The United States and World War I
The year 2017 marks the centennial of U.S. entry into World War I. The Great War had a profound impact on the United States and on its global role. The 39th annual conference of historians in the German Association of American Studies provides an opportunity to reassess the war’s significance in U.S. history by focusing on the international and domestic contexts of America’s participation in World War I.

Information:
The conference will take place at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Hauptstraße 120, http://www.hca.uni-heidelberg.de/kontakt.html
Please register by January 15 with ibahmann@hca.uni-heidelberg.de
There is no conference fee.
We have blocked rooms at preferred rates at the following hotels:
Gasthaus Backmulde, Schiffigasse 11, http://www.gasthaus-backmulde-hotel.de/
Hip Hotel, Hauptstraße 115, http://www.hip-hotel.de/
Booking Code: “DGfA Historikertagung”
Please book your rooms individually by December 31, 2016.

Sunday, February 12
9:00 Panel 4: New Perspectives on the Social Impact of the War
Chair: Wilfried Mausbach (Heidelberg University)
Mischa Honeck (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC): Playing on Uncle Sam’s Team: American Childhoods During World War I
Matthias Voigt (University of Frankfurt/M.): Native American Doughboys in the Great War

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Panel 5: Legacies
Chair: Anja Schüler (Heidelberg University)
Charlotte Lerg (University of Münster): World War I and the Birth of Academic Freedom in America
Helke Rausch (University of Freiburg): The Birth of US Philanthropy from the Spirit of War: Rockefeller Philanthropists in World War I

12:30 Lunch/Departure
Friday, February 10

14.30 Arrival, Registration

15.00 Welcome
Manfred Berg (Heidelberg University) and Axel Jansen (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC)

15:15 Panel 1: Preparing for War
Chair: Axel Jansen (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC)
Dirk Bönker (Duke University): A World Power Second to None? The U.S. Navy, Geopolitics, and the Challenge of World War I
Manuel Franz (Heidelberg): Defense Societies in the Campaign for American Preparedness, 1914-1920

16:45 Coffee Break

17:00 Keynote Lecture
Chair: Manfred Berg (Heidelberg University)

18:45 Reception (at the HCA)

Saturday, February 11

9:00 Young Scholars Forum
Program and locations will be announced separately

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Panel 2: Mobilization and Propaganda
Chair: Mischa Honeck (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC)
Elisabeth Piller (Trondheim University): American War Relief, Cultural Mobilization and the Myth of Impartial Humanitarianism, 1914-1917
Katja Wüstenbecker (University of Jena/University of Hamburg): How to Mobilize an Unwilling Country for War: The Committee on Public Information

12:30 Lunch Break

14:00 Keynote Lecture
Chair: Axel Jansen (German Historical Institute, Washington, DC)
Jennifer Keene (Chapman University): Deeds Not Words: American Social Justice Movements and World War I

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Panel 3: The German American Experience
Chair: Simon Wendt (University of Frankfurt/M.)
Jörg Nagler (University of Jena): The Conflict of Divided Loyalties: German Americans, Their Responses to World War I and the American Home Front
Andreas Hübner (University of Kassel): “We are here as Pro-Americans, as Pro-Louisianians, as Pro-Orleanians”: Reassessing the German American Community of New Orleans during World War I

17:30 Break

17:45 GAAS Historians’ Business Meeting

19:00 Dinner (On Your Own)