

Münster, den 20.6.2018

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren, liebe Mitglieder und Interessenten der DBG,
unser nächster Vortrag findet statt in Kooperation mit dem Englischen Seminar der
WWU am

Mittwoch, den 11.7.2018, 20:00 Uhr:

**Donna Carroll:
From sandcastles to smartphones: How the modern
electronic world was built from sand**

Englisches Seminar der Universität Münster, Johanniststr.12-20, 48143 Münster
Raum 131 (vormals H 19), 1. Etage

Our lives have become so dependent on electronic technology, we could barely imagine
a world without it. Yet in 1943 the president of IBM announced "there is a world market
for maybe five computers". Even in 1977 the founder of the Digital Equipment
Corporation stated that "there is no reason anyone would want a computer in their
home". This is because computers were rare, expensive, complicated to use and were so
huge, they took up the entire space of a room. How did we go from these exclusive
devices used by a select few, to the tiny pocket-sized gadgets we all have today?

It all comes down to the invention of the transistor and the microchip. These are
fabricated from silicon, one of the most common constituents of sand. In this talk, find
out how we go from a simple particle of sand to complicated, modern electronic
devices. We'll discuss the evolution of electricity and the remarkable properties of silicon
that can be manipulated to produce varied technologies ranging from lighting, television,
digital cameras and solar panels.



Photo: A 5MB IBM hard drive being loaded
into an airplane in 1956. This hard drive
could have stored only one iPhone photo
and has 1600 times less storage than a
modern average mp3 player.

Dates for your diary please find in the attached "Programme 2018"

Mit herzlichen Grüßen

gez. Dr. Dr. Axel Vornhecke

1. Vorsitzender der Deutsch-Britischen Gesellschaft Münster/Münsterland e.V

DBG

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