



Left to right: Kathleen Lance,  
Stephanie Cabell, Shelley King-McGee,  
Nina Brandt and Siegfried Ruppert



Dear HAUS member,

We hope you all enjoyed your summer and a smooth start into the busy fall season. More than 30 U.S. alumni and family joined the festivities in Heidelberg in July. We celebrated Heidelberg University's 630<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Heidelberg Alumni International (HAI). A big thank you to all of you, who crossed the Atlantic and to the HAI-team for the terrific organization.

We inaugurated »Heidelberg Giving Day«. Every year on October 18, we will ask alumni to support Heidelberg University through a special online donation. We honor the day in 1386 when Heidelberg University opened its door to welcome the very first students. Thank you to everyone who participated.

We are also happy to announce the recipient of the fifth annual HAUS Scholarship and the first beneficiary of the Amirana Fund, especially created for international medical students.

We hope you will enjoy this latest edition of HAUS Blatt.

Herzliche Grüße,

Kathleen Lance

Irmintraud »Jimmie« Jost

Happy Anniversary, HAI!

HAUS 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting

Fifth HAUS Scholarship Awarded

Amirana Fund supports first medical student

Rektor and Vice-Rektor attend the GAIN Conference

Thank you for supporting Heidelberg Giving Day

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HAUS on Social Media

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HAUS President Kathleen Lance greets guests at the HAUS National Meeting in Heidelberg



HAUS Scholarship recipient  
Fahiya Rashid

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, HAI!

Heidelberg Alumni International celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 14-17. About 300 participants from some 30 countries attended the festivities in Heidelberg. HAUS members again represented the largest national contingent from outside Germany. The informal kick-off was held on Thursday evening, with a greeting by Rektor Bernhard Eitel, followed by a reception and buffet dinner. The next morning, alumni celebrated the official opening (Festakt) of the anniversary festivities in the »Alte Aula«. It included a panel discussion on the topic, »Studieren und forschen international - Brücken über Grenzen«. HAUS members Nina Brandt and Prof. Dr. Mohamed Esa were eloquent in describing their personal and professional »bridging« experiences.

Many university departments and institutes offered a rich program of lectures, demonstrations and tours throughout the weekend. The University's Summer Ball lured guests on Saturday evening to the beautifully and brilliantly transformed »Neue Uni« courtyard. Playing from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Hexenturm, the orchestra kept the guests on their toes and on the dance floor throughout the night. Finally, an alumni weekend in Heidelberg would not be complete without the traditional »Riverboat Shuffle«, a three-hour cruise with beautiful vistas on the Neckar. Until the next time in 2021! [More](#)

## HAUS 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING

Seizing the moment, HAUS celebrated its ninth Annual National Meeting during the alumni festivities in Heidelberg. North American alumni and current U.S. students met Friday night at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) for an interesting and entertaining evening with old and new friends. Adam Seipp, Professor of History at Texas A&M University, and HCA Executive Director Wilfried Mausbach discussed transatlantic relations, followed by a lively Q&A session. Next year, HAUS will again look for a location within the U.S. for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary annual meeting.

## FIFTH HAUS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Congratulations! Fahiya Rashid was chosen to receive the fifth HAUS Scholarship. She recently graduated with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from the University of California, Irvine, and has been accepted to the South Asian Studies Master's program at Heidelberg University for the Winter Semester 2016/2017. Fahiya writes, »Studying in Heidelberg, Germany is the opportunity of a lifetime! Thank you, Heidelberg Alumni U.S. for awarding me the scholarship for the winter semester. The scholarship has lifted a tremendous burden off my shoulders.« The scholarship is financed exclusively by donations from alumni living in the U.S. Besides giving back, the sponsors would like to enable the next generation to experience studying and living in Heidelberg. [More](#)



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Baden-Württemberg's Minister for Science, Research and the Arts Theresia Bauer laughs with Heidelberg University President Bernhard Eitel and Vice President Dieter Heermann, while Dr. May-Britt Becker speaks with a guest at GAIN 2016

**AMIRANA FUND SUPPORTS FIRST MEDICAL STUDENT**

Ariunaa Batsaikhan, a medical student from Mongolia, is the first beneficiary of the newly established Amirana Fund. U.S. alumni Drs. Mahomed and Annelene Amirana created a stipend fund to support international medical students at Heidelberg University. Dr. Batsaikhan will receive a monthly stipend to support her and her family during the time of the second »Staatsexamen« and the first part of her elective period. During those intense months, Dr. Batsaikhan will not be able to supplement her income through additional work.

**REKTOR AND VICE-REKTOR ATTEND THE GAIN CONFERENCE**

Rektor Bernhard Eitel and Vice-Rektor Dieter Heermann led a group from Heidelberg University participating in this year's GAIN conference in Bethesda, MD. The intense weekend in early September was filled with workshops, panel discussions, and a talent fair. German PostDocs working in the U.S. and Canada were invited to learn about opportunities in Germany and to engage in passionate discussions about the two university systems on both sides of the Atlantic. Baden-Württemberg's Minister of Science, Research, and the Arts, Theresia Bauer, also attended the GAIN conference.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING HEIDELBERG GIVING DAY**

Thank you for making the inaugural online Heidelberg Giving Day a success and for your part in establishing a new tradition. On October 18, HAUS invited all alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and Heidelberg friends, to give back and donate online in support of Universität Heidelberg. On October 18, 1386, Universität Heidelberg officially opened its doors to the very first students. We plan to remember and honor this significant historic date with an annual online fundraising drive. Everybody who missed the inaugural online giving day has another chance to **donate** for the upcoming next round of the ZUKUNFT STIFTFEN campaign or throughout the year.

**AMAZON: SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT**

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## ACTIVITIES FROM COAST TO COAST

### Chicago

On Friday, September 16, alumni in Chicago had the chance to meet with Tobias Just, Managing Director of Heidelberg University's Marsilius Kolleg. The group gathered at the Berghoff Restaurant. He was able to talk with the alumni one-on-one about Marsilius Kolleg's different interdisciplinary projects. The meeting was also a great opportunity for alumni to network with fellow Heidelberg-Chicagoans and to practice their German.

### New York

NYC area HAUS members enjoyed the roof top Bookmarks Lounge in Midtown on September 12. Over wine and appetizers, the attendees reminisced, met new alumni and listened to presentations by Dr. May-Britt Becker representing CellNetworks, an interdisciplinary research cluster that tackles fundamental questions in cell biology, and Tobias Just, Managing Director at Marsilius Kolleg, the interdisciplinary »think tank« at Heidelberg University.

Heidelberg alumni met at the Goethe Institut New York on October 5 to watch snippets of Costa Compagnie's fascinating Conversation / After Afghanistan. The project translated documentary material on the U.S. and German presence in Afghanistan into performance, dance, sound and objects. The performance is part of the project CONVERSION, which also examines the withdrawal of American forces stationed in Heidelberg for 68 years after the end of World War II. The performance was followed by a question-and-answer session with performers.

### Washington, D.C.

On June 5, HAUS President Kathleen Lance joined D.C. alumni for brunch at the Matchbox restaurant near the Capitol. »Wir hatten viel Spaß«, reported one participant. After the brunch, the alumni went for a stroll around the »Eastern Market«, an open air craft market in the area.

On October 14, Heidelberg University and Heidelberg alumni took part in the day-long-event »German4Success« at the Goethe Institut in Washington, D.C. In workshops and one-on-one conversations, universities, organizations, and companies informed on the advantages and career potentials of studying, interning or working in Germany. Heidelberg alumna Stephanie Cabell shared her experiences in the panel discussion »How German(y) Made My Career«. Heidelberg Alumna Emily Hrurban spoke on the panel »My Study Abroad Experience«.



Heidelberg Alumni (re)connected at the Goethe Institut in Washington, D.C.



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#### HAILS AND FAREWELLS

A big Thank You and best wishes to **Martina Ebert**. Our inaugural Regional Co-Chair for Southern California stepped down after seven years »on the job«. Fortunately, Martina will stay involved with the HAUS Scholarship selection committee. Martina's Regional Co-Chair **Diane Guido** is looking for another partner in the Los Angeles metropolitan region!

**Nancy Stuhlmuller Hitscherich** agreed to serve a second term on the HAUS Leadership Committee. Thank you, Nancy, we look forward to further benefitting from your ideas and thoughts.

#### HAUS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Those active on social media know that HAUS has a strong presence on Facebook, Twitter and the HAI regional subgroup on LinkedIn. It is a great way for alumni to keep current on the latest news from Heidelberg and HAUS, to network and to connect with fellow alumni.

If you are hesitant to ›plug in‹, know you can still take advantage of what HAUS offers on social media by way of the HAUS twitter handle: @HeidelbergHAUS. You do not need a twitter account to read through the posts but you do need one to tweet, retweet or interact in any way.

Regarding HAUS on Facebook and LinkedIn, an account is required though you can still access the LinkedIn group information page by searching: Heidelberg Alumni U.S. (HAUS).

If, though, you decide to officially join the 100+ members and followers on **Facebook** and Twitter and 400+ on **LinkedIn** already connected, you could ›like‹, ›post‹ or ›reply‹ to chapter events, job opportunities and Uni, HAI or HAUS updates.

It is simply the best way to connect with fellow alumni – at least in real time.

And if you have not done yet, please register with the official **Heidelberg Alumni Portal** this is still the best way to stay connected and to insure to never miss any information or invitation.

*Please let us know if you have information to include in the next HAUS-Blatt.*