

MESEA

**The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies:
Europe and the Americas**

11th Biennial Conference

**“Ethnicity and Kinship:
Interdisciplinary Approaches to Family,
Community, and Difference”**

**Karl Franzens University
Graz, Austria**

May 30–June 2, 2018

Draft Program Version 1.0 13 April 2018



MESEA – The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas

was founded in 1998 in response to the challenge of ethnic studies in a time of increasing globalization to provide an international forum for interdisciplinary discussion on multiethnic studies. The Society promotes the study of the ethnic cultures of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas in their circumatlantic relations from a transdisciplinary literary, historical and cultural studies perspective. The society acts as a forum for cooperation between universities, political institutions, and ethnic communities and supports the scholarly and cultural exchange among them in order to further intercultural understanding. MESEA currently has ca. 200 members from 30 countries.

MESEA holds its biennial conference in the spring, an event that brings together hundreds of international scholars to discuss issues related to these concerns. Conference topics have included: the place of ethnic communities in democratic societies, comparative perspectives on ethnic studies, ethnic lifewritings and histories, questions of migration, sites of ethnicity, and media. These meetings have been held in Heidelberg, Germany (1998); Orleans, France (2000); Padua, Italy (2002); Thessaloniki, Greece (2004); Pamplona, Spain (2006); Leiden, Netherlands (2008); Pécs, Hungary (2010); Barcelona, Spain (2012); Saarbrücken, Germany (2014); and Warsaw, Poland (2016). The meeting is now held in Graz, Austria.

The Association also promotes lively publishing activities. Apart from its journal, *Atlantic Studies/Global Currents*, and the official volume of essays that develop from the conferences, other volumes have been published based on MESEA activities or specific panel sessions at the biennial meetings.

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MESEA 2018 Conference Schedule

Wednesday, 30 May 2018

Meeting of MESEA Officers

18:00 – 20:00

Reception hosted by the City of Graz and Mayor Siegfried Nagl, with Social Event in City Hall, Hauptplatz 1, Graz.

Thursday, 31 May 2018

08:00 – 18:00

Registration/Information Desk

09:00 – 11:00

Parallel Panel Sessions 1

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee

11:30 – 13:30

Parallel Panel Sessions 2

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:30

Parallel Panel Sessions 3

16:30 – 17:00

Coffee

17:00 – 18:15

Keynote Lecture by David L. Eng, University of Pennsylvania
“(Gay) Panic Attack”

Room: *

Introduction: Ewa A. Adamkiewicz, University of Graz

18:30 – 21:00

Opening Ceremony

Room: *

Words of Welcome

Yiorgos Kalogeras, President of MESEA

Representatives of the University of Graz

Silvia Schultermandel, University of Graz

Presentation of the 2018 Young Scholars Excellence Award
Joke Kardux, Vice-President of MESEA

Conference Reception sponsored by the Austrian Student Union ÖH,
University Aula (Universitätsplatz 3)

Friday, 1 June 2018

08:30 – 16:30

Registration/Information Desk

09:00 – 11:00

Parallel Panel Sessions 4

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:45 Keynote Lecture by May Friedman, Ryerson University
“The Body Speaks: Kinship, Representation, and Embodiment”

Introduction: Silvia Schultermandl, University of Graz

Room: *

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch Break
13:45 – 15:45 Parallel Panel Sessions 5

15:45 – 17:00 Keynote Lecture by Daniela Berghahn, University of London, Royal Holloway
“Forging and Severing Family Ties in Diasporic European Cinema”

Introduction: Klaus Rieser, University of Graz

Room: *

17:15 – 18:30 MESEA General Meeting

Saturday, 2 June 2018

08:30 – 16:00 Registration
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 6
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:45 Keynote Lecture by Robert Pichler, University of Graz
“Kinship and Ethnicity in the Balkans: Social Realities, Concepts of Belonging and National Ideologies”

Introduction: Klaus Rieser, University of Graz

Room: *

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch Break
13:45 – 15:45 Parallel Panel Sessions 7

19:00 Optional Conference Dinner, Restaurant Welscher Stub'n,
Schmiedgasse 5-7, 8010 Graz

Information on Keynotes

Keynote Lectures

Wednesday, 30 May 2018

Opening Keynote by David Eng, University of Pennsylvania
“(Gay) Panic Attack”

Abstract:

“(Gay) Panic Attack” presents a series of case histories and commentaries on academically accomplished parachute children, all of whom are male and identify as gay. (The term “parachute children” refers to adolescents and children as young as eight who migrate, often on their own, from different parts of Asia to countries in the West for educational opportunities.) What is striking about their life narratives is not just the self-determination that motivates them but also their common goal of living freely—however they define it—as gay men in the West. Yet, what remains perplexing in nearly every case history of these driven undergraduate and graduate students is the fact that sexuality remains largely tangential to their self-understandings of their psychic predicaments. All sought therapy because of debilitating panic attacks—high levels of anxiety and stress that rendered them incapacitated, depressed, and dissociated. Strikingly, while they view sexual orientation as key factor in their desires to immigrate, they do not regard homophobia—or racism—as significant sites of conflict or related to their panic attacks. What, then, is all the panic about? To answer this question, my talk explores among other things the psychic structures of colorblindness among millennials today.

This talk comes from my book co-authored with New York-based psychotherapist Shinhee Han, *Racial Melancholia, Racial Dissociation: On the Social and Psychic Lives of Asian Americans* (Duke, forthcoming 2018). Our project explores the changing history of the (racial) subject in relation to the subject of (racial) history over the course of twenty years. The spaces of the classroom and clinic have allowed us to witness first-hand the shifting demographics, as well as remarkable psychic transformations, of our Asian American students and patients from Generation X to Generation Y, in an era defined by the politics of colorblindness in U.S. society and by the rise of Asia globally.

David L. Eng is Richard L. Fisher Professor and Graduate Chair of the Department of English at the University of Pennsylvania, USA, where he is also Professor in the Program in Asian American Studies, the Program in Comparative Literature & Literary Theory, and the Program in Gender, Sexuality & Women’s Studies. After receiving his B.A. in English from Columbia University and his Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of California at Berkeley, Eng taught at Columbia and Rutgers before joining Penn. He has held visiting professorships at the University of Bergen (Norway), King’s College London, Harvard University, and the University of Hong Kong. Eng is the recipient of research fellowships from the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, and the Mellon Foundation, among others. In 2016, he was elected an honorary member of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research (IPTAR) in New York City.

Eng is author (with Shinhee Han) of *Racial Melancholia, Racial Dissociation: On the Social and Psychic Lives of Asian Americans* (Duke, forthcoming 2018), *The Feeling of Kinship: Queer Liberalism and the Racialization of Intimacy* (Duke, 2010), and *Racial Castration: Managing Masculinity in Asian America* (Duke, 2001). He is co-editor with David Kazanjian of *Loss: The Politics of Mourning* (California, 2003) and with Alice Y. Hom of *Q & A: Queer in Asian America* (Temple, 1998). In addition, he is co-editor of two special issues of the

journal *Social Text*: with Teemu Ruskola and Shuang Shen, “China and the Human” (2011/2012), and with Jack Halberstam and José Esteban Muñoz, “What’s Queer about Queer Studies Now?” (2005). His current book project, “Reparations and the Human,” investigates the relationship between political and psychic genealogies of reparation in Asia during the Cold War.

Thursday, 31 May 2018

Keynote Lecture by May Friedman, Ryerson University
“The Body Speaks: Kinship, Representation, and Embodiment”

Abstract:

We live in our bodies. Our bodies live in a variety of contexts—in our workplaces, on our commutes, between our sheets, under our clothes. Our bodies engage in code shifting as representations are overlaid on our flesh, creating stories that are partly our own, partly products of our engagements with our environments. The embodied context is keenly intersected with kinship. We use our bodies to convey love, boredom, nourishment, sexuality, rage. We literally blend bodies with others in the context of our sexual and reproductive behaviours. Many of the corporeal experiences of kinship are further engaged with external environments: we love publicly, we parent in full view. What is the affective dimension of this corporeal experience? Put more simply: how do our experiences of our bodies and our families effect our own self-perception and the ways we interact with the world around us?

This talk will seek to untangle the complex interactions between subjects and embodied experiences of kinship. Thinking through ideas about affect, representation, relationality and embodiment, this talk will explore autoethnographic experiences as a stage for unpacking the intersections between kinship, embodiment and representation.

May Friedman’s research looks at unstable identities, including bodies that do not conform to traditional racial and national or aesthetic lines. Most recently much of May’s research has focused on intersectional approaches to fat studies considering the multiple and fluid experiences of both fat oppression and fat activism. May works at Ryerson University as a faculty member in the School of Social Work and in the Ryerson/York graduate program in Communication and Culture. Her first monograph, *Mommyblogs and the Changin Face of Motherhood* (University of Toronto Press 2015) won the Women and Gender Studies et Recherches Feministes Award. Recent publications consider the ways that digital media engages with transnational family formation (*Click and Kin: Transnational Identity and Quick Media*, University of Toronto Press 2016, and *Growing Up Transnational: Identity and Kinship in a Global Era*, University of Toronto Press, 2011, both with Silvia Schultermandl) and the impact of fat shaming on mothers (“Mother Blame, Fat Shame, and Moral Panic,” *Fat Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 2015) May also looks at the ways that non-normative bodies and subjectivities are taken up in the context of popular culture (“Mad/Fat/Diary: Exploring contemporary feminist thought through My Mad Fat Diary,” 2017). May is especially intrigued by reality television.

Keynote Lecture by Daniela Berghahn, University of London, Royal Holloway
“Forging and Severing Family Ties in Diasporic European Cinema”

Abstract:

In this talk I will explore the preponderance of family narratives in contemporary European cinema, proposing that the family functions as a trope of national belonging (McKlintock 1995). As cinema tends to depict social conflicts and transitions indirectly through affective relations in the family, the diasporic

family crystallises the emotionally ambivalent response to growing ethnic diversity in the West. Constructed as ‘Other’ on account of their ethnicity, language and religion, diasporic families are frequently perceived as a threat to the social cohesion of Western societies. Thus filmic narratives about the inclusion or exclusion of diasporic families make significant contributions on contemporary discourses on hospitality and xenophobia.

The figure of the child deserves particular attention in this context. In diasporic cinema, children typically function as the chief driving force behind family migration since parents hope to create a better, more peaceful and more prosperous future for the next generation. The paper will trace two prominent themes: the death of the child and the child’s ability to create elective familial bonds that disavow the significance of natural kinship. Drawing on Marianne Hirsch’s (1999) discussion of children in Holocaust films, I propose that the vulnerable child who dies as a result of hazardous migratory journeys (*Journey of Hope*, dir. Xavier Koller 1991) and honour killings (*When We Leave*, Feo Aladag, 2010) invites multiple projections and identifications and functions as a powerful melodramatic device. Based on the premise that citizenship is often negotiated through kinship, I will examine how children form voluntary affiliations with surrogate fathers (*Tour Abroad*, dir. Ayse Polat, 1999; *Conscious*, dir. Abdellatif Kechiche, 2007; *West is West*, dir. Andy de Emmony, 2011; *Monsieur Ibrahim*, François Dupéron, 2003) that call the legitimacy of the traditional patriarchal family into question and, by implication, advocate forms of post-national belonging (Hollinger 2000), based on consent rather than descent.

Daniela Berghahn is Professor of Film Studies in the Media Arts Department at Royal Holloway, University of London. She is also Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Humanities and Arts Research Institute at Royal Holloway. She has widely published on post-war East and West German cinema, the relationship between film, history and cultural memory and transnational cinema. Her extensive work on migrant and diasporic cinema in Europe has been supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of Great Britain and is documented on the websites www.farflungfamilies.net and www.migrantcinema.net. Her publications include *Head-On* (BFI Film Classics 2015), *Far-Flung Families in Film: The Diasporic Family in Contemporary European Cinema* (Edinburgh UP, 2013), *European Cinema in Motion: Migrant and Diasporic Film in Contemporary Europe* (co-edited with Claudia Sternberg, Palgrave Macmillan, 2010) and *Hollywood Behind the Wall: The Cinema of East Germany* (Manchester UP, 2005). She is currently researching exoticism and encounters with cultural difference in contemporary transnational cinema.

Saturday, 1 June 2018

Keynote Lecture by Robert Pichler, University of Graz

“Kinship and Ethnicity in the Balkans: Social Realities, Concepts of Belonging and National Ideologies”

Abstract:

With regard to the societies of the Balkans, kinship and ethnicity are two outstanding and closely intertwined phenomena. From a historical perspective the Balkan is considered a region of weak institutional penetration. The Church, the state and the manorial system did not profoundly intervene into the social affairs of many people. Correspondingly, familial social forms such as joint family households and kinship groups were widespread and have shaped social life in a sustained manner. Ethnicity, on the other hand, refers to a concept of relationship between groups which consider themselves, and are regarded by others, as being culturally distinctive. The politicization of cultural difference (ethnopolitics) for the sake of altering or reinforcing inequality between ethnic communities has become a defining feature of ethno-national politics ever since the decline of Ottoman rule. On the

one hand, the lecture deals with the relationship between kinship and social organization in different socio-economic and ecological milieus of the Balkans. The second focus is on the processes of political reorganization of the Balkans in the wake of the decline of the Ottoman Empire. Inspired by the French Revolution and the Enlightenment particularly concepts of national romanticism disseminated in the Balkans in which the state derives its political legitimacy as an organic consequence of the unity of those it governs. The lecture deals with intersections, connections and analogies between concepts of kinship, ethnicity and ethnonational belonging, and illustrates the concomitant difficulty of creating a trans-ethnic understanding of citizenship.

Robert Pichler is a senior researcher at the Department for Balkan Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences and a lecturer at the Universities of Vienna and Graz. He is co-editor of the interdisciplinary journal *Contemporary Southeastern Europe* and head of the Center for Balkan Societies and Cultures (CSBSC). He published widely on family and kinship, migration and transnationalism, historiography and history teaching in Macedonia, upland communities in the Balkans and social and political history in Kosovo and Macedonia. 2004 he received together with Wolfgang Petritsch the Bruno Kreisky Award for *Kosovo-Kosova. Der lange Weg zum Krieg (Kosovo-Kosova. The Long Road to War)*, Wieser Publishing House, 2004). As photographer he works at the interface of documentary and art photography. 2011 he received the Holding Graz Photo Award for the series *Nightmares and Nightingales*.

Detailed Program

Thursday, 31 May 2018

08:00 – 18.00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 1

Panel 1.1

Family Networks in Jewish Graphic Narratives

Organizer: Dana Mihăilescu (University of Bucharest)

Chair: Dana Mihăilescu (University of Bucharest)

Room: *

Presenters:

Aleksandra Kamińska (University of Warsaw):

“To fill in the parts that had gone missing:” Memory of the Father in Bernice Eisenstein’s *I Was a Child of Holocaust Survivors*

Dana Mihăilescu (University of Bucharest):

“Family Conduits Shaping Transcultural Memories of the Shoah in Third Generation Graphic Narratives: On Amy Kurzweil’s *Flying Couch* (2016)”

Karolina Krasuska (University of Warsaw):

“Daughters of the Revolution: Julia Alekseyeva’s Soviet Daughter”

Shiamin Kwa (Bryn Mawr College):

“Touching the Past and Post-Memory Family Romance in Emil Ferris’ *My Favorite Thing is Monsters*”

Panel 1.2

Global Humor: Approaches to Multi-Ethnic Stand-up Comedy

Organizer: Raúl Rubio (The New School)

Chair: Raúl Rubio (The New School)

Room: *

Presenters:

Gabriella Maestrini (University of British Columbia):

“Standing up in the Arab Spring: Stand-up Comedy’s role in Social Movement Uprising”

Lei Ping (The New School):

“The Vernacular and Humorous: Reviving Shanghai Haipai Cultural Heritage under Global Capitalism”

Raúl Rubio (The New School):

“Queer Parenthood: Comedic Approaches to Family, Community & Difference”

Laureano Corces (Fairleigh Dickinson University):

“Spanish Comedy: Tracing the Historical, Bumpy Road to Today’s Laughter”

Panel 1.3

Mother(s) of Exiles I: Filiation, Othering, and Imagined Communities

Organizers: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Chairs: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Room: *

Presenters:

Geoffroy de Laforcade (Norfolk State University):

“Race, Community and Kinship: Latino/a and Maghrebi/West African Filial Strategies of Resistance to Nationalist Assimilation in the United States and Europe”

Christopher Hansen (University of Siegen):

“Shifting Sides: Kinship Formation through Othering in the Marvel Cinematic Universe’s Phases 2 and 3”

Michele Rozga (Norfolk State University):

“Male-Centered Imagination in the Films of the Weimar Republic, and the Migration of the Male Gaze to Hollywood”

Cathy M. Jackson (Norfolk State University):

“Go West, Young Men: Teutonic Myths and American Westerns Reinforced the Male Gaze and the Acceptance of Nazism in Germany”

Panel 1.4

Beyond the Cost of Survival: An Epistemological Analysis of the Violence and Trauma of Enslavement

Organizer: Kay Wright Lewis (Howard University)

Chair: Kay Wright Lewis (Howard University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Cassandra Newly-Alexander (Norfolk State University):

“Son, I am not coming here anymore”: Freedom Seekers Sheridan Ford and Clarissa Davis”

Deirdre Cooper Owens (Queens College, CUNY):

“Disruptive History: Examining Separation and Reproductive Health in Slave Families”

Nikki Taylor (Howard University):

“Wounded Bodies; Wounded Spirits: Margaret Garner’s Family as a Site of Collective and Compounded Violence”

Kay Wright Lewis (Howard University):

“Killing Babies”: The Nexus of Exterminatory Violence, Trauma, and Enslavement in the Atlantic World

Panel 1.5

Approaching Native American Family and Kinship

Chair: Angelika Koehler (TU Dresden):

Room:

Presenters:

Alexandra Hauke (University of Passau):

“It’s what we do for family”: Intersectional Approaches to Indigenous Kinship in Sydney Freeland’s *Drunktown’s Finest*

Angelika Koehler (TU Dresden):

“Rewriting Tribal Heritage: The Performative Construction of Kinship in Louise Erdrich’s *LaRose*”

Cristina Stanciu (Virginia Commonwealth University):

“‘Justice by His Child’: Family, Melodrama, and Native Representation in Early Silent Films”

Nassim Balestrini (University of Graz):

“Verbal, Tribal, Familial: Competing Histories of Violence and Kinship in Autobiographical Works by Sherman Alexie and Natasha Trethewey”

Panel 1.6

Families and Kinship with Difference

Chair: Asis De (Mahishadal Raj College):

Room: *

Presenters:

Samir Dayal (Bentley University):

“Of Skin and Kinship: Family, Community, Difference and the Non-White Migrant”

Lita Safrastyan (Yerevan State University):

“A Mansion in the Sky: Rebuilding Homes for Migrating Parents: Portrayal of Pain in Iranian Diasporic Literature”

Frances Grahl (SOAS London):

“Alternative Living Spaces, Alternative Families: Solidarity and New Kinships in the Migrant Home”

Asis De (Mahishadal Raj College):

“Transnational Kinship and ‘Relatedness’ in David Dabydeen’s *The Intended*”

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee

11:30 – 13:30

Parallel Panel Sessions 2

Panel 2.1

Mother(s) of Exiles II: Generational Interweaving and Eth(n)ic Migration

Organizers: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Chair: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Room: *

Presenters:

Cathy Covell Waegner (University of Siegen):

“Generational Doubling as Eth(n)ic Narrative Strategy: Annie Proulx’s *Barkskins* (2016) and Yaa Gyasi’s *Homegoing* (2016)”

Page Laws (Norfolk State University):

“‘What Pain It Was to Drown’: Quotidian Meets Tragic in Gianfranco Rosi’s Immigration Documentary, *Fire at Sea* (2016)”

Patrycja Kurjatto-Renard (Université du Littoral Côte d’Opale):

“Mothers / Lovers of Exiles: Women in Dinaw Mengestu’s *All Our Names*”

László Munteán (Radboud University Nijmegen):

“Fluvial Exiles: Capturing Lives in Transit in Péter Forgách’s *The Danube Exodus*”

Panel 2.2**Contingency, Kinship, and Cross-Cultural Adoptions in Contemporary American Writers**

Organizer: Eunsook Koo (Cheongju University)

Chair: Yu-cheng Lee (Academica Sinica)

Room: *

Presenters:

Te-hsing Shan (Academia Sinica):

“Adoptions and Adaptions: Cultural (Re)negotiations and Intergenerational Memories in Ha Jin’s *A Free Life*”

Eunsook Koo (Cheongju University):

“Constructing Kinship and Negotiating Cultural Differences in Anne Tyler’s *Digging to America*”

Eun-Gwi Chung (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies):

“On Erasure, Betrayal, and Recognition of Kinship: Lee Herrick, Jennifer Kwon Dobbs, and Sun Young Shin’s Poetry of Cross-Cultural Adoption”

Discussants:

Pin-chia Feng (National Chiao Tung University) and So-Hee Lee (Hanyang Women’s University)

Panel 2.3**Extending the Language of Kinship – What Tribal Languages, Literature and Storied Graphics Tell of Our Relations and Relatives. Part I: Extending the Language of Kinship: Tribal Languages**

Organizer: Gordon Henry (Michigan State University)

Chair: Gwen Westerman (Minnesota State University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Glen Wasicuna (Wahpeton-Sisseton Tribal School):

“On Teaching Dakota Kinship Terms, Systems and Language”

Meg Noodin (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee):

“Beyond Nuclear--Anishinaabeg Kinship Terms as Expression of Family, Leadership, Love and Support”

Nicholas Reo (Dartmouth College):

“Inawendawin: Anishinaabe Kinship with More-than-Human Relations”

Panel 2.4

Family, Difference, Community

Chair: Jana Mikats (University of Graz):

Room: *

Presenters:

Jana Mikats (University of Graz):

“Family as Place of Difference: Generational and Gendered Practices”

Monika Mueller (Ruhr University Bochum):

“Religious Boundaries and Cultural Clashes: The Amish in the U.S. and the Twelve Tribes in Germany”

Keith Doubt and Adnan Tufekcic (Wittenberg University):

“Marriage Instead of Blood: On the Moral Significance of Affines in Bosnia-Herzegovina”

Irina Kretser (St. Peterburg State University):

“‘Just Make a Call on Skype and Eat Together!’ Everyday Practices of Translocal Siblingship”

Panel 2.5

Oral/Aural Families

Chair: Zhuyun Song (Vrije Universiteit Brussels)

Room: *

Presenters:

Meihsu Lin (National Chiao Tung University)

“Tasting Self and the Other in Eddie Huang’s *Fresh off the Boat*”

Zhuyun Song (Vrije Universiteit Brussels):

“Food and Kinship: The Fulfilment of Hungry Women’s Desire in Recent Chinese American Fiction by Ng, Keltner and Chang”

Kalyani Thurairajah (Macewan University):

“Language and the Sri Lankan Tamil Diaspora—Building Community across Space”

Panel 2.6

Love and Marriage

Chair: Cécile Coquet-Mokoko (Université François Rabelais):

Room: *

Presenters:

Lan Kieu (University of Umeå):
“Between Love and Racial Reparation”

Cécile Coquet-Mokoko (Université François Rabelais):
“Challenging Prejudice by Reinventing Kinship: Black/White Couples and Their Families in Alabama and France, 2009-2017”

Adriana Medina-Villegas and Ignacio Medina Nunez (University of Guadalajara):
“Violence against Women in Couple Relations in Mexico”

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:30 Parallel Panel Sessions 3

Panel 3.1

Mother(s) of Exiles III: Exilic Art and the Ties That Bind (or Break)

Organizers: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Chair: Page Laws (Norfolk State University) and Cathy Waegner (University of Siegen)

Room: *

Presenters:

Chinedu Okala (Norfolk State University):

“Persistence of Vision: Immigrant Art as Imprisonment in/ Liberation from Archetypal Memory”

Daniel Stein (University of Siegen):

“Recuperating Black Family and Kinship Ties through Graphic Narration: Tom *Feelings's Middle Passage* and Kyle Baker's *Nat Turner*”

Ludmila Martanovschi (Ovidius University):

”“As Much the Invader as the Native”: Investigating Immigrant and Indigenous Family Ties in Wendy Rose's *Itch Like Crazy*”

Panel 3.2

Textual Kinships – Life Writing as Making Genealogies and Communities Concrete

Organizer: Nicoleta Alexoae-Zagni (Paris 8 University, France)

Chair: Nicoleta Alexoae-Zagni (Paris 8 University, France) and Pin-chia Feng (National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan)

Room: *

Presenters:

Nicoleta Alexoae-Zagni (Paris 8 University):

“Ruth Ozeki: Conversation with Herself as Conversation with History”

So-Hee Lee (Hanyang Women's University, Korea):

“The Palimpsestic Life Writing of a North Korean Woman Defector: Yeonmi Park's *In Order to Live: A North Korean Girl's Journey to Freedom*”

Corinne Bigot (Toulouse 2 Jean Jaurès University, France):

“In Praise of Kitchen Poets: Textual Kinship and Diasporic Culinary Memoirs”

Panel 3.3

Extending the Language of Kinship – What Tribal Languages, Literature and Storied Graphics Tell of Our Relations and Relatives. Part II: Extending the Language of Kinship: Tribal Literatures

Organizer: Gordon Henry (Michigan State University)

Chair: Cara Cilano (Michigan State University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Gordon Henry (Michigan State University):

“*Remembering White Clay: An Autobiography of Relations in Texts, Words, Image and Place*”

Silvia Martinez-Falquina (University of Zaragoza):

“Mother to Mother: Re-Storying Kinship in Susan Power’s *Sacred Wilderness*”

Respondent:

Cara Cilano (Michigan State University)

Panel 3.4

Figuring the “Moving Child”: Constructions of “Unaccompanied Minors” in British and American Writing

Organizer: Suncica Klaas (Potsdam University)

Chair: Carly McLaughlin (Potsdam University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Kerry Bystrom (Bard College):

“Fictions of Kinship between Family and Nation: On Transnational Adoption and Apartheid Law”

Suncica Klaas (Potsdam University):

“The Adopted Bonds of Responsibility: Representations of Transnational Kinships in Sudanese-American Autobiography”

Carly McLaughlin (Potsdam University):

“Exceptional Children, Exceptional Stories: Performances of Childhood and Displacement in Fiction and Non-Fiction Narratives of Child Asylum-Seekers”

Panel 3.5

Constructions of Motherhood

Chair: Roxane Hughes (University of Lausanne)

Room: *

Presenters:

Tatiana Prorokova (Philipps University Marburg):

“Where’s the Mother?’ Pregnancy, Birth, and Transgender Parenthood”

Roxane Hughes (University of Lausanne):

“Intangible Love: Negotiating Displacement, Detachment and Disability through Motherhood in Kim Thuy’s Novel *Ru*”

Irene Sywenky (University of Alberta):

“Unscripted Maternal Spaces: Rewriting Motherhood in the Cultures of post-1989 Central and Eastern Europe”

Burcu Basaran (University of Duisburg–Essen):

“‘Paper Families’ and Motherhood in Fae Myenne Ng’s *Steer Toward Rock*”

Panel 3.6

Families in Prose and Poetry

Chair: Philipp Reisner (Heinrich Heine University Dusseldorf):

Room: *

Presenters:

Philipp Reisner (Heinrich Heine University Dusseldorf):

“Between Poetry and Memoir: Li-Young Lee’s *The Winged Seed* (1995/2013)”

Dijana Simic (University of Graz):

“Family Life in Times of Transition – Family Structures in Upheaval: Representations of Transnational Families in Contemporary Bosnian-Herzegovinian Prose”

Liang Iping (National Taiwan Normal University):

“Family Hotel: Kinship and Space in Ed Lin’s *Waylaid*”

Monica Manolachi (University of Bucharest):

“Family Relationships Before and After 1989 in Contemporary Romanian Women Writers’ Prose”

16:30 – 17:00

Coffee

17:00 – 18:00

Keynote Lecture by David L. Eng (University of Pennsylvania)
“(Gay) Panic Attack”

Room: *

Introduction: Ewa A. Adamkiewicz, University of Graz

18:30 – 20:00

Opening Ceremony

Room:

Words of Welcome

Yiorgos Kalogeras, President of MESEA

Representatives of the University of Graz

Silvia Schultermandel, University of Graz

Presentation of the 2018 Young Scholars Excellence Award
Joke Kardux, Vice-President of MESEA

Conference Reception sponsored by the Austrian Student Union ÖH,
University Aula (Universitätsplatz 3)

Friday, 1 June 2018

08:00 – 16:00 Registration/Information Desk
09:00 – 11:00 Parallel Panel Sessions 4

Panel 4.1

Extending the Language of Kinship – What Tribal Languages, Literature and Storied Graphics Tell of Our Relations and Relatives. Part III: Extending the Language of Kinship: Visualities and Tribal Graphics

Organizer: Gordon Henry (Michigan State University)

Chair: Gordon Henry (Michigan State University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Kimberly Blaeser (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee):

“A Cosmology of Nibi?: Picto-Poetics and Palimpsest in Anishinaabeg Watery Geographies”

Lee Schweninger (University of North Carolina–Wilmington):

“The Stories Pour Out”: Ideas of Kinship in American Indian Film”

Chris LaLonde (State University of New York–Oswego):

“*awasi-*: Moving Images”

Respondent:

Gordon Henry (Michigan State University)

Panel 4.2

Transnational Cultural Kinships and the African American Experience

Organizer: Hanna Wallinger (Salzburg University)

Chair: Hanna Wallinger (Salzburg University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Jeffrey Leak (UNC Charlotte):

“The Kin You’re Born With, the Kin You Find: Rosey E. Pool, Transnational Kinships and the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s”

Malin Pereira (UNC Charlotte):

“Flying Home? Race, Identity, and Transnational Kinship in Contemporary Black Poetry”

Souleymane Ba (Paul Valéry University):

“Open City, Open Identity: Teju Cole and the Transnational American Identity”

Hanna Wallinger (Salzburg University):
“Transgenerational Haunting: Yaa Gyasi’s *Homegoing*”

Panel 4.3

Literary and Interdisciplinary Critical Adoption Studies

Organizer: Catherine H. Nguyen (UCLA)

Chair: Catherine H. Nguyen (UCLA)

Room: *

Presenters:

Mette A. E. Kim-Larsen (University of Copenhagen):
“Adoptee Literary Anti-Racists Interventions in the Nordic Welfare State”

Catherine H. Nguyen (UCLA):
“Drawing, Animating Adoption: Jung’s Couleur de peau: Miel/Approved for Adoption and its Filmic Adaptation”

Kira Donnell (UC Berkeley):
“Always Already Ours: Representations of Transnational Adoptees in Contemporary Korean Dramas”

Jennifer Doane (University of Minnesota):
“Kinship and Adoptee Return Narratives in *Blade Runner*”

Panel 4.4

Cuba and the Caribbean

Chair: Astrid Fellner (Saarland University)

Room: *

Presenters:

John Lowe (University of Georgia):
“From China to Cuba, and Back: The Conundrums of Ethnic Identity and Kinship in Cristina García’s *Monkey Hunting*”

Astrid Fellner (Saarland University):
“‘Before Love, Memory’: Kinship and La Familia in Daisy Hernández’s *A Cup of Water under My Bed: A Memoir*”

Ourania Zygouri (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki):
“Stepping Out of the Ordinary: Assessing Traditional Families, Envisioning Queer Kinship in Shani Mootoo’s *Cereus Blooms at Night*”

Gigi Adair (University of Potsdam):
“Diasporic Kinship, Permeable Intersubjectivity and Naming Things in Dionne Brand’s *In Another Place, Not Here*”

Panel 4.5

Memory and Family

Chair: Cedric Essi (University of Bremen)

Room: *

Presenters:

Liz Kella (Södertörn University):

“Suspect Survival: Matrophobia in Postmemory Generational Writing”

Khaled Rim (University of Tunis):

“Popular Culture, Family, and Collective Memory”

Ingeborg Jandl (University of Graz):

“Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian Family Albums as a Space for Literary Reflection and Way of Processing Trauma: Albahari, Jergović, Nežirović”

Cedric Essi (University of Bremen):

“Interracial Family Memoirs: Claiming Genealogies across the Color Line”

Panel 4.6

Poetical Perspectives

Chair: Carolina Núñez-Puente (University of A Corunna)

Room: *

Presenters:

Carolina Núñez-Puente (University of A Corunna):

“Building Bridges through Female Lyric: Affect, Affinity, and Difference”

Jennifer Reimer (University of Graz):

“Family's Forms: Memory as Innovative Poetics in Tarifah Faizullah's *Seam*”

Demet Intepe (University of Warwick):

“A Galaxy in a Fig: Transspecies Intimacies and Ecological Kinship in Ross Gay's *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*”

Hsinya Huang (National Sun Yat-sen University):

“Planetary Imaginary, Planetary Boundaries: Homing Trans-Pacific Eco-poetry”

11:30 – 12:45

Keynote Lecture by May Friedman, Ryerson University

“The Body Speaks: Kinship, Representation, and Embodiment”

Introduction: Silvia Schultermandl, University of Graz

Room: *

Room: *

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45 – 15:45

Parallel Panel Sessions 5

Panel 5.1

Kinship, Transracial Adoption, and Critical Adoption Studies: Revisioning/Reconstituting Categories and Connections

Organizer: Shannon E. Gibney (Minneapolis Community and Technical College)

Chair: Shannon E. Gibney (Minneapolis Community and Technical College)

Room: *

Presenters:

Shannon E. Gibney (Minneapolis Community and Technical College):

“Kinship Between Transracial Adoptees: A Case for The Kinship of Loss”

Kit Myers (UC Merced):

“The Possibilities of Kinship for Critical Adoption Studies”

Lisa Marie Brimmer:

“Other Mother’s Gardens: Healing the Dislocated Dreams of Transracial Adoption”

Panel 5.2

Fictions of Belonging: Negotiations of Citizenship, Kinship Formations, and Racialization in a Transnational Perspective

Organizer: Jasper Verlinden (Free University Berlin)

Chair: Ewa Adamkiewicz (University of Graz)

Room: *

Presenters:

Jasper Verlinden (Free University Berlin):

“Blood as Property: Constructions of Citizenship and Kinship under Settler Colonialism”

Jiann-Chyng Tu (Humboldt University):

“From *Souls of Black Folk* to Internationalism: W.E.B. Du Bois and His Comrades of Color”

Anne Potjans (Humboldt University):

“Citizenship and National Identity in Ika Hügel-Marshall’s *Dabeim Unterwegs: Ein Deutsches Leben*”

Christine Vogt-William (University of Augsburg):

“Twinship, Mixed Race Relations and Citizenship in Zadie Smith’s *White Teeth* and Abraham Verghese’s *Cutting for Stone*”

Panel 5.3

Familial Flows: Transoceanic Kinship and Community

Organizer: Katharina Fackler (University of Graz)

Chair: Katharina Fackler (University of Graz) and Nicole Poppenhagen (Europa-Universität Flensburg)

Room: *

Presenters:

Alexandra Ganser (University of Vienna):

“Trans-Oceanic Flight and the Ghosts of the Dead: Kinship in Edwidge Danticat & Madeleine Thien”

Nicole Poppenhagen (Europa-Universität Flensburg):

“Routes and Roots’: Transoceanic Relations in Chinese Diasporic Family Narratives from the Pacific and the Caribbean”

Juliane Braun (German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.):

“Fruits of Empire, Transoceanic Passages, and Shipboard Ecologies”

Heidi Hong (USC):

“Intimate Contaminations: Ecological Kinship in Larissa Lai’s *Salt Fish Girl*”

Panel 5.4

Transnational Family Discourses

Chair: Tahir Latifi (University of Prishtina)

Room: *

Presenters:

Elena Ignovska (University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius):

“Transnational Kinship due to International Sperm Donation and Reproductive Tourism”

Tahir Latifi (University of Prishtina):

“Transnational Family: The Role of Kinship in Terms of Generational and Intergenerational Care in Kosovo”

Christine Marie Koch (University of Paderborn):

“Transnational Kinship? Relations between Austrians and Descendants of Salzburger Migrants”

Siegfried Gruber (University of Graz):

“Household Patriarchy in Contemporary Europe”

Panel 5.5

Perspective of Queer Writings

Chair: Mahdi Sepehrmanesh (National Cheng Kung University of Taiwan)

Room: *

Presenters:

Magdalena Zaborowska (University of Michigan):

“The Value of Black Writing Matter: Preserving James Baldwin’s Black Queer Domesticity”

Marion Christina Rohrleitner (University of Texas El Paso):

“Running in the Family: Queering Diaspora and the Ethics of National Belonging in Contemporary Puerto Rican Fiction”

Mahdi Sepehrmanesh (National Cheng Kung University of Taiwan):

“Queer Liberalism and Poetic Unconscious in Form and Content in Allen Ginsberg’s *Howl*”

Heather Jeronimo (University of Northern Iowa):

“Reflections of a Useless Love: A Queered Double Vision of Non-Biological Parenting in Luisa Castro’s ‘El amor inñtil’”

Panel 5.6

Family and Ancestry

Chair: Klara Szmańko (University of Opole)

Room:

Presenters:

William Alexander (Norfolk State University):

“...repudiate no part of the ancestral heritage...: Jean Price-Mars and Black Identity in the Francophone Atlantic”

Ewa Luczak (University of Warsaw):

“When Eugenic Sterilizations Were in Vogue: Wallace Thurman and ‘Tomorrow’s Children’”

Klara Szmańko (University of Opole):

“Defamiliarizing Blackness and Whiteness in Gloria Naylor’s *Linden Hills*”

Mihai Mindra (University of Boucharest):

“Contemporary Fictional Representations of Southern African-American Intersectionality”

15:45 – 17:15

Keynote Lecture by Daniela Berghahn, Royal Holloway, University of London

“Forging and Severing Family Ties in Diasporic European Cinema”

Introduction: Klaus Rieser, University of Graz

Room: *

17:15-18:30

MESEA General Meeting

Room: *

Saturday, 2 June 2018

09:00 – 16:00

Registration

09:00 – 11:00

Parallel Panel Sessions 6

Panel 6.1

The (S)Kin You’re In: A Roundtable on Colorism and Kinship in (Transnational) Communities of Color: A Roundtable

Organizer: Simone Adams (University of Graz)

Chair: Kimberly R. Moffitt (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)

Room: *

Presenters:

VaNatta Ford (Williams College):

“The (S)Kin You’re In: Complexion HASHTivism(s): Hashtags, Social Media, and Color Politics”

Kimberly R. Moffitt (University of Maryland, Baltimore County):

“The (S)Kin You’re In: The Role of Families in the Narratives of “Dark Girls” (2011) and “Light Girls” (2015)”

Simone Adams (University of Graz):

“The (S)Kin You’re In: Mediated Narratives of (Dis)Empowerment around Skin Color Politics in Black Families”

Rachel Afi Quinn (University of Houston):

“The (S)Kin You’re In: Dominican Women Theorizing Experiences of Hierarchies of Color”

Respondent:

Eesha Pandit (Independent Scholar)

Panel 6.2

Going Sideways, Improvising (S)Kinships in Contemporary Multi-Ethnic U.S. Film and Creative Non/Fiction

Organizer: Lori Askeland (Wittenberg University)

Chair: Lori Askeland (Wittenberg University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Kyung-Sook Boo (Sogang University):

“The Kinship of Skinship in *Moonlight*”

Shannon E. Gibney (Minneapolis Community and Technical College):

“A Reading from *Botched*, A Novel/Memoir”

Lori Askeland (Wittenberg University):

““things that went awry...”: Sideways Aesthetics in Jane Jeong Trenka’s *Fugitive Visions* and Deann Borshay Liem’s *In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee*”

Panel 6.3

To Fantasize, to Dream, and to Belong: African Diasporic Kinship, Contemporary Migrations, and Visual Culture

Organizer: Heike Raphael-Hernandez (University of Würzburg)

Chair: Heike Raphael-Hernandez (University of Würzburg)

Room: *

Presenters:

Leigh Raiford (UC Berkeley):

“African Diasporic Kinship and Photography”

Heike Raphael-Hernandez (University of Würzburg):

“African Diasporic Kinship and Film”

Angelika Heiling (University of Graz):

“The Role of Family and Kinship in Novels by Taiye Selasi, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and Sefi Atta: Transcultural Perspectives”

Lorenzo Mari (University of Insubria):

“Enduring Links: Clanship, Kinship and Fictive Kinship in Nuruddin Farah’s ‘Past Imperfect’ Trilogy (2003-2011)”

Panel 6.4

Returns and Becomings

Chair: Cristina Cherevesan (West University of Timisoara)

Room: *

Presenters:

Bettina Hofmann (University of Wuppertal):

“Look back in Sorrow: North American Jews Reconsider their Ukrainian Roots”

Cristina Cherevesan (West University of Timisoara):

“‘A Jew without Jewishness’: (Re)Negotiating Cultural Heritage and (Trans)National Selfhood in Philip Roth’s *The Counterlife*”

Shu-ching Chen (National Chung Hsing University):

“Family of Terror: Becoming Taiwanese / American in Shawna Yang Ryan’s *Green Island*”

Maria Lauret (University of Sussex):

“Family v. Nation: The Personal-Political Life Writing of J. D. Vance and Ta-Nehisi Coates”

Panel 6.5

Families in Los Angeles and Borderlands

Chair: Kenneth Marcus (LaVerne University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Jennifer Eich (Loyola Marymount University):

“Chavez Ravine: An Ideological, Archeological, and Literary Excavation of Los Angeles”

Kenneth Marcus (LaVerne University):

“Central Avenue Conflicts: Family, Kinship, and the Arts in Postwar Los Angeles”

Fernandez Salvador (Occidental College):

“Migratory Routes in *Sin nombre*”

Tereza Jiroutova Kynclova (Charles University):

“Complicating Home and Nation: Anzaldúa’s Coalitional Aztlán”

Panel 6.6

Ethics and Representation

Chair: Lydia Roupakia Efthymia (Anatolia College)

Room: *

Lydia Roupakia Efthymia (Anatolia College):

“Family Matters: Multiculturalism, Contemporary Women’s Writing and the Ethics of Care”

Jin-Yu Lin (National Sun Yat-Sen University):

“Ethics of Violence: Justice, Body Horror, and Sublimity in *Shrew’s Nest*”

Masami Usui (Doshisha University):

“The Myth behind the Body in Murakami Haruki’s *A Murder of the Leader of Knights*”

Alice Boeri (Universities of Padova, Ca’Foscari University of Venice and University of Verona):

“The Western Gaze on Chinese Family in Late Imperial Age: Karl Gützlaff and John Francis Davis”

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30

Keynote Lecture by Robert Pichler, University of Graz

“Kinship and Ethnicity in the Balkans: Social Realities, Concepts of Belonging and National Ideologies”

Introduction: Klaus Rieser, University of Graz

Room: *

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:30

Parallel Panel Sessions 7

Panel 7.1

Transnational and Moving Communities

Chair: Jesper Reddig (University of Münster)

Room: *

Presenters:

Martina Koegeler-Abdi (University of Copenhagen):

“Respectability Politics and the Syrian American Family Portrait”

Jopi Nyman (University of Eastern Finland):

“Borderscaping Calais and the ‘Jungle’: Community and Forced Migration in *The Breach* by Olumide Popoola and Annie Holmes”

Jesper Reddig (University of Münster):

“Domestic Sexual Violence in War: Sandra Uwiringiyimana’s Literary Self-Recreation in the Context of Forced Migration and Neo-Colonialism”

Misra Maitrayee (Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya University):

“Transnational Movement, New Economy and Transforming Indian Middle Class Family in Jhumpa Lahiri’s *The Lowland*”

Panel 7.2

Canada

Chair: Mathilde Roza (Radboud University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Judit Nagy (Károli Gáspár University of the Hungarian Reformed Church):

“Male-female Relationships across Cultures in Ann Y. K. Choi’s Kay’s *Lucky Coin Variety* (2016)”

Mathilde Roza (Radboud University):

“Kinship Patterns and Practices in Joseph Boyden’s *The Orenda* and the Limits of Reconciliation in Canada”

Nele Sawallisch (University of Mainz):

“Families and the U.S.-Canadian Border Zone in the Nineteenth Century”

Maggie Bowers (University of Portsmouth):

“Modernity and the Improvised Family in the Novels of Michael Ondaatje”

Panel 7.3

Chicana/o/x Families

Chair: Aikaterini Delikonstantinidou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Room: *

Presenters:

Daniel Valella (UC Berkeley):

“Familiar to ‘Familial’: Queer Chicax Writers and Rhetorical Kinship”

Markus Heide (University of Uppsala):

“Family Imagery in Recent US-Mexico Border Documentary Film”

Aikaterini Delikonstantinidou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki):

“Staging the Tragic Familia Chicana”

Panel 7.4

Trauma and Affect

Chair: Jelena Sesnic (University of Zagreb)

Room: *

Presenters:

Jelena Sesnic (University of Zagreb):

“Post-colonial and Post-communist in a Global Discourse of Trauma: Edwidge Danticat’s *Dew Breaker* and Courtney Angela Brkic’s *The First Rule of Swimming*”

Kolona Moutafidou (Aristotele University of Thessaloniki):

“Reading Strella as a Modern Greek Tragedy: A Family De-and Re-Constructed”

Cord-Heinrich Plinke (University of Southern California):

“A Community of Shame: Mass Media, Kinship, and Totalitarianism in the Trump Era”

Panel 7.5

Families in Graphic Novels and the New Media

Chair: Michail-Chrysovalantis Markodimitrakis (Bowling Green State University)

Room: *

Presenters:

Marie Duecker (University of Graz):

“Construction of Matrilineal Identity and Ambassadorial Empathy in Marjane Satrapi’s *Embroideries*”

Michail-Chrysovalantis Markodimitrakis (Bowling Green State University):

“Teaching Diversity in Homogeneous Classrooms: Approaching Ethnic Studies through Graphic Narratives”

Stella Oh (Loyola Marymount University):

“Kinship of Ruins in Adrian Tomine’s *Killing and Dying*”

Ildikó Hortobágyi (University of Pannonia):

“‘Post or comment, and I’ll tell you who you are!’ Maintaining Kinship and Cultural Heritage of the Americas in the New Media”

19:00

Conference Dinner

Restaurant Welscher Stub’n, Schmiedgasse 5-7, 8010 Graz

Practical Conference Information

1. Local Organizers

Contact details

American Studies Graz
Attemsgasse 25/2
8010 Graz
Austria

Conference Phone: +43 677 6285 4793 (this number will only be available between May 29 and June 3, 2018).

Main organizer:
Silvia Schultermandl
Email: silvia.schultermandl@uni-graz.at

Conference team:
Ewa A. Adamkiewicz
Email: ewa.adamkiewicz@uni-graz.at

Klaus Rieser
Email: klaus.rieser@uni-graz.at

Valentina Ostovary
Markus Diepold

2. University of Graz

The University of Graz, which was founded in 1585, is Austria's second oldest university and one of the largest in the country. Many excellent scientists, amongst them six Nobel laureates, have taught and researched here. With 32,500 students and 4,300 employees the University of Graz contributes significantly to the vibrant life of the Styrian capital. Its location in Europe encourages a lively scientific, economic and cultural exchange with South-East Europe, from which not only the city benefits, but also its educational institutions.

For details, visit: <https://www.uni-graz.at/en/university/information/about-the-university/>

3. Conference Venue

See “Campus map” at the end of the program booklet.

The Eleventh Biennial MESEA Conference will mainly take place in the University of Graz’s RESOWI Center (Universitätsstraße 15). The keynote address on Thursday, 31 May 2018, will take place in the AULA (Universitätsplatz 3).

4. Registration

Registration for the conference will take place in the conference office in the RESOWI Center (Universitätsstraße 15) during these times:

Thursday, 31 May 2018, between 8 am and 6 pm;
Friday, 1 June 2018, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm;
Saturday, 2 June 2018, between 8:30 am and 4 pm.

5. Opening Reception

In lieu of the traditional MESEA welcome dinner, there will be a welcome reception sponsored by the City of Graz and Mayor Siegfried Nagl. The welcome reception will be held in City Hall (Hauptplatz 1) on Wednesday, 30 May 2018, 6 pm. The event is free, registration is nonetheless required.

6. Lunch and Coffee Breaks

The RESOWI Café will be open during the times of the conference; all coffee breaks will take place there. Lunches (meat and vegan options) will also take place there.

Lunch vouchers: If you signed up for lunch, please pick up your lunch vouchers at the registration desk.

7. Conference Reception

The conference offers a reception where participants are cordially invited. It will take place immediately after the opening ceremony on 31 May 2018, in the University Aula (Universitätsplatz 3). The reception is sponsored by the Austrian Student Union ÖH.

8. Conference Banquet (Saturday 2 June, 2018)

Those who have signed up and pre-paid will receive a voucher upon registration. Dinner will begin at 7 pm and will include a three-course meal of regional specialties, including meat, fish and vegan option; drinks are not included, please pay at the cash bar. The event will be an opportunity to meet and share experiences in a relaxed atmosphere.

Price per person: 35€.

Place: Welscher Stub'n, Schmiedgasse 5-7, 8010 Graz

Please note that the restaurant only has limited capacity, so pre-registration on the website is essential.

9. Young Scholars Excellence Award 2018

The winners of this year's Young Scholars Excellence Award will be announced and receive their award at the opening ceremony.

10. City of Graz

Much information about the City of Graz can be obtained online. Some of it is linked to the city's status as UNESCO City of Design. For first impressions, see:

<https://www.instagram.com/grazcityofdesign/>.

Graz has a vibrant food and restaurant culture. We feel particularly strongly about the many vegan and vegetarian options, listed on international go-to sites such as:

<https://www.happycow.net/europe/austria/graz/>

Since most hotels we recommend are located in the so-called Annenviertel, we also recommend exploring this area—a mixture of 1960s working class Graz, modern hipster gentrification, and recent immigrant/ethnic cultures. Here is a map of the area:

http://annenviertel.at/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/EN_lowres.pdf

For more information about the project, here is the Annenviertel newsletter (in German only):

<http://annenviertel.at/>

11. Getting Around: Public Transportation and Taxis

Getting to RESOWI Center (conference venue)

From the Airport

Public buses and commuter railway trains link the airport to the main railway station and the city center. The bus stop is right outside the passenger arrival area, the commuter train station is a five-minute walk from the terminal. The price for a one-way trip is € 2.30.

From the airport, a taxi to the university or the city center costs approximately € 25 to € 30 (one way).

For further information: <http://www.flughafen-graz.at/en/terminal/anreise-parken/bus-bahn.html>
<http://www.busbahnbim.at>

From the Main Railway Station (Hauptbahnhof)

From the main railway station, you can take a taxi or bus to reach the university campus. The bus ride takes about 15 minutes.

The University of Graz campus is served by the following bus lines:

Bus line 58 in the direction of *Mariagrün*: get off at Mozartgasse

Bus line 63 in the direction of *St. Peter Schulzentrum*: get off at Universität

From the City Center (Jakominiplatz)—Main Transportation Hub

The following bus lines link the city center to the campus:

Bus line 30 in the direction of *Geidorf*: get off at Mozartgasse

Bus line 39 in the direction of *Wirtschaftskammer*: get off at Geidorfplatz

Walk along Heinrichstraße for approximately 3–5 minutes, take the second right into Goethestraße and then the first left to reach Attemsgasse 25

Bus line 31 in the direction of *UniRESOWI*: get off at Uni/Mensa for Attemsgasse 25 or at UNI RESOWI for the RESOWI-Center

You may want to consider purchasing a 4-day tourist ticket for € 9.70 (available at our suggest conference hotels (Das Weitzer, Hotel Daniel, Hotel Mercure Graz City, Hotel Feichtinger, Ibis Budget Graz City and at the Registration Desk). Alternatively, a one-hour ticket within Graz city limits costs € 2.30 (available on the bus; please carry change!).

Online Ticket Shop

<https://ticket.holding-graz.at/index.php/tickets>

For further information: <http://www.verbundlinie.at/lang/en/>

<http://www.graztourismus.at/en>

Taxis

Taxi 878 +43 316 878

Taxi 2801 +43 316 2801

12. WiFi/Internet

eduroam: Accessible for users whose home institution participates in the eduroam network. Login using the credentials provided by your own institution.

UniGrazTagung: Open WiFi, can be used without login credentials. Webservices as well as VPN access to home organizations are possible through this network.

13. Copy and Print

Please consult the front desk in the registration office.

14. Sightseeing

Graz Tourism

If you wish to explore some of the sights of Graz, please see the Graz tourist board website for further details or call their office:

Graz Tourist Information Office (Graz Tourismus), Herrengasse 16

T +43-316-8075-0

<http://www.graztourismus.at/en>

