



HAUS National Annual meeting in  
Snowbird: A group with a view.

Dear Heidelberg Alumni,

As we approach the holiday season, we realize that we have much to be thankful for, including all of you – your ideas, your energy, your generosity and your commitment to Heidelberg University inspire us. Read on to find examples and, perhaps, your own inspiration. We awarded our 4<sup>th</sup> HAUS scholarship this fall and our Patenprogramm for newly enrolled students is off to a resounding start. Regional Chapters and individuals continue to shine with their creativity. And last but not least, the University's Zukunft Stiften fundraising campaign moves into its 2<sup>nd</sup> year and we are humbled by the generosity of so many alumni. Thank you!

Be sure to mark your calendar! We will celebrate Heidelberg Alumni International's (HAI) 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary together with Heidelberg University's 630<sup>th</sup> birthday the weekend of 14–17 July 2016 in Heidelberg! We will hold our 9<sup>th</sup> HAUS Annual Meeting there in conjunction with the festivities along the Neckar. It's not too early to start thinking about travel and lodging arrangements.

We send you warm wishes for a joyful and peaceful holiday season,

Kathleen Lance

Irmintraud »Jimmie« Jost

## HAUS SOCIAL MEDIA

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on Social Media

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Publisher:  
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Heidelberg University Association  
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Sun and Fun in Snowbird

Let's Celebrate!

Danke für die Zukunft

Patenprogramm Successful

HAUS Scholarship Awarded

HAUS Regional Events from Coast to Coast

Hails & Farewells

Leute von Heute



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The HAUS hikers cleaned up nicely for the evening affair: Kathleen Lance (left) and Karin Harmon.  
© Reiner Ams

## SUN AND FUN IN SNOWBIRD

Heidelberg alumni, friends, and family members from 15 states and from Heidelberg gathered on a sunny, fall weekend at the scenic Snowbird resort outside Salt Lake City, UT for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual HAUS National Meeting. The weekend was kicked off with a reception and dinner for new and old friends to get (re)acquainted. Many were delighted by the unexpected guests at breakfast the next morning: a moose family grazing outside the lodge. President Eitel's morning presentation focused on the latest developments at the University, including new construction, renovation projects and the Zukunft Stiften fundraising campaign. On Saturday afternoon, alumni took the tram up to 11,000 feet for breathtaking vistas and a 6-mile hike back down to the lodge. Along the way, Dr. Eitel (whose field of study is geography) explained the history of the Rocky Mountains and the formations we were looking at. Once back in the valley, a few hearty souls sought refreshment at the local Oktoberfest, zum Wohl! Dr. Wilfried Mausbach, Executive Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, presented the evening's keynote address: »I Spy, You Spy, We all Spy«, an overview of east-west espionage, sprinkled with illuminating details. The National Meeting gave participants the opportunity to reminisce, to exchange ideas for regional/local activities, to learn about the West's geology and to make new friends. Thanks again to Martina Barnes, our »Frau vor Ort«, for scoping out the accommodations and making logistics recommendations! For pictures, please see the [HAUS online Pinnwand](#).

## LET'S CELEBRATE!

There is ample reason to travel to Heidelberg in the summer of 2016: Heidelberg Alumni International (HAI) will mark its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Heidelberg University is rejoicing in its 630 year history. Both milestones will be celebrated during the long weekend of July 14–17. To top things off, HAUS is planning on holding its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting during that time in Heidelberg. Highlight of the event line-up is the Jubiläumsfest/Anniversary Ball on Saturday. As alumni tradition requires, there will be a boat tour on the Neckar and plenty of opportunities to meet old friends and make new ones among the many former Heidelbergers planning to attend from around the world. As during the last anniversary in 2011, HAUS is counting on you to again build the largest constituency among the international alumni clubs attending. The first HAUS members have already booked their hotel rooms. Recommended **accommodations** are listed on the HAI webpage. The link will also keep you up to date on the many activities planned on and around that anniversary weekend. It is not too early to look into flights since July is a major travel month. We look forward to celebrating with you in Heidelberg in 2016!



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## DANKE FÜR DIE ZUKUNFT

A heartfelt »Dankeschön« to those of you who donated so generously to the Heidelberg University campaign ZUKUNFT STIFTEN in the first 12 months since its launch! The annual Campaign Brochure is being printed honoring donors and the names of alumni who gave in excess of \$1000 have been recognized in a special installation in the Alte Universität. As the endowment campaign enters its second year, we would like to invite you to join us, once again, in supporting our alma mater. Please look out for our letter in your mail box.

## PATENPROGRAMM SUCCESSFUL

Thank you to all alumni who volunteered to serve as a Big Brother or Big Sister to new students starting their studies in Heidelberg this fall. A total of 46 alumni who have »been there, done that« offered to provide practical advice, tips on life in Heidelberg or even just a friendly shoulder to lean on to the young students beginning their newest academic adventure. Through this Patenprogramm we matched 32 newly registered students with alumni by their field of study and personal interests so it would be easier for them to hit it off right away.

## HAUS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The 2015-16 HAUS Scholarship was awarded to Cameron Croft, a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. Cameron has been accepted into the Master's program in Molecular and Cellular Biology at Heidelberg University. »I have chosen to study at Heidelberg University for its excellence in top-level research for life sciences«, said Cameron. He is thinking about staying on in Heidelberg to work on his PhD or to study medicine. His long-term goal is to pursue a career in medical and biomedical research. Thank you to all alumni who donated to the HAUS Scholarship fund!



President Eitel (right) presented  
Cameron Croft with the HAUS  
Scholarship 2015/2016.



HAUS Trivia-Experts won second  
place.

## HAUS REGIONAL EVENTS FROM COAST TO COAST

### Washington D.C.

HAUS D.C. Co-Chairs Paul Heimer and Robin »Robo« Weis planned an evening of friendly trivia competition on September 28 in downtown Washington: D.C. HAUS members – supported by a visiting John Dillon from Chicago – formed a team to compete in the Lucky Bar's »WorldQuest« Trivia Night. The questions tested knowledge of current affairs, world leaders, geography, recent history, flags, international organizations, countries, regions, the world economy, culture, religion, and more. The HAUS team came in second. Congratulations!



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Robin Weis (left) moderated the discussion in D.C. with Karen Donfried and Ansgar Graw. © Erin Kelly



HAUS member in New York met for a cocktail hour at sunset.

»The Reluctant Leader? Germany and the Future of Europe« was the topic for the much anticipated panel discussion with Dr. Karen Donfried, President, German Marshall Fund of the United States. The Heidelberg alumna was joined on November 12 by Ansgar Graw, U.S. Correspondent, Die Welt, and Dr. Thomas Zielke, Representative of German Industry and Trade. The discussion at the German Marshall Fund on Germany's current role in the international arena was moderated by HAUS DC Co-Chair Robin Tim Weis.

### Boston

Alumni and friends in Boston were invited to join fellow HAUS member Jason Hurwitz at the World Premier of his first movie, »The Dog Wedding«, on September 21, 2015. The lighthearted film, which Jason wrote and produced, follows a German businesswoman sent to Arizona to close a pickle factory. She falls for an American wrestler, testing her lifelong obedience to her CEO/father. In 1992, Jason B. Hurwitz spent part of his Junior Year in Heidelberg. Prior to following his creative ambitions, Jason enjoyed a successful 15-year career as a private equity investor.

Music-expert Erika Reitshamer offered a behind the scenes view into the world of Richard Wagner and his opera on October 22. Raised and educated in Germany, she was instrumental in founding the Boston Lyric Opera Company and was a long time Vice-President of the Boston Wagner Society. This HAUS-Event, organized by Co-Chair Cornelia Kröger at the Boston Goethe Institut, was co-hosted by GAIN/GSO and generously sponsored by the German Consulate General.

### New York

Great location, great company, and great conversations describe the HAUS Chapter New York gathering on August 11. Alumni met for a casual cocktail hour at a Manhattan rooftop lounge where all enjoyed reconnecting with HAUS-friends and getting to know alumni who joined for the first time. The gorgeous sunset made for a perfect backdrop amid the scenic Empire State Building and Manhattan skyline. Heidelberg Alumni can find event pictures on the [HAUS website](#).

New York alumni had the chance to attend two events organized by the Heidelberg University Association. The first one, co-sponsored by the American Council on Germany, featured Jagoda Marinić, Founding Director of the Intercultural Center, Heidelberg. She opened a timely and lively discussion about »The American Dream – A Dream Turned German: Refugees, Migration, Integration, Citizenship«. Thank you to New York Co-Chair Nina Brandt for organizing the location, the Lexington's Lounge.



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Stress and the City: New York Consul General Brita Wagener, Irmintraud Jost, Prof. Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg (from left). © Nathalie Schueller



Siegfried Ruppert (right) hosted HAUS members in San Francisco.

The second event, »Stress and the City«, was co-hosted on November 2<sup>nd</sup> by the German Center for Research and Innovation. Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg, Heidelberg Professor and Director of the Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, explained how city living negatively impacts the human brain. The absence of close and dependable social networks is partly to blame. Co-panelist and Columbia University Professor Andrew Rundle showed ways on how neighborhoods can be designed in more human ways to lessen the impact. The presentations at the German House were followed by a passionate discussion, moderated by Heidelberg University Association's Executive Director Irmintraud Jost.

### Northern California

Siegfried Ruppert, Regional Chair of HAUS Northern California, hosted a gathering in June at his lovely home in the beautiful St. Francis Wood neighborhood of San Francisco. »Out-of-towners« Kathleen Lance (Denver) and Robert Fenstermacher (New York) joined the local alumni over a wonderful selection of assorted foods and California red wine. Attendees discussed what it was like to study in Heidelberg in the years immediately following World War II, as well as the activities of the German-American community in the Bay area. While 9,191 km away, all felt as if they were at a Stammtisch at Zum Roten Ochsen in Heidelberg. Please click [here](#) for pictures.

Prof. Detlef Junker, Founding Director of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, spoke on November 5 about »The Widening Atlantic: Market Gap, War Gap, God Gap«, a lecture on the growing differences between the U.S. and Europe and the values and political structures that shaped both sides of the Atlantic. The event at the San Francisco offices of the law firm Duane Morris was co-sponsored by the American Council on Germany.

### New Orleans

HAUS New Orleans/Baton Rouge caught football fever during the Women's World Cup tournament. Regional Chair André Clouatre invited the chapter to join him to watch the Germany vs. Ivory Coast match at the Londoner Pub & Grill in Baton Rouge. They met again to watch the quarter finals as the German and US women advanced. Germany eventually placed fourth, with Team USA winning the championship.

### HAILS & FAREWELLS

Welcome to new HAUS Chapter Co-Chairs Robin Tim »Robo« Weis and Paul Heimer for the Washington D.C. area. They fill the shoes of outgoing Co-Chairs, Stephanie Cabell and Susan Alexander. We welcome Elizabeth Fels as Regional Co-Chair in Boston. She joined Cornelia Kröger and Noah Malgeri, who is moving to the other coast. Thank you to John Barber (Seattle), who rotated out of the Leadership Committee after serving for two terms. Stephanie Cabell (D.C.) and John Dillon (Chicago) joined the HAUS Leadership Committee. Welcome!



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The first official HAUS couple:  
John and Audra.

*Please let us know if you have  
information to include in the  
next HAUS-Blatt. We would  
like to share your news!*

## LEUTE VON HEUTE

**Prof. Dr. Thomas Bortfeld**, Chief, Division of Medical Physics at Massachusetts General Hospital and Professor of Radiation Oncology at Harvard Medical School, has been awarded the Alfred-Breit-Preis 2016. The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Radioonkologie (DEGRO) honored the Heidelberg alumnus for his work in developing new procedures and application in the field of radiation therapy. The award is only presented for scientific research that made noticeable progress in cancer therapy. Congratulations! Dr. Bortfeld pledged to donate the 20,000 Euro prize money to Heidelberg University. Thank you so much for this very generous gift!

Congratulations to **Michael McMahon**. The Heidelberg alumnus and member of the Heidelberg University Association's Advisory Council was just elected District Attorney in New York's borough of Staten Island. Michael McMahon, a former member of the House of Representatives, promised to build the District Attorney's office »on principles of Justice, Integrity, and Fairness«.

You never know what happens when you attend a HAUS meeting: Heidelberg alumni **John Barber** and **Audra Giese** met at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Meeting in San Francisco in 2009. They exchanged phone numbers and have been texting each other constantly ever since. Along the way they fell in love, endured a long distance coast-to-coast relationship, got engaged in San Francisco in 2013 and finally got married this June. Their honeymoon took them to Heidelberg of course. John had been a member of the Leadership Committee for the last six years and Audra is the HAUS Regional Co-Chair in the Pacific Northwest. Our best wishes to the first official HAUS-couple!

Groundbreaking News from Heidelberg: Alumnus **Dr. Henry Jarecki** in October officially gave the go-ahead for the SkyAngle, the Max-Jarecki-Foundation's second building in the Bahnstadt. Like the first building SkyLabs, SkyAngle will hosts laboratories and offices, mostly of science related organizations and companies. Through his investment, Henry Jarecki, Ehrensenator and Member of the Heidelberg University Association's Advisor Council in New York, wants to support entrepreneurship and innovation.

Heidelberg Alumnus **Prof. Dr. Frederick A. Lubich** published *Transatlantische Auswanderergeschichten: Reflexionen und Reminiszenzen aus drei Generationen*. The work features Lubich's own impression of Heidelberg, as well as an interview with Auma Obama who fondly remembers Heidelberg as »Paradies des Lernens« and enjoyed her many walks on the Philosophenweg. You can order the book [here](#). Frederick Lubich passed his Staatsexamen in German and English studies at Heidelberg University in 1977. He subsequently taught at numerous colleges and universities in the U.S. and is currently on the faculty of Old Dominion University in Virginia.