



Dear HAUS Member,

We hope this issue finds you feeling strong and healthy. In both the U.S. and Germany, we all find ourselves amidst one of the strangest and most turbulent times in recent history. COVID-19 has had an intense impact on people and institutions all over the world, including Heidelberg University and its alumni, and the situation evolves daily.

Back on campus, Heidelberg University has measures in place to keep students, faculty, and staff safe. You can read the details [here](#). Here in the U.S., the staff in New York has been working from home for several weeks and HAUS leadership will not be organizing events for the time being. We hope that you will continue to engage with us through this newsletter and on social media.

Despite these dark times, we hope that we can inject some light into your day. In this issue of the HAUS Blatt, you will see reports of events in the recent months, including the 12<sup>th</sup> HAUS National Meeting. We will also meet some new faces and bid farewell to others.

Applications for our alumni-supported scholarships are open. The links are below and include opportunities for the Heidelberg University International Summer School of German Language and Culture, as well as for the HAUS Scholarship, which funds a semester of study at Heidelberg University at the Bachelor's or Master's level starting Winter Semester 2020. We will continue to collect applications for scholarships but recognize that international travel may not be possible by August or the start of the Winter Semester 2020.

We had planned to announce the date and location of the 13<sup>th</sup> HAUS National Meeting in this issue. It is with a heavy heart that we announce instead that the meeting will not take place in October in Austin, TX as planned. Due to the uncertainty that lies in the coming months and out of concern for our members' safety, we felt it best not to convene in person at this time.

Not meeting in person doesn't mean that we won't see each other. We are working on a virtual national meeting format that will connect us over the distance and leave us excited for HAI's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Heidelberg next summer. Thus, please still mark your calendars for October 2-4 for the HAUS Virtual National Meeting and keep an eye on HAI.net, HAUS social media, and your inboxes for invitations to other virtual HAUS events in the coming weeks and months.

The days ahead will be uncertain, but we want you to know that our community is still strong.

Wishing you health and patience,

Schöne Grüße

  
Kathleen Lance  
HAUS President

  
Amanda Daquila  
Executive Director

News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

## HAUS SOCIAL MEDIA

Please join and follow HAUS on Social Media

facebook:

[Heidelberg Alumni HAUS](#)

Twitter:

[@HeidelbergHAUS](#)

LinkedIn:

[Heidelberg Alumni U.S. \(HAUS\)/LinkedIn](#)



News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

## NEWS FROM HEIDELBERG



### Vice-Rector International Affairs

On October 1, 2019, Heidelberg University welcomed a new Vice-Rector International Affairs, Prof. Dr. Marc-Philippe Weller. Prof. Weller studied law at Heidelberg University, as well as in Montpellier, France. Following his *Staatsexamen*, he completed his *Promotion* in Heidelberg and his *Habilitation* at the University of Cologne. Besides teaching at Heidelberg University, he has also taught at the University of Freiburg. Prof. Weller has served as the Director of the *Institut für internationales und ausländisches*

*Privat- und Wirtschaftsrecht* since 2014. He has completed guest professorships around the world, including in the U.S., France, Austria, and Taiwan. You can read more about Prof. Weller [here](#).

By virtue of his role as Vice-Rector International Affairs, Prof. Weller also serves on the board of Heidelberg University Association. Since starting his term as Vice-Rector International Affairs, Prof. Weller has been active in HAUS activities in the U.S. and has already crossed the Atlantic twice. We welcome Prof. Weller *ganz herzlich* to the HAUS community and look forward to our continued collaboration!

Of course, welcoming a new Vice-Rector means saying goodbye to the previous Vice-Rector, Prof. Dr. Dieter Heermann. We would like to thank Prof. Heermann for his years of engagement and service to the HAUS community.

## ALUMNI EVENTS

### HAUS National Meeting 2019

Last year our alumni from all over the U.S. went west to meet in sunny San Diego, CA for the 12<sup>th</sup> HAUS National Meeting.

The weekend started in a casual setting at Soda and Swine with hearty meatballs and cozy fire tables. Our new Executive Director, Amanda Daquila, and new Program Assistant, Melanie Grossmann, welcomed the guests together with HAUS President, Kathleen Lance, and Director of Heidelberg Alumni International, Silke Rodenberg. Amanda and Melanie finally had the chance to meet in person with alumni and Kathleen, and we could not have been happier with the kickoff to the weekend.

On Saturday morning, the official meeting took place at the modern facilities at Duane Morris. A big thank you to our gracious host, alumnus Eberhard Röhm. Kathleen Lance opened the meeting by remembering the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall





News from Heidelberg

**Alumni Events**

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities



of the Berlin Wall and presenting the HAUS annual report. After an official round of introductions, which led into a lively conversation about the *Deutscher Herbst*, Amanda Daquila reviewed the recently conducted alumni survey and latest HAUS Scholarship recipients. Despite a challenging Lufthansa strike, Prof. Dr. Marc-Phillipe Weller was able to join our meeting and gave a detailed overview of new events happening in Heidelberg, including plans for the 4EU+. He also gave a promising outlook of the 2021 HAI Celebrations in Heidelberg.

Silke Rodenberg concluded the official part of the meeting with a statistical overview of the latest HAI updates and by reviewing options to be part of the HAI and HAUS networks. The last big announcement of this day was the location of the next and 13<sup>th</sup> National Meeting: Austin, Texas.

In the afternoon, an excursion to Coronado Island via ferry was on the itinerary. The weather and views were glorious, and it was the perfect setting for a stroll to the famous Coronado Island Hotel, with stops at the local ice cream shops and coffee houses.

The best part was yet to come: a reception and dinner at Tom Ham's Lighthouse with a private terrace overlooking the bay and San Diego's magnificent skyline. Here we have to say a big "thank you" to Styles Sass, Assistant Director of American Junior Year at Heidelberg University (AJY), who offered opening remarks, as well as to AJY, who generously sponsored the welcome reception. After dinner Mr. Pedro Rios, Director of the American Friends Service Committee US/Mexico Border Program, shared his experiences during an interview style Q&A conducted by Amanda Daquila. Mr. Rios' passion and stories were deeply moving and we would have loved to hear more. Thank you to Mr. Rios for taking the time to join us.

The weekend wrapped up on Sunday morning with a delightful brunch at The Cosmopolitan Hotel, where our alumni enjoyed brunch surrounded by the staff in traditional costumes in an authentic West Coast setting.

Thank you again to everyone who was able to attend!

*From report by Melanie Grossmann*



News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

## 2019 Regional Alumni Events

### Southern California

In October, the Southern California chapter of HAUS was quite active. They enjoyed an Oktoberfest gathering at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim. The festive evening included live music from the Odenwälder Dirndljäger from Germany, *Schuhplattler* demonstrations including the traditional whip dance, and a lot of excellent German food. As the first-ever joint meeting between Heidelberg University and University of Hamburg alumni in southern California, HAUS members and friends were able to meet new Germanophiles as well as renew old acquaintances. A fun time was had by all and the two alumni groups plan to get together again in the coming months.



The Southern California chapter of HAUS also hosted an outing to Hollywood in October. The evening began with dinner at the historic Musso and Frank Grill, a Hollywood tradition since 1919. Attendees enjoyed a wonderful meal while reminiscing about experiences and travels in Germany. The group then walked across the street to experience the opening night of the 13<sup>th</sup> annual "German Currents Film Festival" at the Egyptian Theater. After a welcome from Goethe Institute and the German Consul General in Los Angeles, Stefan Schneider, we watched the LA premiere of the movie "Gundermann", a fascinating study of the life of the East German singer/songwriter Gerhard "Gundi" Gundermann. The movie, in German with English subtitles, was followed by a dialog with the director, Andreas Dresen, and a classy reception outside of the theater, complete with a delicious German buffet. It was the third time

that the Southern California HAUS group participated in this event and we hope even more people can join us on the red carpet next year!

*From report by Diane Guido*



News from Heidelberg

**Alumni Events**

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

**Heidelberg**

The Heidelberg HAUS chapter met for a mid-day Stammtisch in October that coincided with Amanda Daquila's visit to Heidelberg. Current students and old faces alike enjoyed their lunch together in the Marstall Mensa. HAI Deputy Director Jella Friedrich and American Junior Year Resident Director Hanne Heckmann also attended the Stammtisch.



In mid-December, the Heidelberg Chapter met for a *Weihnachtsmarktbummel*. This chapter's meeting had some interesting guests. Due to the nasty weather, the group moved the meeting point inside to the *Alte Uni* entrance, where they happened upon Rektor Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Bernhard Eitel and were able to get a group photo. New York staff member Melanie Grossmann was in town and was also able to join the group. In the end, a visit to the Christmas market would have been too unpleasant due to the weather. The group opted instead for an indoor *Stammtisch* at the *Güldenes Schaf*. There the group had a pleasant evening filled with conversation, food, and drinks, and could still enjoy the warmth of the season.

*From report by Jella Friedrich*





News from Heidelberg

**Alumni Events**

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

## 2020 Regional Alumni Events

### New York Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet

Vice-Rector International Affairs Prof. Dr. Marc-Philippe Weller visited New York in early February. For his first visit to the U.S. liaison office, the New York team organized a happy hour with the New York HAUS chapter. A colorful group of old and new faces came out on a Monday night to meet Prof. Weller, the New York office staff, and Prof.



Weller's Personal Aide, Alix Schulz. Prof. Weller welcomed the group and shared updates from Heidelberg University with everyone. As the evening went on, the group had lively conversations and shared laughs over wine, cheese, and Mediterranean snacks. The owner of the wine bar turned out to be a German speaker, which was a fun surprise. He enjoyed the group so much that he shared his sincere hope for them to return any time. One attendee said it best: "Of all the alumni events I attend, the meetings sponsored by Heidelberg University have the most interesting people. This event reconfirmed that opinion."



### Washington, D.C.

This was my first experience with a HAUS get-together, and I am looking forward to attending and planning so many more! Heidelberg will always hold a special place in my heart, and it was so wonderful to find others to share that with. I learned about the Heidelberg Pastry Shoppe from a colleague of mine. It's been an institution in Arlington for decades, and rightly so. Chef Wolfgang truly made us feel welcome, and it is apparent he puts that kind of passion and care into his work. Even though he had been awake since the night before, he stayed into the late afternoon to talk with us for over an hour. He shared his story of coming to the U.S. and speaking no English, but focused on learning three words a day until he was fluent. Having a passion for his profession means he doesn't consider it work. He involves his family in his business as much as he can, but also encourages them to find their own passions. During the conversation, his wife brought us pretzels fresh from the oven, and we left with homemade chocolates (and of course each of us with more treats from their amazing selections). We are hoping to make a meet-up at Heidelberg Pastry Shoppe a regular occurrence!

*From report by Sarah Rice*



News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

Membership

Opportunities

### Southern California

The Southern California HAUS chapter hosted a get-together at Pasadena's premier German pub, Der Wolf. The well-attended event brought together Heidebergers from several disciplines and from different time periods, prompting lively discussion about their student overseas experiences.

Hosted jointly with the University of Hamburg alumni association, there were also opportunities to share about student life in Hamburg. The group enjoyed some tasty German food and brews in an ambiance of a traditional beer hall. A good time was had by all!



*From report by Diane Guido*

## FUNDRAISING

### ZUKUNFT STIFTEN campaign

The ZUKUNFT STIFTEN campaign came to a close this year. Your generosity through this campaign helped to establish a general endowment and provide security and stability to Heidelberg University.

We wish to extend our deepest, most heartfelt thanks to all of our alumni and friends who contributed to this most recent effort to build the Heidelberg University General Endowment Fund.



### Historic Heart of Heidelberg University campaign

As you may already know, the Historic Heart of Heidelberg University campaign is now underway. The goal of this campaign is to raise funds specifically for the restoration and preservation of the historic buildings and spaces of the Heidelberg University campus. By now you should have received your flyer in the mail. Interested parties can still make donations to this and other campaigns, including the HAUS Scholarship, HAUS General Alumni Activities Fund, and the Heidelberg University General Endowment Fund, at the [donation page](#) on the Heidelberg University Association website.



News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

**Hails and Farewells**

Membership

Opportunities



## HAILS AND FAREWELLS

Heidelberg alum **Dr. Berk Aykut** is currently completing a post-doc at NYU. His research on fungi that may contribute to pancreatic cancer was featured in a **New York Times article**

New York HAUS Chair **Nina Brandt** was recently invited to participate in a panel discussion on the topic of female role models at the “Wer sind deine Vorbilder?” after-work event in Stuttgart. The event was hosted by Global Digital Women and the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, and you can see more in this article and on **YouTube**.

HAUS member **Dr. Henry Lothane** authored a chapter entitled “Lessons Learned” in the new book “The Handbook of Psychoanalytic Holocaust Studies”, published in January 2020.

Ohio HAUS Chair **Dr. Mark Peeples** participated in a panel discussion, which was part of the “Science Meets Oktoberfest” event in Columbus, Ohio. HAUS President **Kathleen Lance** was able to attend and enjoy a beer and a bratwurst with Mark at the networking reception following the panel. This event was part of the “Deutschland Ambassadors” project and funded by the “Wunderbar Together” campaign.

It is *mit einem lachenden und einem weinenden Auge* that we have to report changes in our regional HAUS leadership. Andre Clouatre (New Orleans) and Elizabeth Fels (Boston) have both stepped down from their roles as Regional Chairs. We wish them a sincere “thank you!” for their years of service to the HAUS community and hope that they will continue to be engaged. We also wish a hearty welcome to our two new Regional Chairs, Ludwig Heil in Boston, and Sarah Rice in Washington, D.C. Sarah and Ludwig have already hit the ground running and organized events in 2020. We are excited to have them on board!

### **Have a hail? Something to share? Tell us!**

We know that our alumni are doing a lot of interesting things in the world, but only because you tell us. Please let us know if you have had a recent achievement, visit to Heidelberg, or other event that could be of interest to the HAUS community, and we may choose to share your story on social media or in the next issue of HAUS Blatt.

*Please note that we cannot publish all submissions.*

### **HAUS Scholarships**

We are pleased to announce that the applications for 2020 scholarship opportunities are now open.

Students who will complete a semester of study at the bachelor’s or master’s level may apply for the **HAUS Scholarship** for Winter Semester 2020. Those interested in applying for funding for a language course at the Heidelberg University International Summer School of German Language and Culture can do so **here**.





News from Heidelberg

Alumni Events

Fundraising

Hails and Farewells

**Membership**

**Opportunities**

Please note that while the applications are open, we will only issue scholarships if international travel is safe, and the programs in question are still running. Should it be deemed unsafe to travel, Heidelberg University Association and Heidelberg University may choose instead to defer or cancel a scholarship for 2020.

We are able to make these funding opportunities available by generous donations from the HAUS community. Thank you to everyone who has contributed!

## MEMBERSHIP

### Contact Information Updates

The New York office staff is always updating alumni contact information.

If you move, change your email address, or your phone number, please contact us at [info@heidelberguniversity.org](mailto:info@heidelberguniversity.org).

We have been updating our regional mailing lists. If you used to receive regional emails, but have not received one recently, please contact us.

### Invite your classmates

If you are in touch with any fellow alumni, make sure they know about HAUS by sharing the registration [link](#).

### Follow us on social media

Facebook: [Heidelberg Alumni HAUS](#)

Twitter: [@HeidelbergHAUS](#)

LinkedIn: email [info@heidelberguniversity.org](mailto:info@heidelberguniversity.org) with your request and we will invite you to join the HAUS LinkedIn group

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Social Media Volunteers

If you are interested in expanding your social media skillset, please consider volunteering for the HAUS social media team. It's a great way to give back to HAUS and develop your skills while collaborating with an alumni mentor. Email us [info@heidelberguniversity.org](mailto:info@heidelberguniversity.org) with your resume, links to your social media accounts, and answers to the following questions:

- Why would you like to volunteer for the HAUS social media committee?
- What social media experience do you have to offer?
- Why do you think it's important for HAUS to have an active social media presence?

*Please let us know if you have information to include in the next HAUS-Blatt.*

Publisher:  
Heidelberg Alumni U.S.  
Heidelberg University Association  
871 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

+1 212 758-3324  
[haus@alumni.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:haus@alumni.uni-heidelberg.de)  
[info@HeidelbergUniversity.org](mailto:info@HeidelbergUniversity.org)  
[www.alumni.uni-heidelberg.de/haus](http://www.alumni.uni-heidelberg.de/haus)