Conference Program: "Perilous Passages – The Birth of Risk in 19th-Century American Culture"

23rd–24th October 2015, Schloss Thurnau

University of Bayreuth / University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

Day 1 – Friday, 23rd Oct. 2015:

1:30 p.m.	**Welcome & Introduction**
2:00–4:00 p.m.	**Workshop I – Bubbly Economics: Gambling, Speculation, Insurance**
	Chair: **Sylvia Mayer** (University of Bayreuth)
	Johannes Voelz (University of Frankfurt): "Charles Brockden Brown's *Ars Conjectandi*"
	Dennis Mischke (University of Stuttgart): "Insurance, Risk, Slavery: The Financialized Atlantic and Negative Cosmopolitics"
	Jason Puskar (UW Milwaukee): "Hazardous Individualism: Risk and Race in the Nineteenth Century"
4:00–5:00 p.m.	--- Coffee Break ---
5:00–6:30 p.m.	**Keynote – Maurice Lee** (Boston University): "Risking the Humanities"
	Chair: **Antje Kley** (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)
7:00 p.m.	Conference Dinner

Day 2 – Saturday, 24th Oct. 2015:

10:00a.m.–12:00 p.m.	**Workshop II – Dangers of Land and Sea: Exploring, Seafaring, Buccaneering**
	Chair: **Katrin Horn** (University of Würzburg)
	Gesa Mackenthun (University of Rostock): "Perils and Paradigm Shifts: Scientific Expeditions in the Age of Darwinian Crisis."
	Hester Blum (Pennsylvania State University): "The Perils and Prospects of Oceanic Studies"
	Alexandra Ganser (University of Vienna): "Risk and Crisis in 19th-Century Popular Narratives of Piracy"

12:00–1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–3:00 p.m.	**Workshop III – Risks of Blackness: Slavery, Trade, and Human Property**

Chair: **Laura Oehme** (University of Bayreuth)

Sharon Ann Murphy (Providence College): "Slavery and Finance in the Antebellum American South"

Catrin Gersdorf (University of Würzburg): "Risk and the Politics of Nature in the Work of Frederick Douglass"

Karin Hoepker (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg): "Perils of the Sea? The Creole-Mutiny and Frederick Douglass' *The Heroic Slave*"

3:00–3:15 p.m.	--- Coffee Break ---
3:15–5:00 p.m.	**Panel Discussion & Concluding Remarks**
7:00 p.m.	Informal Dinner (for those who stay over night)