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

The conference will address the nation’s struggle to harmonize these opposites, to reconcile the private and the public, both in a historical and comparatist, transnational perspective.

Speakers and contributors take issue with the staggering transformation of public into private spaces (shopping malls, business districts, the occupy movements etc.), with the erosion of privacy in the political arena (from Watergate and the Clinton indictment to the NSA scandal), the ambiguous hyperemphasis on the private in the media and in popular culture (as in confessional blogs, social networks, and the public display of intimacy), and, finally, on the relationship between the private and the public in the realm of literature and the arts (regarding borderline genres such as autobiography and memoir, or the public disclosure of the ‘private’ act of creation in weblogs etc.).

26-28 June 2014

The conference will take place at the Amerikahaus, Karolinenplatz 3, in the center of Munich.

26-28 June 2014

A conference organized by the Bavarian American Academy
26 THURSDAY, 26 JUNE

CONFERENCE OPENING
15.00 WELCOME
Barbara Hahn
Director Bavarian American Academy

AWARD CEREMONY
BAA Dissertation Award

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
David Vincent (Open University, UK)
Privacy and Surveillance in the Nineteenth Century

18.00 Social Event: Soccer World Championship Germany - USA

27 FRIDAY, 27 JUNE

9.30 Panel I
Privacy and Democracy
Introduction: Volker Depkat (University of Regensburg)
Chair: Jürgen Gebhardt (Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg)
Sunshine Hillygus (Duke University): Privacy and Electoral Politics in Today’s Information Environment
Sebastian Haunss (University of Bremen): Contestation about Privacy in the Digital Realm

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Panel II
Privacy and Public Feeling
Chair: Katharina Gerund (Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg)
Erika Doss (University of Notre Dame): Public Feeling, Public Healing: Contemporary Memorials and the Mediation of Grief
Katja Kanzler (Dresden University of Technology): Privacy, Professionalism, and the Female Lawyer in Contemporary TV Legal Drama

13.00 Lunch Break

15.00 Panel III
Aesthetics of Privacy
Chair: Klaus Benesch (Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich)
Julia Watson (Ohio State University): Getting or Losing a Life? Privacy and Online Self-Presentation
Karsten Fitz (University of Passau): Public Photography and Private Lives: American Presidents and the Staging of Privacy

16.30 Coffee Break

17.00 BAA MEMBERS’ MEETING (Members only!)
Annual Meeting of the Bavarian American Academy

28 SATURDAY, 28 JUNE

10.00 Panel IV
Privatization of Public Space
Chair: Barbara Hahn (Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg)
Steven Hoelscher (University of Texas at Austin): Making Place Public in an American City
Christian Stein (Goethe University Frankfurt am Main): Mutating Public Private Governance: The Transatlantic Journey of Business Improvement Districts

12.00 End of Conference