

„Aufbruch ins Alter“ – Kulturen des Alter(n)s

10:45 – 11:30 **"The Power of Life Stories"**

"Die Kraft des Erzählens"

Kathryn de Medeiros, Ph.D.
Copper Ridge Institute, Maryland

11:30 – 12:00 **Discussion with**

Pat Thane and Kathryn de Medeiros

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch Break

Visions of Ageing Societies

Zukunftsvisionen alternder Gesellschaften

Moderation: **NN**

13:30 – 14:15 **"Generational Justice in the context of Demographic Change"**

"Generationengerechtigkeit im Kontext des demografischen Wandels"

Dr. Jutta Hoppe
Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations (SRzG)

14:15 – 15:30 **Panel on**

"Visions of Ageing Societies"

*Podiumsdiskussion
"Zukunftsvisionen alternder Gesellschaften"*

Prof. Dr. Gertrud Backes
University of Kassel

Dr. Jutta Hoppe
Kathryn de Medeiros, Ph.D.
Philipp Missfelder MdB
Prof. Pat Thane, Ph.D.

Exhibition:

"As Long As We Both Shall Live",
Photographs by Robert Fass, New York

Programme:

Dr. Barbara von Bechtolsheim
Embassy of the United States of America

Guido Jansen
British Council Germany

Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Kunow
University of Potsdam

Dr. Andrea M. Schneider
Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation

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Directions:

Public transportation: Bus number 100, 106, 187 or 200 to stop
Nordische Botschaften/Adenauer-Stiftung

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ZEITFRAGEN

Invitation

**The "Coming of Age":
Cultural Construction
of Age(ing)**

***„Aufbruch ins Alter“ –
Kulturen des Alter(n)s***

Akademie der
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
Tiergartenstraße 35, Berlin

A joint event of the Embassy of
the United States of America,
the British Council and
the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation

7 and 8 September 2006

The "Coming of Age": Cultural Construction of Age(ing)

While Western societies are getting older, we are still obsessed with trying to stay young. Age tends to be what is postponed and neglected. Trends like anti-ageing and wellness maintain an ideal of dynamic progress and youth. Despite an obvious demographic change our cultures lack positive visions of an ageing society.

This attitude has been challenged recently: Individuals, business and governments are beginning to discover the demographic change as an opportunity. Initiatives of senior citizens offer their expertise, businesses respond with innovative products and creative ways to design home and city environments; advertising is beginning to represent ageing with joy, beauty, and fulfillment.

Old age has been represented in the arts and media over time, images and stories have informed the attitude vis-à-vis the older generation. Old versus young have been reflected through paintings and photography, through literature and film. Different cultures imply the cultural meaning of age in a variety of ways. Written and oral narratives document and shape the individual as well as the social perception of one's changing role in life. The international and interdisciplinary approach will open up new perspectives on the cultural and personal construction of age and develop visions of an ageing society.

Die Konferenzsprache ist Englisch, es wird simultan deutsch übersetzt.

Thursday, 7 September 2006

14:00 **Welcome**
Begrüßung
Wilhelm Staudacher
General Secretary of Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation
Peter R. Claussen
Cultural Attaché of the Embassy
of the United States of America
Dr. Patrick Hart
Deputy Director of the British Council Germany

Cultural Construction of Age and Ageing *Kulturelle Konstruktion des Alter(n)s*

Moderation: **Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Kunow**
University of Potsdam

14:15 – 14:45 **"Aged by Culture: Cultural Urgencies"**
*"Kulturbedingtes Altern:
Kultureller Handlungsbedarf"*
Prof. Margaret Morganroth Gullette, Ph.D.
Brandeis University

14:45 – 15:15 **"Ageing and its Discontents:
Women, Bodies, Generations"**
*"Das Unbehagen am Altern:
Frauen, Körper, Generationen"*
Prof. Kathleen Woodward, Ph.D.
University of Washington

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee Break

15:45 – 16:15 **"Perceptions of Age(ing)"**
"Wahrnehmungen des Alter(n)s"
NN

16:15 – 16:45 **"Gender and Ageing:
Have we forgotten Older Men?"**
*"Alter(n) und Geschlecht:
Haben wir die alten Männer vergessen?"*
Prof. Sara Arber, Ph.D.
University of Surrey

16:45 – 18:00 **Panel on**
"Personal vs. Cultural Scripts of Ageing"
Podiumsdiskussion
"Individuelle bzw. kulturelle Entwürfe des Alterns"
Prof. Sara Arber, Ph.D.
Margaret Morganroth Gullette, Ph.D.
Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Kunow
Prof. Kathleen Woodward, Ph.D.

Moderation:
Dr. Heike Hartung
University of Greifswald

18:00 – 19:00 **Reception**
Empfang

19:00 – 19:45 **Slide Show: "As Long As We Both Shall Live"**
Diavortrag "Bis dass der Tod uns scheidet"
Robert Fass
Photographer, New York

19:45 – 20:30 **Reading: "Uncle Rudolph", a novel**
Autorenlesung: "Uncle Rudolph", Roman
Paul Bailey
Writer and Broadcaster, London

Friday, 8 September 2006

Learning and Unlearning to grow old – The Art of Meaningful Ageing *(Ver)Lernen, alt zu werden – Die Kunst des sinnerfüllten Alterns*

Moderation: **Dr. Melinda Crane**
Journalist

10:00 – 10:45 **"The Place of Older People
in the Cultural History of Europe"**
*"Der Platz älterer Menschen in
der europäischen Kulturgeschichte"*
Prof. Pat Thane, Ph.D.
Institute of Historical Research, London