

## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON SPEAKERS**

As a music journalist and PR consultant from Philadelphia, "**Sir**" **Reginald Anthony** has published articles in *Essence* magazine, *The Lynchburg News & Advance*, *Upscale* magazine, and the *Blue Ridge Business Journal*. His career highlights include working for Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes of TLC, interviewing R&B artists Alicia Keys, Brian McKnight, and Faith Evans, and co-hosting a Top 40 radio program in China. He has also profiled notable painters, sculptors, and muralists from the art world. Reginald is currently based in Freiburg where he oversees and hosts the literature program "Let's Talk Books with Reggie" at the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut.

**Noaquia Callahan** is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. She earned a Master's degree in History from the University of Iowa, and dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in German Studies and Sociology from California State University Long Beach. Currently, Callahan is living in Berlin, Germany as a U.S. Fulbright Fellow for the 2016-17 academic year. Her dissertation, "Rare Colored Birds: Mary Church Terrell, African American Feminist Transnational Activism, and the Dilemma of American Citizenship on the World's Stage, 1888-1922," explores the career and networks of Mary Church Terrell, an African American feminist prominent on the international stage, as a window into the international activism of African American women.

In addition to the Fulbright program, Callahan's dissertation project has been supported by the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Washington, D.C., Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Andrew Mellon Foundation, Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University, the Germanistic Society of America (GSA), and the University of Iowa. Following the completion of her dissertation in 2017, Callahan hopes to further advance her work by bringing Mary Church Terrell's ideals of transnational interracial cooperation to bear on our own world. Callahan plans to pursue a career developing international education opportunities for all students.

**Kelly Dittmar** is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University–Camden and Scholar at the Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics. She is the author of *Navigating Gendered Terrain: Stereotypes and Strategy in Political Campaigns* (Temple University Press, 2015), as well as

multiple book chapters on gender and American politics. Dittmar's research focuses on gender and American political institutions, including Congress, with a particular focus on how gender informs campaigns and the impact of gender diversity among elites in policy and political decisions, priorities, and processes. Dittmar was an American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellow from 2011 to 2012, where she served as a legislative aide on education, labor, social welfare, and women's issues. She previously worked as a Federal Legislative Assistant for Governor Jennifer Granholm (MI). At CAWP, Dittmar manages national research projects, helps to develop and implement CAWP's research agenda, and contributes to CAWP reports, publications, and analyses. She also works with CAWP's programs for women's public leadership and has been an expert source and commentator for media outlets including MSNBC, NPR, Huffington Post, and the Washington Post. She currently serves on the editorial board for Politics and Gender and is a board member for Women Under Forty PAC. Dittmar earned her B.A. from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI and her Ph.D. from Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

**Kathleen Hooper** holds degrees from Colorado State University and the University of Wuppertal where she worked as a research assistant and lecturer in American Art. Her work centers on America's post war cultural involvement in Germany and Germany's influences on American cultural life. She is author of *Designing Democracy – Re-education and the America Houses*. Currently she works as a communications consultant. Her list of clients covers small companies that specialize on the United States market to more global firms like Vorwerk and Henkel, where she has done various management seminars on German/American cross-cultural awareness.

**Andreas Hübner** is a lecturer in British and American History at the University of Kassel. He studied British and American Studies, and History at Tulane University New Orleans and Friedrich Schiller University Jena, completing his First State Examination in 2009 and his Second State Examination in 2015. In 2013, Hübner earned a Ph.D. in history from Justus Liebig University Giessen. His research focuses on Louisiana History, Atlantic History and Migration History. Hübner also serves as an editor for Le Mile Magazine and lives in Hamburg.

**Martina Kohl** is a Cultural Affairs Specialist at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany, where she coordinates a Germany-wide speaker program as well as the curriculum development program in American Studies. She received her PhD and MA from the Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, studied at Florida Southern College and taught at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Dr. Kohl frequently teaches

Cultural Diplomacy courses at the Humboldt University Berlin. Together with Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, PD Dr. Maria Moss, and Prof. Dr. Torben Schmidt, Dr. Kohl edits the *American Studies Journal*.

**Julia Nitz** is lecturer for Anglo-American Cultural Studies in the English Department at the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany and founding member of the “Intercontinental Crosscurrents”-network and member of the advisory board of the transdisciplinary journal *SPIEL*. In her doctoral thesis, she dealt with the reception of George III in the British media 1990–2006. Completed in 2009, her dissertation was awarded the “Lutherurkunde” by the Martin-Luther-University and the “Helene-Richter-Prize” by the German Association of English Teachers. Since then, she has published in the fields of cognitive narratology, adaptation/media studies, historiography, and transatlantic and woman studies. Her current book project engages with transtextual methods of identity construction in the personal Civil War writings of Southern U.S. women (1861–1936).

**Stefanie Schäfer** is assistant professor (wissenschaftliche Assistentin) of American Studies at Friedrich-Schiller Universität Jena. She studied English and French in Trier and Minneapolis and received her M.A. and state teacher’s degrees in 2005. In 2009, she completed her PhD thesis (Heidelberg) *‘Just the Two of Us’: Self-Narration and Recognition in the Contemporary American Novel*, which examines the workings of narrative identity formation as a scenario of address in autodiegetic novels. She has co-edited books on contemporary subjectivity, teaching 9/11 literature, and the volume *Fake Identities? Impostors, Con Men, Wannabes in North American Culture* (Campus 2014, with Caroline Rosenthal). She is currently completing her second monograph, “Body for the Nation: The Yankee in 19<sup>th</sup> century Literature and Culture.”

**Marie Schönherr** studied English and History at Leipzig University and at ITT Dublin. She received her first degree in 2009 and qualified as a teacher in 2011.

Afterwards she worked at several public schools in Saxony and taught courses on British and Irish culture, history and society at the English Institute at Leipzig University.

Between 2003 and 2011, she was art director of the English Drama Group Leipzig.

In 2013, she joined the English Institute at Martin Luther University Halle and works in the field of didactics. Here she teaches seminars and conducts student teaching at schools in and around Halle. Her interests in EFL-teaching and -research include

language games, drama activities, language varieties, comedy TV-series and short fictional texts.

**James Willis** is Professor and Chair of the Department of Communications at Azusa Pacific University. He is a veteran news reporter and editor, who earned his Ph.D. in Journalism from the University of Missouri. He has taught at university level for three decades, chairing departments at Boston College, Ball State University, and Azusa Pacific University, and held endowed professorships at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Memphis. He has authored or co-authored 12 books on the media and one on college football. A frequent overseas lecturer, Willis has participated in six lecture tours for the U.S. State Department. He continues to work as a special correspondent and has covered the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, and the 10th and 20th anniversaries of the fall of the Berlin Wall. His honors include a Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, and Undergraduate Faculty Scholar of the Year for 2009 at Azusa Pacific University. Dr. Willis is a writer for "A Virtual Unknown", an ongoing blog for Newsok.com focusing on the everyday impact of the Web 2.0 media on ordinary citizens.