

# **Annual report of the Swiss Association for North American Studies / Association Suisse des Etudes Nord-Américaines / Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Nordamerika Studien (SANAS)**

## **Wissenschaftliche Tätigkeit**

### **Tagungen**

This year's AGM took place at the University of Geneva on Saturday, November 30. It was connected to the SANAS symposium on the topic of "Changing the Narrative: Water and Aesthetic Activism." Invited speakers were Prof. Elizabeth LaPensée (Michigan State University) and Prof. Joy Porter (University of Hull). The title of Prof. LaPensée's talk was "From Water Walkers to Water Protectors in Indigenous Games." Prof. Porter gave a talk titled "The Political Ecology of Decolonizing Water."

The next SANAS AGM will take place in fall 2020 (November 13-14) at the University of St. Gallen as part of the biennial SANAS conference on the topic of "Work: A Conference on the Labors of Language, Culture, and History."

The SANAS Spring Reading Group took place in Zurich on March 16. Our invited guest was novelist Jennifer Clement, author of the celebrated novel *Gun Love*. Jennifer Clement gave a reading from her novel followed by a lively discussion.

### **Publikationen**

The SANAS Newsletter, which is published twice a year and compiled by PD Dr. Julia Straub, was distributed electronically to all members in spring and fall. The Spring Newsletter included contact information for all SANAS members and a report of members' activities in the preceding calendar year.

## **Internationale Beziehungen**

This year's meeting was organized by the Hellenistic Association of American Studies and took place in Thessaloniki, Greece (April 4-6) where the EAAS board meeting was followed by the biennial EAAS Women's Network Symposium.

## **Öffentlichkeitsarbeit**

Information for SANAS members is published twice per year in our Association's Newsletter. E-mails are circulated regularly via the Association's mailing list. Information concerning SANAS is also published in the EAAS Newsletter, the DGfA Newsletter and on the International section of the ASA website. SANAS is also represented on the Internet as well as on Facebook.

## **Administration und Statistik**

The SANAS Board met on November 30. The SANAS AGM was held on November 30. We welcomed eight new members to our Association.

The Secretary, PD Dr. Julia Straub, compiled the Fall and Spring Newsletters, administered the SANAS mailing list, kept membership records, was responsible for the migration of the website and regularly updated it.

## **Ausbildung, Information**

The Biennial SANAS Conference, the SANAS Spring Reading Group, and the SANAS mailing list are instrumental in integrating graduate students in American Studies into the scientific community. To further reach out to SANAS members, the SANAS Facebook page is continually updated. The "U.S. Embassy SANAS Travel Award" was awarded for the fourth time. It is designed to encourage cultural and academic exchanges between Switzerland and the United States. The award is given to a student at a Swiss university with the strongest proposal for a one-week visit to the United States that may involve a combination of academic activities or more general cultural experiences. This year's award was given to Ms. Morgane Ghilardi, a PhD candidate from the University of Zurich. We received one application for the SANAS Research Award. It was given to Ridvan Askin from the University of Basel for a conference trip. At the AGM possibilities for a further promotion of PhD students in terms of networking (e.g., separate mailing lists, promotion of attendance at CUSO events) were discussed.