



CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN GERMANS AND AMERICANS AFTER WORLD WAR II

**NEW PERSPECTIVES ON
REEDUCATION, REORIENTATION, AMERICANIZATION
(1945-1965)**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 18-19, 2010**



This conference is made possible by the generous support through the funds of the **Dr. German-Schweiger-Spende** (Erlangen) as well as the following institutions:





CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN GERMANS AND AMERICANS AFTER WORLD WAR II:

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON REEDUCATION, REORIENTATION, AMERICANIZATION (1945-1965)

On June 18, 1945, Erlangen was the site of a very special premiere: films distributed by the US-American military government to 're-educate' the Germans after World War II were screened and presented to a German audience for the first time. Commemorating this anniversary, we will re-examine the post-war reeducation and reorientation periods and their aftermath.

The 'successful' reeducation of (West)Germany is still frequently cited as a paradigmatic model for current American democratization efforts in occupied territories or contested global hot spots. Against such simplified public notions, we will look in detail at processes of reeducation, reorientation, and Americanization in Germany after World War II by analyzing films, literature, institutions, intellectual discussions and theoretical paradigms of and about this period. A host of German and US-American scholars will present their research on matters of post-war German intellectual, social and cultural history and will re-examine the cultural work of reeducation and its repercussions.

Conference Organizers:

Katharina Gerund, gerund@phil-fak.uni-duesseldorf.de
Heike Paul, Heike.Paul@amer.phil.uni-erlangen.de

PROGRAM

Friday, June 18

1.30 pm	Registration
2.00 pm	Conference Opening Introduction by Katharina Gerund (Düsseldorf) & Heike Paul (Erlangen) Greeting by Kathryn T. Crockart, Consul for Public Affairs, U.S. Consulate General Munich
	Panel I Chair: Harald Zapf (Erlangen)
2.30-3.30 pm	Werner Sollors (Harvard) Dilemmas of Reeducation: Karl Loewenstein, Carl Schmitt, Military Occupation, and Militant Democracy
3.30-4.00 pm	Coffee Break
4.00-5.00 pm	Jennifer Fay (Michigan State) Pynchon and Cinema: Or, Reeducation IS Rocket Science
5.00-5.30 pm	Coffee Break
5.30-6.30 pm	Rüdiger Kunow (Potsdam) Mission Possible?: Strategies of Cultural Conversion
7.00 pm	Reception at Glockenlichtspiele, Theater Erlangen
8.30 pm	Film Screening at Lamm-Lichtspiele Introduction by Heiner Roß (Hamburg)

Saturday, June 19

Panel II

Chair: Rainer Huhle (Nürnberg)

10.00-11.00 am	Frank Mehring (FU Berlin) Cultural Diplomacy, Re-Education, and States of Fantasy: Audio-Visual Strategies of the Marshall Plan Film Program
11.00-11.30 am	Coffee Break
11.30am-12.30 pm	Jeanpaul Goergen (Berlin/Hamburg) Visions of Europe in American Informational Film after World War II
12.30 pm	Lunch Break

Panel III

Chair: Herbert Sirois (Erlangen)

2.00-3.00 pm	Philipp Baur (Augsburg) Postwar Germany through the Eyes of CARE
3.00-3.30 pm	Coffee Break
3.30-4.30 pm	Petra Goedde (Temple) Hybrid Cultures: Germans and Americans after World War II
4.30-5.00 pm	Coffee Break
5.00-6.00 pm	Reinhild Kreis (Augsburg) After the American "Kulturoffensive": America Houses and the Long-Term Effects of U.S. Reeducation Programs in West Germany
7.00 pm	Conference Dinner Restaurant Altmann's Stube, Theaterplatz 9

Sunday, June 20

9.45 am	Trip to Faber-Castell Castle, Stein
---------	--

Conference Venue:

Senatssaal im Kollegienhaus, Universitätsstr. 15, 91054 Erlangen

Conference Cellphone:

Katharina: +49 (0)162-3002108

