

REAF Highlight: Book Project Presentation

In the evening hours of 12 June 2018, Prof. Dr. Volker Depkat (REAF Board of Co-Directors) presented his forthcoming book project titled “American Exceptionalism” to an interested crowd at the University of Regensburg’s Kunsthalle. The monograph, which will appear with Rowman & Littlefield in The American Ways Series, edited by Prof Dr. John David Smith (UNC Charlotte), approaches the foundational but controversial narrative(s) of exceptionalism(s) in the context of U.S. history from their beginnings up to contemporary debates from a critical angle. After presenting his theses and chapters, Prof. Depkat received responses from an interdisciplinary panel. Prof. Stephan Bierling (REAF Board of Co-Directors) and Prof. Ben Chappell (REAF Fellow, Fulbright Visiting Professor, University of Kansas) offered critical perspectives on the project from a political science and an ethnographical/cultural anthropological point of view, respectively. Prof. Dr. Udo Hebel (REAF Founding Director), who also chaired the event and moderated the discussion, contributed further American Studies-inspired responses and opened the floor up for questions from the audience.

REAF thanks all guests and participants for coming to this special event in REAF’s 10-year anniversary semester and looks forward to more lively discussions with interested scholars, students, and guests from all disciplines at the upcoming REAF@10 events.