



LEADERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Dear Aspen Leadership Alumni,

We are happy to present to you the fifth edition of our newsletter about the Aspen Seminar “Philosophy & Practice.” In mid-June, we had the immense pleasure of hosting yet another fantastic group at our Seminar, which we would like to introduce to you in this newsletter. The 14 participants from different professional and personal backgrounds were extremely diverse in age, country of origin, and professional training: from private to public sector, from journalism to consulting, from Slovenia to Spain, this group had a little bit of everything.

This fall, Aspen Leadership is venturing out into new territory: we had the pleasure of co-hosting an alumni dialog on Donald Trump’s foreign policy in Frankfurt in early September and are looking forward to an interactive event in Cologne in October in collaboration with, among others, the Amerikahaus, the Digital Hub Cologne, and AmCham. The founders of Berlin start-up 7Mind will give a presentation on awareness, meditation, and leadership.

We are furthermore happy to announce a workshop in late November, initiated by Leadership Alum Dr. Kay Hradilak, on the effect of digitalization on values-based leadership, the tolls it takes and the opportunities it represents.

As we did last year, we are delighted to host a traditional American Thanksgiving Dinner on November 22 in cooperation with the German Stanford Association and the Harvard Alumni Club. We would love to see as many of you there as possible.

In this edition of the Aspen Alumni newsletter, you will get to know Ulrich Plett, Alum of Seminars 4 and 22 and auditor at UPW7 Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft in the rubric “People in Portrait”.

For the first time ever, this newsletter features a portrait of WeCreation, a young Berlin start-up dedicated to values-based leadership whose CEO, Nicolas Pfleiderer, and his

team would be thrilled to get in touch with you.

In addition, Leadership Alumni Dr. Raphael von Hoensbroech and Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr share updates in their professional lives.

Last but not least, Aspen Executive Director Rüdiger Lentz and Leadership Alum Simon Vaut will provide you with an exclusive peek behind the curtain of this year’s Aspen Ideas Festival in Aspen, Colorado.

All the best from your Aspen Leadership team,

Rüdiger Lentz Carina Kempf Charlotte Mencke
(Executive Director) (Senior Program Officer) (Program Assistant)

The 22nd Seminar “Philosophy & Practice”

On June 14-17, 2018, we hosted our 22nd Seminar “Philosophy & Practice”, moderated by Ruth Girardet and Leigh Hafrey. We had a great group of 14 participants from business, academia, the public sector, and politics from Germany, Slovenia, Spain, Italy, Croatia, and Romania.



The weather was on our side: Seminar 22’s group out on the dock of Lake Madlitz.



Matthias Lang, COO Regulations Global and Compliance Germany, Deutsche Bank AG (l.); Barbara von Bechtolsheim, Lecturer, Hochschule für Medien, Kommunikation und Wirtschaft (r)



Maja Vuksic, Founder, Boston Education (l.); Moderator Leigh Hafrey, Senior Lecturer in Behavioral and Policy Sciences, MIT Sloan School of Management (r)



Bernardino Branca, CIO, Intermarket SA (l.); Andrea Oliver, Director of U.S. Business, SWK Kaiserslautern; Primož Karpe, Head of the Supervisory Board, NLB Bank (r)



Misericordia Borrás Cabacés, Partner, J&A Garrigues (l.); Cosmin Dobran, Head of Unit, European Commission (r)

PEOPLE IN PORTRAIT

In this column we would like to provide you with a deeper look into the Aspen Alumni network, highlight its diversity, and introduce you to individual members. This time, you'll get to know Ulrich Plett, Seminars 4 and 22 alumnus, Member of the Board and of the Circle of Friends of Aspen and auditor at UPW7 Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft.

What is your professional background and how did you find your way to Aspen ?

I am an auditor and have spent most of my professional career working in the global organizations Arthur Andersen and Ernst and Young, where I last lead the Berlin Office.



I got to know Aspen Berlin in the late nineties through a friend of mine. At that time, Aspen was primarily focused on the German-American relationship, the development of Berlin and the East-West Dialog. I was impressed by the private atmosphere at the Aspen Villa on Schwanenwerder where you could meet and talk to many different decision makers. Since then, Aspen has very much broadened its discussion topics, but the exclusive access to personalities and members of Aspen has not changed. What I find especially interesting is that Aspen is very diverse; you meet people from a variety of professions and backgrounds. This expands your viewpoint and brings an extra value to all the numerous activities that Aspen organizes.

What was your Seminar experience ?

When I first heard of the Philosophy and Practice Seminar, I had no clear idea of how different it would be from other leadership workshops I had previously attended. I must admit that I had not read philosophical texts since my school years, but my experience with the Aspen Seminar was so good that I even attended the Seminar twice. The first time was in 2012 and the second one early this summer.

The Seminar is challenging and demanding. You need to invest some quality time in the readings before attending. But during the Seminar, you quickly immerse in the deep discussions among the group. The excellent moderators

bridge the gap between the “old” philosophers and their thoughts about Human Nature, the Individual and Society and the professional context of nowadays. The three days on Gut Klostermühle are intense and they create a strong bond and a shared identity (in German: “gemeinsamer Stallgeruch”) among the participants. For me personally, the Seminar was an intellectual luxury that enriched my daily business life.

How do values influence your daily life and work ?

Values are the cornerstones of culture. And, in my opinion, in the long run, culture is more relevant in companies and organizations than strategy and management processes. As Peter Drucker once said, “Culture eats Strategy for Breakfast”. Culture and values are a primary responsibility of leaders, but only a few invest the required time to live and manage them. The Seminar reminds us of their importance as a personal and professional compass.

Why do you think that values-based leadership is essential for our society ?

Can values-based leadership replace specific metrics and milestones to lead and encourage people? Probably not. However, they should be the basis and the context to guide small and large organizations. Short term success can be measured by key performance indicators, but sustainable development necessitates values and culture because it is the people and the human factor that move things forward.

What do you wish for the Aspen Leadership Alumni network ?

I have attended several Alumni meetings and enjoyed the inputs and specific hospitality of each event, where even participants from different intakes can easily connect with each other. It must be the common “Stallgeruch” I mentioned before ... I can only wish that the Alumni network with all its richness keeps on growing and expanding!



Moderator Ruth Girardet, Member of the Council, The Open University (l.); David Wedepohl, Managing Director of International Affairs, Bundesverband Solarwirtschaft e.V. (r.)



Annett Martin, Auditor and Tax Consultant, Annett Martin Financeberatung (l.); Inga Hartleb, HR Director for Germany and Austria, Pfizer Germany (r.)



Ulrich Plett, Auditor, UPW7 Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, Member of the Board, Aspen Institute Germany (l.); Annett Martin (r.)



Moderator Leigh Hafrey, Senior Lecturer, MIT Sloan School of Management (l.); Barbara Sawitzky-Rose, Doctor for Internal Medicine, Owner of a Medical Practice (r.)

VALUES-BASED LEADERSHIP BEYOND ASPEN

“Dear members of the Aspen community,

I recently had the chance to meet Carina Kempf of the Aspen Institute and talk about values, mindset change and employee empowerment. We discovered that we share the same values and a common vision for the future of work.

I admire the Aspen idea of values-based leadership and I am convinced that educated leaders have to play a crucial role in redefining how we look at work and how to give employees the space to rediscover and use their potential.

I am Co-Founder of Wecreation GmbH, a Berlin based startup and spin-off of the HPI School of Design Thinking which helps companies get in touch with agile work methodologies. We foster a mindset that enables them to embrace change and uncertainty and use it as a chance to grow. Our vision is to enable employees and leaders of organizations to rediscover their creative potential and use it to shape a working environment that is fulfilling for them and beneficial for their organization.

We want to get in touch with purpose-driven people that are willing to exchange knowledge, ideas and contacts. We are looking for leaders that want to empower their employees, mentoring, fruitful exchanges and chances to meet the right people to realize our vision.

Please feel free to contact me anytime or get in touch with Carina.

Sincerely,

Nicolas Pfeleiderer”

CEO, Co-Founder and Coach
Wecreation GmbH



LEADERSHIP ALUMNI NEWS



(c) Pascal Amos Rest

On July 13th 2017, the municipal council of the city of Dortmund unanimously elected **Dr. Raphael von Hoensbroech** new Managing and Artistic Director of Konzerthaus Dortmund. In September 2018 he succeeded Benedikt Stampa in this position. Konzerthaus Dortmund belongs to the European Concert Hall Organisation (ECHO) and is one of the leading classical concert halls in Europe. Von Hoensbroech, who previously held the position of Managing Director at Konzerthaus Berlin, is very much looking forward to this new challenge: “Konzerthaus Dortmund has long been on my list of the most loved concert halls”, he said.

Dr. Raphael von Hoensbroech studied musicology, philosophy and law at the University of Cologne. Until summer 2013 he was principal at Boston Consulting Group.



Dr. Anja Mihr, Aspen Leadership Alumna since 2017 and the Program Director for the Center on Governance through Human Rights at Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform in Berlin, started a new position as DAAD visiting professor for International Human Rights and Transitional Justice at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (<http://www.osce-academy.net/>). The Academy is running several Training and Master Programs in Politics, Security and Economics for students and scholars from the Central Asia region including Russia and Afghanistan. With this newly established professorship for Human Rights, Governance and Transitional Justice, Anja is aiming to build up more capacities and awareness for human rights matters, good governance and peaceful transition processes among young scholars in this conflict torn region.

LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE



In July 2018, Charlotte started as a Program Assistant in the Aspen Institute's Leadership Program. Prior to that, she was active in the Institute's Digital Program. Born in Germany, Charlotte spent a large portion of her childhood in Washington, D.C. She is currently pursuing a franco-german dual

B.A. in political science at Sciences Po Paris and Freie Universität Berlin with a focus on political theory and philosophy. During her studies, she gained work experience with the Hessian Education Ministry, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation's Washington, D.C. office, and the German Foreign Ministry. She was also a board member of Model United Nations Nancy and Young Democrats Abroad Berlin and is co-organizer of a student seminar on American Grand Strategy and U.S. foreign policy.

ASPEN IDEAS FESTIVAL 2018



Understanding the United States is currently harder than ever: a land with a President at its helm that questions the international order, publicly denounces Germany, and flirts with autocrats. These circumstances make it all the more important to judge for oneself, to speak with friends, and to feel the pulse of the American psyche and American politics. Thus, Aspen Executive Director Rüdiger Lentz, Aspen Friend and Leadership Alum Simon Vaut and entrepreneur Jan Klatten traveled to the US in June to attend the Aspen Ideas Festival. This annual event in Aspen, Colorado brings together thousands of leading executives from the economy, science, culture, and politics. Debates were at times controversial, but always centered on the necessity of values-based dialog when facing the biggest challenges of our time such as Big Data and cyber space, Trump's foreign policy, or the face-off with Russia. All of this in front of the massive panorama of the Rocky Mountains – two miles high!

The result of the fact-finding mission? Even if Trump's policies and his behavior continue to be an enigma, the many discussions and conversation at the Aspen Ideas Festival demonstrated that the liberal-minded, open, and cooperative United States still exist. Thank you, Aspen US: mission accomplished!

FORMER AND UPCOMING LEADERSHIP ALUMNI EVENTS

Thanks to your commitment, we have been able to extend the Alumni Program, keep in touch with you, and even host new Alumni formats. During the past and upcoming months, we are and have been delighted to co-host events with our alumni community in Frankfurt and Cologne spanning topics such as Donald Trump's effect on global foreign policy or awareness and mindfulness in our personal leadership as well as a workshop on digitalization and leadership here in Berlin and a Thanksgiving Dinner. We hope to see many of you there!

Leadership Dialogue: First-ism vs. Multilateralism - Donald Trump's Revolution of Foreign Policy and its Implications for the Western Community of Values



On September 4, 2018, the Aspen Leadership Alumni Program came to Frankfurt am Main for the first time ever! **Till Staffeldt**, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Leadership Seminar Alumnus, initiated and hosted a moderated dialog on the topic "First-ism vs. Multilateralism: Donald Trump's Revolution of Foreign Policy and its Implications for the Western Community of Values". Dr. Gunther Hellmann, Professor for Political Science at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University of Frankfurt and board member of the Aspen Institute Germany, and Dr. Nikolas Busse, managing editor of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Woche, discussed Donald Trump's presidency that marked a radical rupture in transatlantic cooperation and communication and has wide implications for Germany's security and the security of the European Union. The increasing loss of trust in US decision-makers has caused many to perceive this moment as decisive for the future of Europe and Germany within it. How Europe and Germany should position themselves on the international stage in the Trump era was just one point that was discussed with our Leadership Alumni in Frankfurt.

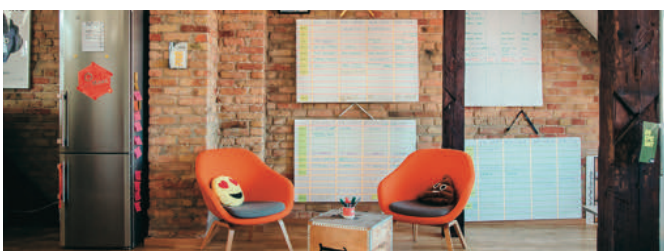
Leadership Lunch with the 7Mind founders: Inner leadership through awareness in a digital world?



Leadership in the everyday has many faces. It includes not only goals, visions, and values, but also direct human contact and interaction. In order to demonstrate leading qualities, one must also learn not to neglect one’s own personal needs. Our daily routine usually leaves little room to reflect our needs and our inner leadership. How do we successfully include rest and awareness into our extremely full agendas?

These and many other questions led Jonas Leve and Manuel Ronnefeldt to found 7Mind, a Berlin start-up which seeks to integrate awareness and peace into our (digital) lives via meditation. In the Digital Hub Cologne, they will present us with their findings and demonstrate practical exercises for every day; either in person or, thanks to modern technology, in virtual form in the XR Lab of the Digital Hub Cologne. Together, we will discuss and experience how meditation and awareness regarding ourselves can be the cornerstone for better values-based leadership.

Workshop: Are we surrendering values-based leadership to digitalization?



On November 20, 2018, the Aspen Leadership Program is delighted to host a workshop on the the topic: “Are we surrendering values-based leadership to digitalization?”, initiated by Dr. Kay P. Hradilak, Aspen Leadership Alumnus, Member of the Friends of the Aspen Institute and Business Chief Consultant for SAP Germany. Digitalization is the new epicenter of our workplace and society. Algorithmic assessments are constantly gaining importance in the recruitment, evaluation, and leading of personnel.

Quantitative optimization and efficiency are a permanent priority. Are these slowly advancing to becoming an end in themselves? Should there be “lines in the sand” regarding digitalization? Is machinelike efficiency the goal of employee management? In short, what would we consider to be an ideal relationship between digitalization and values-based leadership? These and many other questions will be treated and discussed in an interactive format in the AppHaus Berlin.

American Style Thanksgiving Dinner



On November 22, 2018, the Aspen Leadership Program is delighted to co-host an American Style Thanksgiving Dinner with the Harvard Alumni Club and the German Stanford Association. The dinner will take place in the clubhouse of the Berliner Ruderclub, located right by the Wannsee and will feature a conversation with Stanford Professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature Amir Eshel and Thomas Sparr, head of the publishing house Suhrkamp Verlag, moderated by Aspen Executive Director Rüdiger Lentz.

**BERLIN TRANSATLANTIC FORUM 2018:
“PRESENT AT THE NEW CREATION? TECH.
POWER. DEMOCRACY.”**



On October 15-16, 2018 the Aspen Institute Germany will be hosting its annual Transatlantic Conference. The Aspen Berlin Transatlantic Forum brings together 200-300 policy makers, business leaders, innovators, economists, philosophers, religious leaders, civil society and security experts to discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with the U.S.-European relationship and changing world order. This year's conference will focus on the nexus of technology, power and democracy. At its core, the conference will confront two fundamental questions: If technological advancements like AI and cryptocurrencies, revisionist powers and the rise of populism are rendering the old order unfit for purpose, are we present at the new creation? And if so, how can transatlantic partners find new ways to guarantee that a new tech-inflected order does not emerge out of a fit of absent-mindedness?



Recommend a candidate!

The success of the Seminar depends on its participants. We rely on your recommendations.

**23rd Aspen Seminar “Philosophy & Practice”
November 08 – 11, 2018**

Please send us your recommendations!

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To brighten up the fall weather, here are some impressions of Gut Klostermühle in the summer. Caution: may cause intense longing and hourlong daydreaming...