

**July 2011****Report of Alumni-Jubiläums-Tage in Heidelberg (June 24 - 28, 2011)**

HACA members from Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver met in Heidelberg to help celebrate Alumni-Jubiläums-Tage during the University's 625th anniversary year. The University, especially the Heidelberg Alumni International (HAI) team led by Silke Rodenberg, offered a warm welcome to the over 300 alumni who came from all corners of the world. Alumni were greeted by a wine-and-cheese reception at the Bel Etage of the Alte Universität. The grand reopening of the Neue Universität in the Neue Aula began with an introductory speech by former Chancellor Helmut Kohl. For all who were there, the ceremony brought back pleasant memories of their days in Heidelberg. In view of the building's previously deteriorated condition, it was impressive to see the result of a three-year-long, 11-million-euro restoration. Other noteworthy events of the Alumni-Jubiläums-Tage included a lunch with the Rector Prof. Dr Bernhard Eitel, an anniversary party at Marstallhof, and a riverboat shuffle along the Neckar with dinner and dancing to live music. Those who stayed on beyond the Alumni-Jubiläums-Tage had the pleasure of attending the Jubiläums-Ball at the Stadthalle, which will be yet another memorable function to look back on.

In addition to social activities, there was also a good deal of work. During Alumni-Treffen, long-established alumni associations had the chance to share their expertise with each other and also with newly-formed groups. A photo campaign "Ich bin Uni Heidelberg seit..." encouraged alumni to meet and make new friends. HACA members held their annual meeting and also met with Irmintraud Jost, director of Heidelberg University Association in New York, to learn about data mining and advertising possibilities and how best to identify "missing" alumni living in Canada. At the meeting, new regional chairs for Edmonton (Peter Nazaruk), Montreal (Mo Klinkert), Toronto (Ali Toufighi), and Vancouver (Melanie Solterbeck and Bianca Solterbeck) were appointed. A combined regional chairs meeting between Heidelberg Alumni US (HAUS) and HACA was planned in Denver for October 2011.

In closing, we would like to note that 2011 marks the 15th year of HAI, the university's ongoing effort to stay in touch with its former students and staff alums. HACA is proud to have become a significant part of this campaign.