

## International Collaborations

### David Lederer



The ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions is committed to creating and enhancing international collaboration. Since 2015, CHE has been pleased to host visiting scholars while they undertake international research fellowships. Visiting fellows share their research and participate in CHE seminars and conferences, to deepen or develop their own approaches to the history of emotions. By engaging in discussions with members of the Centre, visiting scholars make a vital contribution to the intellectual life of CHE and create new opportunities for collaborative research.

David Lederer is Senior Lecturer at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, where he teaches early modern European history. From February 2015 until January 2017, he has been seconded to the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of the Emotions at Queen Mary, University of London to research emotional welfare and brotherly love, under the auspices of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship from the European Commission. In relation to this research, David visited the Adelaide node of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of the Emotions for 12 months, from February 2015.

David received his MA from Michigan State University for a thesis on crime and punishment during the German Peasants' War and a PhD from New York University in 1995 for his dissertation on spiritual physic in seventeenth-century Bavaria. Germany is his geographic specialty and his interests include the histories of psychiatry, suicide and Catholic priests who had sex during the Counter-Reformation. He has authored more than 30 articles and his monograph, *Madness, Religion and the State in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), was awarded the Gerald Strauss prize for best book on Reformation history.

David reflects on his activities while a visitor with CHE, below.

From 1 February 2015 to 30 January 2016, I was attached to the CHE node in Adelaide as a

visiting Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, sponsored by the European Commission, to undertake research into the history of *naechstenliebe* (the ungendered term usually rendered as 'brotherly love' in English) from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. My research is based on Peter Blickle's concept of 'communalism' as applied to the Lutheran Reformation and examines how its application in German towns gave rise to social welfare. In its secularised form, it eventually expanded to become a cornerstone of the nation-state after the French Revolution. In Australia, my work focused on the so-called Old Lutherans of South Australia and the original four missionaries sent by the Dresden Mission Society in 1838–1840. The records are held in and around Adelaide at the Lutheran Archives and in the archives of the State Records of South Australia, as well as other major libraries.

The initial results of my research were presented in a number of public presentations, including these five major ones:

- 'Facing Fear in the Antipodes: The Experience of German Colonists and Missionaries in Australia and Papua during the 19th Century', German Studies Association annual conference, Washington, DC, 1–4 October 2015.
- 'Projecting Fear: The German Mission to Australia and Papua New Guinea', 'Savage Worlds? German Understandings of Non-European Peoples 1815–1918' conference, Flinders University, Adelaide, 29 June–1 July 2015.
- 'Fear and German Missionaries in South Australia', 'Emotions and the Contact Zone' conference, The University of Western Australia, Perth, 26 June 2015.
- 'Exporting Brotherly Love: Emotions and Community in 19th-Century Australia and Papua', 'Colonial Christian Missions and Their Legacies' conference, Copenhagen University, Copenhagen, 27–29 April 2015.
- 'Emotional Welfare: From Brotherly Love to Fraternity', Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions work-in-progress seminar, The University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 8 March 2015.

I also gave two radio interviews:

- 'The Meeting of Cultures', on 'Searchlight: How Research Shapes Our World', 8 May 2015. Produced and presented by Ewart Shaw, *Radio Adelaide Digital 101.5* [28 mins]: <https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/the-meeting-of-cultures/>
- 'Revisiting the Lutherans', on 'Searchlight: How Research Shapes Our World', 1 November 2015. Produced and presented by Ewart Shaw, *Radio Adelaide Digital 101.5* [13.30 minutes]: <https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/revisiting-the-lutherans/>

The interim results have been submitted for peer review to a major British historical journal under the working title 'Structures of Settler Colonialism: Dresden Missionaries as Linguists and Government Agents During the South Australian Frontier Wars, 1838–1846'. Additionally, a second article was submitted for publication and should appear later this year or early next: 'Dragged to Hell: Familicide and Brotherly Love during an Age of Crisis', in *Disaster, Death and the Emotions in the Shadow of the Apocalypse*, edited by Charles Zika (London: Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming).

Furthermore, I participated in the Barngarla language reclamation program directed by Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann, working on links between culture, mental health and suicide prevention. As a result, I submitted an ARC Discovery Grant proposal in February 2016 to continue our collaboration and have just completed the rejoinders.

At The University of Adelaide, I initiated a museum exhibition titled 'Love Thy Neighbour', scheduled for October 2017. I will curate the exhibition, which is a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation and recounts Luther's work, with

special attention to his doctrine of the Word. It also charts the global impact of Protestantism to include a focus on the Lutherans of South Australia, the linguistic work of German missionaries and its influence on Indigenous communities through art, music and language.

At the moment, I am again in Adelaide, where I have been following up on research and links, as well as participating in the Centre's activities over the last six weeks (including the 'Romantic Rituals: Making Love in Europe c.1100–1800' workshop on 4 July, and a reading group on suicidal emotions on 20 July). This visit will include a research trip to the environs of the Coorong and to The University of Melbourne.

Simultaneously, I've been working on a number of ancillary projects: an edited volume with Palgrave Macmillan on *German History in Transnational Perspective*, with articles by Wolfgang Behringer, Chris Clark and Dorothee Wierling; two articles on the history of suicide for the *Cambridge World History of Violence*, edited by Philip Dwyer and Joy Damousi (forthcoming 2017); an article on 'Superstition and the End of Witchhunting', in *The Routledge Handbook for the History of Witchcraft*, edited by Johannes Dillinger (2016); a chapter on 'Religion and Spirituality' for the *Bloomsbury Cultural History of Emotions*, Volume 3, edited by Susan Broomhall and Andrew Lynch; and a monograph, *Global History of Suicide*, for Reaktion Press.