

STRATA

AMERICAN FRIENDS

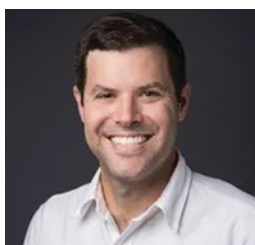
OF THE ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT FOUNDATION



Nathan Arrington



Lorenzo Dell'Oso



Douglas Finn



Alexander Free



Evan Freeman



Han-luen Kantzer Komline



Jacob A. Lollar



Adam Trettel

The 2022–2023 class of William M. Calder III Memorial Fellows in Classical Studies

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Christian Haenel

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OUR MISSION -

To become a leading source in the United States for the promotion of national and international networking, exchange, and creative collaboration among scientists, scholars, artists, and other professionals, consistent with the goals of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany.

OUR VISION -

To mobilize the intellectual curiosity, creativity, experience, and passion of Humboldtians to shape research, higher education, and professional development in the United States and beyond.



CHRISTIAN HAENEL NAMED NEXT PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT FOUNDATION

American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AFAvH) is exceptionally pleased to announce that Christian Haenel, formerly at the Robert Bosch Foundation, will become the next President of AFAvH, effective January 1, 2023.

Haenel is currently a Member of the Board of Directors of Cultural Vistas, a nonprofit exchange organization located in Washington, DC, and Berlin, Germany. He holds a master's degree in history (with a focus on American history) and economics. His academic studies led him to the University of Bielefeld, Germany, and the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. Haenel began his career as a trainee in leadership development at the Robert Bosch Foundation in Stuttgart, Germany, one of Europe's largest private foundations. In that capacity he also worked at the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation in Flint, Michigan. He rose through the ranks at Bosch, becoming the Senior Vice President of international relations, and ultimately a Member of the Executive Board of Directors and Senior Vice President of Future Issues and Foundation Development. Haenel led various national and international teams, coordinated high numbers of staff across units and functions and co-led diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, which resulted in a significant increase in diversity among qualified applicants. He also co-led the strategic re-launch of Bosch's international relations portfolio.

E. William Colglazier, Board Chair of American Friends of AvH and former Science and Technology Adviser to the United States Secretary of State, said, "We are incredibly excited to welcome Christian Haenel as the new President of American Friends of AvH. Christian is an exceptional leader who brings a lifelong commitment to transatlantic relations. He has over twenty years of leadership experience, managing international

programs that foster research and cooperation on both sides of the Atlantic and a proven track record of strategic partnerships with philanthropies, universities, think tanks, businesses, governments, NGOs, and media. His stellar and accomplished career path is exactly what is needed to take on the critical next phase of our organization's development in strengthening scientific and scholarly engagement between the United States and Germany."

"I am excited and honored to join the team at American Friends of AvH," said Haenel. "I am a transatlanticist with conviction. International cooperation is my passion. I enthusiastically expect to invest fully my leadership, my passion for diplomacy, and my creativity in cultivating the Humboldt Foundation's impact as one of the most prestigious institutions of international exchange and cooperation. I also hope to nurture the growth of community and programs among the more than 5,500 Humboldtians in the United States."

Eric S. Koenig, American Friends of AvH Board Member and Search Committee Chair, said, "We are immensely pleased to have secured Christian Haenel as our next President. His experience and many successes are a perfect match for our organization moving forward. In addition to his skillful administration of the prestigious Bosch Fellowship Program, he was instrumental in establishing the Brookings-Bosch Transatlantic Initiative, which connects the resources of the Bosch Foundation with those of the Brookings Institution. He is extraordinarily well-informed about the foundation world, including the role of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, which is the principal partner of AFAvH. The more than 5,500 Humboldtians in the United States, including its 12 Nobel Prize recipients, will welcome this exciting appointment."

HUMBOLDTIAN DONOR STORIES

PROFESSOR TERRY CENTNER

GIVING BACK TO SUSTAIN THE HUMBOLDT EXPERIENCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION (STP 1990–91)



American Friends of AvH is grateful to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the Humboldt experience and ethos through major and planned gifts.

Professor Terry Centner, Professor of Law at the Nebraska College of Law, and his wife Mary Ann Johnson recently made a major charitable contribution to American Friends

of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation through the Terence Centner and Mary Ann Johnson Family Foundation. Professor Centner explains, “My wife and I feel very fortunate for what our careers have offered to us, and we feel it’s important to give back to the causes we care about. When we were making our giving decisions last year, I remembered how the AvH set me up for the success I achieved in my career, so we included AFAvH as one of our grantees for 2021. It was just time to give back.”

The unrestricted gift will support our mission to sustain the US partnership with Germany and extend the benefits of the Humboldt experience to a new and inclusive generation of US scientists, scholars, and professionals.

“My Humboldt experience was a catalyst for the numerous international experiences afforded to me throughout my career—from the connections I made at the European Agricultural Law Association to returning to Germany on a Fulbright, and the opportunity to collaborate with European colleagues,” said Professor Centner in a recent conversation.

American Friends of AvH is grateful for the generous grant from the Terence Centner and Mary Ann Johnson Family Foundation and is happy to know about the many longstanding and fruitful collaborations and friendships as a result of AvH fellowships and awards.

“It was just time to give back.”

BECOME A LYNEN HOST!

Humboldtian Noel Lenski (STP 2002–2003) Discusses His Experience

The Humboldt Foundation has been a part of my academic life for twenty years now and continues to reward me with new intellectual contacts and friendships right up to the present. A fellowship carried me to Munich in the 2002–2003 academic year, where I established firm contacts with the Institut fuer Alte Geschichte that endure up to the present. Through these contacts I have sponsored two Feodor Lynen Fellows, most recently Dr. Alexander Free, who joined our research team in Classics and Ancient History at Yale University in the spring of 2022. Free has published on the second-century writer Lucian of Samosata and is currently working on a project about the Egyptian city of Hermopolis in the Roman imperial and late antique



Host Noel Lenski and Lynen Fellow Alexander Free

period. This work dovetails nicely with my own work on cities and has led to fruitful collaborations. In February 2023 we will co-convene a colloquium on “Civic Identities in the Eastern Mediterranean from Hellenistic Times to Late Antiquity.” With joint funding from American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and Yale University, we will bring six scholars together to explore the way that ancient cities created narratives about their histories and cultural attainments as part of their larger efforts to build social cohesion and compete with one another for attention from their royal and imperial overlords.

Free is a model citizen of our intellectual community at Yale, offering seminars and master classes on

papyrology, one of his many areas of expertise. He lectures and regularly interacts with our students and faculty and has also used his time in North America to visit many US states and Canadian provinces, from California and Louisiana to Quebec and Alberta, giving academic talks and growing a network of fellow scholars and thinkers. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation has helped Free, helped me, and helped our two universities (LMU Munich and Yale) to build intellectual and cultural bridges as well as friendships that will provide benefits beyond measure to both communities.

If you are based at a US university and would like to host a German researcher, please click on the QR code for more information.



FEATURED SCHOLAR

An Interview with Sumit Ganguly



Sumit Ganguly (STP 2018–19) is a Distinguished Professor of Political Science and holds the Rabindranath Tagore Chair in Indian Cultures and Civilizations at Indiana University, Bloomington. Professor Ganguly has previously taught at James Madison College of Michigan State University, Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and the University of Texas at Austin. He has held various visiting fellowships around the United States and spent the summers of 2018 and 2019 as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the University of Heidelberg.

A specialist on the contemporary politics of South Asia, Ganguly is the author, co-author, editor or co-editor of 20 books on the region, including Oxford India's Short Introductions: *Indian Foreign Policy* (Oxford University Press, 2015), *Deadly Impasse: Indo-Pakistani Relations at the Dawn of a New Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), and *Ascending India and Its State Capacity* (Yale University Press, 2017), with William R. Thompson. He is currently working on a book that focuses on the origins and evolution of India's defense policy for Columbia University Press.

AFAvH: Tell us about your background and how you first became interested in political science/comparative politics?

SG: I grew up in the bustling, sprawling metropolis of Calcutta (now Kolkata). Only now, late in my professional life, do I realize how fortunate I was to have been able to attend an extraordinary Jesuit institution, Saint Xavier's Collegiate School. While I was in high school there, I chanced upon two books. The first was Bertrand Russell's *Has Man a Future?*, which dealt with global disarmament and world government. In my naive state, I thought that both propositions were not only desirable but should be promptly implemented. My views on both matters, I might add, have evolved some since those days. The second was a book by American journalist George Thayer, *The War Business*. This book dealt with the proliferation of small arms on a global basis and the US role in the process. Both of these books whetted my appetite to learn more about these subjects.

AFAvH: Tell us about the research you conducted while on your Humboldt Research Fellowship.

SG: While on the fellowship I started work with two colleagues at Stanford University on the very fraught future of India's democracy. The University of Heidelberg was a very conducive milieu to conduct this research owing to the intellectual robustness of its South Asia Institute. I mostly worked with the director of the South Asia Institute, my host and former student, Professor Rahul Mukherji. I also discussed developments in Indian politics with Himanshu Jha, who was then a lecturer at the institute, as well as Jai Prasad, a doctoral candidate. During my two summers there I held extensive conversations about a variety of issues pertaining to South Asian politics with another lecturer, Dieter Reinhardt. Given our overlapping academic interests Dr. Reinhardt and I have forged an ongoing professional relationship. Finally, Professor Mukherji introduced me to Professor Aurel Croissant of the Institute of Political Science. Thanks to this introduction I have not only started some collaborative work with him but am also returning to Heidelberg in the summer of 2023 on another fellowship.

AFAvH: What continued impact has your Humboldt Fellowship had

on you, both professionally and personally?

SG: The Humboldt Fellowship enabled me to deepen and strengthen a number of research collaborations with several prominent German academics who share my research interests. During my two stints in Heidelberg, Professor Amrita Narlikar invited me to deliver multiple lectures at the German Institute for International and Area Studies in Hamburg. Also, an invitation from Professor Klaus Brummer at the University of Eichstaett to deliver a lecture has led to a significant collaborative venture, a jointly edited book.

Quite apart from these academic ventures, my two summers in Germany were most enjoyable. During the second summer, my wife, Traci Nagle, briefly visited me in Heidelberg and we then traveled to Italy and Switzerland for a week.

AFAvH: Could you share a few career highlights?

SG: One of the turning points of my career was winning a fellowship to the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in 1993. It is here

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WILLIAM M. CALDER III MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN CLASSICAL STUDIES

American Friends of AvH was saddened to hear about the passing of Professor William M. Calder last October. We are grateful for his generous gift, which allows us to support the work of scholars in the areas of classical antiquity or its reception in medieval and modern times. The recent selection round took place in November and we are pleased to introduce the 2022–2023 class of William M. Calder III Memorial Fellows.

Nathan Arrington is an associate professor of classical archaeology at Princeton University. He is the author of *Ashes, Images, and Memories: The Presence of the War Dead in Fifth-Century Athens* (Oxford University Press, 2015) and *Athens at the Margins: Pottery and People in the Early Mediterranean World* (Princeton University Press, 2021). A field archaeologist as well as an art historian, he has been directing excavations in Aegean Thrace since 2013. He is currently working on a book on haptics and Greek art. While a Humboldt Fellow at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet, Munich, he is examining the intersection of touch and burial in Greek funeral art and rituals.

Lorenzo Dell'Oso is currently a Humboldt Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Georg August University Goettingen (Seminar for Romance Philology). After completing a PhD in Italian as a Presidential Fellow at the University of Notre Dame (2015–2020), he took up the positions of Postdoctoral Fellow at Notre Dame (2020–2021) and Research Fellow in Italian at Trinity College Dublin (2021–2022). His research interests are in Dante Studies, Material Text Culture, and Intellectual History. More precisely, he seeks to understand how Late-Medieval Italian writers acquired and disseminated, through their vernacular works, theological and philosophical ideas that were orally discussed within the higher-learning institutions of the time (universities and advanced conventual schools) where Latin was the language of teaching and communication.

Douglas Finn is currently a visiting assistant professor at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. He is a Humboldt Research Fellow and is spending

the summer as a guest researcher in the Theology Department at the University of Goettingen, hosted by church historian Professor Peter Gemeinhardt. His current project, “Figuring Heaven in the Midst of Hell: The Character of Job in the Preaching of John Chrysostom,” investigates the late antique bishop John Chrysostom’s use of the biblical figure of Job as a moral exemplar for his Christian congregations.

Alexander Free holds a PhD in ancient history and Greek philology from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet, Munich. He is the author of *Geschichtsschreibung als Paideia. Lukians Schrift “Wie man Geschichte schreiben soll” in der Bildungskultur des 2. Jhs. n. Chr.* (Vestigia 69; Munich 2015). His research focuses on ancient historiography, Lucian of Samosata, the history of the Roman Empire, as well as on Roman Egypt and papyrology. At present he is a Feodor Lynen Fellow at Yale University and is preparing a book on the history of Hermopolis magna in Egypt during the 1st and the 4th century CE. Together with his host, Professor Noel Lenski, he is organizing a spring 2023 workshop on civic identities in the Eastern Mediterranean world between the Hellenistic times and late antiquity.

Evan Freeman is currently an Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Regensburg, where he is studying Byzantine mosaics of the post-Iconoclastic era. His research focuses on the art and ritual of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire. He earned his PhD at Yale University in 2019. From 2020–2021, he held an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Smarthistory, the Center for Public Art History,

co-editing the *Smarthistory Guide to Byzantine Art* (with Anne McClanan) in 2021. His co-edited volume (with Roland Betancourt), *Byzantine Materiality*, will be published with De Gruyter in 2023.

Han-luen Kantzer Komline is associate professor of church history and theology at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. She is the author of *Augustine on the Will: A Theological Account* (Oxford University Press, 2020), winner of the Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise, and co-author, with Mark Noll and David Komline, of *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity* (4th edition, 2022). Her current book project, “The Idea of the New in Early Christian Thought,” analyzes how Christians of late antiquity conceptualized and defended the innovative character of the Christian faith. Kantzer Komline is delighted to be pursuing this research as a Humboldt fellow based at the University of Tuebingen with Professor Volker Drecoll as her host. A lecture on her project is planned for February 8, 2023, as part of the Humboldt Lecture Series at the University of Tuebingen.

Jacob A. Lollar (PhD Florida State University, 2018) is an Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow at the “Beyond Canon” Centre for Advanced Studies at the Universitaet Regensburg. His current research projects include a critical introduction with translations of the Acts of Thekla in Syriac, as well as a collaborative project on the function and use of para-biblical traditions in late antique and Medieval Syriac and Armenian Christian cultures. He has published widely on para-biblical traditions in Eastern Christianity and regularly works with manuscripts in libraries in London, Paris, Berlin, Rome, and Sinai, Egypt. When not reading ancient manuscripts, Jacob enjoys hiking with his wife in the Bavarian forests and eating ice cream with his two daughters.

Continued on page 7

DONOR HONOR ROLL • January 1, 2021–December 31, 2021

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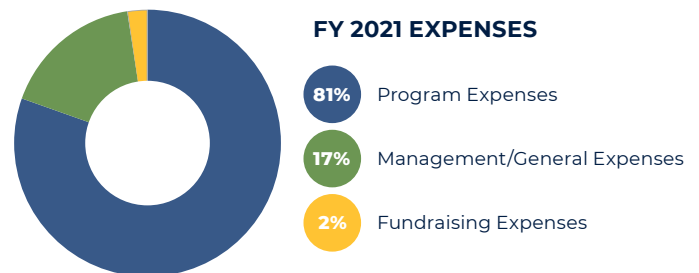
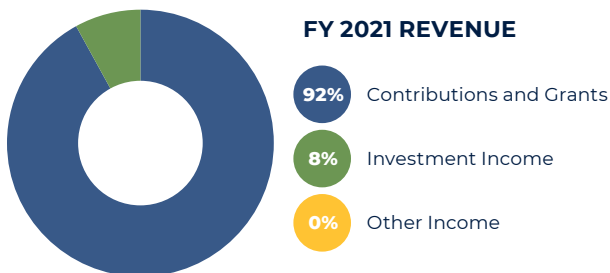
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	Krista Mikos*			

*Denotes individuals who made multiple contributions in 2021

Ganguly from page 4

that I wrote my book, *The Crisis in Kashmir: Portents of War, Hopes of Peace* (Cambridge, 1997), the first theoretically-grounded work that sought to explain the origins of the crisis. Two decades after

the publication of this book, I was made a Distinguished Professor at Indiana University, Bloomington. Subsequently, receiving the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship is easily the most recent major highlight of my professional life. That being said, given the sheer personal

pleasure and academic benefits that I derived from the fellowship, joining the American Friends of AvH board, thanks to the initiative of Director of Advancement Jessica Hamilton, constitutes yet another landmark in my professional life. 🌐

Calder from page 5

Adam Trettel is currently a Humboldt Fellow at the University of Leipzig, hosted by Professor Marcus Deufert. He is researching the reception of Lucretius in late Latin poetry, especially in Prudentius. With the continuing support of the Humboldt Foundation, he recently presented

papers at Oxford for the conference “Translation and the Limits of Greek-Latin Bilingualism in Late Antiquity” (June 2022), at University La Sapienza, Rome for a seminar on Latin lexicography and ancient grammar (October 2022), and at the Society for Biblical Literature annual meeting in Denver, on Dracontius

(November 2022). He will participate in a research exchange with the Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa in the spring of 2023, hosted by Professor Alessandro Schiesaro. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, he completed a BA at Yale University (2010) and a PhD and MTh at the University of Edinburgh (2013, 2018). 🌐

COMING UP IN 2023

American Friends of AvH will attend the following meetings in 2023:

Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence Meeting

Washington, DC | February 7–14, 2023

Southeast German Studies Consortium Workshop

Tuscaloosa, AL | February 23–24, 2023

European Career Fair

Boston | February 25, 2023

American Physical Society Meeting

Las Vegas | March 6–10, 2023

American Association for Cancer Research Conference

Orlando, FL | April 14–19, 2023

Society for Neuroscience Meeting

Washington, DC | November 11–15, 2023

Humboldt Digital Dialogues

American Friends of AvH is grateful to all the speakers and moderators in the 2022 Humboldt Digital Dialogues series. We look forward to holding additional sessions in 2023 on the science–policy–society interface; racism in science and scholarship; and technology and sustainability. Please get in touch with our office if you are interested in speaking or moderating an event.