environmental citizenship: politics, practices, representations

The notion of **Environmental Citizenship** resonates strongly across the disciplines as well as in political, educational, and activist practice. The urgency of current debates about climate change, energy use, loss of biodiversity, or extraction policies have renewed both the interest in but also the critical reflection of the concept and its analytical, cultural, and political function in American Studies.

This conference will explore the affordances of 'environmental citizenship' for thinking about human and more-than-human relationality and responsibility from a range of disciplinary perspectives, thus putting to test its viability and limits as a theoretical concept, a methodological tool, and a term to conceptualize cultural and political practices. Can the notion of environmental citizenship be an adequate response to global phenomena like climate change? Does the concept pose the risk of favoring greenwashing by emphasizing individual responsibility instead of systemic action or, on the contrary, can it help anchor environmental issues as elemental to democratic society? What is the potential role of fiction in reconceptualizing human and morethan-human relationalities? How does a historical perspective help us evaluate the possibilities and limits of environmental citizenship and explore alternative concepts of responsibilities and agency?

No conference fee/registration requested. The keynote addresses will be live-streamed. Please see www.amerika-akademie.de

the bavarian american academy

The Bavarian American Academy promotes and coordinates the interdisciplinary cooperation of scholars in the social sciences and cultural studies in the widest sense, specializing in aspects of North American culture, society, politics, and economics in their hemispheric and global contexts.

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The organizers wish to thank the following institution for their generous support:





thursday july 6

2.00 PM Welcome and Introduction

Heike Paul (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, BAA)

Katja Sarkowsky (U Augsburg)

2.30 PM Panel 1

Historical Dimensions of Environmental Relationality in a More-Than-Human-World

Chair: Catrin Gersdorf (U Würzburg)

Simone M. Müller (U Augsburg)
A Two-Class System? On the Limits of
U.S. Environmental Citizenship

Monique Allewaert (U Wisconsin-Madison) Four Suns: Solar Imaginaries, Climate Colonialism, and Planetary Citizenship

4.00 PM Coffee Break

4.30 PM BAA Award Ceremony

5.30 PM Keynote 1

Chair: **Katja Sarkowsky** (U Augsburg)

Rebecca Tsosie (U Arizona)
Rethinking Reconciliation:
Land-Based Citizenship and
Indigenous Futures

7.00 PM Reception

environmental citizenship: politics, practices, representations

friday july 7

9.00 AM Panel 2

Literary Representations of Environmental In/Justice

Chair: Julia Faisst (U Regensburg)

Sonya Posmentier (NYU)

What Use are Flowers? Lorraine

Hansberry's Eco-Apocalyptic Imagination

Linda Hess (U Augsburg)

Satirizing the Eco-Citizen: The Question of Individual Responsibility in E.A. Copenhaver's *My Days of Dark Green Euphoria*

10.30 AM Coffee Break

11.00 AM Emerging Scholars' Forum

12.15 PM Lunch Break

1.30 PM Panel 3

Practices of Environmental Citizenship

Chair: Kirsten Twelbeck (U Augsburg)

Michael Kotutwa Johnson (U Arizona)

Redefining Environmental Citizenship:

A Hopi Indian's Perspective

Marit Rosol (U Würzburg)

Navigating Tensions between Environmental and Social Justice Concerns: The Case of German and Canadian Community Food Initiatives

3.30 PM Coffee Break

4.00 PM Keynote 2

Chair: **Sylvia Mayer** (U Bayreuth)

Jouni Häkli (U Tampere)

Environmental Citizenship: Between (Unwarranted) Hope and (Unproductive)

Despair

5.45 PM BAA Member's Meeting

saturday july 8

9.30 AM Keynote 3

Chair: **Linda Hess** (U Augsburg) **Joshua Barnett** (Penn State U)

Casting One's Lot: Environmental
Citizenship and the Trouble with Care

11.00 AM Coffee Break

11.30 AM Roundtable Discussion Environmental Citizenship as 'Doing Without'?

Chair: **Heike Paul** (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Michael Kotutwa Johnson (U Arizona)

Joshua Barnett (Penn State U)

Isabel Kalous (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

1.00 PM Wrap up and Conference Closing

