Announcements

Connect e-Newsletter
With this issue, we bring you Connect, the new, periodic e-newsletter for the US Humboldt Alumni Network. Do you have news or ideas to share? Be in touch with us at alumni@americanfriendsofavh.org

New American Friends Website
We welcome you to the new American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation website. Browse and see all that we have to offer you for lifelong engagement in the Humboldt experience at www.americanfriendsofavh.org

Our Work with AvH
American Friends of AvH works with the over 5,400 US alumni of AvH programs and with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to promote lifelong engagement in networking, exchange, and collaboration among researchers and professionals in many disciplines and fields.

We execute our mission through programs that share and pair with those of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Read more

The US Humboldt Alumni Network
Over 5,400 members of the US Humboldt Alumni Network are part of a worldwide network of 29,000 Humboldt alumni that spans academic disciplines and professions. Read more
Humboldt Alumni Award
Professor Robert McMeeking from the University of California, Santa Barbara was one of four alumni honored with a Humboldt Alumni Award at the Foundation’s Annual Meeting. The award is given annually for alumni efforts to intensify academic and cultural ties between Germany and their home countries and for strengthening their networks.

Upcoming & Past Events
Madison, Wisconsin area Humboldtians are cordially invited to an April 9th talk on: "The Twilight of Angela Merkel: Implications for Germany and Europe," held as part of the Deutschland Ambassadors Initiative.

Humboldtians in Colorado came together in January for a dinner that included alumni and graduate students interested in research opportunities in Germany. The event was sponsored by the American Friends of AvH Alumni Council and the group is planning another event for later this year.

For more information on how to apply for a sponsored event, visit Programs, Awards & Fellowships.

At Marquette University, renowned philosopher and Humboldtian Robert Brandom gave the annual Aquinas Lecture at a February 2019 conference on “Themes from the Philosophy of Robert Brandom,” an event organized by fellow Humboldtian Sebastian Luft. The American Friends of AvH Alumni Council sponsored the reception that followed the lecture.
Engaging the Humboldt Network on Climate Mitigation
An Interview with Dale Medearis

American Friends of AvH Board member and Alumni Council Chair Dale Medearis discusses his recent efforts to engage with the Humboldt Alumni Network on work related to climate mitigation. Read the interview here.

Best Ways to Give Back

There are many ways to give back and pay forward as a Humboldtian. One of the best ways is to make a gift to American Friends.

While each year American Friends receives an annual budget appropriation from AvH, as a US nonprofit, we must also raise our own funds from US alumni to assist in underwriting alumni programs, services, publications, and other budgetary service items.

In other words, you—as a US Humboldtian—play a significant role in underwriting programs that directly serve the network of US Humboldt alumni.

As a priority, we seek unrestricted annual fund gifts, major gifts, and legacy gifts. Unrestricted giving offers the American Friends of AvH Board the flexibility to cover funding needs on an annual basis. And we also seek restricted gifts to scale our Three Programs. These three program priorities serve US Humboldtians over the span of their careers.

Be in touch and let us know how we may help you with your giving interests. Consult our website for gift types and giving options.

Join your US Humboldtian colleagues in staying engaged by making a gift to support the lifelong Humboldtian experience—and to pave the way for a new and inclusive next generation of Humboldtians.

Become a Humboldtian on Campus

Humboldtians on Campus (HoCs) are volunteer alumni from all Humboldt fellowship and award programs who are based at public and private research universities, small liberal arts colleges, as well as in governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector. HoCs play a vital role in sustaining the connections among the over 5,400 members of the US Humboldt Alumni Network in the United States and ensuring the visibility of the Humboldt Foundation and the strength of the applicant pool of future Humboldtians.

We invite you to serve as an HoC and help us connect to Humboldtians or prospective Humboldtians on your
If you would like to help us extend the Humboldt experience to a new generation of scholars, scientists or professionals, please email alumni@americanfriendsofavh.org.

---

Stay Involved

German Chancellor Fellows: Recommit and Spread the Word!

German Chancellor Fellows return from their stays in Germany inspired, energized, and with expanded professional and personal horizons. To spread the word about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, we ask US “BUKAs” to recommit and help American Friends of AvH to promote the program to young leaders around the United States. 2019 applications opened on March 15th—please share information about the fellowship with your professional networks.

---

Share Your Story

We encourage alumni to share HumboldtStories testimonials, articles they have been featured in, and their unique perspective and experiences with international research collaboration to alumni@americanfriendsofavh.org.

Current HoCs are invited to join the Humboldtians on Campus LinkedIn Group to share your experiences and update one another on your initiatives.

---

News from AvH

250th Anniversary—Humboldt Today

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Alexander von Humboldt, the Humboldt Today initiative of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation invites alumni from around the world to share their thoughts on, “For me, Humboldt today means ...” and looks forward to contributions from the US Alumni Network through short videos or written statements.
The Philipp Schwartz Initiative

The *Philipp Schwartz Initiative* of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation helps threatened researchers who have fled their countries to continue their work at German universities and research institutions. In late 2018, the Initiative announced that 35 more 2-year fellowships have been awarded and that the hitherto temporary initiative will be funded by the Federal Foreign Office on a permanent basis.

Press release

AvH Accepting German Chancellor Fellowships Applications

The German Chancellor Fellowship offers young professionals the opportunity to advance their careers through experience in their chosen field in Germany and connection to a network of prospective international leaders. 2019 applications opened on March 15, 2019. [Read more](#)

New Board and Staff Members

American Friends of AvH is pleased to welcome Dr. Elisabeth Malsch and Dr. Judith Wellen to its Board of Directors. Malsch is a leader in the forensics practice at Thornton Tomasetti in New York. She spent two years at the Braunschweig University of Technology in Germany on a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers. Wellen is head of the Strategy and External Relations Department at the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and brings a wealth of experience from the international education field to the position. [Read more](#)

Ms. Kirsten Hampton joined American Friends of AvH as Senior Vice President in early 2019 after a long career as an executive and consultant with global, transatlantic, education, nonprofit, and government experience. [Read more](#)

Ms. Taylor Nelson joined American Friends of AvH as a Program Coordinator last fall. [Read more](#)

PHOTO CREDITS: David Ausserhofer

Copyright © 2019 American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, All rights reserved.

Sign up for the next issue