The Bavarian American Academy promotes interdisciplinary research in the social and cultures sciences. Funded by both the Bavarian State Chancellery and the Bavarian Ministry of Sciences, Research, and the Arts, the Academy provides a platform for Bavarian Scholars investigating North American culture, society, politics, and economics in their hemispheric and global contexts.

Academy Conference 2012
Cultures of Mobility

To navigate the immense distances of the American continent—on horseback or railroad, by steamship, car, or airplane—has always been a challenge and need for Americans. Hence, mobility has been crucial for both the personal experience of the individual and the thriving of the nation as a whole. The conference conjoins cultural geographers, political scientists, historians, literary critics, economists and social scientists to take a closer look at mobility in an American context (and beyond). As with previous annual meetings of the BAA, speakers will investigate aspects of American mobility from a decidedly transatlantic perspective.

No conference fee
Registration requested

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BMW Lenbachplatz
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
Technische Universität München

July 5 – 7, 2012
Amerika Haus, Munich

July 8 – 11
Film screening: “Roads, Tracks, and Trails”
Werkstattkino München, Fraunhoferstr. 9
For details see BAA website

Conference venue:
Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz 3, U-Bahn Königsplatz
Thursday, July 5

Cultures of Mobility

19.00 Welcome
Klaus Benesch
Director Bavarian American Academy

Christina Sharkey
Foreign Commercial Service Principal Officer,
U.S. Consulate General Munich

Christoph Parchmann
Bavarian Ministry of Sciences, Research, and the Arts

Keynote Address
John D. Kasarda
(Professor, Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina)
The Rise of the Aerotropolis
John D. Kasarda defined the term “aerotropolis,” and he is now sought after worldwide as an adviser. Kasarda gives us a vivid, at times disquieting look at these instant cities in the making, the challenges they present to our environment and our usual ways of life. Aerotropolis is news from the near future—news we urgently need if we are to understand the changing world and our place in it.

Reception

Friday, July 6

9.30 Panel I
Logistics and Freight Mobility
Chair: Barbara Hahn (University of Wuerzburg)
Peter Hall (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, CA) “Resolving” Spatial and Scalar Mismatches in North American Freight Logistics
Barbara Lenz (German Aerospace Center, Berlin) Mobility, Information and Travel Behavior

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Panel II
The Wings of Democracy: Mobility in Times of Airtravel
Chair: Volker Depkat (University of Regensburg)
Anke Ortlepp (LMU Munich) (Post-)Modern Architectures: American Airports and the Limits of Mobility

13.00 Lunch Break

15.00 Panel III
Mobility and the Arts
Chair: Klaus Benesch (LMU Munich)
Ted Bishop (University of Alberta, Edmonton, CA) Tempo Giusto: The Art of the Slow Ride
François Specq (Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lyon) Thoreau’s Geographies of (Im)mobility

18 Uhr Podiumsdiskussion
BMW Lenbachplatz, Lenbachplatz 7
Mobilität / Immobilität—Wege in die Zukunft
Klaus Benesch (Moderator/LMU Munich)
Thomas Hamacher (Technical University Munich)
Klaus Mainzer (Carl von Linde-Akademie Munich)
Armin Nassehi (LMU Munich)
Manuel Sattig (BMW Group, project i Communications)

Saturday, July 7

9.30 Panel IV
Social Mobility
Chair: Stefan Schirm (University of Bochum)
Magdalena Nowicka (LMU Munich) Life-Trajectories of Poles in the UK: Deskilling in a Transnational Perspective
Ludger Pries (University of Bochum) Cross-Border Mobility and Transnational Social Spaces—the Example of Mexico-US-Migration

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Panel V
Cultural Mobility
Chair: Heike Paul (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)
Phillip Vannini (Royal Roads University, Victoria, CA) Cultures of Mobility on Canada’s West Coast
Alexandra Ganser (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg) Reading Multiple Mobilities: Chuck Palahniuk’s Fugitives and Refugees

13.00 End of Conference