List of Contributors

Anneke Ribberink is Associate Professor of Political History at VU University Amsterdam. Her doctoral dissertation dealt with the origins of the Dutch second feminist wave: 'Leidsvrouwen en zaakwaarneemsters'. Een geschiedenis van de Aktiegroep Man Vrouw Maatschappij (MVM), 1968-1973, Hilversum: Verloren, 1998; (Leading ladies and cause minders; A history of the Pressure Group Man Woman Society). Since then she has been investigating the lives and careers of famous female politicians in the West after 1945. She already published several times on Margaret Thatcher (UK) and Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway).

Anna Schober is currently a Visiting Professor at Verona University/ Italy financed by the EU, Seventh Framework Programme, Marie Curie Actions. She received her Ph.D. as well as her postdoctoral habilitation at the University of Vienna and has conducted several research projects on the aesthetic and political dimensions of the public sphere, pop-culture and new social movements.

Jianxin Liu obtained a PhD degree from the University of Sydney. His research areas are in discourse analysis, applied linguistics, digital media, multi-literacy, and cultural studies.

Anne Lauppe-Dunbar was born in South Africa to parents who had escaped Germany during World War II and were subsequently faced with living in the apartheid system. Returning briefly to Germany then Scotland and eventually England, Anne developed a strong relationship with her German relatives; along with a lifelong passion to write about the former German Democratic Republic. In 2003 Anne was awarded a bursary at Swansea University, to study for an MA in Creative and Media writing, earning a distinction. Currently she is lecturing in Creative Writing at Swansea University and completing her Creative Writing PhD. Her novel and thesis *Dark Mermaids* is based on the doping scam 'Theme 14.25' during the time of former German Democratic Republic. The story of this hidden past told through the voice of a former GDR Olympic swimmer. The novel will be published in 2012.

Jon Robert Adams