

CONFERENCE

Natural Catastrophes in the United States – Making Sense of Risks and Vulnerability

Heidelberg University, Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)

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Preliminary Program

Conference Organizers: Natalie Rauscher & Welf Werner

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Keynote Speeches

- Susan Cutter (University of South Carolina, USA): Social Vulnerability to Natural Hazards in the United States
- Craig Colten (University of Louisiana, USA): Cultural Resistance to Risk Mitigation in Coastal Louisiana

Panel 1 Governance

- Andrew Isenberg (University of Kansas, USA): All of the Above - Risk, Domestic Fuel Production, and Climate Change since 1973
- Jan Hansen (Humboldt University, D): Floods in Los Angeles and the Governance of Risk and Vulnerability, 1910s-1930s
- A.R. Siders (University of Delaware, USA): Defining Disasters and Allocating Responsibility for US Disaster Policy
- Melanie Meunier (Université Strasbourg, FR): Exploring the American Response to Climate Change through the Lens of Political Cultures
- Lawrence Culver (Utah State University, USA): Disaster Made Manifest – The Federal Role in US Natural Catastrophes

Panel 2 Representations and Perceptions of Catastrophes

- Lea Espinoza Garrido (University of Wuppertal, D): Through the Eyes of the White, Innocent Child – Communicating Risk, Vulnerability and (Environmental) Crisis in Lauren Tarshis' "I survived" Series

- Jacob Birken (University of Düsseldorf, D): Hopeless Optimism. US (re)framing of the 1906 San Francisco and 1909 Messina Disasters
- Edward Manger (Heidelberg University, D): Theodacy and Hurricanes in the 20th and 21st Century USA
- Natalie Rauscher (Heidelberg University, D): Narratives and Discourses around Natural Disaster Events

Panel 3 Impact of/Responses to Disaster Events

- Katharina Wood (TU Dortmund, D): Becoming Green: Resilient and Green Building as Risk Mitigation in Atlanta, Georgia
- Katrin Kleemann (Leibniz Institute for Maritime History, D): Earthquakes in New England from the 17th Century to the Present
- Robin Pearson (University of Hull, UK): Multinational Insurers and Catastrophic Loss: Responses to the San Francisco Disaster of 1906
- Alan Lessoff & Carola Hein (Illinois State University, USA; TU Delft, NL): Oil and Gas, Port Cities, and Hurricanes: A Gulf Coast Symbiosis
- Melanie Gall (Arizona State University, USA): More than Nature's Force: The Unequal Impacts of Natural Hazards