Decolonizing “Prehistory”: Deep Time and Topological Knowledge in the Americas

Symposium

Universität Rostock

PHILOSOPHISCHE FAKULTÄT
INSTITUT FÜR ANGLISTIK/AMERIKANISTIK

Nordamerikanische Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

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Cover Image

Our cover image reproduces a needle art tapestry by Georgiana Brown Harbeson (1894-1980), entitled “Sacajawea” and published as the cover of Needlecraft: The Home Arts, a magazine for needle art, in July, 1933.

City Map of Schwerin (from Openstreetmap)

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Venue

Hotel Speicher am Ziegelsee
Speicherstrasse 11, Schwerin

21-23 June, 2018

Universität Rostock
### Thursday, 21 June 2018

5:30 pm  
Welcome by the Mayor of Schwerin, Dr. Rico Badenschier

Gesa Mackenthun: Introduction

6:30 pm  
Dinner

8 pm  
Chair: Gesa Mackenthun

**Keynote (via Mackenthun):**  
Competing Narratives of Ancestry in Donald Trump’s America: Personal DNA Testing, the “Ethno-State,” Native American Land Rights, and the Imperative for Scholarly Intervention  
Annette Kolodny, University of Arizona, Tucson

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### Friday, 22 June 2018

9 am - 9:45 am  
Chair: Alexander Bräuer

**Yucatec “Maya” Historicity and Identity Constructions: The Case of Coba**  
Jessica Christie, East Carolina University, Greenville

9:50 am - 10:35 am  
‘Scientific’ vs. Local Narratives About Pre-Hispanic Sites: Tulum as a Case Study  
Mathieu Picars, University of Barcelona  
Margarita Díaz-Andreu, University of Barcelona/ICREA

10:35 am - 10:50 am Coffee

11 am - 11:45 am  
Chair: Daniel L. Smail

**“Born of the Soil”: Demography’s Roots and the Refusal of Oral Tradition**  
Christen Mucher, Smith College, Northampton, MA

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### Saturday, 23 June 2018

9:00 am - 9:45 am  
Chair: Hartmut Lutz

**Red Earth, White Lies, Sapiens, and the Deep Politics of Knowledge.**  
Phil Deloria, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

9:50 am - 10:35 am  
Reversing the Terminal Narrative: The Mythology of Conquest and Extinction on the Borders of the Spanish Empire  
Michael Wilcox, Stanford University

10:35 am - 10:50 am Coffee

10:50 am - 11:35 am  
Chair: John Munro

**Witnessing Catastrophe: Correlations between Catastrophic Paleoenvironmental Events and First Nations Oral Traditions in the Pacific Northwest**  
Rick Budhwa, Simon Fraser University, BC

11:40 am - 12:25 pm  
Remembering Gi’was: Indigenous Landmark Legends and the Politics of American Antiquity  
Gesa Mackenthun, University of Rostock

1 pm - 2:30 pm Lunch

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**Discussants**  
Susanne Lachenicht, University of Bayreuth  
Hartmut Lutz, University of Greifswald  
John Munro, St. Mary’s University, Halifax/University of Rostock  
Daniel L. Smail, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
Astrid Windus, University of Hamburg

**Student Assistants**  
Kathleen Aldinger  
Lone Killeh  
Kristina Weber