

## COLLOQUIUMS FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS

### Pathways out of growth-driven society—annually since 2012

#### European Academy of Otzenhausen

In 2012—parallel to the “classic” colloquium on “Pathways out of growth-driven society”—a new colloquium format exclusively for doctoral and master’s candidates on this key topic of sustainability was initiated. The purpose of this event, which has been taking place annually ever since, is to spark or intensify interdisciplinary discourse among young scholars on pathways toward sustainable development. The colloquiums for young scholars will be continued in the future and will form a focal area of the foundation’s work.

#### Dates

March 11-13, 2016 (in preparation); March 27-29, 2015; April 4-6, 2014;  
March 9-11, 2013; March 23-25, 2012

The response to our invitations to participate in the colloquiums is very promising for the future: Roughly 100 students and young scientists from across Germany, but also from universities in Switzerland, Austria, Sweden, and Great Britain apply for the 50 slots available in each colloquium. They represent an impressive diversity of disciplines: economics, natural sciences, engineering, philosophy, education, and cultural sciences.

In workshops—for which we intentionally select participants from different disciplines—attendees present concrete ideas for “post-growth projects” in very creative and accessible ways. A working group from the 2012 colloquium published its results titled “Encouraging sustainability—time and space to experience sustainable and decelerated activities” in the edited volume “Wege aus der Wachstumsgesellschaft” (S. Fischer Verlag, 2013).

**Lectures and speakers at the colloquiums for young scholars 2012-2015:**

**(Re)productivity and (post)growth**

**Prof. Adelheid Biesecker (2015)**

Professor (em.) of Economic Theory, University of Bremen; major focus on the caring economy

**Beating capitalism at its own game? (2014)**

**Right life in the wrong one (2015) · Prof. Friedrich von Borries**

Architect; Professor of Design Theory, Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg

**How what is emerged—Paths toward growth-driven society · Dr. Michaela Christ (2015)**

Director, Department of Diachronic Transformation Studies, Norbert Elias Center for Transformation Design & Research (NEC), University of Flensburg

**Labor-based society without growth? · Prof. Hans Diefenbacher (2013)**

Adjunct Professor of Economics, Alfred-Weber-Institute, Heidelberg University (DE); Deputy Director, Forschungsstätte der Evangelischen Studiengemeinschaft e. V., Heidelberg

**Different forms of life and economic activity in everyday life · Dr. Friederike Habermann (2014)**

Economist and Historian, Author of "Halbinseln gegen den Strom"

**Regionalization as a departure from the belief in progress? · Gerolf Hanke (2014)**

Doctoral Candidate, dissertation on "The Culture of Sufficiency," University of Flensburg; Recipient of the Kapp-Forschungspreis of the Vereinigung Ökologischer Ökonomie, 2012

**Lessons in Lessening: Learning from the shrinking city? · Dr.-Ing. Saskia Hebert (2014)**

Architect, (subsolar\* architektur & stadtforschung); Director, lived/space/lab, Berlin University of the Arts

**Commons and post-growth · Silke Helfrich (2015)**

Commons Activist and Publicist; 1999-2007 Overseas Staff Member for Central America, Mexico, and Cuba, Heinrich Böll Foundation

**The role of politics and trade unions (panel discussion) · Dietmar Hexel (2015)**

Member, Executive Board, Federation of German Trade Unions; Expert Member, Bundestag Committee of Inquiry "Growth, Prosperity, Quality of Life"

**The political culture of a post-growth economy · Dr. Reinhard Loske (2012, 2013)**

Chairman of the Study Group on Global Issues, German Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin; 1992 - 1998 Head of the Research Group "Sustainable Germany" at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy; 1998 - 2007 Member of the Bundestag; 2007 - 2011 Senator for Environment, Construction, Transportation, and European Affairs, Bremen



*Dr. Reinhard Loske, Klaus Wiegandt, Prof. Ernst Peter Fischer (left to right)*



*Prof. Hans Diefenbacher*

**The culture of the commons · Prof. Dirk Messner (2012)**

Professor of Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen; Director, German Development Institute, Bonn; Vice Chair of the German Advisory Council on Global Change

**Post-growth: a project for the radical transformation of society****Prof. Barbara Muraca (2015)**

Professor and Environmental Philosopher, Oregon State University

**The role of politics and trade unions (panel discussion, 2015) ·****Growth, prosperity, quality of life (2014) · Dr. Hermann E. Ott**

Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy; former Member, Bundestag Committee of Inquiry "Growth, Prosperity, Quality of Life"

**The post-growth economy · Prof. Niko Paech (2012, 2013, 2014)**

Adjunct Professor, Chair of Production and Environment (PUM), University of Oldenburg



*Lecture by  
Prof. Niko Paech*

**Green growth and rebound · Tilman Santarius (2015)**

Scientific Author, Topics: Climate Policy, International Trade Policy, Sustainable Economic Activity, Global Justice

**The great transformation—the path toward sustainable development****Prof. Uwe Schneidewind (2012, 2014)**

President, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy; Professor of Sustainable Transition Management, University of Wuppertal

**No right life in the wrong one? Growth-neutral businesses in a growth-oriented****economy (2015) Decoupling? Why "green growth" is not a sufficient answer****to the ecological crisis (2014) Decoupling: Are constant growth and ecological****sustainability compatible? (2012, 2013) · Dr. Bernd Sommer**

Researcher, Norbert Elias Center for Transformation Design & Research (NEC), University of Flensburg

**Wanting to have. On consumption and other phenomena of prosperity****Prof. Wolfgang Ullrich (2012, 2013)**

Professor of Fine Arts and Media Theory, Karlsruhe University of Art and Design, Karlsruhe; Author; Docent; Consultant

**Less is less (2015) From expansive to reductive modernity (2014) Transforma-****tion or transformations? The path toward sustainable modernity (2013)****Prof. Harald Welzer**

Director, FUTURZWEI—Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit; Professor of Transformation Design, University of Flensburg

**Consumption and production in the industrialized nations: The central problem on the path toward sustainable development · Klaus Wiegandt (2012, 2013)**

The colloquiums were headed by Prof. Harald Welzer—in 2012 and 2013 jointly with Prof. Ernst Peter Fischer and in 2014 with Dr. Hannes Petrischak—and Klaus Wiegandt delivered the inaugural address at each colloquium.