



Michaelmas 2020

TERMCARD

PRESIDENTS' WELCOME 🖐️

Dear Members and Friends of the German Society,

Welcome to the new academic year! We are excited to finally announce our Michaelmas Termcard. Congratulations to all freshers on beginning your studies at Oxford, and welcome back to everyone returning from a far-too-long break!

We have been busy over the summer vacation and we are thrilled to share with you our exciting range of speakers events. From German Ambassador Andreas Michaelis to the activist Carola Rackete, this term is your chance to question and learn from some very distinguished guests. We are particularly proud of our 'Corona Conversations' event series, co-hosted with the Cambridge German Society. This interview series will be a unique opportunity to learn more about the pandemic from some of Germany's leading experts: Professors Eva Grill, Philipp Osten and Marylyn Addo.



Although the pandemic has made social events more difficult, we are not going to take the easy option and host endless online events. Instead, our social events this term have been designed to foster a sense of community in-person wherever possible, whilst strictly remaining responsible, socially distant, and safe. Sign up for our *Schnitzeljagd*, breathe in some fresh air at our *Wandertag* and enjoy some free Oktoberfest-themed *Lebkuchenherzen*!

Finally, a reminder to please check out our [brand new website](#) and to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) - this is where we will post reminders about events, and is the best way of finding out new events scheduled at short notice.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Alaa Baazaoui
Co-President
St John's College

Tor Walberg
Co-President
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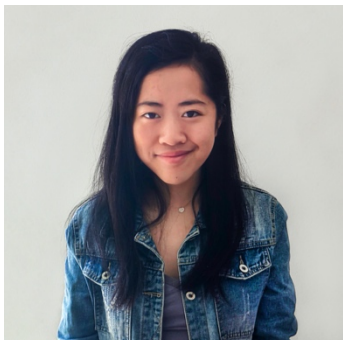


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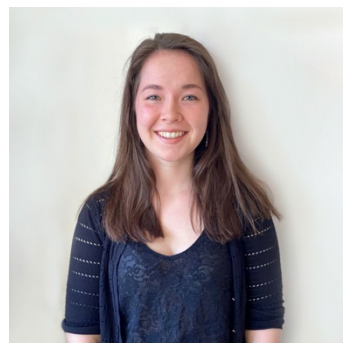
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*University regulations use *President* for Alaa Baazaoui and *Secretary* for Lucas Orchard-Clark instead

** Appointed Officer

SPEAKERS



As always, we have invited speakers from various backgrounds to facilitate insightful and engaging conversations about topics that matter. Moreover, we will continue to receive confirmations from speakers throughout the term, so make sure to follow our newsletter to keep up to date with all of our exciting events.

The committee is always looking for ideas on whom to invite, so if you have any ideas, please pass them on to the committee, and we will try to organise an event!

Dr. Helge Braun – Head of the Federal Chancellery



Dr. Helge Braun is a German medical doctor and politician from the CDU, currently serving as Head of the Chancellery, and Federal Minister for Special Affairs. He has been a member of the German Bundestag from 2002 to 2005 and 2009 to present, serving as deputy leader of the Hessian MPs. He has previously been a Parliamentary Secretary of State at the Chancellery for Bureaucracy Reduction and Federal-State Relations and in the Ministry for Education and Research. In this interview, he will talk about his career in politics, the role of the Chancellery in Federal/State relations as well as the opportunities offered by the German presidency of the EU Council for fighting the COVID-19 pandemic and shaping the foreign policy of the European Union. Look forward to an insight into the inner workings of the German government.

The interview and Q&A session will be conducted in **German**.

Wednesday of Week 1 | 14 October | 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Carola Rackete – Humanitarian Activist



Carola Rackete is a German humanitarian activist, member of Sea Watch and former captain of the ship "Sea-Watch 3". She has gained international attention for her role in the rescue of 53 migrants in the Mediterranean Sea and her subsequent controversial clashes with the Italian government for which she was put under brief house arrest. Besides that, she is also a supporter of the movement Extinction Rebellion. This event is going to centre around human rights in the light of the climate crisis and environmental destruction. Furthermore, she will focus on her book "Handeln statt Hoffen" (English: "Act instead of Hoping") which focuses on civic engagement and a post-growth society. Look forward to an event where we talk about the defining problems of our generation and on how we could solve them.

The interview and Q&A session will be conducted in **English**.

Wednesday of Week 2 | 21 October | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Prof. Fabiola Gerpott – Chair of Leadership at the WHU



Professor Fabiola Gerpott is a German academic and Chair of Leadership at the WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management. She is in the midst of a stellar career, having taught and contributed at numerous universities around the world, and focuses on emergent leadership, leader communication as well as diversity and knowledge management.

In this interview, she will focus on the myths surrounding diversity management and the widely debated 'Frauenquote' (literally: 'women's quota') on boards and committees in the business world. Furthermore, we will talk about different approaches to diversity management and how "Schubladendenken" (stereotyped thinking)

affects diversity initiatives and what might need to change in our discourse to be inclusive to everyone. Join us for an intriguing discussion with a rising star in the academic world.

The interview and Q&A will be held in **English** (tbc).

Wednesday of Week 4 | 4 November | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Andreas Michaelis – German Ambassador to the UK



Andreas Michaelis is the current German Ambassador to the United Kingdom and former State Secretary to the German Foreign Office. He has also served as Ambassador to Israel and Singapore. He will talk to us about his career at the German Foreign Office, the relationship between the United Kingdom and Germany as well as the changes that Brexit might be about to bring to this relationship. Being an Oxford alumnus himself and having worked at the heart of German foreign policy, he will offer an intriguing perspective into what the future holds. Whatever questions you might have about Germany, foreign policy or Brexit, this is the time and place to ask them.

The interview and Q&A session will be conducted in **German**.

Thursday of Week 7 | 26 November | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

All our speaker events are free to attend for members and non-members.

Venues and exact times may change due to logistical reasons, so make sure to [subscribe to our newsletter](#), like our [Facebook page](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#) to always get the latest information.

CORONA CONVERSATIONS



In this interview series, co-hosted with the Cambridge University German Society, we seek to answer some of the most pressing questions of the current crisis: How bad will the second wave get? When will we have a vaccine and how will it work? How have previous pandemics shaped the global order and what can we learn from the past? Our discussions with leading German experts will shed light on the medical, epidemiological, and societal aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is also your chance to ask any questions you have about coronavirus and its consequences - and have them answered by a leading expert in the field. Join us for what promises to be an insightful discussion about the topic that is and will remain relevant for the foreseeable future.

All interviews will be held in German.

Professor Eva Grill – Epidemiologist



Professor Eva Grill is an epidemiologist at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and President of the German Society for Epidemiology (DGEpi). A pharmacist by training, she is now focussing on several aspects of public health and epidemiology. Her expertise lies in understanding the aetiology (causes) of diseases in the public. In March, she and her team were involved in modelling how political decisions might impact the number of infections and subsequent need for intensive care units in Germany.

Week 3 (Exact Date and Time TBC) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Professor Philipp Osten – Medical Historian



Professor Philipp Osten is a medical historian and Director of the Institute of History and Ethics of Medicine at the University Hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf.

In his numerous books and publications, he has extensively studied the political and societal impact of major historic epidemics of infectious diseases ranging from the plague, cholera and tuberculosis to the current outbreak of COVID-19. He describes the current pandemic as a historic turning point and has already initiated the collection of items related to the current pandemic to be part of museum exhibitions in the future.

Our discussion with him will allow us to look at the current pandemic through a historic lens and understand how major historic events currently shape political decisions and our society.

Tuesday of Week 5 | 10 November | 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Professor Marylyn Addo – Infectiologist



Professor Marylyn Addo is a German infectiologist and Head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the German Center for Infection Research (DZIF) in Hamburg and leader of the working group 'Clinical Management, Epidemiology and Immunology of Newly Emerging Infections'. Her group was involved in developing an Ebola and MERS vaccine which is now being tested in clinical trials and she is currently developing a viral vector-based vaccine against COVID-19. In the interview with Professor Addo, we will explore recent vaccine developments and understand how infectious diseases pose an emerging threat to global public health.

Wednesday of Week 6 | 18 November | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (BST) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

We will organise more events as the term proceeds, so make sure to [subscribe to our newsletter](#), like our [Facebook page](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#) to always get the latest information.

SOCIALS

We are trying hard to host social events where people can meet up in a safe and responsible way. We are following all University and Government Guidelines, which we ask you to also follow. Please use the NHS COVID-19 app whenever you are at one of our events, please maintain your distance from others, and please sanitise your hands regularly. If you are required to self-isolate or experience any symptoms of COVID-19 (or any other contagious illness), please do not attend our events.

Schnitzeljagd (Treasure Hunt)



Join us for a scavenger hunt around Oxford! A great way for freshers to get to know the city (and for our 'alte Hasen' to test their knowledge), our clues will show you a few forgotten corners of the city, and introduce you to a little history. This will also be a great opportunity to get to know some other German Society members. Winners will receive a voucher for the Art Café and everyone else can look forward to some German Society stash and goodies along the route. We will be strictly adhering to University and UK Government COVID guidelines, including the rule of six. All participants MUST sign up using our [sign-up form](#).

Sign-up Deadline: Tuesday of Week 1 | 13 October | 12.00 pm (BST) | [Sign-up Form](#)

Announcement of Groups: Thursday of Week 1 | 15 October | 12.00 pm (BST) | Email

Event: Saturday of Week 1 | 17 October (Groups will be sent different start times) | Radcliffe Camera

Literarisches Quartett (Book Review Club)



Remember that novel you read lately and couldn't stop smiling about, the crime thriller that sent a chill down your spine, or that autobiography which really inspired you? Now is the time to share your thoughts! For our Book Review Club, you will be put into groups of four people, where each member will get the chance to present their book of choice and dive into literary discussions about it - which, by the way, absolutely don't have to live up to the standards of the original "Literarisches Quartett" (or maybe you can?). No matter what genre, no matter what language: This is just about exchanging thoughts and giving each other some great reading tips!

Sign-up Deadline: Tuesday of Week 2 | 20 October | 12.00 pm (BST)

Announcement of Groups: Thursday of Week 2 | 22 October | 12.00 pm (BST) | Email

Meetings of Groups: Saturday of Week 2 | 24 October | 4.00 pm (BST) | Venue of Groups' Choice

Lebkuchenherzen (Gingerbread Hearts)



As the Oktoberfest in Munich was cancelled and we can't organise an Oktoberfest this year, we are instead giving away Lebkuchenherzen on a first come, first served basis. We will, then, deliver the Lebkuchenherzen to your pigeon hole by Saturday of Week 3. Please don't hesitate to sign-up if you don't have a college, we will organise alternative delivery arrangements.

Sign-up Start: Sunday of Week 3 | 25 October | 5.00 pm (BST)

Sign-up Deadline: Tuesday of Week 3 | 27 October | 12.00 pm (BST)

Latest Delivery: Saturday of Week 3 | 31 October | Your Pigeon Hole

Wandertag (Hiking Day)



Waldbaden is an untranslatable German word that can only be experienced and felt. On our Wandertag (hiking day) we want to put this into practice. Join us for a long walk through the beautiful surroundings of Oxford to explore and re-discover Oxfordshire's beauty during the colourful autumn season. Put on your hiking shoes, don't forget your mask and let's go!

Saturday of Week 4 | 7 November | 10.00 am | Location TBC

Weihnachtswichteln (Secret Santa)



Join us for our "All I want for Oxmas" *Weihnachtswichteln*! Anyone wanting to participate will get allocated a *Weihnachtswichteln* partner whom you can send a nice Christmas gift and lovely Christmas wishes. You can send whatever you like as long as it costs no more than five pounds and you associate it with Oxford. Get to know someone new and put them into Christmas mood when

Oxmas is just around the corner! We will, then, randomly allocate a *Weihnachtswichteln*-partner to you and send you your partner's name and address by e-mail on Thursday of Week 6. We will randomly give one pair of participants a voucher for GAIL's Bakery so our "Weihnachtswichteln" can meet in person. Please don't hesitate to sign up if you don't have a college; we will organise alternative arrangements.

Sign-up Deadline: Tuesday of Week 6 | 17 November | 12.00 pm (BST)

Announcement of Pairings: Thursday of Week 6 | 19 November | 12.00 pm (BST) | Email

Delivery of Gift: Wednesday of Week 7 (Oxmas) | 25 November | Your Pigeon Hole

We might organise more events as the term proceeds, so make sure to [subscribe to our newsletter](#), like our [Facebook page](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#) to always get the latest information.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

We are very happy to be able to offer free German language classes for our members. The classes are open for all those interested in picking up the German language or brushing up their skills from school. Beginners, intermediate, and advanced learners are all welcome!

In light of the current social distancing guidelines, we will be offering classes online:

Beginner Class (taught by Lucas Orchard-Clark): Saturdays of Term | 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm (BST) | Microsoft Teams

Intermediate Class (focus on grammar, taught by Sarah Fengler): Saturdays of Term | 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm (BST) | Microsoft Teams

Advanced Class (focus on reading and speaking, taught by Lucas Orchard-Clark): Saturdays of Term | 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm (BST) | Microsoft Teams

For more information, [subscribe to our newsletter](#), like our [Facebook page](#), follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#), or [email our language officer](#).

OUR SPONSORS

Our sponsors provide the financial support that enables us to invite our speakers and put on all our events. They also organise career events in cooperation with the Oxford University German Society. All important information regarding the events will be provided by [email in our weekly newsletter](#) and on our [social media accounts](#). We would like to thank all our sponsors for their kind support:

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JOIN THE SOCIETY!

Become a member of Oxford's central hub for German culture and language! We seek to entertain and bring together all those interested in Germany, including learners of the German language and students from German-speaking countries. Membership will give you free entry to most of our events as well as access to a unique network of students who share your interest in Germany. After your graduation, you will be designated a "friend of the society", keeping your right to attend all Stammtische, events, and talks.

You can become a member at one of our events or join [online on our website](#).



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