



AMERICAN STUDIES AS
VULNERABILITY STUDIES
AAAS CONFERENCE 2020

Online Conference

Program ||

Friday, October 30th

3 – 4 pm: Meeting of the AAAS Board Members

Break

4:30 – 6 pm: AAAS General Meeting and Elections

Break

6:30 – 8 pm Conference Opening, Fulbright Award, and
Opening Lecture

Saturday, October 31st

|| 9 – 10:30 Panel A ||

The Mobilization of Vulnerability

Mobilizing Vulnerability as a Form of Resistance in the Light of
Current Black Lives Matter Protests || Barbara Gföllner ||
University of Vienna

Riding straight in Compton: Cowboy Vulnerabilities as Critical
Whiteness Studies, the Yeehaw Agenda, and Black Urban
Cowboydom || Stefan “Steve” Rabitsch || University of
Graz/University of Klagenfurt

Break

|| 11 – 12:30 Panel B ||

The Temporalities of Vulnerability

African American Literature, Race, and the Vulnerabilities of the
Anthropocene || Matthias Klestil || University of Klagenfurt

Suffragettes and Russian Suffering: Vulnerability in Early
Progressive US-Movements || Katharina Wiedlack || University
of Vienna

Break

|| 2 – 3.30 pm Panel C ||

The Corporeality of Vulnerability

“On Being Topped: Vulnerability and Pleasure in Ocean Vuong’s *On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous*” || Philippos Ioannou and Leopold Lippert || University of Vienna

Mourning Lovers and Healing Houses: Vulnerability and Sustainability in Matthew Lopez’s *The Inheritance* || Ralph J. Poole || University of Salzburg

Break

|| 4 – 5:30 pm Panel D ||

The Vulnerabilities of American Studies

“You Don’t Have to Go Home, But You Can’t Stay Here:” How Trump’s COVID-19 Response Increased the Vulnerability of Transnational American Studies || Jennifer A. Reimer || OSU-Cascades

Vulnerability and the Ethics of Secrecy || Martina Koegeler-Abdi || University of Copenhagen

Break

|| 6 – 7:30 pm Panel E ||

The Poetics and Politics of Vulnerability

“Kosal Khiev: Reframing Vulnerability in the Context of American Studies” || Iris-Aya Laemmerhirt || TU Dortmund University || Martina Pfeiler || Ruhr-University Bochum || and Kosal Khiev || Exiled Khmer-American Spoken Word Artist || Phnom Penh, Cambodia

7:30 pm Closing of Conference

8 pm: Meeting of new AAAS Board

Conference team:

Silvia Schaltermandl || University of Graz

Jennifer Reimer || Oregon State University—Cascades

Manuel Ausserlechner || University of Graz