

Moving toward

COLLECTIVE ACTION:

Activism and Academia

The German Association for American
Studies' Diversity Roundtable Symposium

14-15 May 2022

Zoom and Kiel University


Welcome! We are so looking forward to this weekend of conversation and collaboration, which we hope participates in a rhizomatic-like network of sustenance that connects past conversations and actions with future ones. We are grateful to the organizations that made this weekend possible and free-of-charge to all participants, especially the English Department, Diversity Fund, and Frauen auf's Podium Initiative at Kiel University and the German Association for American Studies, as well as the English Department at the Leibniz University in Hannover.

For Zoom participants: If you have any technical problems, please reach out to us! We will check our email periodically during the day.

For in-person participants: We have provided a few alternative modes for seating, and a room is available to us all day as a place to which to retire to, as needed.

Thank you all for being here!

Saturday 14 May

10:00	Symposium Opening Prof. Dr. Jutta Zimmermann and Dorothee Marx (Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel); Dr. Abigail Fagan (Leibniz Universität Hannover)
10:15	Opening keynote
<p>"Fostering Collective Accountability in Academe: A Few Big Thoughts and Small Concrete Ideas"</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Margaret Price (Ohio State University)</p> <p>The pandemic has raised many questions about everyday life—for example, "How shall I negotiate questions of 'safety' or 'health' with my co-workers, my community, even my closest loved ones?" Before the onset of the pandemic, these questions were already active topics of conversation in communities of people who are disabled, BIPOC, queer, and marginalized in other ways. In this talk, Prof. Dr. Price draws upon data from a study with disabled faculty to highlight the theme of collective accountability.</p>	
	

11:45	Lunch break A light lunch will be provided to all in-person participants
12:45	Roundtable 1

"Practice What You Teach": Diversifying Teaching Practices – Four Perspectives from Kiel University

Chair: Jiann-Chyng Tu (Universität Regensburg)

Panelists: Anneke Schewe, Dilâra Yilmaz, Dr. Melissa Schuh, and Victoria Allen (all of the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel)

14:15	Coffee break
14:45	Panel 1

Diversity in/and Academia

Chair: Linda Hess (Universität Augsburg)

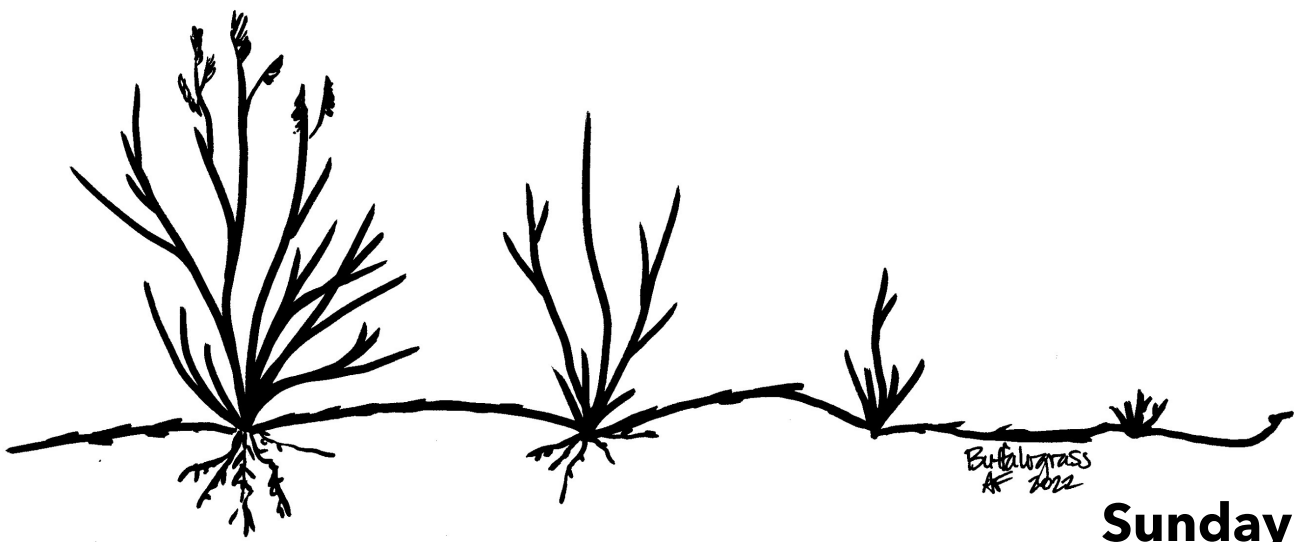
Speakers: Dr. Alexis Padilla (University of New Mexico), "Fugitivity and Intersectional Anti-Ableist Justice Enactments By and with Academic Knowledge Workers" and Gesine Wegner (Dresden University), "Decoding the Discipline: How Teaching About Methods Can Help Level the Playing Field in American Studies"

15:45	Coffee break
16:15	In-person workshop (<i>unfortunately not available via Zoom</i>)

"Ableism in Academia – A Space for Reflection and Action"
Noa Winter

German institutions of higher education typically understand disability to be an object of study—when they consider it at all—even though 11% of students at German institutions of higher education are disabled; the number of disabled instructors and researchers has yet to be determined. This workshop will deal with different forms of ableism in academic spaces and give participants the opportunity to reflect on their own embodied experience.





Sunday 15 May

10:00

Roundtable 2

Epistemic Disobedience at the JFKI

Chair: Robel Afeworki Abay (Humboldt-Universität Berlin)

Panelists: Emmy Fu (Freie Universität Berlin), Prof. Dr. Michael L. Thomas (Freie Universität Berlin), Helen A. Gibson (University of Erfurt)

11:30

Coffee break

12:00

Closing keynote



"From Dialogue to Action: Upholding Antiracist Activism within Academia"

Dr. Emily Ngubia Kessé (Freiburg University)

What does it mean to do—and sustain—anti-racist activism in the academy? In this talk, Dr. Kessé will raise questions about our role as academic activists and challenge us to develop an understanding of how systems function and evolve – in order for us to gain leverage and uphold antiracist agendas within institutions of higher learning.

c. 13:30

Closing remarks and goodbye coffee

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Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

Philosophische Fakultät

Frauen aufs Podium!

Diversity Fund

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Leibniz
Universität
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Deutsche Gesellschaft
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