

**Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer**  
**American Studies**  
**University of Bayreuth**

### **Academic CV**

2008- Chair American Studies/ Anglophone Literatures  
and Cultures, University of Bayreuth  
2007/2008 Professor of American Literature, University of Bamberg  
2002-2007 Associate Professor, University of Muenster  
1995-2002 Assistant Professor, University of Muenster  
1994/1995 Lecturer, English Department, University of Heidelberg  
1991/1992 Lecturer, English Department, University of Heidelberg

### **Education**

2002 Dr. habil., University of Muenster  
1995 Dr. phil., University of Heidelberg  
1990 Staatsexamen / Teacher's Degree, University of Heidelberg

Studies at the University of Heidelberg, the University of Stuttgart, and at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT (USA)

### **Academic Service / Affiliations**

2016- Dean, Faculty of Languages and Literatures, University of Bayreuth  
2011- Director, Bayreuth Institute for American Studies (BIFAS)  
2010- Associate, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich  
2010- Advisory Board/ Reader, *Ecozon@ European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment*  
2010- Reader, *Green Letters*  
2009-2016 Advisory Board, German Association for American Studies (GAAS)  
2009-2016 Reader, *American Studies/ Amerikastudien*  
2008-2012 Advisory Board, EASLCE  
2006-2008 President, European Association for the Study of Literature Culture and Environment (EASLCE)

### **Grants**

Fulbright American Studies Fellowship, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 1999/2000  
Doctoral Fellow, Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg (GRAFÖG BW), 1992-94

### **Publications**

#### **Monographs**

*Naturethik und Neuengland-Regionalliteratur: Harriet Beecher Stowe, Rose Terry Cooke, Sarah Orne Jewett, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman.* Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2004.

*'The Name of the Sound': Das Motiv des Klanges in den Romanen Toni Morrisons.* Heidelberg: Mattes, 1995.

## **Editions / Collections of Essays**

*The Anticipation of Catastrophe. Environmental Risk in North American Literature and Culture.* Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2014 (with Alexa Weik von Mossner).

*American Environments. Culture – Climate – Catastrophe.* Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2012 (with Christof Mauch).

*Beyond Uncle Tom's Cabin: The Writings of Harriet Beecher Stowe.* Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. 2011 (with Monika Müller).

"9/11 as Catalyst: American and British Cultural Responses." Special Issue. *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik (ZAA)*. 2010 (with Dunja M. Mohr).

*Nature in Literary and Cultural Studies: Transatlantic Conversations on Ecocriticism.* Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006 (with Catrin Gersdorf).

*Ecodidactic Perspectives on English Language, Literatures and Cultures.* Trier: wvt, 2006 (with Graham Wilson).

*T.C. Boyle: After the Plague and Other Stories.* Stuttgart: Reclam, 2006 (with Graham Wilson).

*Natur, Kultur, Text: Beiträge zu Ökologie und Literaturwissenschaft.* Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2005 (with Catrin Gersdorf).

*Restoring the Connection to the Natural World: Essays on the African American Environmental Imagination.* FORECAAST Vol. 10. Münster: LIT, 2003.

*Zwischen Schrift und Bild: Entwürfe des Weiblichen in literarischer Verfahrensweise.* Heidelberg: Mattes, 1994 (with Christine Krause, Margret Schuchard, Agnes Speck).

## **Essays and Articles (Selection)**

"Science in the World Risk Society: Risk, the Novel, and Global Climate Change." *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik* 64.2 (2016): 207-221.

"World Risk Society and Ecoglobalism: Risk, Literature, and the Anthropocene." *Handbook of Ecocriticism and Cultural Ecology*. Ed. Hubert Zapf. Berlin: DeGruyter, 2016. 494-509.

"Klimawandelroman." *Ecocriticism. Eine Einführung*. Eds. Gabriele Dürbeck & Urte Stobbe. Köln: Böhlau, 2015. 233-44.

"Explorations of the Controversially Real: Risk, the Climate Change Novel, and the Narrative of Anticipation." *The Anticipation of Catastrophe. Environmental Risk in North American Literature and Culture*. Eds. S. Mayer and A. Weik von Mossner. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2014. 21-37.

"'Dwelling in Crisis': Terrorist and Environmental Risk Scenarios in the Post 9/11 Novel." *Beyond 9/11. Transdisciplinary Perspectives on Twenty-First Century U.S. American Culture*. Eds. Ch. Kloeckner, S. Knewitz and S. Sielke. Frankfurt: Lang, 2013. 77-92.

- "Mapping the Environmental Ethical Dimension in Harriet Beecher Stowe's New England Novels." *Beyond Uncle Tom's Cabin: The Writings of Harriet Beecher Stowe*. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. Eds. Sylvia Mayer and Monika Müller. 2011. 189-208.
- "The Rhetoric of Toxic Discourse: Uses of Irony in John Cheever's *Oh What A Paradise It Seems*." *Representing the Unimaginable. Narratives of Disaster*. Eds. Angela Stock and Cornelia Kühle. Frankfurt: Lang, 2007. 163-72.
- "Environmentalism and Encounters with the Object: T. Coraghessan Boyle's *A Friend of the Earth*." *Gender and the Aestheticization of the 'Unaesthetic' in Contemporary Literature and Art*. Eds. Monika Müller and Konstanze Kutzbach. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007. 221-34.
- "Orientalism in the Melodrama of the Early American Republic: William Munford, Almorán and Hamet." *America and the Orient*. Ed. Heike Schäfer. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2006. 21-36.
- "Literature and Environmental Ethical Criticism: Sarah Orne Jewett's New England Texts." *Anglia* 124.1 (2006): 101-21.
- "Literary Studies, Ecofeminism, and the Relevance of Environmentalist Knowledge Production in the Humanities." *Nature in Literary and Cultural Studies: Transatlantic Conversations on Ecocriticism*. Eds. Catrin Gersdorf and Sylvia Mayer. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006. 111-28.
- "Teaching Hollywood Environmentalist Movies: The Example of *The Day after Tomorrow*." *Ecocritical Perspectives on English Language, Literatures and Cultures*. Eds. Sylvia Mayer and Graham Wilson. Trier: wvt, 2006. 105-20.
- "Ökologie und Literaturwissenschaft: Eine Einleitung." *Natur, Kultur, Text: Beiträge zu Ökologie und Literaturwissenschaft*. Eds. Catrin Gersdorf and Sylvia Mayer. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2005. 7-28.
- "Genre and Environmentalism: Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower, Speculative Fiction, and the African American Slave Narrative." *Restoring the Connection to the Natural World: Essays on the African American Environmental Imagination*. Ed. Sylvia Mayer. Münster: LIT, 2003. 175-96.
- "The Traveller as Topographer: Jonathan Raban's *Bad Land. An American Romance*." *Spatial Change in English Literature*. Ed. Joachim Frenk. Trier: wvt, 2000. 173-83.
- "Assessments of the Urban Experience: Toni Morrison's *Jazz* and T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*." *Connotations. A Journal for Critical Debate* 8.3 (1998/99): 343-56. [reprinted in: *Twentieth Century American Fiction: T.S. Eliot's Children*. Ed. Sukhbir Singh and Vanashree. Delhi: B.R. Publ., 2006. 217-29]
- "'You Like Huckleberries?' Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*." *Defining Moments in African American Literature and Culture*. Eds. Werner Sollors and Maria Diedrich. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1994. 337-346.