

Biographies

Stefan Esselborn is a PhD student with the University of Munich (LMU) and the Rachel Carson Center's doctoral program "Environment and Society". He was awarded a BA in history from the Université Paris IV – La Sorbonne in 2005 and an MA in history and political science from the LMU in 2009. He worked as a Research Assistant at the Rachel Carson Center from 2009 to 2010, starting work on his doctoral thesis. This thesis deals with the emergence of an "Africanist" social science, late and postcolonial development policies, and questions of transnational and transcultural knowledge transfer and translation through the lens of the history of the International African Institute (IAI), founded in 1925 in London. He currently holds a dissertation fellowship from the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, and has been awarded research grants by the German Historical Institute in London and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD).

Karena Kalmbach started her research on Chernobyl in 2008. As a scholar at the École Normale Supérieure Paris, she wrote her master's thesis on the "French debate on the impact of Chernobyl"; the thesis was later published as a book in 2011 under the title "Tschernobyl und Frankreich" ("Chernobyl and France"). After receiving her MA in history, political science and communication science in 2009 from the Free University of Berlin, Kalmbach continued her work on Chernobyl at the European University Institute in Florence. For her PhD dissertation she is conducting a comparative study on the debates concerning the health impact of Chernobyl in France and Great Britain, as well as a study on the transnational history of Chernobyl debates in Europe. Her research deals with the question of how national nuclear politics have influenced the debate on the health effects of the accident in the respective countries (and vice versa) and how the commemoration of the accident has been used to underpin political arguments. Recently, Kalmbach was a visiting researcher at the Center for Science, Technology, Medicine, and Society at UC Berkeley.

Timothy James LeCain is an associate professor of history at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. His 2009 book, *Mass Destruction: The Men and Giant Mines that Wired America and Scarred the Planet* (Rutgers University Press, 2009), won the 2010 George Perkins Marsh Prize, an award conferred by the American Society for Environmental History for the best book in environmental history. In 2010, he was appointed a Senior Research Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, a European center for the academic study of environmental history and the history of technology, where he was in residence from 2011 to 2012.

Professor LeCain has published numerous academic articles, book chapters, and book reviews in academic journals and popular venues, and he is currently completing work on two new books. He is an active member of the American Society for Environmental History and the Society for the History of Technology, and he has given more than two-dozen conference presentations in both domestic and international venues, including invited presentations in Germany, South Africa, England, and Chile. In 2003, he was awarded a major and highly competitive \$306,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a comparative environmental history of American and Japanese copper mining in cooperation with his colleague, Professor Brett Walker. At MSU he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in American history, environmental history, and the history of technology.

Jeannette Prochnow is a sociologist with an interest in the analysis of interaction and communication, discourse analysis, and the sociology of knowledge. She has worked on post-socialism and the transition process. Her current research deals with the production and dispersion of energy-political knowledge, with a special focus on the German-Russian cooperation on the natural gas market. In 2012 she received her PhD from the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology at the University of Bielefeld. The revised dissertation “Erinnern als Interaktion - Die Gemeinschaft ostdeutscher Trassenerbauer im Transformationsprozess“ (“Memory as Interaction: The community of East-German Pipeline labourers in the transition process”) will be published in 2014. The monograph studies community building practices of pipeline workers from the former GDR after their return from the working sites in Russia and Ukraine to Germany. The thesis offers a critique of the concept of memory as a narrative and introduces an interactional approach to commemorative communities. Prochnow received her MA in Cultural Anthropology from Georg-August-Universität Göttingen in 2005 with a thesis on the impact of national symbolism for Slovakia’s accession to the European Union. Her doctoral studies were funded by an Excellence Initiative Scholarship, provided by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). In the academic year of 2008/2009 she was a Marie Curie Fellow at the Institute of Ethnology at the Slovak Academy of Sciences. Since April 2012 she has been a lecturer at the Faculty of Sociology at the University of Bielefeld.

Joachim Radkau spent most of his career at Bielefeld University, retiring in 2009. He wrote his dissertation on German refugees after 1933, a work subsequently published as *Die deutsche Emigration in den USA* (“German Emigration to the USA”). Since then, he has written on the history of nuclear technology, the connections between forest history and technology, and the history of psychology. He has also written a major biography of Max Weber. Among other notable breakthroughs, he contested the argument that a “wood famine” in the eighteenth century led Germans to switch to coal for the generation of energy. His writings on nuclear technology were highly influential during the 1980s, par-

ticularly in the aftermath of Chernobyl, when he published articles assessing the risk of a similar accident in Germany. His latest book, *The Age of Ecology*, will be published in November.

Richard Roscoe is one of only a handful of photographers around the world specializing in volcanoes. He studied biological sciences at the University of Leicester in England, following this with a PhD in microbial genetics. He currently works in Munich as a patent examiner. He has contributed to publications in the field of volcanology, and his photography has featured in numerous magazines, as well as in an exhibition at the Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte in Halle entitled “Pompeii – Nola – Herculaneum, Katastrophen am Vesuv” (09.12.2011-08.06.2012). His work was recently exhibited at the Rachel Carson Center.

Frank Uekötter is Reader in Environmental Humanities at the University of Birmingham (UK) and director of the “Environment and Memory” project at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich, Germany. After studying history, political science and the social sciences in Freiburg, Bielefeld, Baltimore (Johns Hopkins University), and Pittsburgh (Carnegie Mellon University), he received his PhD from Bielefeld University in 2001. He moved to Munich in 2006, where he worked at the Research Institute of the Deutsches Museum, taught at the Ludwig Maximilians University, and served as deputy director of the Rachel Carson Center from 2008 to 2011. His interests include the history of environmentalism, resource history, and memory studies in a global context.

Anna-Katharina Wöbse works as a freelance environmental historian in Bremen, Germany. She earned her PhD at the University of Bielefeld in 2011 and has published extensively on media and the environment, human-animal relations, and the history of environmental diplomacy. Her book *Weltnaturschutz, Umwelt-diplomatie in Völkerbund und Vereinten Nationen 1920-1920* (published in 2012) explores the role of the League of Nations and the United Nations in the making of global environmental regimes. Currently, she is co-editing a book on the history of the Hohe Tauern National Park in Austria and is involved in a research project on the international history of the Wadden Sea National Park.