

Humboldt Kolleg

Hilton Garden Inn Hotel, Doamnei St. 12, Bucharest
18-22 November 2020

Global Challenges of the 21st Century

- 1) *Technological development and human health/ quality of life*
- 2) *Climate change and environmental sustainability*
- 3) *Democracy and cohesion in Europe*

On Being a Humboldt Scholar

I held a Humboldt research fellowship over three summers, from 1993 to 1995, and have since renewed it twice. I currently hold an Anneliese Maier Research Award from the Foundation. In this brief talk, I shall give a short overview of my own impressions and experience of the Humboldt Foundation's unique place among all the many organisations that fund research.

Douglas Cairns works on ancient Greek society, ethics, and literature, especially the emotions. He has held the Chair of Classics in the University of Edinburgh since 2004, having previously taught in the Universities of St Andrews, Otago, Leeds, and Glasgow. He has held research fellowships from the Leverhulme Trust and the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung as well as visiting positions in Japan (Kyoto and Tokyo), Italy (Pisa and Cagliari), and the United States (as George R. Langford Family Eminent Scholar Chair, Florida State University). He is a Member of Academia Europaea, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a Fellow of the British Academy. Recent collaborative research projects include 'A History of Distributed Cognition' (2014–17, Arts and Humanities Research Council), 'Emotions through Time: From Antiquity to Byzantium' (2016–18, Leverhulme Trust), and Honour in Classical Greece (2018–22, European Research Council). He currently holds an Anneliese Maier-Forschungspreis, awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung (2018–23, held at Technische Universität Dresden) and a Mercator Fellowship, Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz (2018–19). He is the author of *Aidôs: The Psychology and Ethics of Honour and Shame in Ancient Greek Literature* (Oxford, 1993), *Bacchylides: Five Epinician Odes* (Cambridge, 2010), and *Sophocles: Antigone* (London, 2016), as well as editor or co-editor of 14 volumes, including (most recently) *Distributed Cognition in Classical Antiquity* (Edinburgh, 2018, with Miranda Anderson and Mark Sprevak) and *A Cultural History of Emotions in Antiquity* (London, 2019). He currently edits the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* and, among other services to the profession, serves as Chair of Council, the Classical Association.