



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 the changing landscape of research, higher education, and professional development in the United States and beyond.

Dear Humboldtians and Friends,

The year 2015 has not only been an important year of anniversaries, but also significant new challenges for Germany and German-American exchanges.

In October, Germany celebrated the 25th anniversary of reunification. 1990 was also the year in which the German Chancellor Fellowship Program was introduced under the patronage of Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl with the aim of promoting the transatlantic partnership. Over the last twenty-five years, the German Chancellor Fellowship has expanded to reflect a changing world: this expansion has been both geographical, to Russia (2002), China (2006), and India and Brazil (2013); and topical, with program participants representing a wide variety of fields such as urban planning, environmental science, and transportation, as well as more traditional areas like economics and international security. We are grateful to German Ambassador to the United States Peter Wittig for hosting the US German Chancellor Fellows at his residence to commemorate the program's launch and celebrate their accomplishments.

In what may constitute one of the greatest challenges since reunification, Germany is grappling with an unprecedented influx of refugees and migrants from the Middle East and Africa. German universities and organizations in higher education and research are part of a society-wide response to both the new challenges and opportunities presented by the inflow of those seeking to escape persecution and conflict. Universities are creating language courses for pro-

spective students and offering special courses and supplementary or "bridging" services. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Philipp Schwartz Initiative, announced in June 2015, is a partnership between the AvH, the Foreign Office, and foundations, universities, and NGOs to help persecuted researchers who have come to Germany.

The influx of refugees and migrants will also have broader implications for German universities' approaches to and understanding of internationalization and diversity in higher education and research—themes that offer rich opportunities for transatlantic exchange and discussion. To that end, American Friends looks forward to continuing the German-American dialogue it initiated last year on the challenges of developing a comprehensive approach to internationalization of higher education and research.

The year 2015 also has been a year of change and new challenges for American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. We have continued to deepen our cooperation with partner organizations to promote the fellowships and awards of the Humboldt Foundation, participating in over 15 professional meetings and career fairs either independently or as part of the "Research-in-Germany" initiative, a partnered effort supported by Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research. As part of the "RiG" initiative, American Friends also has been pleased to support the efforts of the Humboldt Foundation to strengthen the networks of scholars and scientists who have collaborated with colleagues at German universities, work that has made the AvH a trailblazer in developing both the concept of "research alumni" and tools for engaging Humboldtians and other scientists and scholars who have spent time at German universities and research institutions.

The network of US Humboldtians is the most important mechanism we have for informing talented researchers about the opportunities for research in Germany. We are therefore pleased to report that a working group of the American Friends Alumni Council, headed by Matthew Grayson (STP, 2000), is developing ideas to expand and enhance the effectiveness of the Humboldtians on Campus program.

Finally, while we were sorry to bid goodbye to several staff members who have contributed to the growth and development of American Friends in recent years, we are pleased to have in place a team of professionals who share a passion for German-American exchange and a commitment to employing their skills and experience to support the network of US Humboldtians, promote the programs of the Humboldt Foundation, and inform and shape the US discussion on international research collaboration and exchange.

Dr. Cathleen Fisher, President



American Friends Board Chairman Eric Koenig speaks about his fellowship experience

25th Anniversary Celebration of the German Chancellor Fellowship

On November 3, 2015, American Friends celebrated the 25th anniversary of the German Chancellor Fellowship (BUKA) program at the German Embassy in Washington, DC. Ambassador Peter Wittig opened the celebration, stressing the three qualities that have made BUKAs so successful: curiosity, excellence, and leadership. Since the program's introduction in 1990, US German Chancellor Fellows, nearly 260 in number and spread across 34 states, have been a vital part of the Humboldt Foundation's network of 26,000 "Humboldtians" worldwide. Now expanded to Russia, China, India, and Brazil, the program continues to draw young leaders from a wide variety of fields.

BUKA alumnus, former senior attorney at Microsoft, and American Friends Board Chairman Eric Koenig spoke about how the program had a profound professional and personal impact—he and his spouse Amy Schwartz met while on the program. Natasha Bajema, a BUKA alumna and director of the Program for Emerging Leaders at National Defense University, described the wide breadth of knowledge and experience she gained during her fellowship. A common thread heard in the speeches and conversations throughout the evening were the close people-to-people connections forged during the program and how these relationships have been cultivated over the years, long after the fellowships ended.

As a testament to the program's lasting impact, alumni in China are currently busy planning the March 2016 meeting in Suzhou, which will bring together BUKA alumni from China, as well as selected participants from the United States, Russia, and India, to discuss the "Internet and the Future." Planning has also begun for a fall 2016 conference in Washington, DC.

Research in Germany and Promotions News

The fall has been a busy season for promotion of the Humboldt Foundation's awards and fellowships. On October 1, Charlotte Johnson attended the **Idealist Grad Fair** in Washington, DC, an event that connects attendees with representatives from various fields and are geared toward "careers that make a difference." The event was an opportunity to independently promote the German Chancellor Fellowship Program. As most visitors had not previously considered a fellowship in Germany as part of their post-graduation plans, the event allowed American Friends to promote not only the German Chancellor Fellowship, but also Germany itself as a research destination.

The **German Studies Association (GSA)** held its 39th annual conference in Arlington, Virginia from October 1–4. The GSA brings together over 1,000 scholars focused on German, Austrian, and Swiss history,

literature, cultural studies, political science, and economics, promoting research opportunities in and further study of German-speaking cultures. American Friends teamed up with the German Research Foundation (DFG) as an exhibitor and manned a table of materials to inform attendees of the Humboldt Foundation's programs. The GSA conference gave American Friends staff the opportunity to meet a number of fellowship recipients and alumni who shared positive experiences about their time in Germany and expressed interest in remaining connected with the alumni network.

The European Commission's **Destination Europe** event in Chicago showcased the dynamic culture of research and innovation in Europe and highlighted the numerous opportunities that researchers from all countries can find in Europe. On October 16, Charlotte Johnson joined colleagues from the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), DFG (German Research Foundation), and FhG (Fraunhofer Gesellschaft) in presenting the German research landscape and various research programs and funding organizations. After the introduction by Deputy Consul General Mario Ingo Soos, Dr. Sonja Ochsenfeld Repp, from the Contact Point of Research Organizations (KoWi) in Bonn, and Emily Formica, from the DFG office in Washington, gave an overview of the structure and strengths of the German research landscape and introduced programs that lead fellows to scientific independence and ultimately professorships in Germany, including the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Humboldt Professorship and the Sofia Kovalevskaja Award. The highlight of the event was a testimonial from Humboldtian Dr. David E. Featherstone, Professor of Biology and Director of Undergraduate Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. A former Humboldt Research Fellow, Dr. Featherstone is heavily involved with the international network of Humboldtians. He discussed his cooperation with neurobiologists at the Max Planck Institute for Experimental Medicine in Göttingen and described his time in Germany as a highlight of his life, both professionally and personally. Following the presentations, many of the 250 participants continued their discussions on research opportunities in Germany at the "Research in Germany" (RiG) table.

The RiG team stayed on in Chicago through October 21 to attend the 45th annual Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Annual Meeting, which draws over 30,000 attendees from around the globe. In addition to providing information on research funding opportunities, the "Neuroscience



Charlotte Johnson discussing AvH Programs at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting in Chicago



David Featherstone giving an alumni testimonial at Destination Europe in Chicago

in Germany” booth showcased German neuroscience clusters of excellence, graduate schools, and the Bernstein Computational Network. Over the course of four days, materials detailing the funding possibilities of the various organizations, along with a listing of neuroscience institutes in Germany, were in high demand. Representatives from the DFG, DAAD, and American Friends were able to provide over 600 consultations—proof that interest in Germany remains high.

On Sunday, October 16, SfN organized a workshop on “Internationalizing Your Research, Training, and Funding Experience” that included roundtable discussions between the audience and representatives of private and public organizations. Representing the “Neuroscience in Germany” booth, Charlotte joined DFG employees to discuss the added value of international research experience and provided additional information on funding opportunities. On Monday evening, the DFG hosted a lecture by Leibniz Prize winner Prof. Dr. Michael Brecht of the Humboldt University, Berlin and the Bernstein Network for Computational Neuroscience, followed by the annual German Social, where approximately 250 guests gathered to exchange ideas and contacts under the banner of research collaboration and mobility.

American Friends’ last promotional activity for 2015 will be the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco from December 14–18 with the RiG team.

AvH Philipp Schwartz Initiative: A New Aid Program for Persecuted Researchers

The recent refugee crisis has raised questions about the fate of researchers in war-torn regions. In response, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Federal Foreign Office have announced plans for the **Philipp Schwartz Initiative**—a new program to support researchers who are threatened by war and persecution in their own countries and are seeking sanctuary in Germany. The initiative is named after Jewish pathologist Philipp Schwartz, who fled Germany in 1933 and subsequently founded the “Notgemeinschaft deutscher Wissenschaftler im Ausland” (Emergency Society of German Scholars Abroad).

The initiative will provide German universities and research institutions with the means to host foreign researchers for a period of two to three years so that they can continue their work. It is anticipated that 20 researchers will benefit from the program in 2016 and 2017. Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier announced the initiative in June, saying “By becoming actively involved today, we are, in a small way, repaying other countries for what they did for German researchers decades ago.” “We want to send a signal about the openness of German science. We intend to help people who can benefit our science system but who will be desperately needed in their own countries when it comes to rebuilding them in the hopefully not too distant future,” said Helmut Schwarz, the President of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

A further objective of the Philipp Schwartz Initiative is to raise awareness among Germans of the difficulties that displaced researchers face. With the help of informational events, conferences, and advisory services—provided by experienced organizations such as the Scholars at Risk Network and the Scholar Rescue Fund—German universities and research institutions will be able to acquire and share information on the ways in which they can help.

For more information, please see <https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/press-release-2015-23.html>.

Abbreviations

STP=Humboldt Research Fellowship	BUKA=German Chancellor
USS=Humboldt Research Award	Fellowship

Spotlight on Alumni

Breaking the Glass Ceiling: A Lifetime of Achievement for an Alexander von Humboldt Alumna

Linda P.B. Katehi (USS, 1995), Chancellor at the University of California, Davis, received the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) Simon Ramo Founders Award in October 2015—the first woman to receive the award since its establishment in 1965. Katehi was selected for her “visionary leadership in engineering research, entrepreneurship, and education, and for national advocacy of higher education as a major driver of the U.S. economy.”



Katehi was born and raised in Greece, where she received her Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens. She went on to receive her Master’s and Doctoral degrees from UCLA. In 2009, Katehi became the first woman to serve as Chancellor at UC Davis. In this role, she has spearheaded numerous initiatives, including UC Davis’ first-ever comprehensive fund-raising campaign, projects to increase diversity, and the establishment of the UC Davis World Food Center, which tackles critical issues such as environmentally friendly food production for a growing planet. Katehi also holds joint faculty appointments in both electrical and computer engineering as well as in women’s and gender studies. She has served as the chair on both the President’s Committee for the National Medal of Science and the Secretary of Commerce’s Committee for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

Art, Science, and the Cerebral Cortex

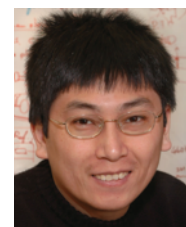
David Featherstone (STP, 2009–2011), Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, shared his experience as a young researcher in Germany at the European Commission’s Destination Europe event in Chicago. We caught up with him after his presentation to talk about his research and views on international academic exchange.



Neuroscientist Featherstone says that science and art are exactly the same endeavor. Both are byproducts of evolution’s relentless drive to optimize the function of our cortex, which is the most enlarged part of our brain as compared to that of other primates, and required for self-awareness, problem solving, and communication. In other words, we are biologically driven at the deepest levels to understand the world around us and then try to communicate that understanding to others. Featherstone believes that the only difference between scientists and artists is that scientists struggle mostly with understanding while artists wrestle with communication. But successful scientists and artists both ultimately do the same thing: they change how the rest of us see the world. This highlights what Featherstone (who began his undergraduate studies in art, but now does molecular neuroscience research), loves most about the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: It facilitates understanding and communication within and between academic disciplines, unrestricted by national borders. He thinks there is no better way to promote humankind’s highest ideals.

* * *

Cheng Chin (STP, 2014), a Professor at the James Franck Institute, the Enrico Fermi Institute, and the Department of Physics at the University of Chicago, established the first group devoted to studying ultracold atoms and molecules at the University of Chicago. He and his team have discovered how to control atomic interactions using lasers operating at a “magic” wavelength to convert repulsion



between cesium atoms into attraction. The findings of this experiment were published and highlighted in *Physical Review Letters* (PRL) in October 2015.

J. Laurence Hare (BUKA, 2003–2004) is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Arkansas and was named the director of the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences International Studies program in October of this year. This program is designed, in line with Fulbright's aspirations, to promote peace through education. Hare's research is focused on the formation of identity and the emergence of nationalism through the transnational experiences of scholars and scientists, with special attention paid to the Germanic and Scandinavian identities. Hare's first book, *Excavating Nations: Archaeology, Museums, and the German-Danish Borderlands* (University of Toronto Press), was supported by his German Chancellor Fellowship and was published this year. In addition to research and writing, he teaches courses on European history, historiography, and historical methods.



Thomas Kailath (USS, 2003) was recently honored by Indians for Collective Action, a nonprofit that finances and supports social entrepreneurship and community development in India. The Stanford Emeritus Professor was selected for his philanthropic initiatives in India, including his work through the Women's Leadership Program, a charitable foundation begun by his late wife, Sarah Kailath. He was also chosen by President Barack Obama as a recipient of the National Medal of Science in 2014.



Pilot Series Update

The internationalization of science and scholarship entails both challenges and opportunities for the United States and Germany. To explore the respective responses of the United States and Germany to global science, American Friends organized two workshops on the issue in May. The workshops are part of a series that explores the German-American experience in research collaboration and Germany's approach to internationalization. Insights gained from the series will be incorporated into a policy brief containing a set of recommendations for governments, nongovernmental actors, and science funders to develop a more comprehensive and strategic approach to US international research collaboration with Germany and Europe, and with international partners more generally.

Check out the AFAvH website!

www.americanfriends-of-avh.org

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A special thank you goes out to all our donors. Your generosity supports American Friends and the AvH community both in the United States and abroad. You may donate through the provided envelope or online at www.americanfriends-of-avh.org/donate.



Dr. Angela Ittel discusses approaches to international S&T collaboration at a workshop on May 21.

The first workshop on "The Governmental Role in International S&T Collaboration: Lessons from the German-American Experience" was held on May 7 in Washington, DC. The event featured remarks by Mr. Volker Rieke, Director General, Directorate General European and International Cooperation in Education and Research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Federal Republic of Germany, and Dr. Jonathan Margolis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science, Space, and Health, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, US Department of State. American Friends Board member Dr. William Colglazier, Visiting Scientist and Senior Scholar, Center for Science Diplomacy, American Association for the Advancement of Science, moderated the event. The second workshop on "The Role of Universities, Academies, and Scientific Societies in Fostering S&T Collaboration between the United States and Germany" was held on May 21. Dr. Angela Ittel, Vice President, International Relations & Teacher Education, Technical University of Berlin, made introductory comments on the internationalization approach and strategy of the TU Berlin. AFAvH Board members Dr. Jeffrey Peck, then Vice Provost for Global Strategies and Dean of the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College of the City University of New York, and Dr. Joseph Francisco, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, spoke about the approaches of US universities and of the role of scientific societies in facilitating US engagement in international research collaboration.

A third workshop focusing on "The Role of Science Funders in International S&T Collaboration" is planned for early 2016.

Planned Giving

American Friends encourages alumni and friends to consider making an estate gift (bequest). Making a bequest:

- ensures the future well-being and visibility of the Humboldt network;
- gives tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to weigh in on important questions facing US research and educational institutions; and
- is an easy way to leave a lasting legacy and lessen the burden of taxes on your family.

For more information, please contact AFAvH Chief of Operations Ilonka Oszvald at ilonka.oszvald@americanfriends-of-avh.org or (202) 609-7880.

2015 William M. Calder III Fellows

American Friends is pleased to announce the recipients of the William M. Calder III Fellowship. The 2015 Fellows are Dr. Diego De Brasi, Dr. Christelle Fischer-Bovet, Dr. Stephen Kidd, Dr. Claas Lattmann, and Dr. Anke Walter.

Each year, the William M. Calder III Fellowship is awarded to a young, highly qualified German Feodor Lynen Fellow or US Humboldt Research Fellow to pursue research related to classical antiquity or to its reception in medieval and modern times. Since 2004, ten prestigious William M. Calder III Fellowships have been awarded to support projects exploring such diverse topics as literary techniques in Greek historical narratives, Greek cultural identity in the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman Imperial Period, religious conflicts of the late Greco-Roman antiquity, and ancient Platonism.

Dr. Diego De Brasi

Dr. Diego De Brasi received his BA in Literary Sciences from the University of Turin, also receiving his MA in Classical Philology there in 2007. He then moved to the University of Bamberg, where he obtained his PhD in Classical Philology and Greek Studies in early 2011 with a dissertation now published under the title “L’immagine di Sparta nei dialoghi platonici: il giudizio di un filosofo su una (presunta) pólis modello” (International Plato Studies 33). In Bamberg he collaborated with members of the Graduiertenkolleg “Generationenbewusstsein und Generationenkonflikte in Antike und Mittelalter” on “Genus und Generatio: Rollenerwartungen und Rollenerfüllungen im Spannungsfeld der Geschlechter und Generationen in Antike und Mittelalter” (Bamberger Historische Studien 6). He is currently an Assistant Professor of Classical Philology and Greek at the University of Marburg. De Brasi’s considerable international experience includes time at the University of Cambridge as a visiting student, and at the University of Oxford as a participant in the Summer School in Greek Palaeography, as well as experience in Germany, Italy, and Switzerland. In Fall 2015 he began a 12-month post-doctoral research stay at the University of Notre Dame, supported in part by the Humboldt Foundation’s Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship (academic host: Gretchen Reydam-Schils) and in part by the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study. At Notre Dame he is working on a monograph on *The Relation of Body, Mind and Soul in Lactantius’ De opificio Dei, Gregory of Nyssa’s De hominis opificio and Nemesios of Emesa’s De natura hominis*.



Dr. Christelle Fischer-Bovet

Dr. Christelle Fischer-Bovet received her PhD in Ancient History from Stanford University in 2008. Her dissertation examined the army in Hellenistic Egypt by drawing on the works of sociologists on state formation. Her current research focuses on the social and cultural history of the Eastern Mediterranean from Alexander the Great to the Romans (4th c. BC–1st c. AD), with a special interest in Greco-Roman Egypt. Fischer-Bovet is an Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Southern California. She is currently a Humboldt Research Fellow at the University of Freiburg, where she is working on two books: *The Ptolemaic Empire*, which aims at developing a better understanding of state formation and *Imperialism in Egypt from the Conquest of Alexander to the Inclusion of Egypt into the Roman Empire* (332–30 BCE), and a multi-authored volume, *Comparing the Ptolemaic and Seleucid Empires: The Role of the Local Elites and Populations*.



Dr. Stephen Kidd

Dr. Stephen Kidd, an Assistant Professor at Brown University, received his BA from Washington University in St. Louis in 2002 and his PhD from New York University in 2011. His book, *Nonsense and Meaning in Ancient Greek Comedy* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) asks why comedy, unlike other genres, gives rise to the perception that some part of it is not meaningful (“just silly,” “just fun”) despite the fact that new meanings continue to be discovered year after year. Now he is asking the question “what is play?” and looking to Classical Greece for answers. As a Humboldt Research Fellow at the Humboldt University’s Institute for Classical Philology in Berlin, Kidd is writing an intellectual history of the concept of play in ancient Greece that includes a linguistic study of the Greek verb *paizo* and the verbs collocated around toys, games, and music. In addition, he is studying depictions of play in material culture. Both of these projects will allow for insights into Greek *paidia*, its divergences from the English play, and new ideas about play itself.



Dr. Claas Lattmann

Dr. Claas Lattmann studied Greek Philology, Phonetics and Digital Speech Processing, and Computer Science at the University of Kiel, where he obtained his MA in 2004. Following additional studies of Latin Philology, he received his PhD in 2008. His main areas of scholarly interest are ancient Greek poetry and ancient philosophy and science. Lattmann’s thesis, *Das Gleiche im Verschiedenen: Metapher des Sports und Lob des Siegers in Pindars Epinikien* (De Gruyter, 2010), analyzes Pindar’s odes of praise for victors at ancient sports games from a semiotic perspective and puts forward a new interpretation of these cryptic songs, which have been the subject of much controversy and discussion since antiquity. Since 2005, Lattmann has been working at the Department of Classics at the University of Kiel. He is currently a Feodor Lynen Fellow, hosted by Professor Peter Bing in the Department of Classics at Emory University. During his fellowship, which ends in July 2016, Lattmann will finish his second book, a study that will provide new insights into Plato’s epistemology and the dark history of pre-Euclidean mathematics by scrutinizing Plato’s use and theory of mathematical models. His research as a Feodor Lynen and Calder Fellow analyzes how the mathematical modeling in the *Timaeus* relates to *Politeia X*.



Dr. Anke Walter

Dr. Anke Walter holds a doctorate in classical philology from the University of Heidelberg. She has spent time as a research collaborator at Princeton University while working on her dissertation, “Erzählen und Gesang im flavischen Epos.” Currently, she is a research associate at the Heinrich-Schliemann-Institute for Classical Studies at the University of Rostock. As a Feodor Lynen Fellow in the Department of Classics at the University of Virginia, she is examining how the changes in the perception and configuration of time that took place during the reign of Augustus in Rome are reflected in the aetiological narratives of Virgil’s *Aeneid* and Ovid’s *Fasti*.



Staff Changes at American Friends

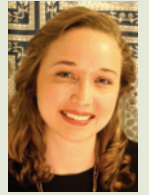
In July 2015, American Friends bade farewell to **Natalia Wobst**, who had served as *Director of Programs* since July 2013. Natalia was responsible for developing and implementing American Friends programs, including alumni activities, jointly sponsored events, and fund-raising initiatives. During her time at American Friends, Natalia spearheaded the planning and execution of the annual fund and planned several major events, such as the German Chancellor Fellowship meeting. American Friends is grateful to Natalia for her great contributions and wishes her success in her new endeavors.

In September 2015, our Program Coordinator **Haley Armstrong** moved on to pursue an exciting new opportunity. Haley joined American Friends as an *Office Assistant* in September 2013 and was subsequently promoted to the *Program Coordinator* position. Haley brought great enthusiasm and a peerless work ethic to everything she did and greatly expanded promotion efforts during her time at American Friends. We wish her well in her new role.

We also added three new members to the team in summer/fall 2015. **Ilonka Oszwald** joined American Friends as *Chief of Operations* in August. She was previously Content Manager and Senior Publications Manager at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Prior to joining Carnegie, she was Publications and Research Program Coordinator at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies. International exchange has always been an important part of Ilonka's life. She spent a year at the Universität Augsburg on a university exchange program and worked for the Yokohama city government for two years as a Japan Exchange Teaching Program (JET) English teacher. Since then she has worked closely with the Embassy of Japan as a JET Program application reviewer and interviewer. Ilonka has an MA in German and European Studies from Georgetown and a BA in German and Modern European Studies from the University of British Columbia in her hometown of Vancouver, Canada. She speaks German, Japanese, Hungarian, and basic French. As *Chief of Operations*, she will be running day-to-day office operations, working closely with the President to implement the strategic plan, overseeing the work of the program coordinators on promotions and American Friends programs, and assisting the Alumni Council in efforts to expand their numbers and activities.



Charlotte Johnson joined us in September as *Program Coordinator*. Prior to joining the AFAvH team, Charlotte spent a year in Saarland, Germany on a Fulbright grant. She has been interested in German language and culture since she participated in a high school exchange year in Germany with Youth for Understanding and the Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange program, organizations with which she is still involved. Charlotte has interned for her Iowa Congressman as well as for several non-profits, including E3 Kids International and the ONE Campaign. She holds degrees in International Affairs and German from the University of Mary Washington, where she led both the German and competitive swimming clubs and worked as a Resident Assistant and Counselor on campus. Charlotte's enthusiasm and professional experience will be as asset as we continue to promote Alexander von Humboldt opportunities at events in and outside Washington and expand American Friends programs and social media presence.



Tyler Kunkle joined the American Friends team in November as our second *Program Coordinator*. Tyler completed his BSc in International Business with a concentration in Economics and completed a second major in German at Elizabethtown College, where he also wrote an honors thesis on forced labor in Germany during World War II that is part of the Stadtallendorf labor camp's on-site library collection. He brings with him leadership experience, having held positions as Treasurer and President in his college's Student Senate and German Club, respectively. Tyler comes to our team after spending the 2014-2015 academic year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Mainz. As a representative of the United States in Germany, he was able to build upon his passion for languages, travel, and cross-cultural understanding between the US and Germany that began with a 13-month study abroad program in Vienna, Austria and Marburg, Germany from 2012-2013. A recipient of the State Department's Gilman scholarship, Tyler has represented, promoted, and recruited for study abroad programs. These experiences, coupled with additional professional work in sales, marketing, and website development, will translate particularly well to his role at American Friends.



American Friends Board of Directors,
Berlin, October 18, 2015



American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Donors January 1–December 31, 2014



Donations from alumni and friends help support our efforts to promote 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.

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October 21–23, 2016

Dupont Circle Hotel, Washington, DC

The meeting will feature selected fellows from
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Coming up in 2016

American Friends will be at the following events in late 2015/2016:

American Geophysical Union Meeting

San Francisco, December 14–18, 2015

European Career Fair

Boston, February 6–8, 2016

German Studies Association Meeting

San Diego, September 29–October 2, 2016

Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting

San Diego, November 12–16, 2016

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