JUSTUS-LIEBIG-UNIVERSITÄT GIESSEN

RCSC
Research Centre
for the Study of Culture

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Forms of the Good Life in a Global Context: Hegemonic Cultural Models, Literary Form, and Counter-Narrative

(12-13 June 2024)

June 12th (GCSC, MFR)

9.30 a.m. Registration, Meet & Greet

10.15 a.m.

Kirsten von Hagen (Giessen), Annette Simonis (Giessen):

Welcome and Introduction

10.45 a.m.

Ansgar Nünning (Giessen):

Coming to Terms with Literature as a Laboratory for Forms of the Good Life: Introducing Key Concepts and Research Questions

11.15-11.45 a.m. Coffee Break

11.45 a.m.

Anneke Sools (Twente):

Cultural Story Models for Imagining the Future Differently

Ana Maria Fraile-Marcos (Salamanca):

Reworkings of the Good Life at the End Times: Speculative Cli-Fi from Canada

12.45-2 p.m. Lunch Break

2.00 p.m.

Vera Nünning (Heidelberg):

The Significance of Values for (the Study of) Forms of the Good Life in Works of Literature

Riikka Rossi (Helsinki):

Narrative Empathy, Hegemonic Cultural Models and Counter-Narrative: Perspectives from Empirical Reading Group Studies

Matthias Schmidt (Giessen):

Adaptation of the Biblical Creation Story in the Film *Noah* (2014)

3.30-4.00 p.m. Coffee Break

4.00 p.m.

Maria Mäkelä (Tampere):

Welfare State vs. Story Economy: Can One Tell a Compelling Story about the Redistribution of Income without Dickensian Benefactors and Deserving Poor?

Mari Hatavara (Tampere):

Negotiating Good Life as a Voluntarily Unemployed in Ossi Nyman's Autobiographical Novel *Häpeärauha* ("Shamed Peace" 2022)

Rolf J. Goebel (Huntsville) [online]:

A "Good Life" in the Midst of Suffering: Friedrich Hölderlin in Tübingen

7.00 p.m. Dinner

June 13th (GCSC, MFR)

9.30 a.m.

Matti Hyvärinen (Tampere):

Good Life in the Materialized Past of the Demented Society: Georgi Gospodinov's Challenge to Progress

Jörg Metelmann (St Gallen):

Futures for Friday – Robinsonades revisited or Prefiguration, Heterotopia and Fiction

Kirsten von Hagen (Giessen):

Forms of the Good Life in Times of Economic Crisis: Counter-Concepts in Maupassant, Foenkinos, Schlesser, Gestern

11.00-11.30 a.m. Coffee Break

11.30 a.m.

Cara Illert (Giessen):

The Good Life – a Quantifiable Phenomenon? Exploring Literary Responses to the Happiness Industry in Nathan Hill's *Wellness* (2023)

Rüdiger Heinze (Braunschweig):

No Such Thing as The Good Life – Contemporary Figurations of the American Dream Between Utopian and Dystopian Narratives

Beatrix Busse (Cologne):

Forms of the Good Life in Academia: EUniWell – The European University for Well-Being

1.00-2.30 p.m. Lunch Break

2.30 p.m.

Caroline Levine (Cornell) [online]:

Literary Form and Collective Continuance: Studying Literature in the Climate Crisis

Annette Simonis (Giessen):

Human-Nature Relationships in Contemporary Life Writing as Literary Models and Aesthetic Forms of Good Life

Michael Basseler (Giessen):

Good Life in the Cracks: Literary Forms as/of Postactivism

4.00-4.30 p.m. Coffee Break

4.30 p.m.

Marie-Theres Stickel (Giessen):

Flora Tristan's 19th-Century Good Life Fantasy: Imagining the Workers' Palace as Economic Utopia

Hatunnur Ciftci (Giessen):

(Re-)Orienting Happiness: Queer Forms of the Good Life

Annalina Benner (Giessen):

"Everything We Need": Changing Perspectives on the Formation of the Good Life in the Music of *A Day To Remember*

7.00 p.m. Dinner