

May 13 – 20, 2016

Mississippi Place-Based Workshop

The Center for German and European Studies (CGES), the Nelson Institute Center for Culture, History, and Environment (CHE), and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC) collaborated on its first joint, place-based workshop that puts the histories of the Mississippi and Danube rivers in a comparative frame. Nine German and Austrian faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and PhD students from the environmental humanities, sciences, and social sciences spent five days in the US exploring with a group of 33 CHE faculty and graduate students the geological, environmental, cultural, and economic histories of the upper Midwest viewed through the lens of the Mississippi watershed. The trip formed the basis of an episode, [The Mississippi](#), which aired on July 31st, 2016 on the nationally syndicated Wisconsin Public Radio show, *To the Best of Our Knowledge*. The workshop also resulted in four articles and photo essays that appeared in the popular digital magazine, *Edge Effects*, produced by CHE:

- Spring Greeney, "[Five Ways to Ford the Dam\(n\)ed Mississippi](#)," *Edge Effects*, 10 May 2016.
- Daniel Grant, Elizabeth Hennessy, Nathan Jandl, Eric Nost, and Rebecca Summer, "[Snapshots of the Mississippi](#)," *Edge Effects*, 24 May 2016.
- Owen Selles, "[Sounding Calls](#)," *Edge Effects*, 21 June 2016.
- Matt Turner, "[Rhythms of Time Along the Water](#)," *Edge Effects*, 9 August 2016.

A comparative trip on the Danube has been organized by the RCC participants on the Mississippi place-based workshop that will run from June 4th to June 11th and will travel along the Danube from Germany to Austria to Slovakia by bus, boat, streetcar, bike, and foot exploring the cultural, economic, environmental, geological, and political history of the river.

European Guests include: Dorothea Hutterer, Eleonora Rohland, Uwe Luebken, Vikas Lakhani, Wolfram Mauser, Heike Bach, Pavla Šimková, Felix Mauch, Gudrun Pollack, Christoph Mauch, and Marta Niepytalska.