists and scholars:

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de>

The Foreign Policy internship at the American Academy in Berlin is for graduate students in a Public Policy program (a background in US foreign policy and international affairs is preferred):

<http://www.americanacademy.de>

For many years the *Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDS)* has provided internships and practical training opportunities in business, engineering, finance, tourism, IT, media/communications, international relations, the nonprofit sector, German studies, economics, and other fields for up to 12 months. After fusing with the Association for International Practical Training, CDS continues its initiatives under the new name "Cultural Vistas."

<http://www.culturalvistas.org>

"The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals (CBYX) is a fellowship funded by the German Bundestag and US Congress, that annually provides 75 American and 75 German young professionals the opportunity to spend one year in each others' countries, studying, interning, and living with hosts on a cultural immersion program. The program is open to candidates in all career fields who are interested in a year of cultural exchange."

<https://www.cbyx.info>

The *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)* and the German Committee of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE) help individuals find study and research opportunities at all levels as well as internships:

<http://www.daad.de>, <http://www.iaeste.de>

The Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program enables young professionals from the US to spend one year working in their field in Germany:

<http://www.bosch-stiftung.de>

The “Bundeskanzler-Stipendium für Führungskräfte von morgen” scholarship is offered in cooperation with the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung:

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/bundeskanzler-stipendium.html>

The Internationales Parlaments-Stipendium (IPS) lasts five months (March 1 to July 31) and includes meetings, seminars, and an internship with a parliamentarian:

<http://www.bundestag.de/ips>

The German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI) in New York is a governmental initiative to internationalize science and research. It is a clearinghouse providing information on research and funding opportunities for researchers (graduate students, post-docs, etc.) all over Germany and logistical help:

<http://www.germaninnovation.org>

The German-American Fulbright Commission has special programs for U.S. citizens, e.g. grants for teaching assistantships at German high schools:

<http://www.fulbright.de>

The International Cooperative Education (ICE) helps arrange summer jobs and internships:

<http://www.icemenlo.com>

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V. (KAS) provides stipends to German and international graduate students for further education and graduate work, especially for young people who want to become leaders in the fields of politics, business, science, media, and culture: <http://www.kas.de> (Über uns – Abteilungen – Begabtenförderung)

YOUNG GERMANY, a career, education and lifestyle guide, lists institutions offering research scholarships:

<http://www.young-germany.de>

Andreas Bourani

## Auf uns

Wer friert uns diesen Moment ein  
Besser kann es nicht sein  
Denkt an die Tage, die hinter uns liegen  
Wie lang wir Freude und Tränen schon teilen  
Hier geht jeder für jeden durchs Feuer  
Im Regen stehen wir niemals allein  
Und solange unsere Herzen uns steuern  
Wird das auch immer so sein  
Ein Hoch auf das, was vor uns liegt  
Dass es das Beste für uns gibt  
Ein Hoch auf das, was uns vereint  
Auf diese Zeit (Auf diese Zeit)  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf dieses Leben  
Auf den Moment  
Der immer bleibt  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf jetzt und ewig  
Auf einen Tag  
Unendlichkeit  
Wir haben Flügel, schwör'n uns ewige Treue  
Vergeuden uns diesen Tag  
Ein Leben lang ohne Reue  
Vom ersten Schritt bis ins Grab  
Ein Hoch auf das, was vor uns liegt  
Dass es das Beste für uns gibt  
Ein Hoch auf das, was uns vereint  
Auf diese Zeit (Auf diese Zeit)  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf dieses Leben  
Auf den Moment  
Der immer bleibt  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf jetzt und ewig  
Auf einen Tag  
Unendlichkeit (Unendlichkeit)  
Ein Feuerwerk aus Endorphinen  
Ein Feuerwerk zieht durch die Welt  
So viele Lichter sind geblieben  
Ein Augenblick, der uns unsterblich macht  
Unsterblich macht  
Ein Hoch auf das, was vor uns liegt  
Dass es das Beste für uns gibt  
Ein Hoch auf das, was uns vereint  
Auf diese Zeit (Auf diese Zeit)  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf dieses Leben  
Auf den Moment  
Der immer bleibt  
Ein Hoch auf uns (uns)  
Auf jetzt und ewig  
Auf einen Tag  
Unendlichkeit  
Ein Hoch auf uns  
Ein Feuerwerk aus Endorphinen  
Ein Hoch auf uns  
Ein Feuerwerk zieht durch die Welt  
Ein Hoch auf uns  
So viele Lichter sind geblieben  
Auf uns



Interns after the World Cup final at the Fanmeile on the Straße des 17. Juni. L-R: Bryan Lopez, Vivian Ly, Juan Posadas-Castillo, Kimberly Saechao, Sarah Gonzaga, Rebecca Deubler, Jordan Miller.

Andreas Bourani's song from the album "Hey" (2014) accompanied the FIFA World Cup 2014 in Germany. At the same time, with its emphasis on the present, it is considered to be

representative of the Zeitgeist in general. Links: <http://www.bourani.de/landingpages/hey> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg9k-IAM7M8>

# German American Affairs

It is impossible to ignore the fact that Edward Snowden's revelations about the dimensions of NSA activities in Germany, "Handygate" and the discovery of double agents in the German government brought about a serious crisis of US-German relations. The order of the day is not only to regain trust but also to resolve conflicts over policy. The subsequent public debates about Big Data collected by government agencies – in both countries – and by the private sector (e. g. Facebook, Google) brought to light fundamental differences in the assessment of the potential and danger of data collection and data mining on the one hand and of data protection on the other, of security and privacy. Irritated German reactions were fueled not only by disappointment over perceived damage to the "transatlantic friendship," the pillar of Germany's pacification and Western integration after World War II. German reactions were also rooted in a special conception of privacy based on the historical experience of abuse of information, namely lessons drawn from Nazi dictatorship, from surveillance and prosecution by the "Stasi" in Eastern Germany, and, if to a lesser degree, from the (fragile) limitations imposed on data collection in the aftermath of combatting RAF terrorism of the 1970s and broadspread resistance to national census projects of the 1980s in Western Germany. The emphasis on informational self-determination is deduced directly from the constitutional protection of dignity and the right to personality (the latter drawing on ideas that can be traced back as far as Wilhelm von Humboldt): the first article of the *Grundgesetz* proclaims, "Die Würde des Menschen ist unantastbar." – The dignity of man is inviolable. This perspective defends the controversial "right to be forgotten" as well.

In the following, we document a contribution to the problem of balancing security and freedom by two law experts, one from Germany, one from the US, who try to bridge the gap by fostering a better understanding of significant differences in legal traditions and cultures between the two countries: broadly speaking, preventive data protection on one side, pragmatism on the other side. A slightly longer German version of this text was published under the title "Präventiver Datenschutz: Kampf der Kulturen" in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* ([www.faz.net](http://www.faz.net)) where it became part of an ongoing, lively international debate in which Stanford scholars and representatives of Silicon Valley also participated. Following publication of their essay, the authors convened a symposium with German and US experts on "Privacy and Power: A Transatlantic Dialogue in the Shadow of the NSA" at the University of Freiburg. The speakers further elaborated the differing political and legal mindsets and discussed ways out of the current crisis. The talks are accessible at:

[www.korse.uni-freiburg.de/vortraege/copy\\_of\\_pap](http://www.korse.uni-freiburg.de/vortraege/copy_of_pap)

WDJ



## Surveillance and Data Protection in the Conflict between European and American Legal Cultures

by Russel Miller and Ralf Poscher

**The uproar** in Europe over revelations that the NSA has been taping the phones of world leaders, such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, demonstrates that the methods used by America's intelligence services can do serious harm to transatlantic relations. But there is more at issue here than the unacceptable espionage undertaken against Chancellor Merkel. The completely different reactions to Edward Snowden's leaks on opposite sides of the Atlantic reveal that there is hardly another legal issue about which transatlantic attitudes diverge so sharply. Americans and Europeans have altogether different views about privacy and data protection. On one hand, Europeans – and especially Germans – do not understand Americans' seeming indifference toward privacy. On the other hand, Americans do not understand Europeans' outrage over the collection of seemingly meaningless information.

Part of the problem is that many Europeans view a right to informational self-determination as a self-evident part of the liberty that is protected by basic rights. In fact, a right to control the circulation of our personal information might be seen as naïve in light of our social and technological reality. But this is not what the right to informational self-determination is about. There can be no absolute right to dictate and determine our image in the world. Instead, the right to informational self-determination is best understood as reinforcing other interest related to liberty – such as free speech or freedom of assembly – that might be threatened by the power that accompanies the possession of personal information. In this sense, the German right to informational self-determination has an anticipatory character. It anticipates a potential harm resulting from the collection, storage, and use of personal information. The right's anticipatory character is obviously a product of Europeans' experience with totalitarian regimes – not only in Germany – that used the massive collection of personal information to manipulate their citizens. Europeans learned several things from this experience: first, that political authority will seek to misuse personal information; second, that the misuse of personal information can contribute to totalitarianism; and third, that the misuse of personal information by a totalitarian regime cannot be corrected by the political process. Against this backdrop it is easy to understand the European desire to establish preventive legal protections against surveillance and the collection of personal information as a constitutional right.

Americans, in contrast, have not recognized a right to informational self-determination. This is in no small part because the protection against anticipated threats runs counter to the American legal culture and political tradition. Anglo-American pragmatism informs a legal culture that is less oriented toward systematic prevention. Instead, in keeping with the common law tradition, American law develops in response to distinct, actual cases. The common law does not try to regulate potential problems. Rather, problems are addressed by the law when they actually arise. A preventive right to informational self-determination, which provides protection against mere potential harm, does not fit easily with this legal tradition. Accordingly, American data protection law is also more pragmatic and less global. It is oriented toward responding to actual and specific misuses of personal information. This is also a reflection of America's collective experience. Of course, the United States has had its experience with political abuse. But these abuses differ from European experiences in at least two ways. First, they never contributed to a descent into totalitarianism. Second, in many cases, the abuse was corrected by way of the political process. No doubt, this occasionally required the intervention of the courts. Fears, however, over the misuse of personal information are not so deeply-rooted and are tempered at least in part by an historical confidence that such abuses can be politically controlled.

American legal culture's different approach to intelligence abuses is evident in the history that led to the creation of the current legal framework for control and oversight of the American intelligence community. In 1974, Seymour Hersh reported in the *New York Times* on the illegal activities of the CIA, including the poli-

tical misuse of intelligence in attempts to influence election campaigns, for political intrigue, and even for attempts to pressure Martin Luther King, Jr. to commit suicide. These abuses led the Senate to convene an investigative committee. Named after its Chairman, Idaho Senator Frank Church, the "Church Committee" pursued a comprehensive investigation of the Cold War activities of America's intelligence agencies that resulted in a nearly exhaustive and thoroughly uncompromising fourteen-volume report. The Church Committee was the basis for the wide-ranging statutory regime for the control of America's intelligence services that is at the heart of the current debate. One part of this new regime, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), placed these agencies— including the NSA — under the supervision of the judiciary. Even if the FISA Court is a secretive institution, FISA must be understood as a serious system for regulating and holding the intelligence community accountable for its actions. The political reaction to the discovered abuses became the basis for new legal controls.

The different legal cultures in Europe and the United States might also help clarify the different reactions to the latest NSA revelations. From the perspective of the German and European legal understanding, surveillance, data collection, and data storage are themselves an infringement of a preventive constitutional right. From the American perspective, the mere potential misuse is less the concern. Rather, it is much more important that an actual abuse can be demonstrated. With this in mind, the issue is whether — although the NSA can be said to have pursued disproportionate and ill-conceived programs — personal information was manipulated and abused similarly to the kinds of abuse

EANABS 2014:  
An Equally  
Attractive Non-  
Attired Alter-  
native? Varosha/  
Famagusta – Will  
Trip to Cyprus in  
Winter quarter.





Potsdamer Platz,  
Berlin.

Kimberly Saechao at  
the East Side Gallery.  
During the summer  
she did linguistic  
research at the In-  
stitut für deutsche  
und niederländische  
Philologie of the  
Freie Universität  
Berlin.



discovered by the Church Committee. Surely the reaction in the United States would be different if it were discovered that the NSA programs were being used to politically undermine the Tea Party movement or had been used to influence an election campaign. Even in these circumstances, in the first instance, the reaction would be directed toward the political process.

Our description of these legal-cultural differences has two consequences for Europeans. First, Europeans cannot expect that mere appeals to an anticipatory, systematic right to informational self-determination will have an effect. If Americans are to be stirred, then Europeans must be prepared to point out pragmatic consequences for transatlantic relations. The American political system is more likely to react to material disadvantages, as seems to be the case with the newly emerging calls for Congressional review and oversight of the intelligence community in response to the political damages caused by monitoring Chancellor Merkel's phone. Second, Europeans cannot simply import their broader project of achieving legal harmonization through the European Union into their negotiations with Americans over this controversy. Europeans must reflect on their implicit expectation of legal harmonization when pursuing this urgent and important debate over data protection with their American partners. The differences evident between the two sides have their roots in distinct legal traditions. Understanding this distinction and not merely wishing it away will be a key to Europe's successful engagement with the issue. Agreement, for example, might emerge around calls for the greatest possible legal commitment to transparency in the collection of data and its use. This might satisfy both the European urge for some legal structure while increasing the chances for a political check that fits better with the American approach. ■

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Courtesy of the authors.



The cherry garden at Stanford in Berlin.

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