



January 2013

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Dear Heidelberg Alumni:

For HACA, 2012 was a year of consolidation as initiatives from its prior years matured. We are happy to inform members and friends that HACA has now become an established member of the University's world-wide alumni family.

Among the highlights of the year were:

- **Area reunions:** This year reunions were held in Montreal and Vancouver, with an Eastern Canada regional chairs meeting in Toronto. Details can be found on HACA's website (<http://haca.uni-hd.de>).
- **Regional chairs meeting in Denver:** For the second time, all four Canadian regional representatives joined in a North American Heidelberg alumni regional chairs meeting. Among accomplishments at the Denver meeting were reviewing submission of a DAAD grant for regional-chapter support, updating our Facebook Page, and setting up accounts with Twitter (<https://twitter.com/HeidelbergHACA>) and LinkedIn (http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4451863&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr).
- **HAUS meeting in Boston:** HACA members participated in HAUS's annual national meeting. An honoured guest was Dr. Bernhard Eitel, the University's rector, who spoke on the changing role of the university, its responsibilities in the "Cluster of Excellence" that connects it with leading German research institutes and businesses, and the importance of its alumni network. Also present at the meeting was Heidelberg alumnus and Nobel Laureate Dr. Wolfgang Ketterle, professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- **Alumni-Club seminar for Heidelberg alumni representatives:** Once again, members of the HACA team were invited to take part in a university-sponsored educational session held in Heidelberg to share the latest in alumni-relations development techniques.

- **Membership:** HACA is pleased to report yet another increase in membership with the largest gain in the Vancouver region. There are now in total 78 HACA members and we look forward to continued growth in the years ahead.

Finally, I would like to let you know that after four very satisfying years, I am stepping down from my positions as HACA president and Montreal regional chair. This is the result of the pending return with my husband to our permanent home in Heidelberg. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow regional chairs, the HAI team in Heidelberg and the New York office for their support and encouragement throughout my tenure.

Taking my place as president of HACA will be Melanie Solterbeck, a senior policy advisor of the BC government in Vancouver. She will continue to co-chair the Vancouver chapter with Bianca Solterbeck. The new chair of the Montreal chapter will be Petra Rohrbach, professor of parasitology at McGill University. I am confident that they will carry HACA forward and will be appreciative of your support in that endeavor.

With seasons greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Mo Klinkert

