

A Note from the *COPAS* Editors

Due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was a challenging year that affected people's lives all over the world. It also changed the work in German American Studies and at *COPAS*. The annual conference of the Postgraduate Forum (PGF) of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS), scheduled to take place in the fall of 2020 in Stuttgart, Germany, was cancelled and with it the annual PGF proceedings that usually appear in *COPAS* early in the following summer. We hope that all scholars who had wished to attend the PGF 2020 will be able to do so this year; we can't wait to receive submissions from future presenters. More importantly, though, we hope that all of you are doing well as we continue to navigate life during the second year of the pandemic.

Meanwhile, we at *COPAS* have had another timely project to focus our energies on: the thematic issue "Embracing the Loss of Nature: Searching for Responsibility in an Age of Crisis," guest edited by Jaime Hyatt and Florian Wagner. The issue's focus on current objectives in postgraduate ecocriticism was conceptualized before COVID-19 hit but took shape under its direct impact. In the current moment, the articles seem timelier than ever. We are delighted to be able to share this special issue with you and hope you enjoy reading the articles as much as we enjoyed working on them with Jaime, Florian, and the authors. We are also happy to hear that organization for the next PGF conference is underway. *COPAS* will certainly be there to bring its proceedings to you, our readers.