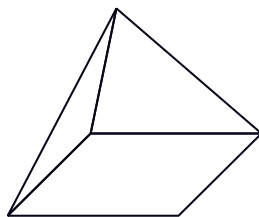
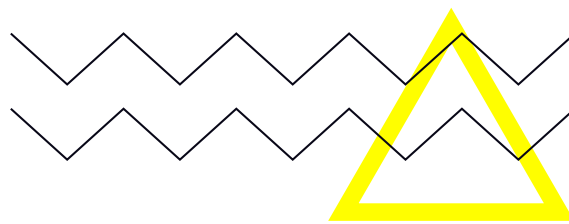
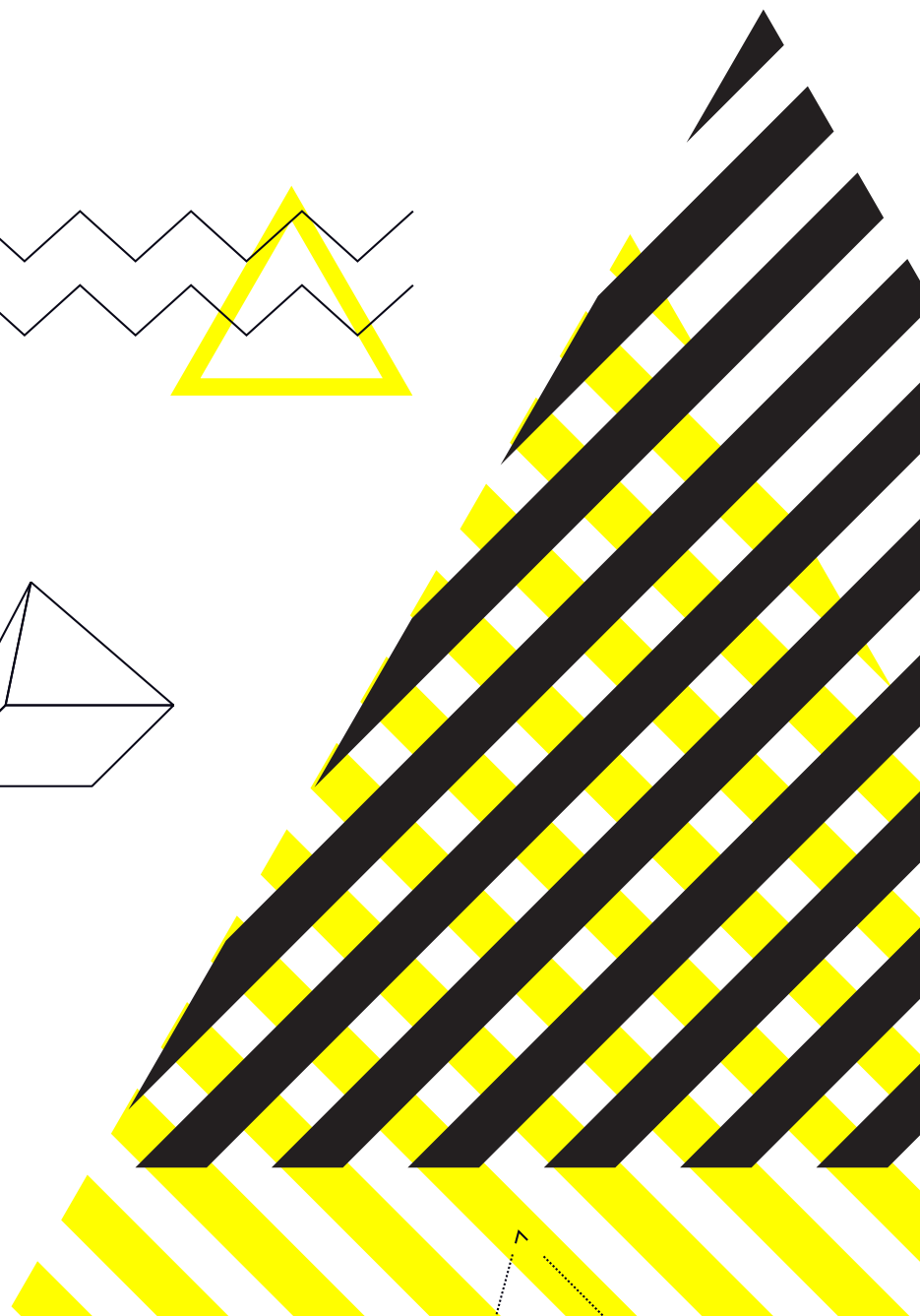
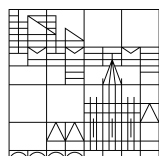
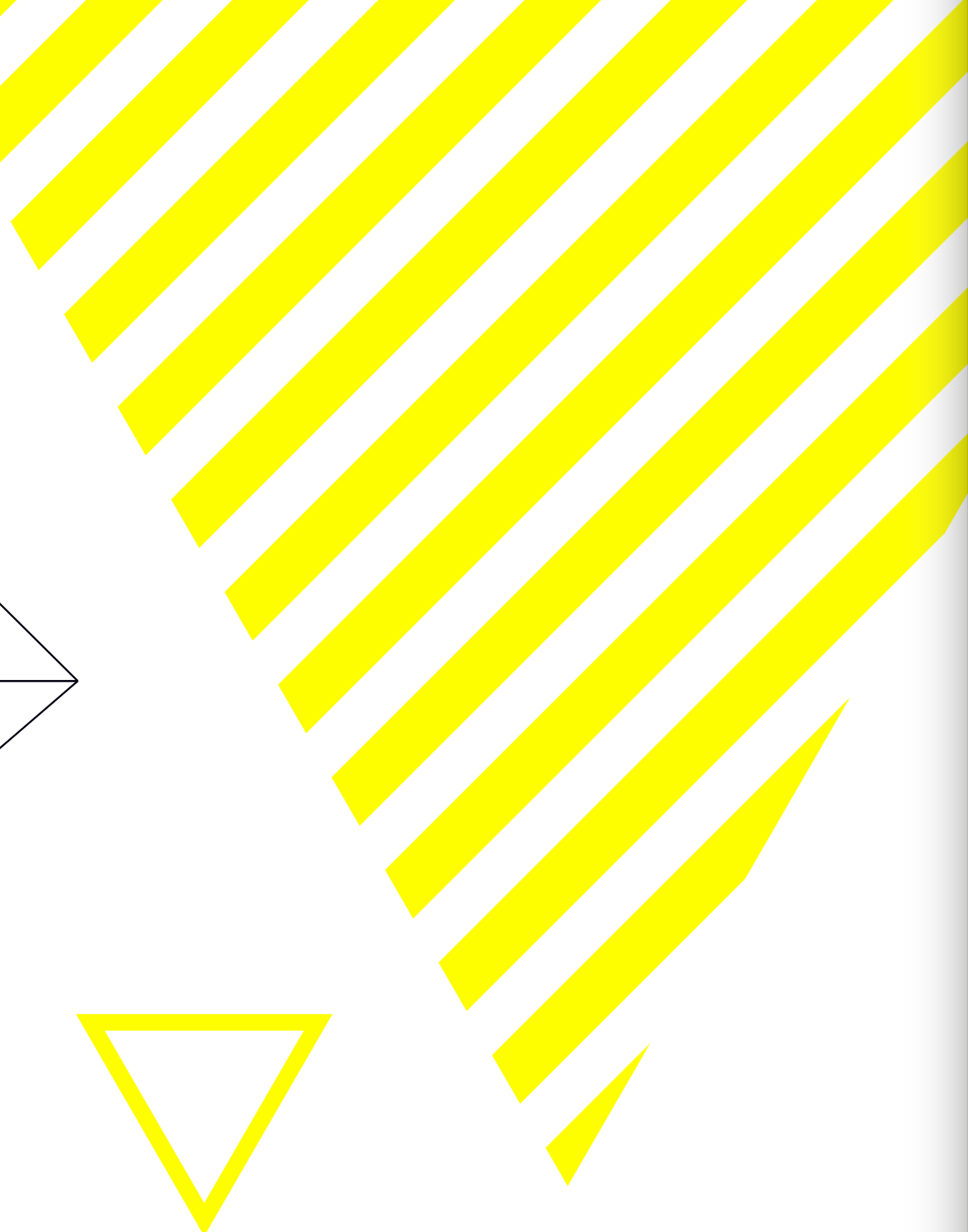


Zukunftskolleg Annual Report 2022



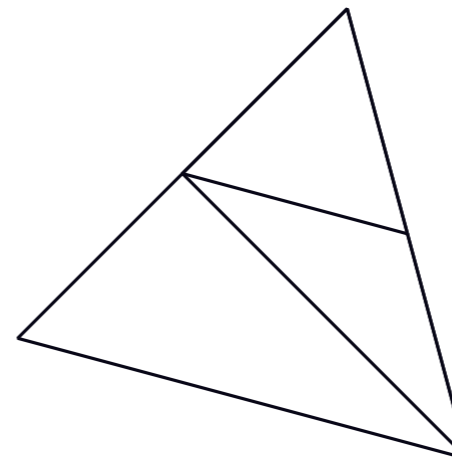
Universität
Konstanz





Dear readers,

This year again, the Zukunftskolleg was enriched in many ways: by great people, wonderful encounters and promising projects. This needs to be highlighted all the more because research trips and planned projects were difficult for a long time. But our fellows managed to make the most of it – as you can see in this annual report. We wish you entertaining reading!



Read all stories
digital report



Foreword

The Zukunftskolleg has one overarching objective: to take seriously the research capacity, academic sophistication and scholarly power of imagination of early career researchers.



It holds true for an academic career that the phase after a doctoral degree and before obtaining a tenured professorship is the most volatile, most vulnerable and most insecure. Conditions range from acting as personal research slaves to individual professors to being left alone in an academic cloud – to name just two extremes of the spectrum. In reality, things are not that bad after all: most researchers in the postdoctoral phase have reasonable working conditions. But reasonable is not optimal! There is a lot of debate as to which are the best conditions for fostering good scholarship, for identifying the best researchers who will then obtain professorships, and for facilitating the creation of research networks that function well.

Different countries, different universities and – within a university – different departments offer various propositions. At the University of Konstanz, we too offer a variety of solutions, from assistant positions and externally funded postdocs to tenure-track professorships, and we also offer – for me the most important instrument – the Zukunftskolleg: fellowships within an academic environment that gives independence, interdisciplinary exposure, international networks, intra-university stability and intragenerational connections. This is the famous 5i strategy of the Zukunftskolleg.

We at the Zukunftskolleg are convinced that modern research is a social enterprise. We need to interconnect with other researchers, discuss research questions far away from our own discipline as well, expose our thoughts to other critical minds. This is so important and in so many ways: from having new, unexpected ideas within our own discipline to being confronted with implications outside it – be they ethical, societal or economic. It is only by building and fostering such networks that we can embed our research in the most fruitful way in our societies. That is why four of the five elements in the 5i strategy – the international, intergenerational, intra-university and interdisciplinary elements – are related to academic networks.

The networks we have created so far work! And we are creating new ones – by responding flexibly and quickly to new needs: in 2022, we offered rapid support with our Visiting Fellowships for postdoctoral researchers from Ukraine who can no longer pursue their research in their own country. They can stay in Konstanz at the Zukunftskolleg for up to six months. So far, we have accepted and are supporting twelve Ukrainian fellows and integrating them into our community.

We are also responding to current requirements with this annual report: it is being published as a digital edition for the first time. We hope this will help not only in terms of advancing digitalization but also in terms of greater sustainability. The new annual report is divided into 16 stories: stories about the successful careers and projects of selected fellows, stories about new projects, people and formats, and stories about achievements and events in the past year.

On behalf of the entire Zukunftskolleg, I hope you enjoy clicking through it and wish you happy reading!

Yours,
Giovanni Galizia

Seven years Zukunftskolleg. Seven years of great experiences.



Story with digital content

Jennifer Randerath

(Department of Psychology) has been a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg since July 2015. She finished her fellowship at the University of Konstanz with her ‘Habilitation’. Today, she is still associated with the Zukunftskolleg, but has left Konstanz to join the academic staff at the Outpatient Unit for Research, Teaching and Practice at the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Vienna, Austria.



Jennifer Randerath
Psychology

Jennifer Randerath's project focuses on an important ability in everyday life: interacting with tools and objects. Examples range from reaching, grasping and manipulating tools to more complex everyday activities, such as making coffee. There are many cases each year of limb apraxia, a complex cognitive motor disorder after stroke that typically affects the use of tools. Limb apraxia is a predictor for the performance of daily tasks, and yet many aspects of this disorder are still unstudied, such as underlying mechanisms, predictors for its persistence in chronic phases or suggestions for new training measures.

Jennifer's research project at the Zukunftskolleg was entitled "Motor Cognition: Behavioural and Neural Principles as well as Clinical Implications". To generate key future advancements in the topic of motor cognition, controlled fundamental behavioral and neuroimaging research with healthy adults and patients were combined. This translational neuroscience project was predominantly designed to obtain new insights into the planning mechanisms of object-related actions as well as the development of training approaches for patients with a disorder. The interdisciplinary project was therefore predominantly conducted in the framework of a joint collaboration between the University of Konstanz's Department of Psychology and the Kliniken Schmieder.

We talked to Jennifer about her personal experiences at the Zukunftskolleg:

When you think of the Zukunftskolleg, what comes to mind?

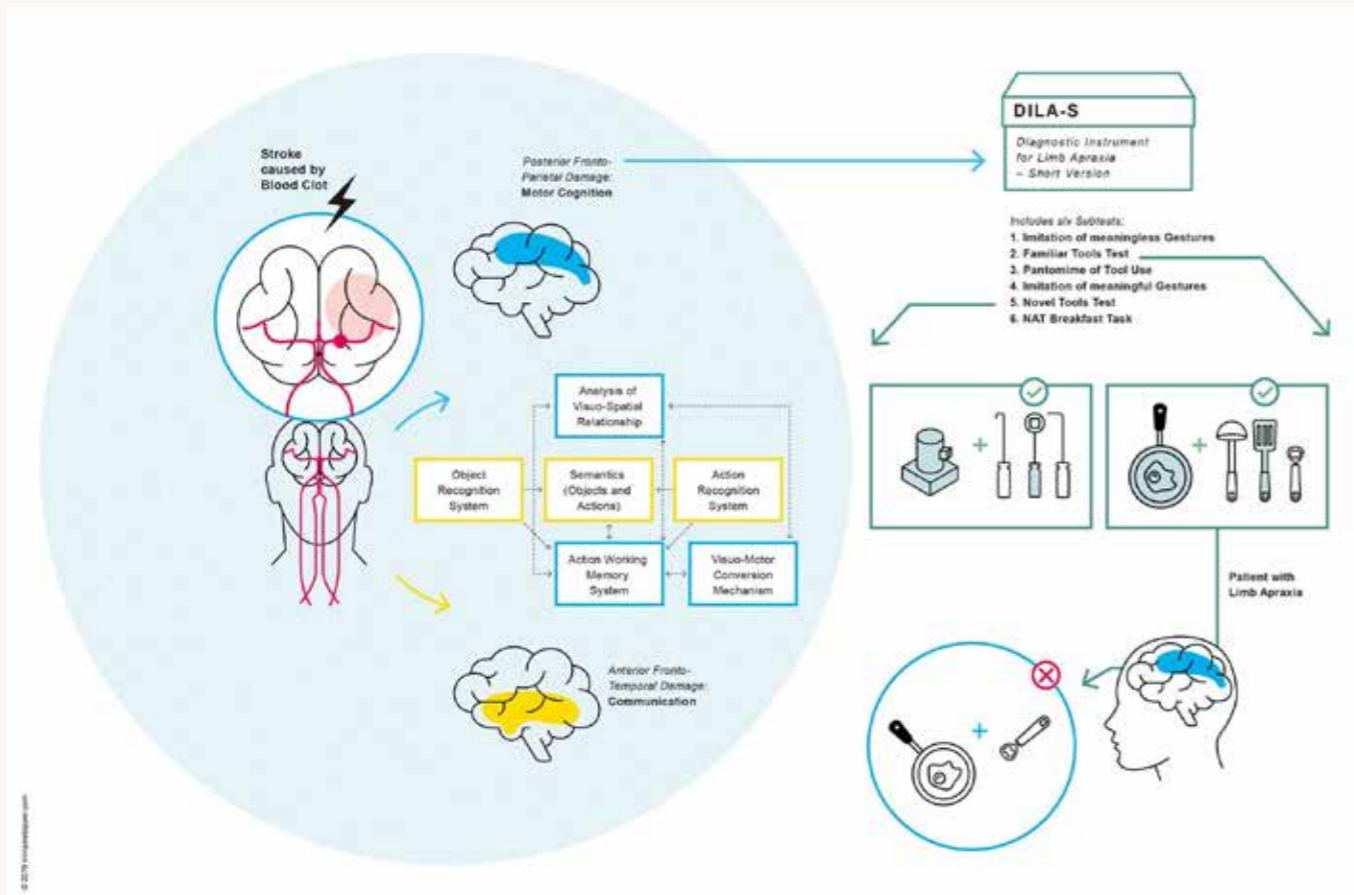
When I think of the Zukunftskolleg, I personally think of freedom, independence, interdisciplinarity. With the fond memories a sense of warmth comes up. I'm extremely grateful for the time that I and my group were allowed to spend at the Zukunftskolleg.

You spent seven years here as a postdoctoral researcher. What were your best experiences, and which were the least enjoyable?

I'll start with what I didn't like, since that is shorter: although a 5-year Fellowship seems plenty of time to start sophisticated projects and build up a group, the uncertainty following the fixed term of the fellowship is an extremely stressful part of an academic career. In addition, the effects of the pandemic have, of course, been a burden for each individual in my group.

I'm happy to say that I had many great experiences at the Zukunftskolleg. On a macro level, among the best experiences were feeling supported and encouraged while daring to implement transfer projects and watching my group grow, seeing the first masters and then doctoral students graduate. The infrastructure and family-friendly atmosphere at the Zukunftskolleg have been decisive for these and several other successes in my group that we can be proud of.

On a more micro level, perhaps one of my most cheerful moments was on a warm summer's day when I was walking back to the parking lot with my then 4-year-old daughter. The orchestra was practising on the parking deck. That is something typical that you can witness on dry summer evenings at the University of Konstanz. On our way, we by chance bumped into the Zukunftskolleg's director. Suddenly, very loudly, the director and my daughter joined in the trumpeting – like you might with an air guitar. Although this might seem farfetched for outsiders reading this, I think this example describes the creative atmosphere at the Zukunftskolleg: with spontaneity and oftentimes in the most unexpected moments.



Your research was very intersectoral from the start, among others through the close cooperation with the Kliniken Schmieder. How important was this cooperation for your research and your career?

This collaboration has been fundamental in several areas, including networking, patient access and student training. I find working with patients inspiring, and students have been very interested in working as assistants and writing their theses in intersectoral fields.

What will you take with you to Vienna from your time at the Zukunftscolleg?

Fond memories, loads of ideas, the awareness that I can build a group in an interdisciplinary field, my 'Habilitation' and lasting collaborations.

What will you miss?

That's hard to say, probably the entire Zukunftscolleg package.

If the Zukunftscolleg had to reinvent itself, what would you advise it to do differently?

I would advise maintaining the basic framework and programme, including the length of time of at least five years for fellows to establish a successful group and qualify for professorships. Not only in our case, this timeline has been very important for successfully implementing sophisticated projects and should be seen as a prerequisite for intersectoral work. In addition, the topical calls are an extremely important flagship at the Zukunftscolleg, which show that its office and fellows are keen to contribute to current issues and future trends.

As mentioned before, uncertainty is a lingering burden. If it would be possible to keep the Zukunftscolleg and its core programme as they are, and in addition offer fellows the opportunity to become tenured, then this would be a desirable change.

(How) will you try to stay connected to the Zukunftscolleg as an alumna?

Please keep me in the loop.



Links

- moco.uni-konstanz.de/en
- moco.uni-konstanz.de/publikationen/assessments
- moco.uni-konstanz.de/publikationen/movies
- uni-konstanz.de/zukunftscolleg/events/review-on-past-events/single-review-on-past-events/jour-fixe-jennifer-randerath-motor-cognition-and-neurorehabilitation
- [uni-kon issue 75, p. 4: uni-konstanz.de/broschueren/unikon/75](https://uni-konstanz.de/broschueren/unikon/75)
- [Podcast on Intersectoral Cooperation Programme: streaming.uni-konstanz.de/fileadmin/mkz/fileserver/download/9B-Podcast/9bp-ZUKO_2022-06-24_Folge-3.mp3](https://streaming.uni-konstanz.de/fileadmin/mkz/fileserver/download/9B-Podcast/9bp-ZUKO_2022-06-24_Folge-3.mp3)

A city memory?



Story with digital content

Gruia Badescu has been a Research Fellow in History and Sociology at the Zukunftskolleg since July 2020. In his research project, he examines how urban imaginaries are reshaped by political change and how this has an impact on the spatial reconfigurations of cities.



Gruia Badescu
History and Sociology

He has been researching cities undergoing transformations after war and dictatorship for more than a decade now. He is interested in how various actors reshape the built environment and how this reconfigured urban space impacts on social practices – in other words, how the built environment and social processes influence each other in times of upheaval. He has thus looked at post-war reconstruction as well as post-dictatorship urbanism. “Memory plays an important role here, as do the main narratives that mobilize at different scales: what kind of stories exist about the war or political violence, and what mechanisms are used to come to terms with a difficult past,” explains Gruia. “From earlier work, one insight that emerged was that the way that cities are imagined by their residents, and particularly by a configuration of elites, has played a role in how they were reshaped after political ruptures. One important imaginary was the cosmopolitan one – residents of Sarajevo and Rijeka, for instance, were and are proud of their city’s cosmopolitanism, even if today the population is less mixed and diverse than before the wars which affected the cities.”



Historians often connect cosmopolitan imaginaries to the role of empire. In his research group, Gruia Badescu traces this cosmopolitan imaginary in post-imperial cities that underwent war and political violence, such as Sarajevo, Rijeka and Thessaloniki. A second imaginary he examines is that connected to urban modernity, in the form of Paris, described by Walter Benjamin as the capital of the nineteenth century. "I examine how three cities on different continents were reshaped in their imaginaries as the Paris of their region: Beirut as the "Paris of the Middle East", Bucharest as the "Paris of the Balkans"/ "Little Paris" and Buenos Aires as the "Paris of Latin America". Working in these three cities before on the topic of post-war reconstruction and post-dictatorship spaces, I was struck by the similar imaginaries, by a certain similarity in the urban atmosphere, but also by the particularities of each context." This exploration of Parisian imaginaries, to become his second book, will therefore examine not only how the Parisian imaginary came to be – from architectural reconfigurations to literary representations – but also how it was challenged, reshaped, and mutated during and after times of civil war and dictatorship, which the three cities experienced in the second part of the twentieth century.

What are urban imaginaries?

"Urban imaginaries are the ways in which people understand and represent a city. They are connected to the built environment – the image of the city – but also to its atmosphere, the social practices the city harbours. German sociologist Martina Löw talks even of an intrinsic logic of each city, the way a city ticks. Yet the imaginary is more of a social construction, a representation, it can well reflect the aspirations, hopes, as well as fears of various social groups. According to an early theorist of imaginaries, Cornelius Castoriadis, the imaginary is a creative social practice that guides transformation. As such, I examine the urban imaginary as the ways that cities reflect aspirations of Parisian modernity and cosmopolitanism, as well as in the way that the imaginary morphs, affected by ruptures such as war and dictatorship."

How were the urban imaginaries of cities reshaped by political change?

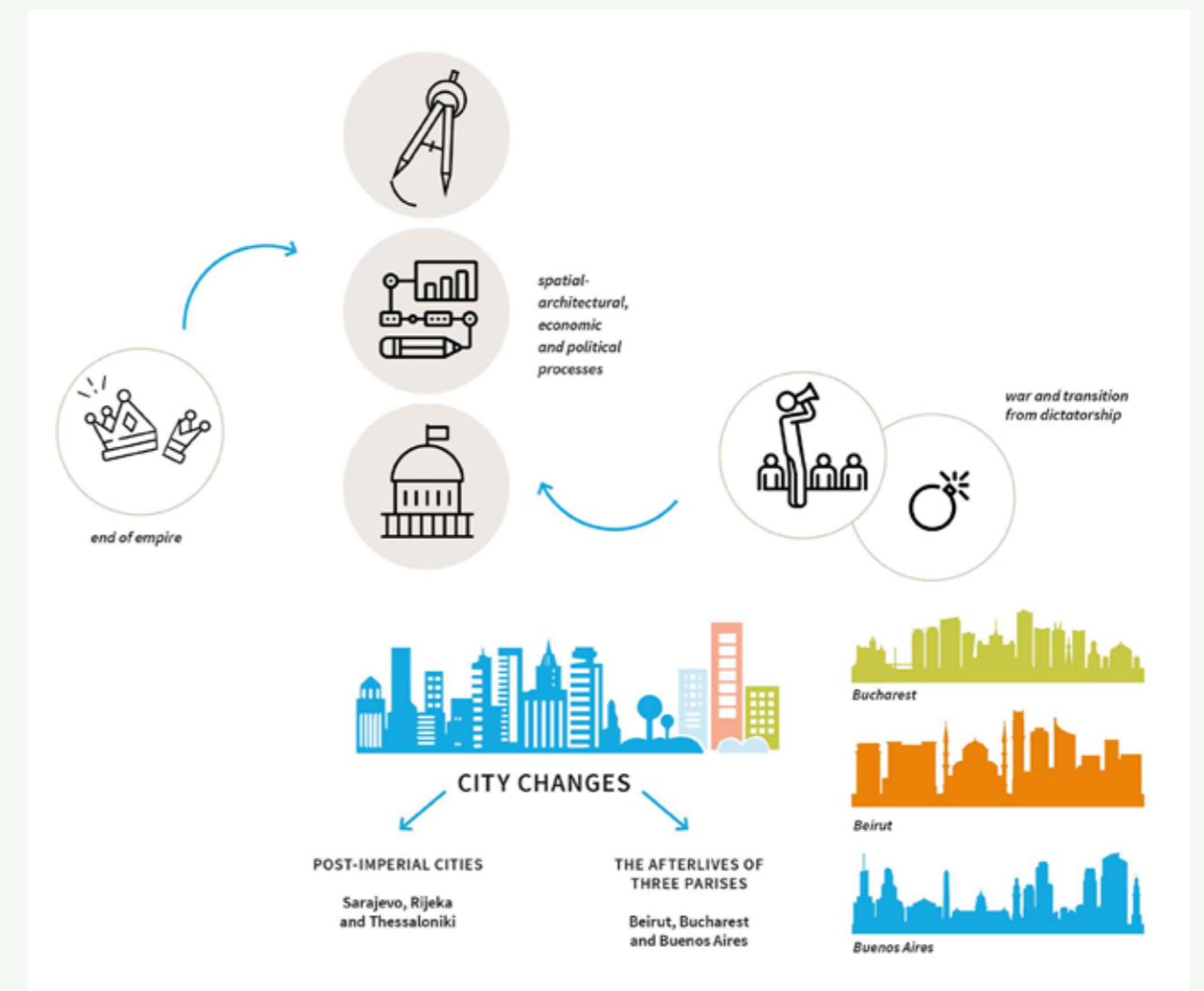
This is what I will be exploring in the field in Bucharest, Beirut and Buenos Aires, starting in the 2022/2023 winter semester. From my preliminary research, I can tell that these imaginaries endure even after much upheaval, yet they have been challenged by other imaginaries and aspirations (for instance, North American cities for Buenos Aires) or by competitive remakings (for instance, the 1980s Victory of Socialism Boulevard in Bucharest was meant, in an act of defiance by Nicolae Ceausescu towards the pre-communist Parisian reference, to surpass the Champs Elysées in Paris). As for cosmopolitanism, I see both endurance and mutation. In Sarajevo and Rijeka, for example, war and population change have led to a more homogeneous demographic landscape today, but the cosmopolitan imaginary has endured. Nevertheless, other forms of exclusion have emerged – what I call "exclusionary cosmopolitanism", in which newcomers to cities are othered by the old residents."

Intersectoral cooperation

In another project, Gruia is collaborating with Lebanese filmmaker Sabine El Chamaa. Gruia has been researching Sarajevo and Beirut since 2008, when he received a National Geographic Society grant to study the reconstruction of the two cities and how that connected with post-war reconciliation. After many years in the field, he is now critical of the term "reconciliation". But his interest in the built environment and memory in the two cities has remained very strong. He has written several articles on the comparison of the two cities, from the dynamics of post-war reconstruction to imperial legacies in urban space, urban memory and amnesia, as well as the imaginary of cosmopolitanism in both.

"In 2018, I attended a conference in Sarajevo, where I met Sabine El Chamaa. From the start, we had great conversations about cities and memory. Sabine is from Beirut and came to Sarajevo in 2005 to film a documentary about the siege. We said we should do a project together at some point. When I joined the ZukunftsKolleg and heard about the Intersectoral Cooperation grant for fellows, I got very excited and contacted Sabine. This is how "Sarajevo-Beirut Intersections" came about."

The goal is to shape a visual dialogue between the two cities. For the researcher, this is an opportunity to further compare the two cities, beyond the realms of writing and architectural photography that were his previous focus. He also sees this project as a "Thank You" to the people in the two cities who have been part of this research and also of the broader journey of discovery in the two cities. The intention is to display a film and an installation in the two cities so that people can experience, think about and feel the other city as well as to provoke questions and initiate a further dialogue between two regions long connected in the past, but not much in touch today. For Sabine, it might be an avenue for continuing her experimental filmmaking, it is a project about affect in the city. They have discussed a lot how to bridge the two angles from which they started: for Gruia, the architectural, spatial and urban memory angles; for Sabine, the intimate spaces, the affective.



How do the urban histories, memories and imaginaries of Sarajevo and Beirut mirror each other?

“Sarajevo and Beirut share multiple things. First, their urban history, including an Ottoman past, then urban makeovers during the Habsburg rule over Bosnia and Herzegovina and the French mandate in Lebanon, a new modernization and confidence after 1945 during socialist Yugoslavia and independent Lebanon, then difficult times of war and destruction in the last part of the twentieth century, followed by reconstruction – which followed very different trajectories in the two cities. Moreover, their populations have traditionally represented a mix of different groups of Christians, Muslims and Jews, most sharing a common language. While many cities in the former Ottoman realm had such religious diversity, they also featured linguistic and ethnic divisions – take Nicosia and Jerusalem for instance – while in Sarajevo and Beirut, language was not a signifier of difference – at least until the Bosnia and Herzegovina after the 1990s, when “our language” became three official languages. A built environment featuring multiple layers of the past, mosques and churches, imperial heritage, daring architectural modernism, has been the stage for celebrated cosmopolitanism as well as outbursts of conflict in the later twentieth century. There are many differences as well: of scale – Beirut is much larger today –, of setting – a Mediterranean city vs. a mountain Balkan city –, of the socialist experience, and particularly the post-war settings after the 1990s, as well as how memory markers abound in Sarajevo – plaques, monuments – while in Beirut, the state performed more a politics of amnesia. With Sabine, we discuss this a great deal. In any case, for me, comparisons and intersections do not mean just mere similarities, but also learning from contrasts. We focus on intersections and dialogue, but all through the subjective lens of experience. Sabine’s take was to bring our own stories and engagements into the project, to reflect on our affective relations to the place, and even on the frictions between visions, or the circumstances that occur in the filming process – for instance, the presence and absence of characters from one city in another in a narrative storyline of encounters.”

Since the beginning of his fellowship in July 2020 (although we found ourselves in the pandemic), Gruia has started many collaborations with international researchers and institutes – aside from the ongoing projects of which he was already part (e.g. the SSHRC-funded project Rijeka in Flux, the Memory Lab (Trans-European Platform on History and Remembrance), INURA, the International Network for Urban Research and Action, etc.). “For instance, the new working group Memory, Space and Place of the Memory Studies Association which I created with two former colleagues from Cambridge and Konstanz has become a vibrant community of scholars, who exchange ideas, for now online. Twitter, which I had recently joined, brought new connections – from people who contacted me after reading articles that were shared there to fruitful collaborations. For instance, together with a scholar I first engaged with on Twitter, Professor Emanuela Grama (Carnegie Mellon), we organized a series of panels and round tables at conferences, bringing together scholars of critical heritage studies. On the topic of heritage, I was happy to be invited by Germany’s Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community to join the Action Group on Dissonant Heritage, working together with a number of researchers and institutions Europe-wide to shape a new EU policy on heritage associated with difficult pasts, such as wars and dictatorships.”

In addition, Gruia was an active part of the team of the Europe for Citizens project led by Croatian NGO Documenta, Dealing with the Past. Through the Humboldt network, he met many scholars, and despite the limitations of the time spent online being so limited, with some, the follow-up led to plans for future collaborations. One such fellow, Valeria Vegh Weis, joined the fellows in Konstanz as a Research Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg. As the pandemic restrictions started to wind down, he was able to conduct his Humboldt Fellowship Europe research stay in Barcelona, where he was hosted by EUROM (the European Observatory of Memories) at the University of Barcelona. “My research stay there brought me in contact with talented researchers from Spain and Latin America. As I prepared my fieldwork in Argentina, the Zukunftskolleg put me in touch with the Institute of Advanced Studies in Belo Horizonte, where I started engaging with two fellows there for possible collaboration, as well as with CALAS. In Germany, together with scholars from Bamberg and IRS Erkner, we are setting up an international network on mapping heritage transformations.”

Links

twitter.com/gruiabadescu

kops.uni-konstanz.de/discover?scope=%2F&query=Badescu&submit=Los

geschichte.uni-konstanz.de/en/research/kolar/team/dr-gruia-badescu

uni-konstanz.de/forschen/forschungseinrichtungen/gemeinsinn-was-ihn-bedroht-und-was-wir-fuer-ihn-tun-koennen/personen/team/gruia-badescu

Is it all about Tutti Frutti?



Story with digital content

Jacob Bloomfield (Department of Literature)

joined the Zukunftskolleg as a Postdoctoral Fellow in July 2020, that is, at a time when it was – due to the pandemic – very difficult to meet other researchers. Thanks to the easing of public health restrictions around the world in the past months, he has finally been able to carry out in-person, non-digital archival research related to his project “Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe”.



Jacob Bloomfield
Literature



At the beginning of 2022, Jacob undertook the UEA Archives and Collections Visiting Fellowship at the University of East Anglia in Norwich (UK). He was the inaugural Fellow in that programme. He visited the Library & Archives of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland (Ohio) and the ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives in Los Angeles (California). "In June 2022, I was one of five fortunate recipients of a Non-Residential Fellowship of Gale and the Committee on LGBT History (CLGBTH)," he says, reporting on another major achievement of this year. This fellowship grants him access to Gale's Archives of Sexuality and Gender and the GALE Digital Scholar Lab – a significant boon for his research.

In his research project, Jacob examines gender variance and its historical connection to transgressive acts, behaviours, and categories of identity. Using an example, he explains how gender variance (i.e. unconventional gender presentation as expressed through comportment, clothes, and other means) can manifest itself among races, cultures and nationalities: "It is seen in historical attitudes towards gender variance in the African-American community compared to mainstream white culture. Historians such as Preston Lauterbach (2012) and Laura Grantmyre (2011) have observed that drag was a staple of African-American music and theatre, and could even be seen in more casual everyday settings in black neighbourhoods, throughout the first half of the twentieth century." Yet the narrative of black drag's decline is at odds with the significant fact that Little Richard became one of the most popular musicians of the 1950s, parlaying the tropes and traditions of black drag to the widest audience the medium had ever seen. In his research project, Jacob argues that the popularity of theatrical black drag and gender variance persisted, and indeed thrived, into the second half of the twentieth century. "In the ONE Archives, I had the opportunity to analyze sources such as mid-twentieth-century African-American periodicals (e.g. Jet magazine), black, queer publications (e.g. BLK magazine) and information on black drag artists (e.g. Sir Lady Java). These sources reveal that the supposed decline of black drag from the mid-twentieth century is more complex than historians have acknowledged, if not false," he recalls.

In his (upcoming) second monograph *Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe*, he talks about Little Richard, who was the musician at the forefront of a new genre of popular music (rock and roll) and was one of the most internationally renowned artists of his generation, all while predicating his persona on gender variance. "One link between my project and present-day issues is the current debate in the US over gender nonconforming children," he says. Conservative politicians are increasingly taking aim at attempts on the part of adults to affirm gender nonconforming children. For example, Texas legislator Bryan Slaton has voiced his intention to introduce a bill that would ban minors from attending drag shows. Many conservative arguments against affirming gender nonconformity in children have centred on an idea that gender nonconformity is now on the rise. "My work demonstrates that gender nonconformity has been, for centuries, a fundamental part of Western popular culture. Not only that, but drag has historically been seen as family entertainment in many cases," he recounts. He also draws parallels between moral panic over rock and roll music and the youth cultures of the 1950s and 1960s.

Intergenerational exchange

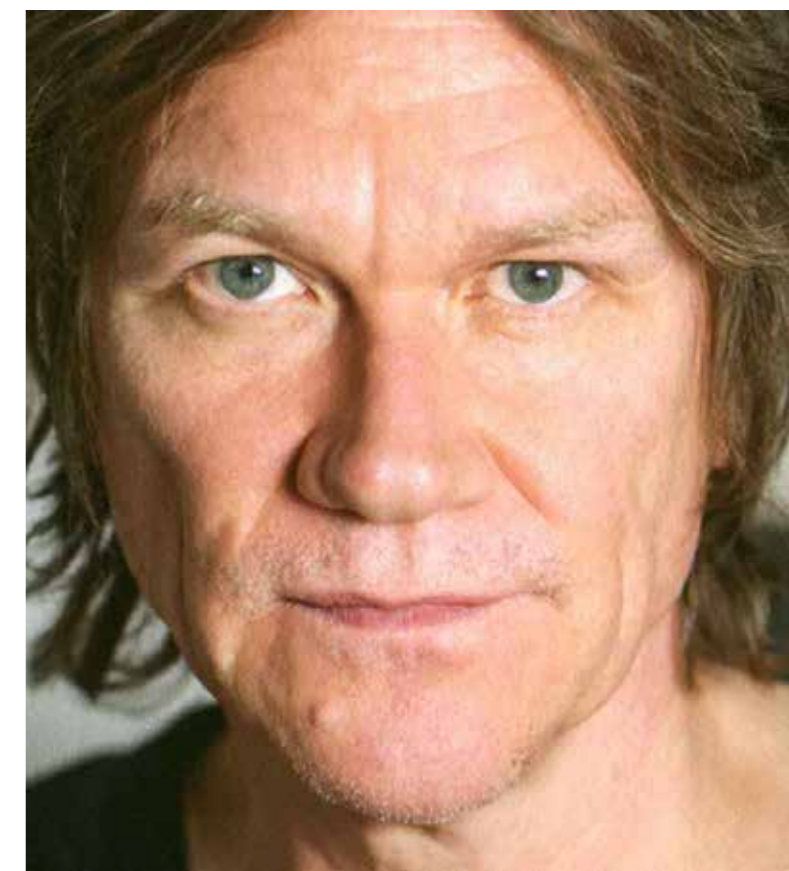
This year, Jacob also invited Eric Lott, Professor for English and American Studies at the City University New York Graduate Center, USA, as a Senior Fellow to the Zukunftskolleg.

They both conduct research in the area of racial, gender and sexual mirroring between white and African-American cultures that drive the history of blackface mimicking and suffuse the musical cultures which Little Richard inherited, camped up and therefore reworked. They are also both looking at the domain of drag performance with its political implications for sexuality, performance, gender innovation and cultural transformation. "Blackface and its legacies have provided the cultural medium in which white and black performers fight it out in the struggle for justice in the United States," explains Eric.

"My professional relationship with Professor Eric Lott has been hugely fruitful. Professor Lott has written extensively on blackface minstrelsy, for instance, in his book *Love & Theft: Blackface Minstrelsy and the American Working Class* (1993). A discussion of blackface minstrelsy is essential to my project," he says. And Eric Lott adds: "I was surprised when Jacob nominated me as a Senior Fellow because we were not yet acquainted though I knew distantly of his work. The convergences of the work we both

do – particularly Jacob's project on Little Richard – made for a good fit, but I was still gratified and, yes, surprised." He knew distantly of the Zukunftskolleg through the school of reception theory advanced by Wolfgang Iser. "Since I found Jacob's work so compelling, because of the Zukunftskolleg context and because I was due to be on sabbatical leave (so could travel more easily), I jumped at the invitation," recalls Eric. For him, it was an accommodating situation: very easy to settle in, get to work and share ideas. "Everyone has been very welcoming. It's a quite international array of people and disciplinary perspectives too, which has made the mix even richer. The whole environment is friendly, lively and inspiring," he says enthusiastically.

During his time in Konstanz, Eric delivered a paper entitled "Marx in Texas: Slavery, Capital, and the Revolutionary 1860s" at an event presented jointly by the Zukunftskolleg and the Centre for Cultural Inquiry (ZKF). He also delivered a separate talk entitled "Blackface from Time to Time" as part of the Zukunftskolleg's Jour fixe. "On the continuing history of blackface and racial politics, which never seems to die, and on politics and popular music," he says. He and Jacob are in constant exchange: "We try to outdo each other with insights, backstories and research findings, which is both fun and productive. It's been a pleasure to work with him on his preparations for various manuscripts and publication protocols."



Eric Lott
Senior Fellow

Who set the agenda?



Story with digital content

Alice el-Wakil has been a Postdoctoral Fellow (Department of Politics and Public Administration and Cluster of Excellence “The Politics of Inequality”) since July 2021. She has been offered a position as a tenure track assistant professor in political theory at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, starting in September 2022. Before leaving the Zukunftscolleg, we talked to her about her experiences in Konstanz.



Alice el-Wakil
Politics and Public Administration

Alice, you were at the Zukunftscolleg for almost a year, what were the highlights? And what didn't go exactly your way?

Joining the Zukunftscolleg has been a fantastic experience. Some of the highlights since I arrived in July 2021 include:

- The writing retreat organized for Zukunftscolleg fellows on Reichenau Island, which was fruitful in terms of writing, but also a great opportunity to get to know the other fellows and to discover the region
- The weekly Jour fixe, where fellows from all disciplines present their current research in accessible ways – thus creating a unique opportunity to get a glimpse of other research topics, concepts and methods and engage in interdisciplinary exchange
- The 2-week stay by Professor Maija Setälä from the University of Turku at the University of Konstanz, which was made possible by the Zukunftscolleg Mentorship Programme, and which enabled me to discuss extensively with this international expert on core aspects of democratic theory and democratic innovations
- The constant support from the wonderful administrative staff at the Zukunftscolleg that truly makes it easier to navigate the challenges of dealing with a new university bureaucracy – including by highlighting opportunities to foster connections or to obtain additional funding and by setting up coaching sessions that turned out to be extremely helpful

More generally throughout the year, I benefited from my double affiliation to the Zukunftscolleg and the Cluster of Excellence “The Politics of Inequality” – where I was, at the same time, part of an inspiring and supportive community of postdoctoral researchers and very connected to the activities of researchers in political science and related disciplines in the area of inequality. The reading group on normative aspects of inequality we held at the cluster is also definitely one of the highlights of my fellowship in Konstanz.

These and further highlights greatly compensated for the fact that it was another pandemic year, with its share of high uncertainty and hours spent working from home. The main difficulty and source of frustration was caused by the stress of trying constantly to balance the willingness to engage in new, interdisciplinary discussions and research with colleagues at the Zukunftscolleg and at the cluster with other constraints in terms of maximizing outputs and applying for jobs and funding as a postdoctoral researcher on a fixed term contract. This is, of course, not specific to the Zukunftscolleg, but a general aspect of academia at the moment that prevents some researchers from investing resources with a long-term perspective.

Which memories and experiences are you taking with you to Copenhagen?

What I will probably not need in Copenhagen are the muscles I built cycling up the hill to the university's campus! But I hope to keep in touch with Zukunftscolleg fellows, whose diverse methods, research questions and engagement with civil society have greatly inspired me. And I will certainly take with me the experience of being part of an inclusive and supportive research community like the Zukunftscolleg.

The sense of becoming part of a team was fostered from the very first week of my fellowship, by an “end of the summer semester and welcome” lunch at Selma's with the staff and fellows on my first week on campus. The resources and the time (three hours on a Zoom call, thank you so much, Anda Lohan!) that was invested in showing us new fellows how the University of Konstanz functions and its many support facilities also played a large role in helping us to become autonomous members of the community. And I felt able to count reliably on continuous and extensive support to develop my research – sometimes conditional upon accepting certain German bureaucratic challenges – in terms of financial resources, IT services, coaching sessions, and so on.

One more thing I will remember is how fruitful the extensive inclusion of fellows' expertise, propositions and requests in the functioning and development of the institute can be – be it to select the topic of a symposium, to review applications for the fantastic ZUKOnnect Fellowship, or to foster the setting up of emergency support measures for researchers affected by the war in Ukraine (which ultimately led, thanks in great part to the hard and impressive work of a number of mobilized fellows and of the Executive Committee, to the creation of the first such fellowships at the University of Konstanz). I hope to be able to draw on these (and further) experiences and observations to reproduce such an environment in the future.

What will you especially miss?

The views – from my office, from the cafeteria, from the bus heading to the university. The coffee breaks in the courtyard. The library and my reserve shelf. The cosy living room at the Zukunftskolleg. The continuous discoveries of architectural or artistic details of the campus' architecture (the fish tanks! The concrete Porsche! [images.app.goo.gl/2aeWDpch8s1NzQkM7](https://www.instagram.com/p/2aeWDpch8s1NzQkM7)). And mostly my fellow researchers and the staff of both the Zukunftskolleg and the Cluster of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality."



You are studying citizens as agenda setters in democratic systems. How should citizens contribute to political agenda setting in democracies?

Indeed – that citizens should be involved in setting the political agenda is widely considered a core aspirational principle of democratic systems, both in democratic theory and in recurring demands from social movements. But what this abstract principle really means, and how it should be translated into practice, remains largely underspecified.

During this year, I have been able to map different meanings that have been attributed to the concept of "agenda setting" in academic literature. For instance, to set the agenda sometimes means to determine the processes through which political decisions should be made; to define the problems on which a polity should focus; to determine which problems should be prioritized; and to design the solutions to specific problems that should be considered by decision-makers.

These different understandings of the concept of agenda setting correspond to different types of agenda-setting empowerment granted by various traditional and innovative political processes to citizens. To take one example: a nowadays common way to use mini-publics – deliberative assemblies composed of randomly selected citizens – in politics is to let citizens develop policy recommendations, namely, possible solutions to answer to a pre-defined issue. Here, the randomly selected citizens have no agenda setting power in terms of defining the issue on which they focus; but they do have agenda setting power in terms of defining what set of solutions should be considered by decisionmakers to cope with this pre-defined challenge. Is this kind of empowerment sufficient to meet the requirement of citizens' agenda setting? Or should randomly selected citizens, or maybe even citizens who were not randomly selected, also be able to define the problems on which mini-publics focus? And what does democratic agenda setting require in terms of what happens to randomly selected citizens' recommendations? These are the questions to which I will turn.



What was your greatest achievement with regard to your research project?

The past year has served to develop a solid basis for this research project. I had the chance to gain very valuable feedback on the project from colleagues in Konstanz, at the Cluster Café and at the talk I had the opportunity to give in the In_Equality Colloquium, as well as from the University of St. Gallen, where I was kindly invited to present the project. Extensive discussions with Maija Setälä, whose visit to Konstanz was generously financed by the Zukunftskolleg Mentorship Programme, also helped clarify and refine my general approach and raised some new questions that will be included in the project. And the groundwork for collaborative projects on certain sub-questions of the project with both empirical political scientists and political theorists was laid, in part thanks to the return of in-person, informal interactions at two wonderful workshops I attended this spring.

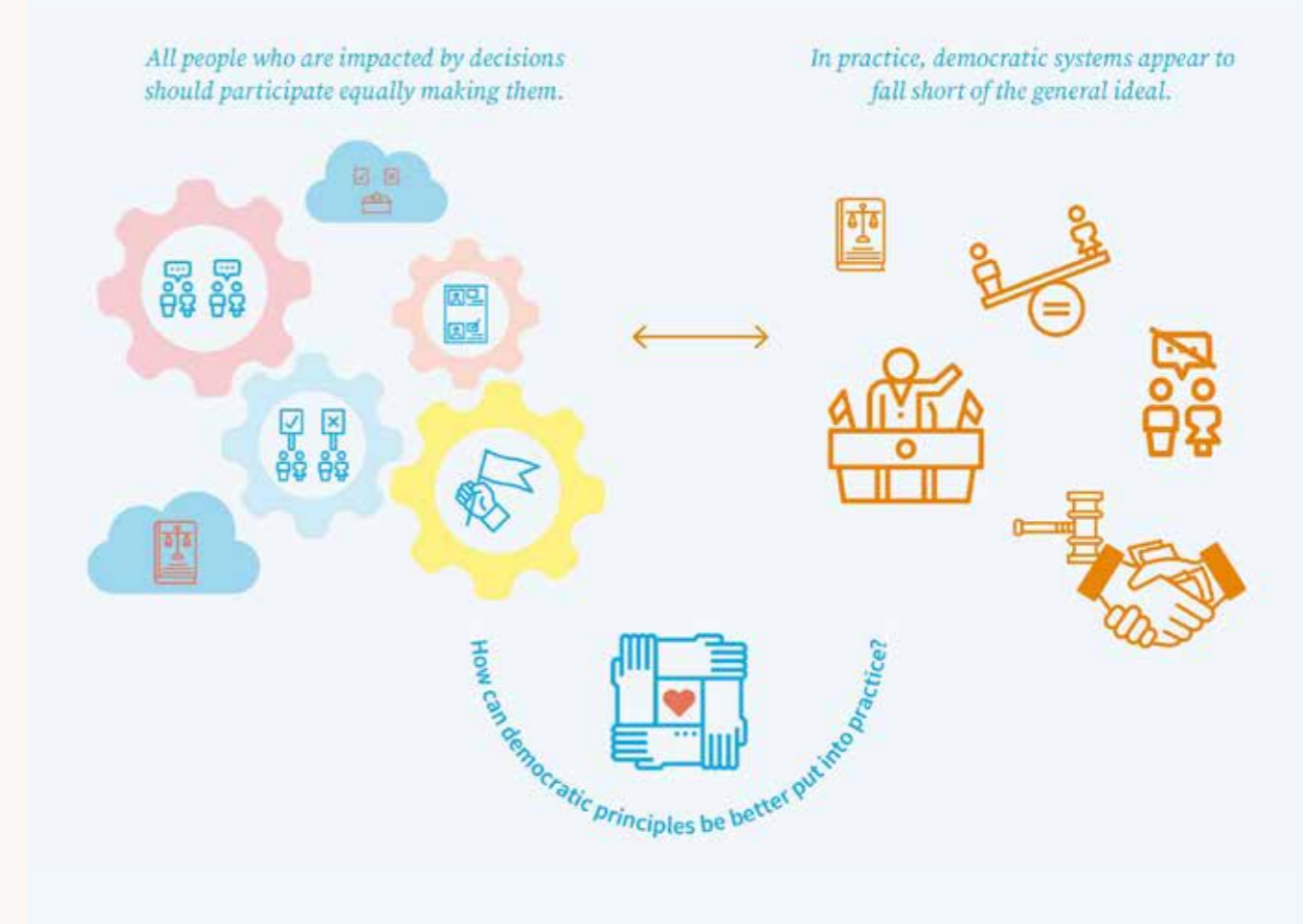
You are also currently writing a book about government with the people. What can we expect from it?

The question that the book takes up is: Should referendum and initiative processes – so-called mechanisms of direct democracy – be included in our democratic systems? Democratic theorists have widely rejected the intensifying calls for “More direct democracy!” coming from a diversity of parties and social movements in many places in the world – promoting, rather, the translation of democratic principles into practice through conventional representative systems structured around elections. Yet, objections to popular vote processes generally display important weaknesses: they conflate referendum and initiative processes with a model of “direct democracy,” assumed to be fundamentally opposed to that of “representative democracy”; they ignore that there are different kinds of referendums and initiatives; and they pay almost no attention to the ways in which these processes interact with other political processes and impact on democratic systems at large. As such, answers to the question of whether or not we should promote the inclusion of referendums and initiative processes, which could in turn inform the evaluation of existing practices and the design of new ones, are currently lacking.

The aim of the book is to propose both new answers to existing objections to these processes and to refine our positive understanding of the value of democratic systems that include them. It does so by focusing on what I call “blended systems,” which include a specific kind of popular vote processes – bottom-up referendums, which empower non-elected actors to demand a popular vote on laws or policies recently adopted by legislators – and defending these systems as a better way to realize widely supported democratic principles than conventional representative systems.

Looking back at your 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship: What do you associate with the Zukunftskolleg?

I will remember the Zukunftskolleg as an extremely supportive institute for researchers to both develop their own research projects and to learn and grow, as individuals, in a great community. I am very grateful to the Zukunftskolleg, to the Cluster of Excellence “The Politics of Inequality” and to my host Professor Aurélia Bardou, for giving me the chance to spend time here. I am sad to be leaving already, ten months before the end of the two-year fellowship – but I hope for many happy returns, continued connections and mutual visits!



Links

aliceel-wakil.com/publications/

Do different participatory processes affect the decisions made by citizens – and if so, how? During her fellowship, Alice collaborated with Michael A. Stöbel (University of Lausanne) on an article considering this question, which is now published in open access in the European Political Science Review: doi.org/10.1017/S1755773922000157

They also published a blog post that picks up the core message of the article for a wider audience: defacto.expert/2022/05/19/gemeindeversammlung-oder-urnenabstimmung-wie-der-entscheidungsprozess-das-ergebnis-beeinflusst/ (in German) and defacto.expert/2022/05/19/assemblees-communales-ou-votations-comment-le-processus-de-prise-de-decision-influence-le-resultat/?lang=fr (in French)

*Alice took part in a roundtable on the book *Political Corruption* by Emanuela Ceva and Maria Paola Ferrett (OUP, 2021), which will be turned into a book symposium to be published in 2023. Here is a link to the book: global.oup.com/academic/product/political-corruption-9780197567869?cc=ch&lang=en&*

Alice also continued engaging with civil society in Switzerland, especially on discussions about the role of democratic innovations and mini-publics in the country. Here is an interview she gave on the topic in the summer of 2021 (in German): daslamm.ch/mehr-demokratie-wagen

Enriching environment



Story with digital content

Abena Yalley (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Literature and Department of Politics and Public Administration) is a great example of how the ZUKOnnect Fellowships attract researchers from the Global South to Konstanz – who then stay there. Abena came to Konstanz as one of the first ZUKOnnect Fellows in August 2019. Just one year later, she became a Postdoctoral Fellow of the Zukunftscolleg. During her ZUKOnnect Fellowship, she established contacts with a good number of researchers at the University of Konstanz. She gradually felt comfortable with her new network of scholars and almost like a local. Right then she knew that beginning a research career at the Zukunftscolleg would mean a perfect academic environment for her. The freedom and independence presented invaluable resources and a great opportunity to be highly productive.



Abena Yalley
Literature, Politics and Public Administration

We talked to her about how she was able to benefit from these opportunities and resources.

You have been a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftscolleg since 2020 and you were also a ZUKOnnect Fellow in 2019 – what are your highlights from your fellowship?

I would say one of my major achievements is the position as Postdoctoral Fellow I was awarded by the Zukunftscolleg, which has enabled me to implement my current research project. In addition, my manuscripts on “Gender, masculinity and policing: The implications of police masculinized culture on policing domestic violence in Ghana and Nigeria” was published by Social Science and Humanities Open, while my paper on “Feminists across borders: Transnational feminism, knowledge production and university education in Nigeria” was also published by the International Journal of Social Sciences. I wrote these two manuscripts during my three-month stay at the Zukunftscolleg as a ZUKOnnect Fellow. In the early peak of the coronavirus pandemic, I received an invitation to join an African research consortium to map the impact of COVID-19 on research in Africa. I looked at the gendered impact of the pandemic on research in Africa. In addition, I was invited by Working Group CA18211 of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) to lead the sub-group on obstetric violence.

Since December 2021, you have also been a member of the Executive Committee – from which insights did you benefit personally?

Being on the Executive Committee is a great opportunity for me. I see it as an opportunity to contribute to the community with my own experience and background as an African scholar. I would, however, say that I’ve been schooled educative and empowering. Gaining insights and participating in administrative processes at the Zukunftscolleg, especially evaluating applications for funding and fellowships, have been so enriching. This has increased my own understanding of what reviewers look for in applications, allowing for self-reflection on my own future applications, especially to funding organizations.

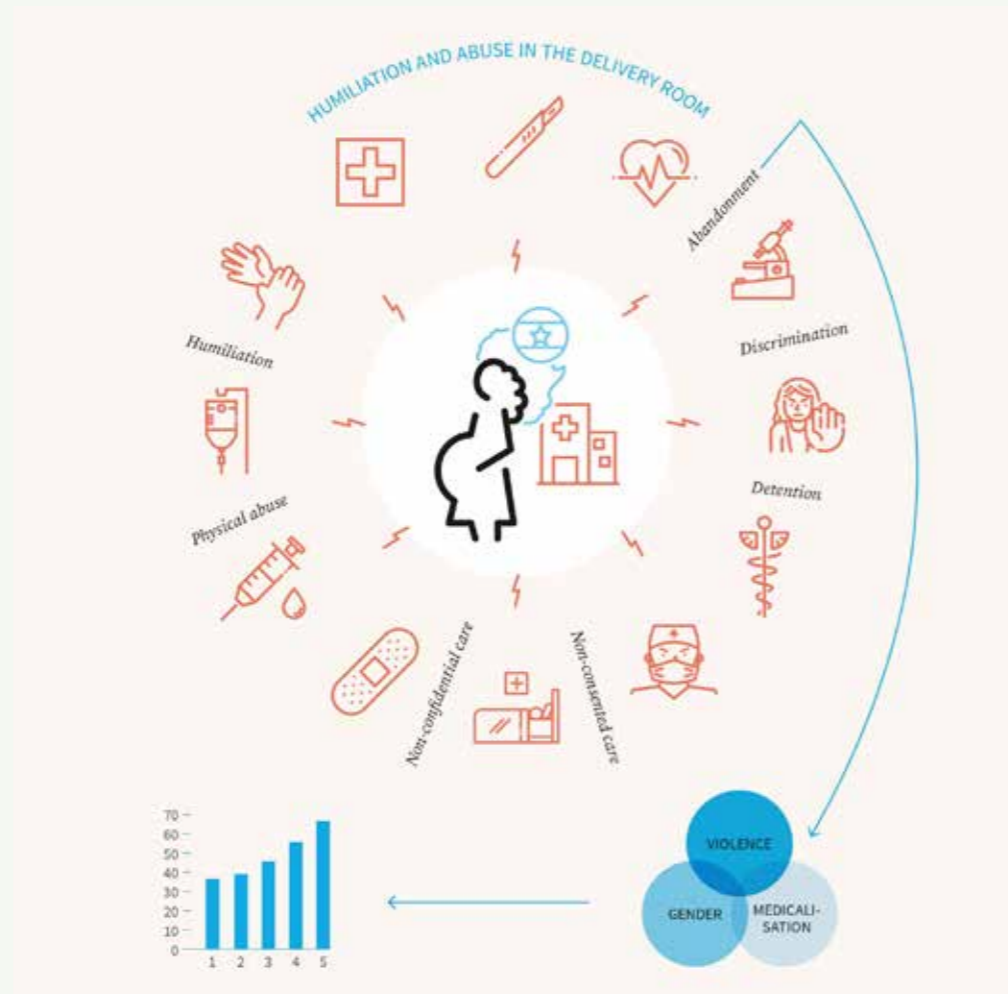
I’ve also developed my own reviewing skills, being conscious now of common biases that may be present and affect a successful review.

In your research project, you are studying obstetric violence in relation to high maternal mortality and low facility-based deliveries in Ghana. Can you tell us about the magnitude of the abuse taking place in Ghana?

Obstetric violence, though a relatively new concept, is not a new experience for many women worldwide. Many women have suffered abuse during childbirth, but the sacredness of birth has often sealed their lips and prevented them from voicing their experiences. In many societies, narratives of birth experiences are considered a taboo, adding to the silence on this issue. This is similar in the Ghanaian society. The phenomenon of abuse during delivery among Ghanaian women is relatively high compared to other countries. In my research, I investigate its prevalence and dynamics in the Ghanaian context using both qualitative and quantitative research methods. In late 2021, I conducted a survey involving 2,145 women who have given birth in eight public health facilities in Ghana. My study revealed that more than two out of every three Ghanaian woman (65%) who gave birth in the public health facilities experienced at least one form of obstetric violence. Women’s experiences were not exclusive, as more than 80% of these women experienced multiple forms of abuse. The most common forms were non-confidential care (35%), where their privacy was breached by not being covered during delivery or vaginal examinations, and abandoned care (33%), where women were ignored when they needed care, with some giving birth without health workers being present. Others included physical violence (27%), which manifested itself in beatings, slapping or stitching without anaesthesia, non-dignified care (28%), where they were either shouted at, mocked or verbally abused, and detention in health facilities for their inability to pay hospital bills.

Single women were 60% more likely to be abused than married women, while women with no formal education were also more likely to experience physical abuse, thus revealing how social gender constructions of marriage and educational status shape women’s treatment during delivery. Furthermore, women with HIV/AIDS were also more likely to experience non-dignified care, while teenage mothers had a higher probability of being physically abused. All other categories, such as income, rural versus urban residence, ethnicity, religion, type of birth, gender of birth

attendant, had no correlation with obstetric violence, showing that obstetric violence is highly normalized in delivery services and leading to the conclusion that all women who deliver in any of the eight public health facilities studied in Ghana are at a substantial risk of experiencing obstetric violence. My study revealed that the scale of obstetric violence against Ghanaian women is enormous and highly institutionalized, and this explains the reluctance of women to deliver in facilities.



How did this change or how has it developed with regard to the global COVID-19 pandemic?

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an enormous impact on the already fragile maternal health system in Ghana, thus complicating women's experiences. Women's narratives reveal that the increased attention paid to COVID-19 relegated the importance placed on maternal care, leading to a lot of abandoned care in both antenatal and delivery services. Furthermore, in an attempt to curb infections, health professionals became more unresponsive to women's requests for care during delivery and more impatient with those with special needs. Women reported more yelling and verbal abuse from care-givers, which also had an impact on their willingness to use facility-based delivery services. In many instances, this increased birth complications and maternal mortality in Ghana. The country recorded a 12.3% increase in maternal mortality, the highest number of maternal deaths since 2010. It must, however, be noted that this situation is not peculiar to COVID-19, since past pandemics, such as Ebola and Zika, recorded similar impacts on maternal health and mortality.

How did you first come into contact with your research topic?

I must say the phenomenon of obstetric violence was off my radar until 2019 when I joined the Zukunftskolleg as a ZUKOnnect Fellow. I participated in a feminist deliberation on birthing organized by Leila Abdala, a ZUKOnnect Fellow, and chaired by Professor Kirsten Mahlke from the Department of Literature, Art and Media Studies. My motivation for attending the seminar was purely my interest in feminism and to show solidarity for Leila. I was, however, moved by the discussions surrounding birth culture, patriarchy and women's rights. As I reflected on these three concepts and their intersectionality, I remembered my own experience when giving birth in Ghana and the culture of violence. I had no idea that obstetric violence was the term for it, but I knew that I was grossly abused and humiliated. I engaged in further discussions with some of the scholars present and learnt that there was an emerging debate on obstetric violence in Latin America. I therefore did some research on the topic and also discussed it with Professor Anke Hoeffler from the Department of Politics and Public Administration, who encouraged me to conduct some empirical research on the topic with her support and mentorship. With further support from Professor Mahlke, I was able to win the Zukunftskolleg's 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship. I'm very happy that I was given the opportunity to implement this important research, thanks to the Zukunftskolleg's support.

What is your research method in your project?

Exploring a feminist topic on violence demands a rigorous and a more robust methodology. I therefore used quantitative research methods to examine the extent of obstetric violence in Ghana by analyzing its prevalence, typologies and associated factors. I used a digital data collection software (Survey-To-Go) to administer questionnaires to 2,145 women who had delivered in the eight health facilities selected for the study. The women were randomly recruited in the health facilities when they took their children for immunization. In addition, qualitative interviews were conducted with 30 mothers to study women's in-depth narratives and lived experiences, and with 30 midwives to examine their perspectives on obstetric violence and understand the causes in order to identify ways to deal with this challenge.

Your research should assist stakeholders in developing policies and frameworks. How can obstetric violence be curbed?

This is a difficult question to answer. From my study, it's clear that the causes of obstetric violence are multifaceted and multidimensional, ranging from institutional factors, the subjugation of women in society and gender power dynamics within the health workforce, poor working conditions of midwives and nurses, the projection of women as objects of reproduction, excessive emphasis on delivery outcome than on a harmful delivery process, commercialization of maternal care, medical superiority, and ignorance of the impact of obstetric violence on women. Curbing obstetric violence therefore demands multiple approaches. It's clear that in many ways obstetric violence is a result of patriarchal performance, hence safeguarding women's rights and empowering them to take decisions about their bodies and the reproductive process are key. Introducing legislation to safeguard these rights and liberties is a first step. Furthermore, dealing with gender inequality in the health workforce by placing more importance on midwifery and granting women more power in the health system will inevitably reduce their stress and promote good treatment of women. There is also the need for comprehensive education in humanized birthing practices for midwives in order to promote violence-free delivery services, in addition to monitoring the conduct of care-givers and implementing punitive measures for offenders.

What were your major achievements in 2021/2022 so far?

I began my fellowship at the peak of the pandemic and, like for all other scholars, the pandemic has had a significant impact on my work. Being able to collect and analyze the empirical data for my current research project was therefore a great success for me. Within the academic year, my paper, "Martyrs of Socialization: Understanding the cause of domestic violence through the narratives of women in Ghana and Nigeria" was published by Gender and Behaviour. In addition, I also won the Visiting Scholar's Fellowship of the Waseda Institute of Advanced Study in Tokyo and the Konstanzia Fellowship of the University of Konstanz. With an invitation from Sage Open and the South African Journal of Psychology to work as a reviewer and finally an editor, I'm very pleased to be contributing to knowledge production.



"I'm happy to have made the right decision. To say I love the Zukunftskolleg is an understatement, anyone who knows me knows that the Zukunftskolleg is my idol."

Links

twitter.com/gruiabadescu

kops.uni-konstanz.de/discover?scope=%2F&query=Badescu&submit=Los

geschichte.uni-konstanz.de/en/research/kolar/team/dr-gruia-badescu

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Story with digital content

The heart of the Zukunftskolleg

The Zukunftskolleg is a place for people from different departments to meet and talk about their research. Fellows are encouraged to look outside the box and explore the zone between the disciplines. The Jour fixe is the weekly session for the fellows and Senior Fellows, where they discuss the progress of their work, present results, share and encounter questions from other disciplines and explore the possibilities of interdisciplinary collaboration.

Weekly Jour fixe sessions take place during the semester on Tuesdays from 15:15 to 16:30. Attendance on invitation only.

Jour fixe in the 2021/22 winter semester

26.10.2021

“Welcome to the 2021/2022 winter semester”

The current members of the Executive Committee as well as new postdoctoral and research fellows were introduced to the Zukunftscolleg community, and the ZUKOnnect and Herz Fellows were welcomed.

02.11.2021

Babu Thaliath (Senior Fellow / Department of Philosophy / School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Centre of German Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India)

“The Epistemic-Structural Intuition”

The concept of structural intuition was developed by the renowned art historian Martin Kemp in twenty-five short articles that appeared in the journal *Nature* between 1997 and 2000. In the introduction to his work *Visualizations*. The nature book of art and science, in which these articles are collected and edited, Kemp explains the principle of structural intuition as the infallible resonance that exists between internally intuitive and externally phenomenal structures. In his talk, Babu Thaliath endeavoured to demonstrate how the structural intuitions in the context of early modern mathematical and material sciences prove to be compositional in that they unify mathematical formality with mechanical and material phenomenality. The compositional nature of structural intuition points to its epistemological potential, based on which this doctrine can be extended to epistemic-structural intuition and, as such, substantiated as the characteristic trait of axiomatic intuitions in early modern sciences.

09.11.2021

Joint session with the Martin Buber Society (MBS) of Fellows from Jerusalem/Israel

“Kick-off Meeting Martin Buber – Zukunftscolleg Symposium 2022/23”

In the past, the fellows from the MBS and the Zukunftscolleg have come together and discussed themes such as “forgetting”, “mobility” or “un/certainty”, which has led to book or blog publications. The themes were always inspired by a bottom-up

approach, and thus the idea of the Jour fixe was to pursue this path together once more and to meet up in order to identify new topics of joint interest. In this virtual kick-off meeting on 9 November 2021, the two fellow communities met, got to know each other and brainstormed in smaller groups about new, inspiring themes.

16.11.2021

Prerna Nadathur (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Linguistics)

“Talking about causation: cause, make, and causal intentions”

- (1) a. Stravinsky caused the audience to riot.
b. Stravinsky made the audience riot.
c. Stravinsky had the audience riot.
d. Stravinsky got the audience to riot.

Each of the periphrastic causative verbs in (1) conveys that Stravinsky played a role in bringing the riot about. However, the claims are not simply paraphrases of one another, but are understood to describe different kinds of causal situations: (1b), for instance, suggests that Stravinsky exerted some kind of force over his audience, while (1c) might indicate that he took a more hands-off ‘directorial’ role, and so on. Traditional approaches to causal language take these verbs to be unified by making reference to a (cognitively basic) relation of causal dependence, typically called cause (Dowty 1979). As a lexical atom (or basic unit of meaning), cause is often identified with the meaning of the English verb cause and assumed to describe a counterfactual relationship in which an event designated as the effect would have been impossible in the absence of the cause. On this hypothesis, the implications specific to each of the causatives in (1b)-(1d) must follow from additional, non-causal lexical atoms which are encoded alongside cause in the meanings of these verbs: this predicts that the set of contexts in which make, have and get can be used are, respectively, subsets of the set of appropriate contexts for cause. The linguistic data do not support this monolithic view of causal dependencies. Against the idea of a single causal primitive

(cause), Nadathur argues that causal language employs an inventory of basic and contrasting causal relationships, which can be modelled as different structural configurations within a computational causal model (e.g. Shoham 1990, Pearl 2000). Nadathur develops the argument for a pluralist view of linguistic causation by focusing on a comparative analysis of make and cause, showing that intuitive (linguistic) judgements about contrasts in the appropriate use and interpretation of these verbs are best explained by a theory which establishes a basic distinction between verbs which predicate causal sufficiency of a cause for an effect (e.g. make and German lassen) and those which instead predicate causal necessity (e.g. cause). She offers definitions of these dependence relations within the framework of a Pearl-style structural equation (network) model for causal reasoning and shows how they interact with context-dependent and variable features such as (a participant’s) agency and intentions. The ways in which we talk about causation naturally reflect the cognitive representation of causation: the success of the pluralistic approach in explaining the use and interpretation of causative verbs thus suggests that causation is not conceptualized in terms of a single binary dependence relation, but instead in terms of complex networks in which individuals, intentions and events affect one another in distinct ways.

23.11.2021

ZUKOnnect and Herz Poster session

The fellows gathered in person and began with a short round of lightning talks, in which each of the ZUKOnnect and Herz Fellows presented their research topic in two minutes to the whole audience. Afterwards, the ZUKOnnect and Herz Fellows presented their posters to the audience. The poster session was opened by Giovanni Galizia, and Dorothea Debus (Vice Rector for International Affairs, Equal Opportunity and Diversity) closed the session.

Anteneh Gebrie, Department of Mathematics and Statistics:
“Incremental algorithms with acceleration techniques for hierarchical optimization problems and its applications”

David Etta, Department of Linguistics:
“Breaking Accessibility Barriers to Re-evaluate the

Phonology of Bokyi”

Gabriel S. Cerqueira, Department of History and Sociology:
“Social control, hygienism and family law: transnational knowledge exchange between Brazil and the League of Nations (1919–1930)”

Ilesha Avasthi, Department of Chemistry:
“Exploring Guanosine-based Scaffold for Bioinspired Materials for ‘Mineral Plastics’”

Mahsa Mozafary, Department of Computer and Information Science:
“Various Colourings of Fractional Powers of Graph”

Neelma Ashraf, Department of Biology:
”Identification of a Novel Strong Antifungal Polyene and Identification of the Lavendamycin Biosynthetic Gene Cluster of the Rhizobacterium *Streptomyces* sp. BR123 Isolated from the Rhizosphere of *Helianthus Annuus* from Pakistan”

Norman Chivasa, Department of Politics and Public Administration:
“Hybrid Conflict Resolution in Rural Zimbabwe’s Customary Courts”

Priyanshu Goel, Department of Physics:
“Synthesis of highly efficient MOF and Perovskite composite for development of stable and efficient optoelectronic device”

30.11.2021

María Cruz Berrocal (Associated Fellow / Department of History and Sociology)

“Archaeology in the Pacific: interdisciplinary approaches to the archaeological record”

Archaeometric approaches are widely used in archaeology to better understand the archaeological record in many dimensions that go beyond the recovery and study of archaeological artifacts. In this talk, Cruz Berrocal presented some of the research questions and some of the methodological approaches that she was using, in collaboration with a broad group of researchers from different disciplines, to unravel questions of large historical consequences through small-scale analysis. She presented her main scientific concerns and a particular case study located in northern Taiwan.

07.12.2021

Alice el-Wakil (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Politics and Public Administration)

“Citizens as Agenda Setters in Democratic Systems”

In political and academic debates about whether referendums and initiatives should be included in democratic systems, an objection to these processes keeps coming up: voters are too incompetent or uninformed to cast their ballot on policy issues. Therefore, democrats should instead support the institutionalization of democracy through conventional representative institutions. This article revisits the normative basis for this enduring objection. It argues that the assumption on which it rests, namely that ordinary voters should be more competent or knowledgeable when casting their ballot in popular votes than in elections, is unjustified. None of the four reasons advanced in the literature – popular votes are more complex than elections; they undermine voters' decision-making competence; they produce irreversible decisions; and they turn voters into legislators – stands up to scrutiny. Thus, unless democrats are ready to renounce elections, too, the incompetence or lack of knowledge of voters cannot serve to reject popular vote processes.

14.12.2021

Assembly of Members and “Augmented Reality”

In the first part of the Jour fixe, the Assembly of Members elected one new member to the Executive Committee (replacing Morgane Nouvian).

In the second part, Stephan Streuber (Associated Fellow / Computer and Information Science), Lorenz Assländer (Postdoctoral Researcher / Sports Science) and Alejandra Quiros (Associated Fellow / Computer and Information Science) talked about “Augmented Reality”.

Project by Stephan Streuber / Lorenz Assländer on “Augmented Reality”:

Falls in the elderly are a major problem for individuals and society. In the ageing process, sensory and motor systems deteriorate through losses in receptor density and sarcopenia, a loss in muscle mass. This also affects the balance control mechanism, leading to an increase in spontaneous sway and to changes in the feedback control mechanisms maintaining balance.

We hypothesize that reliable and valid augmented visual orientation (AVO) cues improve the sensory input available to the central nervous system and thereby improve balance. The proposed project investigates whether augmenting visual orientation with additional space veridical cues projected into the field of view can improve balance and prevent falls. The basic idea of augmented visual orientation (AVO) is analogous to that of an artificial horizon in an aircraft. Technical sensors are used to extract the position of a device in gravito-inertial space, and augmented reality techniques are used to provide space veridical visual cues for a user. To the best of our knowledge, using AVO or similar techniques to improve balance has not been described in the literature and therefore may be a novel approach for fall prevention.

Project by Alejandra Quiros / Stephan Streuber / Michael Black on “Red shape, blue shape: political ideology influences the social perception of body shape”:

[nature.com/articles/s41599-021-00817-7](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-021-00817-7)

Political elections have a profound impact on individuals and societies. Optimal voting is thought to be based on informed and deliberate decisions. Yet it has been demonstrated that the outcomes of political elections are biased by the perception of candidates' facial features and the stereotypical traits voters attribute to these. Interestingly, political identification changes the attribution of stereotypical traits from facial features. This study explores whether the perception of body shape elicits similar effects on political trait attribution and whether these associations can be visualized. In Experiment 1, ratings of 3D body shapes were used to model the relationship between perception of 3D body shape and the attribution of political traits such as ‘Republican’, ‘Democrat’ or ‘Leader’. This made it possible to analyze and visualize the mental representations of stereotypical 3D body shapes associated with each political trait. Experiment 2 was designed to test whether political identification of the raters affected the attribution of political traits to different types of body shapes. The results show that humans attribute political traits to the same body shapes differently depending on their own political preference. These findings show that our judgements of others

are influenced by their body shape and our own political views. Such judgements have potential political and societal implications.

21.12.2021

Mirjam Lücking (Research Visit Fellow / Social Anthropology; Martin Buber Society of Fellows, Israel)

“Not only at Christmas: Souvenirs from Bethlehem in Indonesia’s Cosmopolitan Religious Identities”

Considering that Israel and Indonesia share no diplomatic relations, it is remarkable that thousands of Indonesians visit Israel and the West Bank (Occupied Palestinian Territory) each year in guided religious package tours. Since the 1980s, members of Indonesia’s Christian minority have travelled in so-called Holy Land pilgrimages to Egypt, Israel, Palestine and Jordan. Today, Jerusalem is also a bestseller on the Muslim market, in addition to the hajj and umrah to Mecca. Beyond tendencies to adopt narratives about the Israel-Palestine conflict as a surrogate conflict in inter- and intra-religious relations, Muslim and Christian Indonesian pilgrims share similar preferences when it comes to mundane matters during their religious journeys, for instance regarding eating preferences, photos and social media, or shopping. When it comes to purchasing souvenirs and gifts, Christian as well as Muslim Indonesian pilgrims share a similar taste. Moreover, their ideas of engaging with Palestinians and Israelis through shopping and charity continued even during the pandemic when no travel was possible. Bethlehem is a particularly interesting connecting point in this context, as it is considered one of the most important Palestinian cities among Indonesian Muslims while Indonesian Christians value it as the birthplace of Jesus Christ. Based on ethnographic research in Israel, Palestine and Indonesia as well as online research, Miriam Lücking showed how people, gifts, souvenirs and stories travel between Indonesia and Bethlehem. The transnational trade with souvenirs and the narratives that accompany them manifest continuities in Indonesian religious identities and customs, but they also mark new trends of cosmopolitan religious identities and may inspire a more nuanced understanding of conflict and cooperation in the Middle East.

11.01.2022

Visit by Rector Katharina Holzinger

The Zukunftskolleg extended an invitation to the first Jour fixe in 2022 on Tuesday, 11 January, to which Katharina Holzinger, Rector

of the University of Konstanz, was also invited. In the first part, there were 10 short presentations / lightning talks by fellows, representing the wide spectrum of projects and programmes that the ZuKo offers.

Ariane Bertogg (Postdoctoral Fellow / History and Sociology):

“Growing wings. Becoming independent as a researcher”

Susanne Wißhak (Associated Fellow / Economics):

“Sustainable learning in organizations”

Valeria Wegh Weis (Research Fellow / Literature & Law):

“Towards a victim-driven approach. To confront state crimes and deal with their legacy”

Gruia Badescu (Research Fellow & Intersectoral Project / History and Sociology):

“Beirut – Sarajevo Intersections: Architectural reconstruction and reshaping urban imaginaries after war”

Abena Yalley (Postdoctoral Fellow & Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching / Literature & Politics and Public Administration):

“The legacy of violence in pandemic times: Global health challenges and gender dynamics” – cooperation with Liliana Abreu (Politics and Public Administration) and Anke Koebach (Psychology)

Norman Chivasa (Herz Fellow / Law):

“Hybrid conflict resolution in rural Zimbabwe’s customary courts”

Nihan Toprakkiran (Postdoctoral Fellow / Politics and Public Administration):

“Discrimination, Political Representation and Populism: Evidence from a Survey Experiment”

Jennifer Randerath (Research Fellow & Intersectoral Project / Psychology):

“Transfer from fundamental research at the university to applied neurorehabilitation in clinical settings”

Neelma Ashraf (ZUKOnnect Fellow / Biology):

“My research for antimicrobial compounds

production and ZUKOnnect Fellowship”

In the second part, there was an opportunity to put questions to the rector and engage in an open dialogue with her.

18.01.2022

Gabriella Gall (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Biology)

“Exploring the Effect of Early Experience on Individual Vocal Flexibility and Group Functioning”

To maintain the benefits of group living, many animals need to make group decisions and coordinate their actions oftentimes using vocal signals to mediate these processes. The production and appropriate use of vocal signals develops over an individual's lifetime and is refined by experience. For instance, the soundscape experienced early in life can have profound effects on an individual's vocal behaviour, which in turn affects their reproductive success. During her fellowship, Gabriella Gall is investigating the use of vocal signals to coordinate group movement and activity in two systems. She explores mechanisms using aviary-enclosed flocks of domestic chicks (*Gallus gallus*), which will permit her to manipulate critical aspects of their developmental, social and physical environment in order to conduct a series of controlled experiments. She explores fitness consequences of ecologically relevant behaviours in free-living groups of pheasants (*Phasianus colchicus*), which exhibit marked changes in group structure throughout the year. Here, she gave an overview of her research plans and presented the experiments on domestic chicken chicks, conducted since the start of her fellowship in May 2021, and some (not yet quantified) insights from these experiments.

25.01.2022

Jennifer Randerath (Research Fellow / Department of Psychology)

“Motor Cognition and Neurorehabilitation”

Mental processes support the selection, preparation and production of actions. The ability, called motor cognition, is needed when performing skilled movements in order to interact with our environment. Randerath used motor cognitive functions related to deciding how to grasp a handle or how to cross a street or while gesturing to communicate “Goodbye”. Motor cognitive performance can change during healthy ageing. In addition, significant impairments

can occur due to stroke or dementia, for example, typically resulting in a syndrome called limb apraxia. Using a translational approach from fundamental to applied research in neurorehabilitation, she conducted three different lines of studies on movement selection, affordance-based judgements as well as on tool use. In this talk, she summarized her main findings, which illustrate the complexity and importance of preserved motor cognitive functions. The Motor Cognition and Neurorehabilitation Laboratory started work in 2014/2015. Looking back on seven years at the Zukunftscolleg with fondness, the presentation certainly included some personal anecdotes.

01.02.2022

Daniela Rößler (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Biology)

“Hungry Eyes: An Experimental Framework Testing Eye Camouflage in Active Predators”

Effective camouflage can substantially increase survival in prey animals by concealing them from predators. But do predators also use camouflage to reduce detection by prey? Eyes can be a limiting factor in camouflage because they are highly conspicuous and stand out from the rest of an animal's body. They can convey information, such as the position of an animal's head or where it is looking. Many species exploit the salient nature of eyes by displaying exaggerated eye spots or “fake eyes”, such as those on butterfly wings, to deter predators. Equally widespread are distinct facial markings such as dark stripes which seemingly conceal or disrupt the eyes. To date, research in this area has focused on the function of eye camouflage from an anti-predator, but not from a predator perspective. Jumping spiders are superb predators with excellent vision. Numerous species of jumping spiders exhibit striking eye masking patterns. In a recent study, Rößler has shown that jumping spiders use eyes as important cues in the recognition of other (predatory) jumping spiders. Being both highly visual prey and predators with rich cognitive abilities, they offer a unique dual model system. In this seminar, she first presented her experimental paradigm that allows her to robustly test the response of jumping spiders to predators. She outlined her ZuKo project plan to test how different eye masking patterns influence predator recognition and how eye masks affect foraging success. She illustrated how 3D printing technology as well as novel 3D video tracking methods can be applied to quantify natural behaviour in these charismatic animals.

08.02.2022

Assembly of Members

In the first part, the Assembly of Members elected one new member to the Executive Committee (replacing Nihan Toprakkiran).

After the election, the following topics were discussed:

1. Livia Gertis (Coordinator re:ERUA, University of Konstanz) and Jennifer Eschweiler (Assistant Professor, Roskilde University) presented re:ERUA and the work package “Innovation & Societal Engagement”. Re:ERUA is an ambitious project that is developing the trajectory of the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA).

2. Petra-Alexandra Buhl (Central Office) presented a first concept for the new Zukunftscolleg Research Award and new cooperation within the Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting.

3. Since, in the past, presentations at the Zukunftscolleg (guest talks, Jour fixe talks, etc.) have triggered discussions about racism, sexism, or how to deal with emotionally loaded content, we would like to discuss with you: Do we need dedicated discussion channels? Do we need to revisit these topics in dedicated Jour fixes or discussion rounds? How does the interdisciplinary viewpoint at the Zukunftscolleg compare to the disciplinary view within a specific subject? Should we introduce normative action?



Jour fixe in the 2022 summer semester

12.04.2022

Malte Drescher (Vice Rector for Research, Academic Staff Development and Research Infrastructure)

“Current plans of the university for creating more long-term perspectives and transparent career paths for postdoctoral researchers”

19.04.2022

Alexander Etkind (Senior Fellow / Department of History)

“Surviving the Anthropocene: The New Political Economy of Virtual Coloniality”

A virtual sequel to his Nature's Evil. A Cultural History of Natural Resources, this talk addressed the new transformation of the European political economy in the age of the Anthropocene. Constructing its “barbell model” (juxtaposed to the popular “doughnut model” by Kate Raworth), Etkind questions the issue of online-offline interactions from a fresh perspective: Is cyberspace a “colony” that is producing growth for the stagnating “metropolis” of the physical world? And, if so, what would its decolonization look like? Relying on this virtual-colonial metaphor, he conceptualizes “ghost emissions”, defined as the amounts of CO2 saved by digital interactions; “virtual growth”, which could (and already does) compensate for physical degrowth that is required by climate action; and, finally, “digital prosumers” (virtual producers-consumers who “emigrate online”) as the settlers of the New Virtual World. His model proceeds from a hypothesis that decarbonization works as a push factor for the economy which would survive the Anthropocene and that digitalization works as a pull factor. While the COVID-19 pandemic intensified this double action, Russian military aggression aims at resisting and reversing it. Despite these and other contingencies, the double action of decarbonization and digitalization will remain the strategic direction of further developments. From the perspective of post-pandemic and post-war Europe, the hope is that the Green (and Blue-Yellow?) Recovery will produce not the gloomy “1.5-metre society, 90% economy” predicted by pundits, but instead a deep and progressive transformation that will make nature cleaner, people safer, and economies richer.

26.04.2022

Felix Hamborg (Associated Fellow / Department of Computer and Information Science) and Franziska Weeber (Department of History and Sociology)

“Towards Semi-Automated Content Analysis: Using Deep Learning to Assist Manual Annotations”

Much research in the social sciences relies heavily on manual annotation, e.g. of textual documents such as party manifestos or news articles. And for good reason because only humans can reliably recognize subtle nuances in texts and read between the lines. However, these analyzes are fairly costly and can take considerable time since they are conducted manually. This talk gave an overview of Hamborg and Weeber's previous and future research on making these analyzes more efficient by using state-of-the-art natural language processing techniques, such as BERT. Specifically, they summarized their prior work on the automated identification of media bias in news articles. They then outlined their current research project, in part funded by the Zukunftskolleg, which will extend their approach to further use cases in social science research.

03.05.2022

Philipp di Dio (Research Fellow / Department of Mathematics and Statistics)

“Time-Dependent Moments”

First, Philipp di Dio gave an introduction to the field of his mathematical research: moments. From the current state of the art and applications in this field, he showed how his research approach contributes. He presented novel results and an unforeseen new research direction which he will explore. Since his research lies in the combination of partial differential equations and (real) algebraic geometry, he showed how he can connect both well-developed mathematical fields and also show difficulties in the field of mathematics. At the end, he discussed his experiences and learnt about the audience's experiences of interdisciplinary working.

10.05.2022

Eric Lott (Senior Fellow / English and American Studies, City University New York Graduate Center, USA)

“Blackface from Time to Time”

Ethnic drag in the form of white performers in blackface seems to exist in some kind of eternal present: instances of its performance go back centuries, come into commercial popularity in the US in the 1820s and ,30s, dominate popular entertainment on stage in the form of the “minstrel show” throughout the 19th century, then migrate to Hollywood film for much of the 20th century. And it was a global phenomenon, extending from Great Britain to South Africa, Japan to Australia. The official censoring of blackface in the 1960s has coincided with its “vernacular” reappearance in Halloween costumes, fraternity parties and college yearbooks to this day, where – from time to time – blackface makes its inevitable return. Recent cases of white activists and scholars passing for Other (Rachel Dolezal, Jessica Krug, Andrea Smith) only thicken the plot. Lott talked about the time-to-time temporality of blackface's ongoing present and why American culture seems to require the racial, sexual and gendered interventions of its eternal returns.

17.05.2022

Paula Tesche (Research Visit Fellow / Department of Literature & Linguistics)

“Resistance memories of the catastrophe in the city of Concepción, Chile”

This research describes the effects of the socio-political catastrophe of the military coup (1973) and the dictatorship (1973-1990) in Concepción, Chile. From a current day perspective, the study analyzes the political resistance memories present in five places in the city of Concepción. These places are: Vicaría de la Solidaridad, the torture and detention centre in the former fort “El Morro” and the memorials “23 de Agosto”, “La Ronda de la unidad”, Memorial de los Detenidos Desaparecidos y Ejecutados Políticos de la región del Biobío y del Cementerio General de Concepción.

Ekaterina Mikhailova (Research Visit Fellow / Department of Politics and Public Administration)

“Refugee Processing Systems in Konstanz and Kreuzlingen: Institutional and Societal Transformations over Time”

The presentation looked at Konstanz and Kreuzlingen as border twin cities and contextualized their efforts in working with refugees and migrants, with the challenges and opportunities border twin cities typically face in the field of migration and integration.

In addition, the talk presented preliminary findings on how refugee processing has evolved in Konstanz and Kreuzlingen from the so-called Arab Spring of 2010-2012 to the war in Ukraine in 2022. More specifically, it outlined the constellation of stakeholders participating in refugee processing at the local level on the German-Swiss border and their most recent activities in response to the arrival of Ukrainian refugees. To conclude, the presentation named future research avenues identified with this exploratory study.

24.05.2022

Giora Hon (Senior Fellow / Department of Philosophy / University of Haifa, Israel)

“Universal aspects of scientific practice: Commitment, methodology and technique”

The thesis proposed in this talk is a contribution to philosophy of science from the perspective of the practice of science. He seeks general and indeed universal features which characterize scientific practice, that is, features that are inherent to the practice of science. He has discerned three salient universal features of scientific practice: commitment, methodology and technique. He claims that these three features can invariably be found in any scientific practice, be it in constructing a theory, conducting an experiment, or exploring a new scientific domain. In most general terms, commitment plays the role of presupposition, methodology constitutes the inferential mode and technique facilitates the transition from the general to the specific. His claim is that scientific practice is essentially a judicious engagement with these three components, where the goal is to draw conclusions and thereby to contribute to the corpus of scientific knowledge. He illustrated the thesis with the case of Maxwell's contribution to electromagnetism, whose theory of electrodynamics changed fundamentally the perception of reality since the time of Newton.

31.05.2022

Joint virtual session with our cooperation partner in Tokyo – the Waseda Institute of Advanced Study (WIAS)

“Anthropocene”

The Jour fixe was structured as follows: Welcome – 10 min. (Toshi Arimura & Giovanni Galizia – directors of WIAS & ZuKo)

Round table – 45 min (4 x 7-10 min. lightning talks by Udith Dematagoda (WIAS / former

Zukunftskolleg Fellow), Susumu Annaka (WIAS), Alexander Etkind (Senior Fellow / Zukunftskolleg), Eduardo Luersen (new Postdoctoral Fellow / Zukunftskolleg), moderated by chair Toshi Arimura

Q&A session – 25 min. (4 breakout rooms for smaller group discussions with matched moderators – Dematagoda/Bloomfield, Annaka/el-Wakil, Etkind/Xu, Luersen/Kong); closing session – 10 min. (Satomi Yamamoto, associated director WIAS)

14.06.2022

Visiting Fellows from Ukraine

Hanna Klipkova (Department of Politics and Public Administration)

“The Impact of the War on State-Institutional Building Processes in Ukraine”

The Russian invasion in February 2022 raised new challenges for researchers in post-Soviet states. One could consider the post-Soviet state as a specific type of state that cannot be described just as a transition stage from the authoritarian regime to the democratic one. We propose to consider the post-Soviet state as a self-sufficient phenomenon and research instrument for trajectories of political regimes and state institutions. The post-Soviet state can be described as a stable constellation of formal and informal state and political institutes. Instead of being a temporary frame for describing transition, the post-Soviet state emerged as a new, relatively sustained type of state with its own arsenal of governing techniques. More than 30 years of state-building in Ukraine, like in other post-Soviet countries, seems to have brought unsuccessful results. The outcomes of democracy, sovereignty and the whole political system were qualified in terms of neopatrimonialism (Fisun 2016, Hale 2016) and explained with the low quality of the institutional system. The lack of mature and legitimate institutions for the circulation of elites, institutional imbalances in the state power system and an undeveloped party system led to structural defects in political governance and to inversions of its political transformation. The post-Soviet type of state is characterized by the emergence of Soviet and Western liberal state systems. The socialist legacy remained partly destroyed, while the new liberal economy and state models were not implemented completely. This symbiosis created a specific destructive, but viable state-institutional system. At its core lies neopatrimonialism nature with the profit-seeking behaviour of elites, the emergence of authorities and business groups, using the state's capacity in private interests and patron-client

networks as the dominant principle of political market organization. Neopatrimonialism can be considered as a state capture problem, as privatization of the public policy sphere. There is a dominance of informal institutions hidden behind the facades of formal but incapable institutions.

When it comes to further post-conflict reconstruction, there is no doubt that the war will have a strong influence on the nation-building process. Ukrainian society nowadays demonstrates a new level of consolidation. All social and political cleavages have the opportunity to be repaired by the powerful rise of national unity.

The theory tells us that the war can create a state and support nation-building processes. There is an opportunity to trace this hypothesis. It seemed impossible in the 21st century, but the crisis in the global security system has brought it back into the centre of the political discourse.

History demonstrates that large-scale wars can enhance or even create nations. And for political scientists, the key question will be whether Ukraine is able to build a capable political-institutional system after the war? Will it follow the Afghan failed-state scenario or will it give us a chance to use the war in terms of the Tillian perspective as the state-making driver? It will be the main post-conflict challenge for Ukrainian statehood.

The purpose of her research is to define possible trajectories of state-institutional system building after the greatest bifurcation point for the Ukrainian nation. There is a chance to rebuild the Ukrainian state on the new principles and to change the “path dependence” trap (Mahoney 2000). The most crucial point for the Ukrainian state after the war will therefore be how Ukraine can improve the quality of governance and avoid further corrosion of state capacity.

Yaroslava Muravetska (Literature)

“Cultural practices of anti-Soviet struggle”

One of the fronts of Russia's war against Ukraine is ideological, which is largely related to the propaganda of the mythologized past of the Soviet Union. In fact, this discourse is based on opposite theses: on the one hand, the Soviet Union is interpreted as a union of fraternal nations, and, on the other hand, Russia's supremacy is asserted. Consequently, the collapse of the Soviet Union is interpreted as a tragedy caused by the separation of the Ukrainian nation from Russia, and not as the liberation of Ukraine from occupation. Thus, Russia's attack on Ukraine is interpreted as a war of “fraternal nations”. The purpose of this report is therefore firstly to record the fact of the Ukrainian nation's struggle against the Soviet Union (using the information leaflets of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of

Nations (ABN) as an example) and secondly to interpret and analyze narratives of the ABN ideology, in particular to debunk the myth of “fraternal nations” and outline the imperial essence of both the Soviet Union and Russia.

Tetyana Nikolaychuk (Economics)

“Post-war sustainable development in Ukraine: innovative economic and environmental activities (cybernetic planning and chess business modelling: new rules, new tools)”

The Russian military invasion of Ukraine has led to numerous transformations in the social, economic, political, ecological and regulatory field. The formation of effective main economic drivers in the post-war period is the key to restoring civil society institutions and the market economy in Ukraine. The invasion means the destruction of existing markets, business collaborations and the formation of new vectors of military and civilian activities. The study considers the economic and organizational feasibility and profitability of the post-war market. Chess business modelling will find the most available business options for entities and identify the side effects for society and the environment. Chess business modelling also could be used as a tool for dealing with institutional traps. The aim of the study is to identify the main possible milestones related to the implementation of economic and environmental reform in the context of decentralization in the post-war period.

Bohdan Shumylovych (History and Sociology)

“Healing a socialist body: Soviet Ukrainian television and media psychotherapy”

On 31 March 1988, Soviet television introduced the media bridge between Moscow and Kyiv with the popular television programme “Vzgliad”. This programme, which had an experimental character in the spirit of Perestroika, showed amazing surgery, which aimed to improve the health of Soviet people through the media. A Ukrainian physician, Anatolii Kashpirovskii, performed drug-free anaesthesia remotely via a TV-bridge from Moscow while a surgeon did the operation in Kyiv. In 1989, Kashpirovskii presented six instalments of these so-called televised healings, and, soon after, these therapeutic broadcasts in the media were stopped. The case of Kashpirovskii and televised surgeries, followed by the repetitive mass TV hypnosis sessions in 1989, exposed several aspects of late Soviet history: late détente, televisual experiments, media bridges and perception of the socialist body. Shumylovych's talk explored Ukrainian broadcasts of 1989 and how they were perceived by ordinary people,

media professionals and medical circles. Late Soviet television was shaped by the specific “unimaginative imagination” of these broadcasts.

21.06.2022

Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) group (2021 call) of Valerio Coladonato (Assistant Professor – Film Studies Department, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy)

“Screen media, fiction and European populisms: research questions and methodological challenges of an interdisciplinary project”

Narrative work is a crucial element of populist mobilization, especially through the lens of specific emotional discourses (pride, rage, fear). Nevertheless, while scholarship has focused increasingly on informative and digital media, the role of audiovisual fiction – films and TV series in particular – remains to be fully explored. Part of the difficulty lies in the interdisciplinary nature of the object: How can the tools of film and media studies (for the analysis of emotion and reception) be combined with the interpretation of contemporary populisms developed in political sciences? In this first presentation of the project “Screening European Populisms (2008-2020): Audiovisual Fiction, Social Media and Political Affect”, the group aimed to identify the key methodological challenges in conducting a comparative analysis of the circulation of populist affect through fictional screen media content across five countries: Italy, France, Spain, Germany and the UK. In particular, they reflected on the conceptual and methodological tools that can allow for a dialogue between media studies and political theory in order (i) to identify relevant case studies from these countries; (ii) to define a rigorous method of analysis of the products themselves, accounting for the problematics of representation, circulation and reception; (iii) to embed in the design of the project itself elements of its potential social impact in the areas of media literacy and youth participation in politics.

28.06.2022

Amanda Melin (Senior Fellow / Department of Biological Anthropology, University of Calgary, Canada)

“Anatomy and dietary specialization influence sensory behaviour among sympatric frugivorous primates”

As the interface between animals and their environments, the form and function of sensory systems provide a window into the ecology of past and present species. Here, Melin discussed her collaborative sensory ecology research on three wild, sympatric primate species: white-faced capuchins, *Cebus imitator*; black-handed spider monkeys *Ateles geoffroyi*, and mantled howler monkeys, *Alouatta palliata*. She presented analyses of foraging behaviour sequences together with measurements of sensory variation (colour vision phenotype, olfactory and hand morphology) and dietary specialization. She finds the most frugivorous species (*Ateles geoffroyi*) sniffs fruits most often, that the species with the highest measure of manual dexterity (*Cebus imitator*) uses manual touch the most often, and that main olfactory bulb volume is a better predictor of sniffing behaviour than is nasal turbinate surface area. She also found evidence that colour vision phenotype impacts use of non-visual senses. These findings shed light on how dietary specialization and sensory variation shape foraging behaviours and on methods for investigating the relationships between behaviour and anatomy.

James Higham (Senior Fellow / Department of Anthropology, New York University, USA)

“What can monkeys tell us about responses to climate change-related natural disasters?”

Primates such as rhesus macaques represent our best non-human models for understanding how the physical and social environment ‘gets under the skin’ and impacts our health. In September 2017, Puerto Rico was devastated by the largest and strongest hurricane ever to strike the island, Hurricane Maria. Just before it made landfall, it first struck a small island off the coast, Cayo Santiago, home to 1,500 rhesus macaques and the longest-running study of primates in the world. Here, he discussed the hurricane and its aftermath on Cayo Santiago. He showed evidence that the impacts of the hurricane have aged the animals molecularly, with animals living through the hurricane being biologically older for their chronological age than animals who did not. He also showed that animals responded to the disaster by reaching out and making new social connections, with those individuals who

were particularly socially isolated before the storm increasing their social effort and making new friends. This occurrence offers a unique opportunity to study how natural disasters impact long-term health, and also shows the role of sociability and of societies in providing resilience and support in the face of adversity.

Nathaniel Dominy (Senior Fellow / Department of Anthropology, Dartmouth College, USA)

“Secrets of the sacred baboons”

Punt was a major emporium for monkeys during the 2nd millennium BC. It was reached by land or sea and located south and east of Egypt, suggesting a position in the southern Red Sea region, either in Africa or Arabia. Maritime trade between Egypt and Punt spanned 1,200 years, and many scholars view it as the first long-distance leg of the Spice Route. Others describe the Egypt-Punt trading relationship as the beginning of economic globalization. Punt is therefore a port of considerable historical importance, but its location is uncertain and the subject of enduring debate. This lightning talk focused on the bones and teeth of mummified baboons recovered from New Kingdom temples and Ptolemaic tombs. The isotope composition of these tissues is a valuable source of information on the life and lifeways of animals. It is evident that some baboons spent a lifetime in Egypt, which suggests a captive breeding programme, but others were imported from faraway lands. So far, this line of evidence puts Punt in the modern-day countries of Eritrea and northern Somalia, which partially corroborates the hypothesis of German anthropologist Rolf Herzog.

05.07.2022

Assembly of Members and presentation by Research Support

In the first part, the Assembly of Members elected three new members to the Executive Committee – replacing Violeta Ivanova-Rohling, Gruia Badescu and Cristina Ruiz Agudo.

After the election, Melanie Behrens and Danica Kümmel from Research Support gave an overview of their support services with regard to grant proposals, research funding and ethical issues.



Story with digital content

Made the most of it?

The Zukunftscolleg offers its fellows a close-knit and diverse support network. This not only creates ideal working conditions for young scholars but also provides the best possible preparation for their scientific careers. Some support measures are also open to Senior Fellows, Associated Fellows and non-tenured postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz.

Thus, once or twice a year, the Zukunftscolleg issues a call for applications for various funding programmes open to all non-tenured postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz. In 2021, in cooperation with KIM Recording, the Zukunftscolleg started a

podcast series to better promote these funding options. You can listen to all the podcasts here: uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/news/zuko-podcast-series

In 2022, for the first time, the Zukunftskolleg has coordinated its call for applications for several funding options together with the International Office and Research Support. In the following, you will find all the programmes that were offered in the last call and the corresponding winners:

Mentorship Programme

The programme enables non-tenured researchers at the University of Konstanz (postdoctoral researchers, junior professors, research group leaders, etc.) to network with distinguished colleagues both in Germany and abroad and to nurture these contacts.

Zukunftskolleg Podcast with Eva Lievens, Winner of a Mentorship

Mentor
Professor Mickael Matusinski (University of Bordeaux)

You can find more information on the Zukunftskolleg website:
uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/support-measures/mentorship/

Winners of a Mentorship in 2022

Alice el-Wakil

Politics and Public Administration

Project title

“Citizens as agenda setters in democratic systems”

Mentor

Majja Setälä (University of Turku)

Valeria Vegh Weis

History and Sociology

Project title

“Confronting state crimes and dealing with the aftermath. Towards a victim-driven approach in transitional justice processes”

Mentor 1

Dr Elizabeth Jelin, Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM), Argentina

Mentor 2

Dr Federico Rossi (Associate Research Professor (tenured), Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM), Buenos Aires; Senior Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg

Michele Serra

Mathematics and Statistics

Project title

“Automorphisms of generalized formal power series”

Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects

The programme aims to promote research collaborations between non-tenured researchers (postdoctoral researchers, junior professors, research group leaders, etc.). An interdisciplinary research project gives grant holders the opportunity to identify and explore new, innovative and/or risky research perspectives with neighbouring disciplines and across disciplines.

Winners of Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects in 2022

Juhi Kulshrestha

Politics and Public Administration

Project title

“The evolving role of search engines as information intermediaries during the COVID-19 pandemic. A cross-platform longitudinal study of information quality of web search” – cooperation with Myhola Makhortkyh (University of Bern), Roberto Ulloa (GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences) and Aleksandra Urman (University of Zürich)

Sandra Rudman

Literature

Project title

“Disclosing unperceived memory: Chilean posephemeric

Muralism in European exile. Actor networks, transnational politics, untold testimonies – The documentary” –cooperation with filmmaker Daniel Oblitas Baca (CLACSO, Latin American Council of Social Sciences)

Andreas Spitz

Computer and Information Science

Project title

“Corpus Exploration at Scale Using Contextual Implicit Entity Networks” – cooperation with Maud Ehrmann (École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne) and Matteo Romanello (University of Lausanne)

You can find more information on the Zukunftskolleg website:

uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/support-measures/funding-for-cooperative-initiatives/interdisciplinary-collaborative-projects/

Intersectoral Cooperation Programme

The programme aims to develop cooperation between non-tenured researchers (postdoctoral researchers, junior professors, research group leaders, etc.) and the non-academic sector. Grants are awarded in support of cooperation that fosters joint research projects with industrial partners, companies, social institutions, cultural institutions, archives, public bodies or non-profit organizations.

Zukunftskolleg Podcast with Jennifer Randerath, Winner of an Intersectoral Cooperation Project

Winners in the Intersectoral Cooperation Programme in 2022

Azhar Fakharuddin Physics

Project title

“Mapping local electronic properties at nanoscale

resolution in halide perovskite thin films” – cooperation with Andrea Cerrata and Alex Klasen (Park Systems, Mannheim)

Anke Koebach

Law / Politics and Public Administration

Project title

“Co-developing a programme with Brazilian prisoners and stakeholders to address trauma-related mental ill health and facilitate reintegration: a qualitative pilot study in Ponta Grossa (Brazil)” – cooperation with Anke Höffler (University of Konstanz), Liliana Abreu (University of Konstanz), Laryssa Angélica Copack Muniz (Ponta Grossa), Glaucia Mayara Niedermeyer Orth (Ponta Grossa), Fernanda Serpeloni (Ministry of Health, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation), William Daniel de Lima Ribas (Criminal Investigation Department), Bruno José Propst (Criminal Investigation Department)

Caterina Moruzzi

Philosophy

Project title

“The Role of Embodiment in the Perception of Human and Artificial Creativity” – cooperation with Laura Herman (Oxford Internet Institute) and Aaron Hertzmann (Adobe Research San Francisco)

Susanne Wisshak

Economics

Project title

“Lerntransfer-Booster” – cooperation with Jürgen Sammet and Jacqueline Wolf (training provider Dr Sammet & Wolf)

You can find more information on the Zukunftskolleg website:

uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/support-measures/funding-for-cooperative-initiatives/intersectoral-cooperation-programme

Research Visit Programme

This programme seeks to enhance international research cooperation and to support international mobility. The Zukunftskolleg of the University of Konstanz provides funding for Research Visits for international early career researchers (Invited Research Visits), Research Visits for international early career researchers from partner research institutions (Network Research Visits) as well as Research Visits for Zukunftskolleg Fellows (Outgoing Research Visits).

Winner of a Research Visit in 2022

Network Research Visit

Ekaterina Mikhailova

Politics and Public Administration
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland

You can find more information on the Zukunftskolleg website:

uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/support-measures/research-visit

Independent Research Grant

The funding programme aims to promote independent research by postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz. In particular, we encourage applications which support the exploration of new ideas and for implementing pilot projects. The grant can cover consumables, equipment, travel costs and student research assistants.

Zukunftskolleg Podcast with Katharina Zahner-Ritter, Winner of an Independent Research Grant

Winners of an Independent Research Grant in 2022

Jan Bartsch

Mathematics and Statistics

Project title

“A Monte Carlo framework for optimal control problems governed by multi-species plasma models”

Funding

€6,452

Anamaria Bentea

Linguistics

Project title

“Gender agreement in native and L2 French processing: Effects of structure and linear distance”

Funding

€6,901.60

Sidney Carls-Diamante

Philosophy

Project title

“Creative drive in bipolar disorder”

Funding

€1,500

Saswati Ganguly

Physics

Project title

“Statistical mechanics of non-equilibrium processes in defect-rich ordered solids”

Funding

€6,708.80

Eva Lievens

Biology

Project title

“The effect of parasite dose on within-host dynamics: patterns and prediction through meta-analysis”

Funding
€4,966

Lars-Jochen Thoms
History

Project title
“digiKON – Digital Knowledge of Science Students at the University of Konstanz”

Funding
€6,933.60

Mikhail Volkov
Physics

Project title
“Structural dynamics of chemically engineered 2D materials”

Funding
€6,928

You can find more information on the Zukunftskolleg website:
<https://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg/support-measures/funding-for-particular-career-stages/independent-research-grant>

Once they have finished their projects, we ask the funding programme winners to submit a final report. Here are examples of projects within the Independent Research Grant funding programme that were successfully completed in 2021:

“EWE: Entwicklung eines Wissenstests für Erwachsenenbildner*innen / Development of a knowledge test for adult educators”

With her project “EWE”, Susanne Wißhak developed and piloted a test instrument to assess trainers’ transfer knowledge. The effectiveness of adult learning is evaluated as the degree to which learners use the acquired knowledge, skills and attitudes in their daily lives. For this kind of transfer to occur, the new competencies must be generalized to new contexts and maintained over a certain period of time. To conduct an expert survey and to analyze and publish her results, she applied for an Independent Research Grant (IRG). The pilot study contained test responses of 105 completed datasets that were scaled and interpreted using an IRT-scaled partial credit model for single- and multi-level response categories. The study was conducted with ten trainers. Susanne Wißhak included five additional experts from research and practice, who evaluated each item with regard to the relevance and representation of the construct “transfer knowledge” on the basis of a 5-point Likert scale (1 = agree to 5 = disagree). Her results showed that the experts rated items as relevant and representative for the assessment of transfer knowledge. In sum, the results of the qualitative and quantitative studies indicated that transfer knowledge can be operationalized and reliably measured using her instrument. In mid-December, Susanne and her colleagues submitted a paper to the “Zeitschrift für Weiterbildungsforschung (ZfW)”.

Susanne’s “EWE” project was also part of her postdoctoral degree (habilitation). According to Susanne, she had the opportunity to include a doctoral candidate in the project, as well as founding her own research group and supervising her own doctoral candidates through the IRG funding. This is an important step for her towards qualifying for a tenured position in academia.

Why did she apply for an Independent Research Grant in the first place? “In general, I expected support in taking the next step on my path to becoming an independent researcher, as well as an opportunity to expand my independence and prepare larger projects,” she recalls. These expectations were not only fulfilled, she says, but she could also join the Zukunftskolleg as an Associated Fellow. This made it possible to join the Jour fixe meetings and other events, where everyone made her feel very welcome and part of the ZuKo community.



Susanne Wißhak
Economics

“Microbial-mediated protection against virus infections”

Ana del Arco started her project about conditions for virophage reactivation and its impact on virus replication and host population survival because little is known about virophage replication and reactivation. But it is crucial to understand under which conditions this natural host population's protection by the virophage can inhibit virus infection and prevent an epidemic in the host population. Virophages are virus-dependent, meaning virophages' replication depends on their parasitism on virus virion-factory to make their own virions. Virus production decreases or is inhibited, which leads to a higher survival in host populations. Ana del Arco used a model system consisting of host-virus-virophage (*Cafeteria burkhardae*-CroV-Mavirus). She identified host resistance clones. This resistance revealed itself through host evolution or the presence of a virophage acting as a protective microbe against the virus. She tried to identify the mechanisms behind host resistance. Therefore, she pursued two objectives: to investigate host resistance mechanisms and study virophage reactivation in host resistance clones. Host resistance can be either due to ecological factors, virophage presence and reactivation, evolution of host resistance or eco-evo factors, e.g. the evolution of the host to allow virophage integration and its reactivation. Ana's goal was to test whether virophage reactivation can prevent the host population from becoming extinct following viral infections and if this reactivation is influenced by the environmental history of the host.

Through her project, Ana not only collected new data which can foster future questions but could also identify various scenarios resulting in host survival. Specifically, the evolution of host resistance in some clones, while in others their survival is mediated by virophage protection. This provided her with many answers for her main research question. Related to her first objective, her results show that virophage is integrated in hosts, but its reactivation does not always result in protection even when it always reactivates. Furthermore, some host clones developed resistance; their survival was not mediated by the virophage inhibition of the virus. Lastly, the exposure to antiviral material was the differing ecological factor between the different clone populations, and she has detected a higher virophage integration in clones subjected to continuous antiviral exposure, though the mechanisms explaining this link are still yet unknown. For her second objective, her results showed that virophage reactivation occurs, but does not always prevent virus infections, thus driving hosts to extinction.



Ana del Arco
Biology, Limnological Institute

Ana del Arco's project has consolidated her independence by advancing her understanding of the experimental microbial community. "I have a deeper knowledge of its ecology and evolution, allowing me to propose further questions in future project applications on the understanding of symbiotic interactions," she says. She presented her results as a part of a larger experiment in two conferences: "DynaTraits" in October 2021 in Potsdam, Germany, and "SESBE" (Spanish Society for Evolutionary Biology) in February 2022 in Vigo, Spain.

How could the Independent Research Grant help her with her project? "It was an excellent opportunity to target a new question and develop the necessary additional experiments and to have the chance to obtain support for experiments that could not be anticipated," she says. Her project also benefitted the outcome of her German Research Foundation project. In fact, the results have been used to apply for a new project on "Genetic changes behind co-evolving host-virus-virophage symbionts", which has been funded by the university's Young Scholar Fund for start-up funding and co-funding for research projects.

“NAD+ supplementation in the protection against genotoxic stress in vivo”

In her project, Joanna Ruszkiewicz investigated the genoprotective effects of so-called nicotinamide riboside (NR), which is a precursor of cellular cofactor nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD+). With her project, Joanna tried to elucidate molecular mechanisms behind NR's effects in vivo. She therefore developed her main technical objective, which was to adapt an in vitro genotoxicity assay – an automated fluorometric analysis of DNA unwinding, called FADU – to "Caenorhabditis elegans", a popular in vivo model in biomedical research. This method, with its suitability for high-throughput screening, was a significant addition to currently used techniques in genetic toxicology. Joanna's aim was also to investigate the potentially protective effects of NR in response to genotoxic stress in vivo via multiple molecular and population-based readouts. At this point in time, the foundation of her project is still being used to continue research within two ongoing master's theses, where one was already submitted and co-supervised by Joanna. She also submitted her manuscript "Fuelling genome maintenance: On the versatile roles of NAD+ in preserving DNA integrity" to the Journal of Biological Chemistry (JBC). Concerning the results of her project, Joanna formulated five objectives: evaluation of genotoxic stress through the measurement of DNA damage using automated fluorometric analysis of DNA unwinding (FADU), evaluation of NR effects on genotoxic stress in *C. elegans*, quantification of NAD+ content in *C. elegans* using enzymatic cycling assay, evaluation of genotoxicant-induced stress on a molecular level with the aid of green fluorescent protein (GFP) reporter strains and elucidation of NAD+-dependent molecular pathways contributing to genome maintenance and genotoxic stress response, using deletion mutants targeting PARPs and SIRT1 mutants.

For her first objective, she analyzed cells isolated from the whole worms, according to the protocol for cell isolation for comet assay, as well as the whole worms. In the first approach, she detected a high level of background DNA damage, only approximately 50% of the total DNA remained double-stranded (dsDNA). The result remained despite changing the isolation conditions, such as reducing the incubation time with digestion reagents. She therefore used the whole, undigested worms for further tests, which has also been suggested as less harmful and still effective in measuring genomic instability. As a result, the sample preparation without sonication and cell lysis, as well as short alkaline unwinding (15 minutes), produced a high amount of intact dsDNA regardless of the sample size. Hence, the effect of various genotoxins is tested, which has previously been shown to induce DNA double-strand breaks in vitro, but no DNA damage could be detected in the applied conditions.



Joanna Ruszkiewicz
Biology

For her second objective, she analyzed the effect of NR supplementation in worms exposed to genotoxic agents such as H₂O₂ and DNA alkylating agents: 2-chloroethyl ethyl sulphide (CEES) and chlormethine (HN2). As a result, it did not affect the worms' susceptibility to genotoxins. Moreover, NR did not affect the development or genotoxicity of germline cells. For her third objective, Joanna measured total NAD+ levels in *C. elegans* at different developmental stages in order to assess the effectiveness of NR – the NAD+ levels could be elevated with applied NR supplementation. She also evaluated the NAD+ levels in response to genotoxins. In contrast to numerous in vitro studies, the toxic concentrations of stressors did not lead to a consistent NAD+ depletion in the nematodes, which might explain the lack of protective effects of NAD+ supplementation via NR. Joanna also evaluated for her fourth objective the effect of NR on germline cells' apoptosis and counted the number of apoptotic corpses visualized with a fluorescent microscope. The NR supplementation did not prevent a CEES-induced increase in germline apoptosis, on the contrary, it showed a trend in potentiating genotoxic effects. Due to a lack of protective effects of NR and difficulties with an adaption of the FADU assay (Objective 1), she had not addressed this objective by the time she submitted her report.

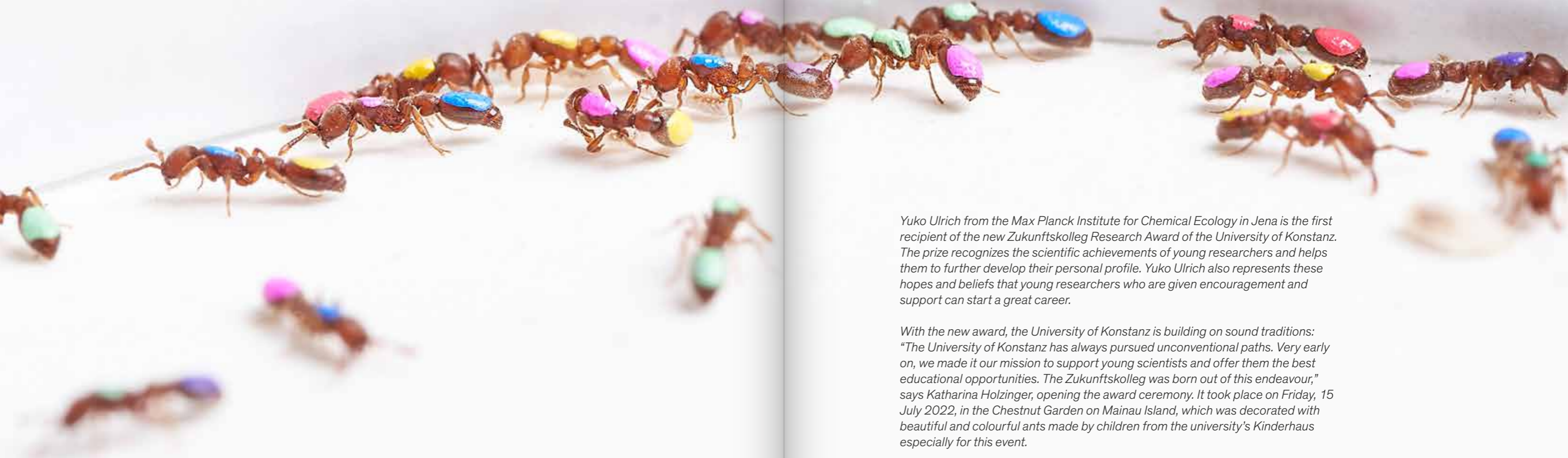
Not everything in Joanna's project went according to plan. "Some delays occurred due to personal and technical problems, as well as with the delivery of purchased materials and pandemic-related restrictions," she recalls. Nevertheless, most of her project objectives could be addressed in a timely manner. It was also a great starting point on her way to gaining scientific independence. But she will need more time and resources in order to raise the project to a level suitable for an independent application for external funding, which was her original attempt. "For me, the programme was a great way to acquire funding and project management experience," says Joanna. "Especially the organization of the proposal submission and communication were clear and effective. All my expectations were fully met," she assures.

Ants, flowers and a rising star – new award for excellent research



Story with digital content

“We link hopes, beliefs and courses of action for the future to this new research award,” says Katharina Holzinger, Rector of the University of Konstanz.



Yuko Ulrich from the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena is the first recipient of the new Zukunftskolleg Research Award of the University of Konstanz. The prize recognizes the scientific achievements of young researchers and helps them to further develop their personal profile. Yuko Ulrich also represents these hopes and beliefs that young researchers who are given encouragement and support can start a great career.

With the new award, the University of Konstanz is building on sound traditions: “The University of Konstanz has always pursued unconventional paths. Very early on, we made it our mission to support young scientists and offer them the best educational opportunities. The Zukunftskolleg was born out of this endeavour,” says Katharina Holzinger, opening the award ceremony. It took place on Friday, 15 July 2022, in the Chestnut Garden on Mainau Island, which was decorated with beautiful and colourful ants made by children from the university’s Kinderhaus especially for this event.

Yuko Ulrich loved these ants and also the ant noises that musician Johannes Jäck had set to music for her. “I’ve never heard ants before, although I’ve studied them for years. They sound really good that way,” she said, and laughed.

The 2022 award winner

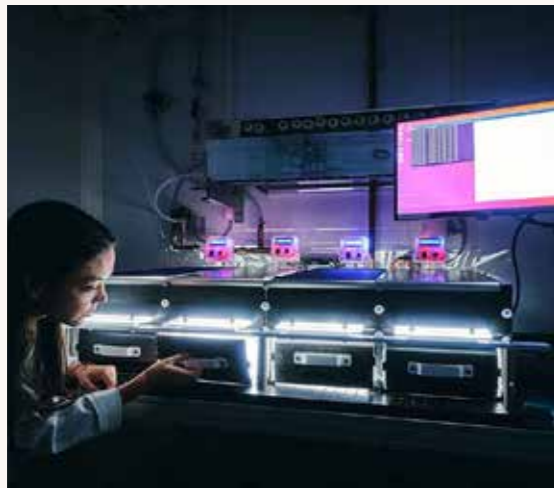
“The most promising rising star”

Yuko Ulrich, biologist, studies the spread of diseases and disease resistance in social insects. She earned her doctoral degree at ETH Zurich, where she studied the evolutionary ecology of bumblebees under the supervision of Professor Paul Schmid-Hempel. As a postdoctoral researcher in Professor Daniel Kronauer’s group at Rockefeller University, New York, she helped to establish the raider ant as a model for studying social behaviour. She founded an independent research group at the University of Lausanne, which moved to ETH Zurich and finally to the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena.

In her research group, Yuko Ulrich addresses questions such as:

1. How does the composition of a social group affect its structure and the rates and pathways of disease transmission within that group?
2. How does infection or immune status affect individual and collective behaviour within and across generations?
3. How do larvae control adult behaviour and reproduction? And how does this affect their own development and the survival of the adult insects?

“Yuko Ulrich is a pioneer in using social insects to study basic concepts in evolution and in epidemiology,” said Giovanni Galizia, who gave the laudatory speech. “As one of the nominators expressed it: “Dr Ulrich is poised to do extremely exciting work over the next years, and her presence at the University of Konstanz, and particularly within the Zukunftscolleg and the Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour, would massively benefit our intellectual community, bringing energy and new ideas. In particular, her focus on the role of disease in shaping the evolution of animal behaviour is a critically important topic and one of particular interest and importance in the middle of a global pandemic, but it is not currently addressed by existing research programmes at the university.”



The award:

“We move forward”

The Zukunftscolleg Research Award honours young researchers who have accomplished outstanding scientific achievements in their field. This includes networked thinking and research, convincing, solution-oriented methods, and approaches to how we will master the challenges of tomorrow.

The prize encourages the award winners to further develop their individual research profile and supports them in pursuing their academic careers by establishing a research collaboration within the University of Konstanz. “As part of the Excellence Initiative, we have repeatedly broken new ground with the Zukunftscolleg and are doing so again with the award,” says Katharina Holzinger. “We don’t stand still, we move forward. We’re trying out new things and one of them is the new award.”

Yuko Ulrich was the first to receive the unique trophy, which was handcrafted in the university’s scientific workshops by master glassblower Christian Müller. “It is a three-dimensional rendering of the Zukunftscolleg’s logo,” said Giovanni Galizia. “You have five people, each one in a different colour, representing the 5i’s that we embody: independence, interdisciplinarity, internationality, intergenerational and intra-university. This is the diversity of the Zukunftscolleg, and I must admit: It’s the first time that I’m seeing it in real life – so far it was always a printed logo, and now it’s coming to life.”

The Zukunftscolleg Research Award comprises a three-month research stay in Konstanz, in the framework of which the prize winner receives research funding of €3,000, reimbursement of travel costs as well as an accommodation allowance. The award enables its recipients to augment existing research projects, pursue novel experimental approaches, explore new questions and/or forge further links in their academic networks. Over the years, the Zukunftscolleg Research Award will invite nominations from all subject areas at the University of Konstanz.

“We are convinced that academic networks, collaborations and inspiration from colleagues is the most important driving force for good research. This is the spirit of the Zukunftscolleg, of this Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Konstanz,” said Giovanni Galizia.

Topic for 2022

“The Evolution of Behaviour”

For the inaugural award in 2022, nominations for scientific work on “The Evolution of Behaviour” had been invited.

Since its foundation in 1966, the University of Konstanz has had a strong tradition of pioneering research in evolutionary biology, and the first professor here in this field, Professor Hubert Markl, already took the approach that evolution and behaviour must be considered in parallel. Behaviour is not a solely individual characteristic, it is also moulded by group dynamics. In collaboration with the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour, the University of Konstanz hosts the Cluster of Excellence “Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour”, which attracts the best minds in (neuro)biology, psychology, computer science, economics, mathematics and physics, among others. “So, it was natural for us to link the two, and say: Who, among the young researchers in the world, is the most promising rising star who could cover evolution and animal behaviour? We called on our colleagues across the world and received a large number of outstanding nominations. And from these nominations we selected the most exciting one: Yuko Ulrich,” said Giovanni Galizia in his laudatory speech.

Think – Construct – Network



Story with digital content

The Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) initiative was founded in 2019 within NetIAS (Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study) and has now entered its fourth round of calls for applications. Time to take stock.

The idea evolved in October 2018 at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study and was based on two objectives: to foster networks of excellent early career researchers dedicated to developing new ideas and to understand and tackle current or emerging societal challenges. Saadi Lahlou, director of the Paris IAS, explains how it developed:

“CAT is the result of a constructive compromise and the collective intelligence of our institutes. I was eager to add to the main model of the “open call” of the Paris IAS a call oriented towards addressing societal issues. The criteria were that the programme is low cost, technically feasible in terms of logistics and appealing to participating institutes. In its first version (October 2018), the goals were to explore new problems with an open mind and fast-track the future EU elite and elite networks of researchers.”

Based on successful experiences at other institutes, participation in the programme was restricted to early career researchers and a short duration of the research stays, combined with a long project duration. “This led to very interesting features that should be food for thought when launching future programmes, as they all go in the direction of less administration, less formality, more flexibility and more collegiality,” says Saadi Lahlou, summing up their efforts. The idea was tested among a few NetIAS institutes to see if it was viable, and the programme was then launched in the spring of 2019.



The CAT programme is designed for groups of three to five early career researchers of any discipline with less than ten years’ experience after earning a doctorate, including doctoral researchers. In any case, the principal investigator (team leader) must have a stable position for the duration of the project. The groups can include a representative of a stakeholder organization related to the theme of the project. In order to engage in fruitful discussions and mature their ideas, the groups are given the opportunity to meet for short stays (i.e. a maximum of two weeks) in different participating institutes and to engage with their fellows and local research communities. Projects can last up to three years (subject to positive mid-term evaluation).

Challenges – Ideas – Funded Projects

Since the start of the programme, ten interdisciplinary CAT groups have been selected, their topics ranging from reshaping European cities and (anti-)corruption concepts, to light as a key predictor of health, conditions at nursing homes as well as negative attitudes towards inoculation (the latter already selected in 2019 – well before the pandemic). Brilliant minds from across the globe have built research teams around emerging societal challenges. In the latest call for applications, win 2021, the following two innovative young ideas were selected:

“Challenges for the development of fair language-based assessments of health, education, behaviour, and beyond”

Project team: Damian Blasi (PI – Harvard University, USA – Max Plank Institute for the Science of Human History, Germany – Higher School of Economics, Russia), Joseph P. Dexter (Harvard University, USA), Amber Gayle Thalmayer (University of Zurich, Switzerland), Adolfo Martin Garcia (University of Santiago de Chile, Chile)

CAT project “Challenges for the development of fair language-based assessments of health, education, behaviour, and beyond”

Linguistic behaviour serves as a reliable, cheap and increasingly automated resource to assess different aspects of individuals and societies, ranging from education to health and cognitive states. Speech samples might help detect incipient health issues, newspaper corpora are used to reveal what we collectively think about minority groups and wordlists are the basis on which we determine verbal development – among a vast number of examples. However, these developments – which we label language-based assessments or LanBAs – were devised, tested and deployed primarily only on a handful of large and commercially central languages, with English dominating the scene. Since the 6,500 extant languages can and do vary substantially (and in every dimension), transferring LanBAs from English to them is often fraught with important technical and linguistic challenges, which might not be appreciated by practitioners in need of them. The consequences of this bias, which we are only just starting to understand, is that speakers and signers of minority languages have at their disposal more expensive, less efficient and potentially biased LanBAs. The project addresses this complex and multifaceted issue by gathering a diverse set of experts covering cognitive neuroscience, digital humanities, comparative linguistics, developmental science and cultural psychology with three main tracks of activity. First, it critically synthesizes the scientific evidence revealing the Anglophone bias in LanBAs, aiming at finding differences and commonalities across our fields of practice. Second, it engages policymakers, experts on language technologies and other non-academic agents with the purpose of building a clear course of action to transfer findings into practical recommendations amenable to impacting the current state of the art in the development of LanBAs. Third, it engages with the general audience through diverse media strategies, including filming a short documentary on the topic of the group visits to the different IAS.

**“Screening European Populisms (2008-2020):
Audiovisual Fiction, Social Media and Political Affect.”**

Project team: Valerio Coladonato (PI – Sapienza University of Rome, Italy), Marc Guinjoan (University of Barcelona, Spain), Dom Holdaway (University of Urbino, Italy), Elena Pilipets (University of Klagenfurt, Austria – University NOVA Lisbon, Portugal), Lidia Valera Ordaz (University of Valencia, Spain)

CAT project “Screening European Populisms (2008-2020): Audiovisual Fiction, Social Media and Political Affect.”

Populist forces have recently transformed the political landscape in Europe, challenging the legitimacy of institutions and representational systems. Frequently aligned with reactionary – sometimes explicitly post-fascist – platforms, these actors emphasize ethnonationalist and exclusionary societal views. The mainstream media, politicians and migrants are demonized, and mistrust in the system is a widely circulated currency. Affect plays a central role in the success of this worldview – such as anger at perceived victimization and loss of social status, resentment against elites and attachment to leaders who “bravely” defy political correctness. Populist affect is now also inseparable from our digital media environment; while citizen access to political discourse has grown, their interactions are increasingly shaped by their respective ideological and affective communities.

Narrative work is a crucial element of populist mobilization, yet the role of audiovisual fiction in these processes remains significantly understudied: grasping this relationship is necessary in order to disentangle populisms’ capacity to transform affect into democratic erosion. From the citizen’s perspective, political affect and audiovisual fiction spread through an uninterrupted flow – but due to disciplinary fragmentation, scholarship often tackles isolated parts of the experience and misses the whole picture. The project aims to trace and reconnect the different dimensions of the process by analyzing narrative and stylistic aspects of films and TV series in a number of Western European countries and tracing their reception, interactions and appropriations in social media content and online political conversations. The project will focus on the impact and circulation of key case studies in a number of Western European countries between the onset of the 2008 financial crisis and Brexit. The collaboration of scholars in film, TV, digital media and political sciences, as well as two organizations working in political participation and in media literacy (SALTO Participation & Information; Media & Learning Association), will enable a better understanding of the role of fiction in creating and spreading populist affect in this political conjuncture.

CATs visiting the Zukunftskolleg

After the COVID-19 pandemic had slowed down group visits to the institutes, 2022 saw a considerable increase in research visits, with 18 taking place within the network, two of them at the Zukunftskolleg.

In April 2022, we welcomed the Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) group of Gørill Haugan (Trondheim, Norway), Suvi-Maria Saarelainen (Helsinki, Finland), Helena Larsson (Kristianstad, Sweden) and Jessie Dezutter (Leuven, Belgium) to the Zukunftskolleg.

They spent their time working to advance their project, but also to exchange with members of the Zukunftskolleg.

They had already presented their project “Unravelling existential suffering and its relation to depression in older adults: EXIST-well in nursing homes” in April 2021 at the Jour fixe. Their research focuses on challenges for nursing home professionals facing older patients with existential concerns due to loss of autonomy and cognitive and physical capabilities. These are also risk factors for developing geriatric depression. Although the correlation between symptoms of geriatric depression and existential concerns seen in nursing home residents is obvious, a viable connection between the two topics still lacks. In their research, they want to introduce an interdisciplinary approach to the relationship between existential loneliness and depression in nursing home patients and implement this in psycho-educational training for nursing home professionals. The work is based on the perspectives of both nursing home residents and nursing home professionals.

“The time together was very fruitful for us,” reports the group. “Without the stays, we would not be able to conduct this project. Each stay encourages us to take time to discuss, think, concretize ideas and refine our studies. Conducting the studies remains a challenge since we have no personnel working on this study, but the vibe and energy is so stimulating that each of us carves out time to conduct them. We also involve our doctoral researchers and master’s students, if they are interested, which offers them possibilities to enter into contact with international scholars as well.

We would like to thank you for the great welcome and the perfect organization. We fully enjoyed our stay here and feel encouraged and motivated to continue our project. The stay in Konstanz, as in Paris, provided us with new and fresh long-term ideas that do not easily evolve when we are in the daily rat race at our universities.

We highly value the programme and are grateful to be part of it!”



You can find here an **overview** of the group's schedule during their stay.

Monday, 25 April:

Morning: Meet-and-greet with the ZuKo Central Office and discussion with the team.

Afternoon: Data analysis discussion of the study where Suvi is taking the lead (Study 5 IPA Chaplains) and agreement on how to proceed.

Tuesday, 26 April:

Morning: Discussion of the systematic review of meaning in late life and the scoping review on existential isolation, where Jessie is taking the lead (Study 1 and 2). Agreement on how to proceed and what we have already learnt. Conceptual discussion on how the phenomena are related, based on our current findings.

Afternoon: Lab visit with Sarah Stoll, explanation of all experiments and very interesting Q&A. Jour fixe with the fellows. Discussion with the CAT team on how the semi-automated content analysis (as explained at the Jour Fixe presentation) might help us in our systematic reviews or later in the qualitative studies. Follow-up discussion in the evening with the team.

Wednesday, 27 April:

Morning: Data analysis discussion of the qualitative study on existential loneliness, where Helena is taking the lead (Study 4 In-depth qualitative study EL). Discussion of the concepts and the data analysis technique. First findings. Agreement on how to proceed.

Lunch: Lunch with the fellows; several engaging and interesting talks on a broad range of topics.

Afternoon: Very engaging and stimulating talk with Dr Richter on our project and related topics (e.g. tiredness of life as a topic in Germany, care and treatment of NH residents in Germany, psychotherapy for very elderly individuals, etc). Sarah facilitated the meeting with Dr Richter in a very professional and attentive way (translation issues, change of plans due to the testing needed). Brief talk with one of the fellows, Abena Yalley.

Thursday, 28 April:

Morning: Private time for work with the home universities.

Afternoon: Walk and discussion within the CAT team on how to manage a lab, how to supervise doctoral students in a qualitative manner, how to maintain a healthy work-life balance, international mobility.

Friday, 29 April:

Morning: Discussion on the next steps that need to be taken for the ongoing studies and for the new studies (Study 3 In-depth qualitative study MIL; Study 6 & 7 Nurses and psychologists); discussion of the timeline for the studies and who will be involved, discussion of author order and involvement for the upcoming manuscripts, planning the stay in Paris (what will we have achieved by then and what will be present, a daily schedule has been drafted), discussion of which international conferences we can attend as a group (and submit symposia abstracts for), discussion of possibilities for applications for funding based on the CAT project.

Afternoon: Follow-up talk with Abena Yalley (for Gorill), individual work on the CAT studies (for Suvi, Helena and Jessie).

Two months after the visit by Jessie and her CAT group, the Zukunftskolleg was able to welcome Valerio Coladonato's group for the kick-off meeting of their CAT project "Screening European Populisms (2008-2020): Audiovisual Fiction, Social Media and Political Affect". The team members present in Konstanz were: Valerio Coladonato, Dominic Holdaway, Lidia Valera Ordaz; Elena Pilipets attended remotely. The group was joined by Maia Klasseen as the representative of one of the two stakeholder organizations of the project, SALTO Participation & Information.

"This launch visit was extremely helpful and productive thanks to the warm welcome and collaborative approach of everyone we had the chance to interact with at the Zukunftskolleg – for which we are really grateful. Through a number of formal and informal conversations, and thanks to the collegial and rigorous feedback we received, we were able to focus on several key issues and questions that needed refining, as well as gain momentum in the definition of the interdisciplinary methodology (which was the main aim of this first research stay).

The research stay was also a particularly important time for team building, as it represented the first opportunity for several team members to meet in person. We would like to thank the Zukunftskolleg and in particular Maria Zhukova for all their support, as well as all the fellows we interacted with. These days gave us plenty of ideas to work on, and we hope to get the chance to share the future results of our project with the academic community in Konstanz!"



Here is an overview of the group's activities during their stay.

Monday, 20 June:

First informal presentation and work meeting (in attendance: Gruia Bădescu, Anne Ganzert, Malinka Pila, Evgenia Steinberg, Maria Zhukova). We received feedback on the methodological approach, particularly on how to integrate further geographic/cultural areas, and on how to select the appropriate disciplinary skills to add to the ones already present in the team.

Tuesday, 21 June:

Jour fixe presentation. Here we attempted to respond to the feedback from the first day, specifying how we will narrow down the selection of relevant case studies and laying out a more specific approach for analyzing them.

Wednesday, 22 June:

Lunch with the fellows; afternoon meeting with Maria Zhukova, Andrea Lailach-Henrich and Evgenia Steinberg. This was an opportunity to discuss the

political theory framework of our project, to encompass the specific role of aesthetics and film analysis and to reflect on how to incorporate a longer historical perspective beyond the period we are focusing on.

Thursday, 23 June:

Internal work meeting. Here we detailed the next steps, including potential participation in upcoming conferences (e.g. ECREA – European Communication Research and Education Association in October), as well as the submission of a proposal for a special issue of the peer-reviewed publication SERIES – International Journal of TV Serial Narratives.

Friday, 24 June:

Individual work on literature review; logistical organization of materials and resources to implement the second phase of the project.

Continued engagement in innovative research initiatives

With its few guidelines and very unbureaucratic application process, CAT is designed to maximize the creativity of research groups. The collaboration between different institutes in different countries aims to give these groups access to a great variety of high-level thinkers and researchers in order to go beyond the current frontiers of knowledge and to develop highly innovative ideas on how to address very complex societal issues.

Ten participating institutes welcomed project applications from new groups for the 4th call up until September 2022, and the selected groups will be able to start their work from January 2023 onwards. The CAT programme is expanding, as new NetIAS members are joining and willing to host teams of excellent early career researchers, and is thus becoming a flagship initiative of NetIAS. According to the agreed principle of annual rotation, the 2022 call will be managed and coordinated by the IAS in Jerusalem, which has taken over from the CEU in Budapest.

A different way of thinking



Story with digital content

Over the centuries, the Spiegelhalle at the Port of Konstanz has been a storage place for many valuable goods: furs, linen, fine fabrics. On 2 July 2022, the theatre was a venue for the first time for a new precious commodity: young researchers from all over the world. The Zukunftskolleg organized a post-conference symposium in cooperation with and following the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting. Thirty outstanding early career researchers from 13 countries took part, including a delegation from Pakistan.

“This diversity of nationalities among early career researchers is a perfect fit for the University of Konstanz and the Zukunftskolleg. International early career researchers are an important part of our strategic tradition of promoting creativity and providing freedoms for researchers early in their careers. This priority is ingrained in our institutional identity,” said Malte Drescher, Vice Rector for Research, Academic Staff Development and Research Infrastructure, in his welcome speech.

The Zukunftskolleg's aim was to bring these outstanding researchers to Konstanz and familiarize them with the university – in particular the Zukunftskolleg and, this year, the Department of Chemistry – and to strengthen cooperation with Lindau.

Art installation: the tension between gaining knowledge and failure

The symposium's scientific programme was divided into lectures, a poster session and a discussion round. The event's supporting programme was aimed at the general public: an exhibition in front of the Spiegelhalle presented current chemical research in the area of tension between gaining knowledge, sustainability and failure. The exhibition, under the artistic direction of Miriam M. Unterlass from the Department of Chemistry at the University of Konstanz, aimed to trigger a dialogue with visitors. Accordingly, the artists were on site and guided visitors through the exhibition.

In the scientific part, Andreas Marx, Professor for Organic Chemistry / Cellular Chemistry, talked about "Chemistry and the information beyond the genome sequence". Professor Marx deals with the synthesis of functional biomolecules such as nucleotides, oligonucleotides, proteins and enzymes. His research has also led to numerous patent applications and the founding of the company myPOLs Biotech, which specializes in DNA polymerases and their applications in biotechnology. He has received numerous important awards for his research, including the prestigious ERC Advanced Grant twice.

Stefan Mecking, Professor of Chemical Materials Science, spoke on "Closed loop recyclable and non-persistent plastics enabled by catalysis". His research on catalytic methods to generate degradable polyolefin materials is also supported by an ERC Advanced Grant.

Miriam M. Unterlass, Professor of Solid State Chemistry, gave a talk on "Making and breaking bonds with hot water". Her research interests include compounds rich in aromatic and heterocyclic functions. A particular focus is on non-classical, sustainable synthesis approaches. In 2019, she founded her own start-up with a clean process for the production of plastics. For the associated patent, she and her team at the time were awarded the 2020 Austrian State Patent Prize by Vienna University of Technology.



An inspired and well-prepared audience

The audience was inquisitive and exceptionally well-prepared for meeting the outstanding researchers from the University of Konstanz. The guests asked a lot of questions and had stimulating discussions with the professors. For some guests, a long-cherished dream came true. Morlu Stevens from Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa, said: "I've read everything that Professor Mecking has written, and I admire his work very much. It would be great if I could do research in Konstanz."

The Pakistani delegation also particularly enjoyed the scientific exchange and underlined the good learning conditions and the great atmosphere in the Spiegelhalle. "Such transparent, open places are very good for learning and enable a completely different way of thinking than in conventional university rooms. Here you can particularly open your mind," said Professor Aftab Muhammad Rafiq, head of the Pakistani delegation.

Finally, Cristina Ruiz Agudo, Research Fellow at the Zukunftscolleg, reported on "The Zukunftscolleg as an interdisciplinary scientific community". Cristina Ruiz Agudo was awarded the Werner and Erika Messmer Foundation Science Prize in 2021 for her research on the development of more sustainable cement.

Anda Lohan, Programme Director for Research and Fellows, provided an extensive overview of the Zukunftscolleg's activities, and the audience was inspired by the numerous opportunities and possibilities offered by the fellowship programmes. Quoting Giovanni Galizia, the director of the Zukunftscolleg, she said: "Imagine a place where early career researchers are able to concentrate fully on their research projects – just think how it would be if they were given the freedom to implement their own research ideas independently..." Some guests want to apply as fellows in the next few years and look forward to seeing the Zukunftscolleg again.



Very positive feedback

In total, about 30 early career researchers took part in the event. Their feedback was more than satisfying.

Evaluation of the symposium – examples

What impressions did you get of the Zukunftscolleg?

- It might be a great opportunity for me that I'll definitely keep in mind. I especially like the interdisciplinary approach.
- The event appears to be a very good marketing tool to attract young scientists, and it's a nice initiative indeed.
- International atmosphere that is very interesting for starting your independent career.
- A) That Konstanz is a really beautiful city. B) The idea of the Zukunftscolleg really emphasizes an interdisciplinary way of working.
- Great place to do research.
- I am thinking very seriously about applying after my doctoral/postdoctoral degree (in 3-5 years).
- That it is an institute with very good opportunities for young researchers.
- An interesting location and programme for high-quality research in diverse, really interesting research fields; enabling independent research by young scientists with state-of-the-art equipment and methods.
- Very supportive, you can follow unconventional ideas! International, independent and very helpful! -> A great talk about that!
- The whole conference made us sure that the Zukunftscolleg is one of the greatest institutions where a lot of talented and great researchers are working. The talks and topics were amazing.
- Peaceful and amazing people. Giving, caring and informative.
- Very organized, intellectual contributions.
- I was very impressed by the type and quality of research.



Did the event meet your expectations?

Why or why not?

- Yes, I obtained a very good impression about opportunities and research in Konstanz.
- Yes, it did. The event provided a good opportunity to meet some professors and learn about the research undertaken in Konstanz. It also provided a general overview of the opportunities that young scientists working here could have.
- Yes, it provided the following opportunities: 1 – networking, 2 – career development, 3 – collaboration.
- Yes! Great networking, interesting talks and poster presentations.

- Yes, a very good overview of science in Konstanz and at the Zukunftscolleg.
- The event was beyond my expectations. From Lindau till Konstanz, everything was so well organized. Lecture talks, food and discussions were very good, and the hospitality was great.
- Yes, the event exceeded my expectations. Interesting talks.
- Yes, it did. I was fortunate enough to meet Professor Stefan Mecking. I love his research and, having read a lot of his publications and those by his lab, I've taken a huge interest in what he does. I wish I could have a fellowship in his group.
- The event fully met my expectations. The cosy environment, small number of participants, selected research topics and an opportunity to communicate were great. I would love to attend such meetings here again.

What was your biggest takeaway?

- Ideas for my own (future) research after the great talk by Miriam Unterlass.
- The talk by Professor Unterlass was amazing! Also, now I know all about the supportive environment that the University of Konstanz offers to help young scientists at the beginning of their career.
- I should apply for the 5-year fellowship in 3-4 years ;-).
- Future research collaboration avenues, new research topics, fellowship opportunities.
- I did not know much about the Zukunftscolleg before, so learning about it was the biggest takeaway.
- Scientific research, inter-everything research, beautiful city.
- I very much appreciated the atmosphere of promoting and engaging in scientific collaborations. I think that this isn't generally as clear as it should be.
- To learn about postdoctoral fellowships and actually get an idea about a new study.
- Really interesting talks (especially the hot water "catalysis" was very new to me and impressive). A good impression of the diverse, high-quality research performed at the Chemistry Department of the University of Konstanz.
- Being reminded of how it felt the first time I came in contact with chemistry – Miriam Unterlass was an inspiration!
- Amazing topics of the presentations gave me new ideas that I want to implement in my research.
- Biggest takeaway is to come back as a research fellow :-). I got new perspectives for my research field.
- The support by academics to further the career of young scientists.
- The diversity was magnificent, and that is something I would like to communicate with my peers.
- Information about fellowships, novel research ideas, programmes and opportunities offered by the University of Konstanz, love for the city of Konstanz.
- Outstanding event.

How can we improve in the future?

- It was very well organized. I look forward to the delegation from the Zukunftscolleg visiting us in Pakistan to explore collaboration opportunities further.
- Change the venue to the University of Konstanz and give an impression of campus (life).
- No improvement is needed ;). Everything was really good. I would mention the venue, which is different from traditional symposia venues. We really loved the place, arrangements, hospitality and all the lectures.
- In future, the symposium could be arranged at the Chemistry Department of the University of Konstanz and a short tour of all facilities on the campus could be offered.

New people. New ideas.



Story with digital content

From 14 to 15 July 2022, the new Scientific Advisory Board of the Zukunftskolleg met for the first time in Konstanz.

The new members are Raghavendra Gadagkar (Professor at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore), David Gugerli (Professor for the History of Technology, ETH Zurich), Sabine von Heusinger (Professor of Medieval History/ Late Middle Ages, University of Cologne), Michael Matlosz (President of EuroScience), Elke aus dem Moore (Director, Akademie Schloss Solitude), Jane Ohlmeyer (Erasmus Smith's Professor of Modern History, Trinity College, Dublin), Ursula Schwarzenbart (Director, Global Diversity Office, Daimler, former member of the University Council, University of Konstanz (03/2009-02/2018)), Vinod Subramaniam (President of the Executive Board, University of Twente) and Ingrid Wüning-Tschol (Senior Vice President Health and Science, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Germany). Manuela Nocker (Senior Lecturer in Organisation and Sustainability, University of Essex) represents continuity in the Scientific Advisory Board of the Zukunftskolleg, as she was already a member from 2017 until 2020.

The task of the Scientific Advisory Board is to support the Zukunftskolleg with its expertise and to set the strategic course for the future development of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Konstanz. The advisory board members' expertise is highly diverse, and this is what makes it so important: it comes from science and industry, from university politics and from the artistic domain. The advisory board members therefore look at the "fate" of the Zukunftskolleg from different perspectives, some with a different focus.

It was quickly noticeable that the new advisory board members harmonize wonderfully not only as a body, but also as people, which is why it did not take long for them to start giving advice.



The Scientific Advisory Board and the Executive Committee of the Zukunftskolleg

In order to be able to give advice, the advisory board members should first familiarize themselves properly with the Zukunftskolleg at their first meeting. The meeting therefore started with a working lunch and a poster session, to which all fellows – Postdoctoral and Research, Associated, Senior, Visiting, ZUKOnnect/ Herz Fellows – were invited. Nineteen fellows presented their posters in the corridor of the Zukunftskolleg. This was followed by opening remarks by Katharina Holzinger (Rector of the University of Konstanz) and Manuela Nocker as both an old and new member of the Scientific Advisory Board, followed by a short round of introductions by the members of the board and of the Executive Committee.

After a short break, there was a discussion round with an introduction by Malte Drescher (Vice Rector for Research, Academic Staff Development and Research Infrastructure / member of the Executive Committee of the Zukunftskolleg) and Giovanni Galizia, Director of the Zukunftskolleg. Afterwards, the advisory board members and the fellows discussed in small groups/round tables the future (strategic) direction of the Zukunftskolleg.

The ultimate question was how the Zukunftskolleg can continue to be a role model in the context of national changes in career paths, digital transformation and the Excellence Strategy.

Zukunftskolleg Scientific Advisory Board: 2021-2024



Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar

Professor at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Raghavendra Gadagkar obtained a BSc (Hons) and an MSc in zoology from Bangalore University and a doctoral degree in molecular biology from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India. During the past 25 years, he has established an active school of research in animal behaviour, ecology and evolution. He has won numerous awards for his contributions to scientific research, including the Cross of the Order of Merit (Germany) in 2015, the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Biology in 1993 and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Prize in 1999. He is an elected fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences (Secretary, 1995-2000), the Indian National Science Academy (President, 2014-2016), the National Academy of Sciences, India, the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences, USA, and the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. As the founding chair of the Centre for Contemporary Studies, Gadagkar has initiated a new experiment that endeavours to engage some of the best practitioners of different disciplines in the human sciences, such as philosophy, sociology, economics, law, literature, poetry, art, music, cinema, etc., and aims to forge meaningful interaction between the natural and human sciences

ces.iisc.ac.in/?q=user/33



Prof. David Gugerli

Professor for the History of Technology, ETH Zürich

Following studies in history and literature, he received his doctoral degree in history in 1987. In 1995, he obtained a *venia legendi* (Habilitation) at the University of Zurich for modern history and in 1997 was appointed assistant professor at ETH Zurich. He has worked as guest researcher at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris (1988 and 1991), visiting fellow at Stanford University (1992), visiting scientist at El Colegio de México (1989-1993), fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (1993/94), fellow at the Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften in Vienna (1994) and professor at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (1996). In 2006, he was a guest of the rector at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin and in 2008/2009 a senior fellow at the Zukunftskolleg at the University of Konstanz. In 2014/15, he was a senior fellow at the Digital Cultures Research Lab at Leuphana University Lüneburg. He is a founding member of the Center History of Knowledge, which is supported by ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich. He has served as chair of the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences (D-GESS) and as a member of the ETH Zurich Research Committee. From 2009 to 2016, he led the Strategy Committee at ETH Zurich.

tg.ethz.ch/en/people/details/david-gugerli/



Prof. Sabine von Heusinger

Professor of Medieval History/ Late Middle Ages, University of Cologne, Germany

1996: Doctoral degree (DPhil) at the University of Konstanz, thesis: "Der observante Dominikaner Johannes Mulberg († 1414) und der Basler Beginenstreit"
2006: Postdoctoral degree (Habilitation), University of Mannheim, thesis: "Soziale Gruppen in der Stadt – das Beispiel der Zünfte in Straßburg"
2010: Senior Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg
2011: Chair of Medieval History, University of Cologne
2014: Fellow, International Käte Hamburger Center for Advanced Studies Morphomata, University of Cologne
2017: John Bennett Distinguished Visiting Scholar, University of Toronto/CA
Main research topics: social groups (e.g. guilds; Mendicant orders; Beguines), material culture (e.g. water), urban history (e.g. Strasbourg; Cologne; Basel)

mittelalterliche-geschichte.phil-fak.uni-koeln.de/en/personal/professorial-staff/von-heusinger-prof-dr-sabine



Prof. Michael Matlosz

President of EuroScience

Professor Michael Matlosz holds a BSc in chemical engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and a doctoral degree in electrochemical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley (USA). He began his professional research career in 1985 in the department of materials science at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) in Lausanne (Switzerland), prior to appointment in 1993 as university professor of chemical process engineering at the University of Lorraine in Nancy (France). More recently, Professor Matlosz served from 2014 to 2017 as President and Chief Executive Officer of the French National Research Agency (ANR) in Paris. An elected member of the National Academy of Technologies of France since 2011, Professor Matlosz was also President of Science Europe, the Brussels-based advocacy association for European research performing and research funding organisations. Currently a distinguished professor of chemical engineering at the University of Lorraine, in July 2018 Professor Matlosz began a four-year term of office as President of EuroScience, the European Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology.

council.science/profile/michael-matlosz



Elke aus dem Moore

Director of Akademie Schloss Solitude

Prior to April 2018, the new director Elke aus dem Moore was head of the art department of the ifa – Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations. She was responsible for the content of ifa's international exhibition programme and gave important impetus to international cultural exchange through numerous exhibitions, conferences, funding programmes and workshops. A special example is the artistic platform on art, fashion and urbanity Prêt-à-Partager, initiated by Elke aus dem Moore, which took place in numerous African locations and in Berlin and Stuttgart. Other important projects include the collective exhibition Politics of Sharing – On Collective Wisdom (2016/2017) in cooperation with Adnan Yildiz and the conference Curating Under Pressure (2015), which took place in New Zealand. For documenta 14, she curated – in cooperation with aneducation – the gathering Under the Mango Tree – Sites of Learning, which presented international perspectives on new educational models in art. Elke aus dem Moore studied literature and art in Osnabrück, Zurich and Bochum and was curator for contemporary art at the Shedhalle Zurich from 1999 to 2002. As director of the Künstlerhaus Stuttgart, she was responsible for the international exhibition programme from 2003 to 2006. She has published numerous exhibition catalogues and articles for various magazines. Furthermore, she is initiator and co-founder of the online magazine Contemporary and (C&) as well as the International Biennial Association – IBA.

akademie-solitude.de/de/person/elke-aus-dem-moore



Dr. Manuela Nocker

Senior Lecturer in Organisation and Sustainability, University of Essex
Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Zukunftskolleg (since 2017)

2006: doctoral degree in Organisational Psychology, The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK. Senior Lecturer in Organisation and Sustainability, University of Essex, UK (since 2012) Manuela Nocker is a Senior Lecturer in Organisation and Sustainability, and teaches organisation studies, business ethics and research methodology. She has held two mandates as Undergraduate Programme Director, overseeing all courses in the Management Science and Entrepreneurship Group (2012-July 2019). Manuela Nocker is the representative for the PRME programme on Principles of Responsible Management Education at Essex Business School. She is also the institutional representative and liaison across departments for the UNAI Academic Impact scheme and engages in the UN Global Compact initiative, endorsed at university level to promote sustainability and ethical principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption (www.unglobalcompact.org). She has been a Senate member at this University and a member of public boards in South Tyrol/Italy at institutions in the areas of education, research and innovation. She was Vice-President of the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen (2014-18) and its university council member (2010-14). Manuela Nocker has worked as careers adviser, trainer and management consultant prior to becoming an academic at EBS in 2006 (Southend Campus).

essex.ac.uk/people/nocke67409/manuela-nocker



Prof. Jane Ohlmeyer

Erasmus Smith's Professor of Modern History, Trinity College, Dublin

Since 2003, she has been the Erasmus Smith's Professor of Modern History at Trinity College, Dublin. She has also served as Chair of the Irish Council since 2015. She was President of the Irish Historical Society from 2003 to 2005, the founding Head of the School of Histories and Humanities, Trinity's first Vice-President for Global Relations (2011-14) and Director of the Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (2015-20). In 2011, Ohlmeyer was elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy (MRIA), the premier all-Ireland learned society for the sciences and humanities. Professor Ohlmeyer is an expert on the New British and Atlantic Histories and has published extensively on early modern Irish and British history. She is also an active proponent of 'Digital Humanities'. She has recently led Trinity's bid as part of a consortium of partners for the successful award of €1.5million for the project 'Shape-ID', 'Shaping Interdisciplinary Practices in Europe', funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme.

tcd.ie/history/staff/ohlmeyerj.php



Ursula Schwarzenbart

Director, Global Diversity Office, Daimler

In 2005, Ursula Schwarzenbart established Daimler's Global Diversity Office. As Chief Diversity Officer, she is responsible for a wide range of diversity activities worldwide. In addition to this function, Ursula Schwarzenbart has been in charge of organizing group-wide talent management since 2010 and is involved in HR development topics in the Leadership 2020 initiative. Ursula Schwarzenbart is also a former member of the University Council of the University of Konstanz (03/2009-02/2018)

group.mercedes-benz.com/nachhaltigkeit/grundlagen/beschaefigte/diversity-inclusion



Prof. Vinod Subramaniam

President of the Executive Board, University of Twente
Member of the Excellence Strategy Council of the University of Konstanz

Vinod Subramaniam (1967) became UT's President of the Executive Board on 1 September 2021. He was previously Rector Magnificus of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam for a period of six years. Vinod has a long-lasting relationship with the University of Twente: until 2013, he was Professor of Nanobiophysics. From 2012 to 2013, he was also scientific director of UT's MIRA Institute for Biomedical Technology and Technical Medicine, today known as TechMed Centre. In his scientific work, he has focused on finding causes for neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer and Parkinson. For this, he examined the behaviour and 'misfolding' of proteins in the brain that may be associated with these diseases.

In September 2012, he was appointed director at the AMOLF institute (physics of functional complex matter) in Amsterdam, and he was Extraordinary Professor of Nanoscale Imaging at Radboud University in Nijmegen. Vinod was appointed Adjunct Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Mumbai. He was a guest lecturer and senior fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, the Institute for Advanced Studies of the University of Konstanz in Germany. He is an elected member of the Netherlands Academy of Technology and Innovation (AcTI) and the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities (Koninklijke Hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen).

utwente.nl/en/eb/members/#profdr-vinod-subramaniam-president-executive-boarddiversity-inclusion



Dr Ingrid Wüning-Tschol

Senior Vice President Health and Science, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Germany

Ingrid Wüning-Tschol is Senior Vice President and Head of Health and Research at the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Born in 1958, she received her doctoral degree in biology from the University of Tübingen, Germany, in 1985. From 1985 to 1990, she conducted postdoctoral research at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and at the State University of New York in Stony Brook, USA. Further stations in her career were: Head of Molecular Biology/Cell Biology Unit at the German Research Foundation in Bonn/Germany, Head of Medical Section at the European Science Foundation in Strasbourg/France. She has been with the Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stuttgart/Germany since 1999. She is or was a member of numerous national and international committees. Among them, she has served as Vice Chair of the European Research Area Board (ERAB), which directly advised the European Commissioner for Research from 2008 to 2011, during this time she was also a member of the Scottish Government Personal & Support Research Fellowship Selection Panel of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. More recent committee activities include her chairmanship of the EFC Research Forum, her membership of the Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute for Dynamics of Complex Technical Systems in Magdeburg, the Steering Committee for ESOF 2016 in Copenhagen, the Board of Trustees for the Falling Walls Conference, the Supervisory Board of Ulm University or the Advisory Board of the Uppsala Health Summit.

bosch-stiftung.de/de/pilotprojekte-fuer-eine-bessere-gesundheitsversorgung



Story with digital content

Who is new in our fellow community?

In the past year, the Zukunftskolleg community was enriched by numerous great people.

In this chapter, you will find our new members listed according to the different fellowships/support measures that we offer.

2-year Postdoctoral Fellows and 5-year Research Fellows resulting from the 16th Fellowship call + Philipp di Dio, 5-year Research Fellow from the 15th Fellowship call:

2-year Postdoctoral Fellows are in the early stage of their academic career and plan to develop and implement an independent research project.

5-year Research Fellows are researchers with significant work experience at postdoctoral level who are aiming for a career in academia. The fellows build their own academic identity by leading an independent research group at the University of Konstanz.

The new Postdoctoral Fellows joining the Zukunftskolleg are

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Eduardo Harry Luerson

Literature, started his fellowship in June 2022.

Project

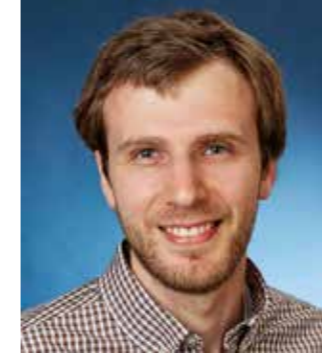
“Cloud gaming atlas: from Earth’s metabolism to the longing for radiant infrastructures”

Eduardo completed his doctoral degree in the Communication Sciences programme of Unisinos University in São Leopoldo, Brazil. During his degree, he also had the opportunity to undertake a short research stay (five months) at the Centre for Digital Cultures at Leuphana Universität Lüneburg.

“The defence of my doctoral thesis was scheduled for early March 2020, but due to the pandemic it had to be postponed to July 2020,” reports Eduardo. “As the opportunities and conditions for conducting research on an international level were too uncertain at the time, I started preparing a revised research agenda for my first postdoctoral project – fortunately, this project was later selected by the recruitment committee of the Zukunftskolleg”.

Apart from that, he worked on translating articles by prominent researchers in the field of media studies in order to have them published and made available to Portuguese-speaking readers. He also coordinated an interdisciplinary (remote) study group called “Technopolity: Design, Infrastructure, Geopolitics”. The weekly meetings brought together young Brazilian scholars from the fields of international relations, design, philosophy, arts, communication and literature to debate the tensions and overlaps of the technical and aesthetical dimensions of digital media with issues of governance and political geography.

His current project – entitled “Cloud gaming atlas: from Earth’s metabolism to the longing for radiant infrastructures” – is aimed at the development of transnational telecommunication infrastructures to support cloud gaming platforms. “What interests me more specifically is observing how these infrastructures are intertwined with the management of natural resources in local and wider environmental settings. With the project, I am seeking to explore to what extent media are ingrained within Earth systems, while at the same time questioning the regimes of visibility/invisibility of these material infrastructures. I believe these questions are important not only for their epistemological value. Assessing how the environmental and aesthetic dimensions of media phenomena intermingle in a time when the so-called creative industries are migrating to a platform model based on high energy-demanding streaming services might be particularly significant.” Moreover, Eduardo is associated with and cultivates various forms of research cooperation – mostly regarding the aesthetic dimension of gaming – with two particular research groups, Audiovisualities and Technoculture (TCAV) at Unisinos University and Leuphana University’s Gamification Lab. From this semester onwards, he will also start collaborating with the Department of Literature, Arts and Media Studies of the University of Konstanz and more specifically with the university’s GameLab.



James Wilson

History, started his fellowship in June 2022.

Project

“Colonialism, the ‘Counter-Crusade’ and the early development of Crusader studies”

James Wilson earned his doctoral degree at the School of History at Queen Mary University of London, UK. After his doctorate, he had a short-term (six-month) research scholarship at the Trier College of Middle Ages and Modern Times (TRIKO) at Trier University before coming to the Zukunftskolleg.

His research project at the Zukunftskolleg – which is entitled “Colonialism, the ‘Counter-Crusade’ and the early development of Crusader studies” – examines the extent to which colonial attitudes influenced the edition and translations of several key medieval Arabic chronicles relating to the Crusades. Many Crusade historians still rely on these French translations even today, which were mostly published in the nineteenth century.

“The project aims to evaluate the editors’ linguistic decisions by comparing these editions and translations with the original Arabic manuscripts, seeking thereby to better understand the approaches underpinning their compilation,” explains James. “It will then review how this editorial process has impacted modern scholarship, written by historians who have long depended on these materials. There are two main research questions. Firstly, whether these editors did take a colonialist approach to the editing and translation of these sources (and, if so, how exactly this approach impacts on the texts in question). Secondly, if evidence of colonialist attitudes can be identified in the editions and translations, then how has this influenced everything written by scholars relying on these texts in later years?”

In focusing on the means by which Arabic sources – interpreted through a nineteenth century lens – were integrated into the academic study of the Crusades, this project not only aims to provide nuanced insight into the field but also explores the latent challenges which anachronous editorial practices present to those engaging with difficult texts from the medieval past.

Additionally, James is currently also writing a book with the title “Medieval Syria and the Onset of the Crusades” (which will be published by Edinburgh University Press).

The new Research Fellows joining the Zukunftskolleg are

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Anna Stöckl

Biology, started her fellowship in June 2022.

Project

“The neural basis of insect pattern vision: from flowers to behaviour”

Anna completed her doctoral degree in the Vision Group at Lund University, Sweden, before moving to Aalto University in Finland for a one-year postdoctoral position. In the past four years, she has developed her own research programme as a research associate at the University of Würzburg. It centres on understanding how the visual system of insects extracts spatial and temporal information from their natural environment – and how this information is used to guide behaviour. “Our key model are hawkmoths,” she says. “They are extremely agile fliers with a unique ability: they hover in front of flowers to suckle nectar like hummingbirds. Their high-resolution compound eyes can extract fine details, while also providing nocturnal species with the high sensitivity required to see well even in starlight. Thus, these fascinating insects allow us to study fundamental principles of night vision, spatial vision, motion vision and locomotion control, and thereby contribute to the general understanding of how neural processing gives rise to visual percepts and actions based on them.”

Anna’s research project at the Zukunftskolleg will examine the neural basis of a key aspect of spatial vision: the perception of patterns. With essential functions in object recognition, navigation and communication, it constitutes a fundamental pillar of animal vision. “Given that our brain dedicates several hundred million neurons to this task, it is all the more astonishing that insects, with brains smaller than a grain of rice, recognize and memorize visual patterns as well. Some insect pollinators even possess the ability to generalize pattern features across colours, contrasts or orientations. They thus provide a model to study the neural implementation of invariant pattern recognition with limited computational resources.”

While insect pattern discrimination behaviour has been studied extensively, very little is known about its neuronal implementation. Anna plans to close this gap, using hawkmoths as a tractable model to dissect the invariant pattern vision circuits of insects from photons to behaviour. “This will help us understand how insect pollinators with their tiny brains recognize patterns and how they use these to interact with flowers.”



Anamaria Bentea

Linguistics, started her fellowship in August 2022.

Project

“Cross-linguistic influence in multilingual children and adults: evidence from the real-time processing of Romanian wh-questions”

Anamaria completed her doctoral degree in General Linguistics at the University of Geneva. During her doctoral degree, she also spent a year as visiting doctoral student in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Maryland.

After completing her doctoral degree, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences of the University of Reading. “Here I had the opportunity to start a research programme in bilingual language acquisition thanks, in part, to a fellowship awarded by the Swiss National Science Foundation,” Anamaria reports. “I recently joined the Department of Linguistics at the University of Konstanz as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, and I am continuing to work on language acquisition and processing in multilingual speakers.”

Her research project at the Zukunftskolleg tackles a central question in the field of multilingualism concerning the nature and the extent of cross-linguistic influence, that is, whether the various languages that a person is acquiring or speaking influence each other in a significant way. “Specifically, it investigates the development of the first (heritage) language in speakers with a migration background and the impact that the dominant (societal) language has on heritage language outcomes, as these have been shown to be highly heterogeneous,” she explains. “The project thus aims to break new ground in our understanding of how the societal language interacts with and shapes the real-time comprehension and production of the heritage language in child and adult multilingual speakers. In doing so, the project focuses on Romanian as heritage language and compares the acquisition and processing of complex syntactic structures across various multilingual groups in Germany, the UK and Romania. To this end, the project uses (i) visual world eye-tracking tasks to investigate online sentence comprehension as well as (ii) sentence production tasks in the heritage language. The systematic comparison across different groups of multilinguals makes it possible to determine whether the presence (or absence) of similar linguistic properties in the majority language facilitates (or delays) the acquisition of the same properties in the heritage language. Therefore, if any differences emerge in the way the various bilingual groups comprehend or produce the heritage language, then these differences can be attributed to cross-linguistic influence from the majority language. The findings of the project can thus have important implications for theoretical models of bi/multilingual syntactic processing as they can shed light on how cross-linguistic influence might impact the cognitive mechanisms that implement grammatical operations (e.g. whether grammatical rules or constraints are represented independently or jointly for each language). Moreover, the project will have practical implications for heritage language teaching and, more broadly, for foreign language teaching. Understanding what aspects of heritage language development are affected by the dominant societal language can help develop teaching methods and materials which facilitate their acquisition in the heritage language.”



Philipp di Dio

Mathematics and Statistics, is the last of the new Research Fellows from the 15th call for applications. He started his fellowship in March 2022.

Project

“Time-Dependent Moments”

Philipp completed his doctoral degree at the University of Leipzig and the Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences, Leipzig, under the supervision of Professor Konrad Schmüdgen in the field of the (truncated) moment problem with an emphasis on functional analytic aspects. His doctoral degree was funded by a scholarship of the Max Planck Institute and the German Research Foundation.

After his doctoral degree, he continued his research with Konrad Schmüdgen at the University of Leipzig for a short time. He then joined Mario Kummer at the Technical University of Berlin to continue working on the (truncated) moment problem and intensifying his algebraic perspective in this field. After that, he moved to Toulouse, France, to join the Laboratoire d'analyse et d'architecture des systèmes (LAAS-CNRS) under the supervision of Victor Magron, Milan Kordán and Jean-Bernard Lasserre in order to intensify his computational understanding of the moment problem.

“Moments appear in different aspects of our everyday lives, e.g. in physics and engineering as the moments of inertia or rotation, in statistics as expectation values or in image processing in medicine (MRI),” says Philipp, explaining the focus of his research project. “In my project, I want to investigate time-dependent moments of distributions (functions) from partial differential equations (PDE). Recently, moment problem implementations have shown the usefulness of finding solutions for PDEs. I have extended the moment problem in a systematic and general way to derivatives of moments and proved the existence of solutions for a PDE. Both methods (the moment theoretic and the PDE methods) will be combined in this project to improve the theoretical foundation of moment problem implementations for PDEs.”

Apart from his research, Philipp likes the opera and classical music, contemporary and modern art – he paints himself, as well as gardening, plants and nature – when hiking, climbing, cycling or visiting the Mainau Island.

Senior Follows

Senior Fellows are established guest scholars from the natural sciences, humanities or social sciences who join the Zukunftskolleg for a research stay and work with the Fellows.



Nathaniel Dominy

Anthropology, Dartmouth College, USA – joined the Zukunftskolleg in June 2022.

Project

“Using primate population genetics to map ancient trade routes”

Fellow host: Gisela Kopp

Nathaniel J. Dominy is Charles Hansen Professor of Anthropology and Biological Sciences at Dartmouth College. His training includes degrees from Johns Hopkins University (BA, 1998) and the University of Hong Kong (doctorate, 2001) as well as a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago (2002–04). His research programme focuses on the ecology and evolution of primates, with a particular focus on food detection, acquisition and assimilation. His ultimate motivation is to unravel key transitions during human evolution through the prism of feeding behaviours and mechanics. Nathaniel Dominy is a Senior Fellow in the Dartmouth Society of Fellows and an elected Fellow (and council delegate) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Nathaniel Dominy is delighted to join the (academic) staff and students at the Zukunftskolleg, where he is collaborating with Gisela Kopp. Their project centres on the commercial trade and transshipment of baboons in antiquity and the origins of economic globalization.



Alexander Etkind

History, European University Institute, Florence, Italy – joined the Zukunftskolleg in April 2022

Project

“Surviving the Anthropocene: The Political Economy of Coloniality of Virtual Space”

Fellow host: Gruia Badescu

In his most recent book, “Nature’s Evil: A Cultural History of Natural Resources” (2021), Alexander Etkind examines the history of extracting and trading resources. He also discusses the perspectives of humanity facing climate catastrophe. In his analysis of state and economic power, Etkind argues that it is not the powerful who control the resources, but the resources that control the powerful. This is a key element in his discussion of climate change. Beyond his work on Russia and the theory of memory, Professor Etkind’s work responds to many of the research interests at the Zukunftskolleg, and particularly to the theme of sustainability. Discussing his vision for his time at the Zukunftskolleg, Alexander Etkind outlined his plan to develop a thread that came from this research into a new project. The theme is virtual space as a resource, testing his key tenets from his self-colonization book with the discussion of political economy of resources and exploring the relationship between digital space and survival in the age of the Anthropocene.



James Higham

Anthropology, New York University, USA – joined the Zukunftscolleg in June 2022.

Project

“Expanding baboon studies in Konstanz via new collaborations”

Fellow host: Gisela Kopp

James Higham is Professor of Biological Anthropology at New York University. He works on the biology of primates, especially African and Asian monkeys, such as macaques, baboons, drills and guenons. While at the Zukunftscolleg, he was co-organizing a workshop and a resulting manuscript on the topic of the “Sensory ecology of collective behaviour” and collaborating with Gisela Kopp on exploring the genetics of Kinda baboons.



Eric Lott

English and American Studies, City University New York Graduate Center, USA – joined the Zukunftscolleg in May 2022.

Project

“If Hooks Could Kill: Urban Soundscapes; and Marx in Texas: Slavery, Capital, and the „Revolutionary Turn”

Eric Lott is seen as a towering figure in the field of American Studies: his work “Love and Theft: Blackface Minstrelsy and the American Working Class” has become a touchstone for recent generations of scholars on matters of popular culture, race and class in the nineteenth-century United States, music and performance, and archival methodologies.

Fellow host: Jacob Bloomfield

Report on his stay at the Zukunftscolleg in 2022:

“I have continued to work on the material I presented in talks at the Zukunftscolleg and the Centre for Cultural Inquiry on Marx and the politics of the Civil War in the US; on the continuing history of blackface and racial politics, which never seems to die; and on politics and popular music. On the latter in particular, Jacob has been a great interlocutor and resource; we try to outdo each other with insights, backstories and research finds, which is both fun and productive. It’s been a pleasure to work with him through his various manuscript preparations and publication protocols.”



Amanda Melin

Biological Anthropology, University of Calgary, Canada – joined the Zukunftscolleg in June 2022.

Project

“Enhancing methods and theory in primate genomics and foraging decisions”

Fellow host: Gisela Kopp

Amanda Melin is a Canada Research Chair and an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Calgary, Canada. She studies the molecular, behavioural and dietary ecology of primates and other mammals in order to understand how sensory systems evolve and how animals respond to changing environments over evolutionary time and over the course of their lifetimes. Dr Melin is a co-director of the Santa Rosa Primate Project in north-western Costa Rica and in charge of the primate molecular ecology laboratory at the University of Calgary. As a Senior Fellow at the Zukunftscolleg, she is collaborating with Gisela Kopp in order to increase the breadth and scope of non-invasive genomics applications in field biology and co-organizing a workshop on the sensory ecology of collective behaviour.



Hari Sridhar

Artist in Residence / Department of Biology, National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, India – joined the Zukunftscolleg in November 2021.

Project

“Naeem revisits Naeem et al. 1994: Reading between the lines of a scientific paper”

Fellow host: Gisela Kopp

Report on his stay at the Zukunftscolleg in 2021:

“I was fortunate enough to be supported by the Zukunftscolleg through two Senior Fellowships. I took up the first, between October 2020 and April 2021, remotely from India, on account of the pandemic. Then, during November-December 2021, I also spent time in-person at the Zukunftscolleg in Konstanz. The Zukunftscolleg’s support was critical to enabling me to make substantial progress on a book manuscript (commissioned by Cambridge University Press) that looks at stories behind famous scientific papers in ecology and evolution. I also used this time to work on an invited paper from The American Naturalist that synthesizes learning from the project and to conceptualize a digital exhibit that highlights the contrast between the writing and doing of science (which is supported by a Zukunftscolleg co-funding grant). The fellowship also gave me the opportunity to present and discuss my work, remotely, at the Zukunftscolleg, the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour and the Department of Biology of the University of Konstanz. Although the pandemic limited the opportunities for in-person meetings during my visit to Konstanz, I still managed a few valuable discussions of my project with Gisela Kopp, Giovanni Galizia, Gruia Badescu, Jolle Jolles and Graham Underwood from the Zukunftscolleg, as well as Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin and Iain Couzin from the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour.

I would like to use this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to a number of people who helped in making this fellowship possible and enjoyable in difficult times: Gisela Kopp, Giovanni Galizia, Anda Lohan, Michael Krause, Daniela Kromrey and Sigrid Elmer. I very much look forward to coming back to the Zukunftscolleg sometime.”



Babu Thaliath

Department of Philosophy, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Centre of German Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India – joined the ZukunftsKolleg in June 2021.

Project

“The Historicity of Axioms. The historicizing effect of mathematical formalism on the axiomatization of early modern sciences.”

Fellow host: Carolin Antos-Kuby

Report on his stay at the ZukunftsKolleg in 2021/2022:

“As a Senior Fellow at the ZukunftsKolleg in Konstanz, I chiefly worked on a research project in the field of theoretical philosophy and philosophy of science with the general topic: **The Historicity of Axioms. The historicizing effect of mathematical formalism on the axiomatization of early modern sciences.** I was able to develop some of the important theoretical foundations in a research paper, a short monograph written during a fellowship in Cambridge (July-October 2019) with the title: *Vom Aufspüren der Axiome. Die Epistemisch-Strukturelle Intuition und das moderne Wissenssystem* (Karl Alber Verlag Freiburg, 2021).

My research at the ZukunftsKolleg mainly investigated the historical influence of the mathematical formalism on the axiomatization of early modern mathematical sciences, especially mechanics. Dr Carolin Antos, junior professor and fellow at the ZukunftsKolleg, who works on axiomatic set theory in her research, agreed to support my fellowship as host at the ZukunftsKolleg. The research collaboration with Dr Antos gave me adequate opportunity to become more familiar with the interdisciplinary nature of research at the ZukunftsKolleg – i.e. between philosophy and mathematics with regard to its theoretical-axiomatic foundations and their historical development. Through this fellowship, I could establish sustainable research collaborations with the ZukunftsKolleg and the faculties of the University of Konstanz – especially in the areas of theory of science and philosophy.

I had the opportunity to present and discuss my research on various occasions at the University of Konstanz, such as the lecture in the seminar on “Emergence of Limit. Revisiting the Foundations of Infinitesimal Calculus”, my official talk at the *Jour fixe* on “The Epistemic-Structural Intuition” as well as a lecture in the postgraduate colloquium of the Art History section on “Die ikonische Retention der Zeit. Reflektionen zur Filmästhetik Andrei Tarkovskys”. The Department of Literature, Arts and Media Studies invited me to give a seminar at their session at the European Parliament. In a half-day seminar, I was able to discuss the shared history of India and Europe in the early modern period (16-17th century) with the students and doctoral researchers.”



Graham Underwood

Biology, School of Life Sciences, University of Essex, UK – joined the ZukunftsKolleg in June 2021.

Project

“Investigating the role of light and endogenous rhythms on the motility behaviour of benthic diatoms”

Fellow host: Bernard Lepetit

Report on his stay at the ZukunftsKolleg in 2021/2022:

“I am a marine and freshwater biologist, with a strong ecological focus to my research. I was looking for a period of time away from my home institution, where I could really focus on learning new techniques and approaches and building a set of collaborations to develop my research interests on marine diatoms, an important group of single-celled algae. Professor Peter Kroth’s research group and the diatom photophysiology expertise of ZuKo fellow Dr Bernard Lepetit made the University of Konstanz an ideal choice. I was also attracted to the concept and environment of the ZukunftsKolleg.

Our research project was successful, with new and novel data generated on the movement behaviour of marine diatoms to gradients in intensity of different wavelengths (=colours) of light and the cell’s corresponding adjustments to their photophysiology (i.e. how much photosynthesis they are doing) and their use of photoprotective mechanisms. We completed the work by running experiments to look at the expression of different sets of genes in the cells in order to see if we could identify key molecular controls on movement, photosynthesis and internal control mechanisms. These data are still being processed. All these data will be written up as scientific papers and form the basis of a future joint grant application.

Working and living in Konstanz was really wonderful, and I left feeling intellectually refreshed. The ZuKo environment was very stimulating. Meeting the other Fellows and Senior Fellows and hearing about their research was fascinating, and the support of the team at the ZukunftsKolleg was outstanding. I was co-hosted within Kroth’s biology group. I enjoyed learning from as well as mentoring/supporting the postdoctoral candidates, doctoral researchers and master’s students in the group, including supervising a bachelor’s dissertation student, who made a significant contribution to my ZuKo research project and will be included as an author in the papers we will write.

During my time in Konstanz, in addition to the laboratory work mentioned above, I completed a reviewed book chapter on “EPS production in benthic diatoms”, which will be published in the volume “Diatom Photosynthesis – From High Value Molecules to Primary Production” in 2023, and submitted an EU Horizon Europe proposal (REWRITE: rewilding coastal soft sediment ecosystems). Currently, this proposal is ranked second in the call and on the reserve list for funding, and I obtained a project grant (€5,000) from the British Phycological Society to support the sequencing of our diatom transcriptome material.

The ZukunftsKolleg model and its Senior Fellowship programme are really very special and, coupled with the excellent support and wider facilities at the University for me and my wife, contributed to making our stay in Konstanz very memorable. Vielen Dank!”

Associated Follows

Associated Fellows of the Zukunftscolleg are project staff, doctoral researchers and external cooperation partners of the Fellows and Senior Fellows. Associated Fellowships are granted for the duration of one year on application only. Beneficiaries of the Zukunftscolleg's funding programmes or members of the University of Konstanz whose field of work is related to that of the research units represented in the Zukunftscolleg can also apply for an Associated Fellowship.

The current Associated Fellows (who joined the Zukunftscolleg in 2021/2022) are:



Ana del Arco

Biology, Limnological Institute, Associated Fellow since 11/2021

Research project

“Microbial-mediated protection against virus infections”

Funded by: Independent Research Grant

Microbe-host association is a defence strategy against pathogens; it is widespread and found from unicellular organisms to humans. Focusing on host-virus interactions and associated microbes interfering with virus replication, we found virophages. Virophages are virus-dependent, meaning virophage replication depends on their parasitism on virus virion production to make their own virions. Consequently, virus production decreases or is inhibited, which leads to a higher survival in host populations. My aim with the Independent Research Grant is to study the role of the virophage as a protective microbe against virus infections.



Felix Hamborg

Computer and Information Science, Associated Fellow since 12/2021

Research project

“Analysis of media bias in news articles using natural language processing (NLP) and deep learning”

Funded by: Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects Programme

Much research in the social sciences relies heavily on manual annotation, e.g. of textual documents such as party manifestos or news articles. And for good reason because only humans can reliably recognize subtle nuances in texts and read between the lines. However, these analyses are fairly costly and can take considerable time since they are conducted manually. This talk will give an overview of our previous and future research on making these analyses more efficient by using state-of-the-art natural language processing techniques, such as BERT. Specifically, we will summarize our prior work on the automated identification of media bias in news articles. We will then outline our current research project, in part funded by the Zukunftscolleg, which will extend our approach to further use cases in social science research.



Mohsen Jenadeleh

Computer and Information Science, Associated Fellow since 12/2021

Research project

“Visually lossless compression for JND-based video quality assessment using crowdsourcing”

Funded by: Independent Research Grant

In this project, in addition to conducting laboratory experiments on subjective perception to estimate the JND for images and videos, he and his group evaluate the feasibility of replacing time-consuming and expensive traditional human-centred subjective testing in the laboratory with a scalable, faster and cheaper crowdsourcing alternative. They adapt distortion boosting techniques, such as flickering between the source and distorted videos, to increase the sensitivity and precision in estimating the just-noticeable difference (JND) threshold. They conduct user studies in the laboratory environment using a set of videos with resolutions of 3840x2160 and 1920x1080 as well as their cropped versions with a resolution of 640x480 pixels to subjectively estimate the JND of each stimulus when compressed with different video compression codecs such as H.264/AVC and H.266/VVC. They also conduct user studies by crowdsourcing the cropped stimuli at 640x480 resolution to investigate how crowdsourcing would replicate the JND data obtained in laboratory experiments.



Liliana Abreu

Politics and Public Administration, Associated Fellow since 05/2022

Research project

“Global mental health in post-conflict regions”

Funded by: Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching Programme

Her research interests broadly focus on global health policies, development and social epidemiology, by looking at measures at individual level (e.g. poverty, literacy, education), along with contextual factors (e.g. violence, gender inequality, health systems and access to health care), and studying the impact on health and mental health. She tries to look at disease and health from a social science perspective aimed at the role of social factors as causes of excessive morbidity and mortality, with a special focus on middle- and low-income countries. Her focus is on the interplay between poverty, violence and disease, and the evaluation of the impact and sustainability of interventions (such as narrative exposure therapy or specific health policies) to promote health, namely aspects of mental health, trauma and gender equality.



Ana Isabel López García

Politics and Public Administration, Associated Fellow since 07/2021

Research project

“Migration, tax evasion and bribery – evidence from a conjoint experiment in Mexico”

Funded by: Independent Research Grant

The research project examines how emigration and remittances influence individual tolerance of bribery and tax evasion. Her interest in studying this topic stems from her previous research on the developmental consequences of international migration in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. Although extant research has identified a variety of factors contributing to the prevalence of bribery and tax evasion in these societies, the influence of international migration in producing these challenges is less clear. In this study, she aims to understand under what conditions some individuals – yet not others – are more likely to tolerate bribery and tax evasion and whether those exposed to international migration are distinct from other individuals in these types of attitudes.



Caterina Moruzzi

Department of Philosophy, Associated Fellow since 11/2021

Research project 1

“The Role of Embodiment in the Perception of Human and Artificial Creativity”

Funded by: Intersectoral Cooperation Programme

In this project, in collaboration with Laura Herman (Oxford Internet Institute and Adobe Research) and Aaron Hertzmann (Adobe Research), academic research and the creative technology industry join forces to better understand what artists working with AI technology should do in order to communicate and present their creative processes and products. In particular, they are interested in answering the question of how artists’ embodiment affects the perception of the creative process they perform. In July 2022, they organized a workshop within the International Conference on Computational Creativity 2022, in which they explored the impact of embodiment on the perception of creativity through a combination of performances by the digital illustrator Renaud Chabrier and the artist Daniel Berio, who works with generative methods and contributions from researchers interested in the role of embodiment in the judgement of the aesthetic value of an artefact and in the evaluation of the creativity of the process behind its creation (workshop website: lauramariahherman.wixsite.com/workshopiccc22). During the performances, they carried out a survey where they tested the participants’ perception of embodiment and the creativity of the artistic processes performed by the two artists. The results of this survey were published in the workshop proceedings.



Andreas Spitz

Computer and Information Science, Associated Fellow since 08/2021 / Junior Professor for Data and Information Mining

Research project

“Corpus Exploration at Scale Using Contextual Implicit Entity Networks”

Funded by: Independent Research Grant

In the humanities and social sciences, the analysis and exploration of an ever-increasing amount of unstructured or semi-structured document collections are of central importance to researchers. Frequently, (named) entities, such as persons or locations, play a key role in the discovery of implicit relations between the contents of the documents and thus serve as natural entry points to a detailed manual analysis. To assist in these analyses, implicit entity-centric networks have been proposed as a language model that represents document collections as a co-occurrence network of entities and terms and thereby enables the visual exploration of corpora. In this project, we develop a versatile web application that enables researchers to upload, manage and explore document collections using implicit entity networks, even without programming expertise.

Research project 2

“The Present and Future of AI Research”

Funded by: Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching Programme

In this project, in collaboration with Junior Professor Diego Frassinelli from the Department of Linguistics, an advanced seminar was organized which combined extensive work by the students with presentations and discussions by speakers and experts in various AI-related topics. Its structure was innovative and dynamic. During the semester, the students conducted research on the various topics of the course by reading and discussing papers and other materials available online. In this preparation phase, the students also participated in a one-day workshop led by Tanja Hess on how to design and present a research poster. On 28 July, the students attended a one-day, conference-like event with presentations by experts in a variety of AI topics and were responsible for organizing a panel discussion with questions from the students and the general audience. Moreover, they presented the posters prepared during the semester. Workshop website: sites.google.com/view/ai-konstanz/home



Mikhail Volkov

Physics, Associated Fellow since 05/2022

Research project

“Structural dynamics of chemically engineered 2D materials”

Funded by: Independent Research Grant

Since the discovery of graphene, two-dimensional (2D) materials have been in the focus of solid-state physics and materials science. MXenes are novel metallic 2D materials produced by a scalable, top-down chemical exfoliation, with superior performance in environmental and energy-related applications. In this project, we use ultrafast electron diffraction to investigate the structural dynamics of MXenes on fundamental time and length scales in order to understand the nature of electronic and heat transport in these technologically promising materials.

ZUKOnnect & Herz Fellows

The Zukunftskolleg Konnect Fellowships support early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America who are associated with one of the thirteen departments at the University of Konstanz. ZUKOnnect Fellows can use this time to extend their research networks and familiarize themselves with the research environment at the University of Konstanz while keeping their position at home.

The following ZUKOnnect and Herz Fellows joined the Zukunftskolleg on 1 July 2022 virtually for one year. They are on campus for three to four months from the autumn of 2022 onwards:



Deepanshu Bhatt

Chemistry, ZUKOnnect Fellow since 08/2022, Doctoral candidate from India, Local host: Helmut Cölfen

Research project

“Electrochemically active, luminescent and biocompatible Polymer@Metal-Organic Framework Composites for potential biosensor applications”

Due to the surging demand for point-of-care devices and significant technological uplift biosensors have gained a great deal of attention in the field of sensing. Being compact, fast responsive, and highly specific it has proven to be an effective tool in the sensing of various biological analytes. Deepanshu Bhatt’s research interest includes the usage of lectin-carbohydrate interaction for the fabrication of microbial biosensors. He is working on the topics of electrochemical and optical detections of nosocomial infection causing bacteria *P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli* using the sugar conjugated Metal organic frameworks. MOF is a hybrid material consisting of the linkage of the metal ion with an organic bridging ligand through coordination bonds having optical, electronic, and magnetic properties with tunable porosity and large surface area. Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) have rapidly emerged as important multifunctional mesoporous materials and works as a transducer in biosensor. He is an active researcher and contributes to various lab projects and as well helps fellow colleagues. He has good basic knowledge of nanomaterial synthesis and analytical instrumentation.



JinKiong Ling

Physics, Herz Fellow since 07/2022, Doctoral candidate from Malaysia
Local host: Lukas Schmidt-Mende

Research project

“Polymer-embedded Metal Halide Perovskites for Enhanced Stability of Blue Light Emitting Diode”

Metal halide perovskites (MHP) have attracted tremendous attention in photovoltaic devices and light emitting diodes (PeLEDs) owing to their low-cost solution processing and excellent optoelectronic properties. PeLEDs showing infrared, red and green emission demonstrate external quantum efficiencies (EQEs) over 20%. However, the EQE of blue PeLEDs is significantly lower (~5.5%) due to a defect density in blue emitters. Besides that, the blue emitter also shows phase segregation due to migration of ions, generating defect states and thereby leading to poor spectral stability. Further improvement in efficiency and stability of blue PeLEDs requires inhibition of ion migration and effective defect passivation. Here, we propose embedding MHP with long chain polymers, such as polyvinylpyrrolidone and ethyl cellulose, to improve moisture-sensitive MHPs, inhibit ion migration and improve defect intolerance of (Cs/MA)Pb(Br/Cl)-based blue PeLEDs. Polymer embedment in the bulk of MHPs would favour the formation of smaller grain size, which can enhance carrier capture efficiency and thus the EQE.



Emma Mavodza

History and Sociology, ZUKOnnect Fellow since 07/2022, Doctoral candidate from Zimbabwe, Local host: Boris Holzer

Research project

“Digital financial service innovation for inclusion of women in the Global South: Examining mobile money use in Eswatini’s traditional informal markets in Manzini”

The project explores the impact of the use of mobile money (a form of digital financial service innovation) on the financial inclusion of women in traditional informal markets in Manzini, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland). I examine how the women’s daily and mundane financial practices affect how they perceive, adopt and use mobile money in ways that link it to their cultures, traditions, taboos, kinships and relationships (Kusimba et al. 2015) as opposed to the rhetoric of the financial inclusion agenda. While it is partly true that the intensification of digital money is reinventing the “social” and is reinvented by it in return by inserting sociality at par with market relations, conceptually, the extent to which this social character of money is represented in new digital currencies like mobile money is less understood specifically in informal settings. Important to note is that dominant discourses have focused on mobile money’s promise to expand financial inclusion (Beck, et al, 2007; Anderlone and Vandone, 2010; Dermiguc-Kunt et al, 2018) through bringing the untapped market segments into mainstream finance, as if the state of exclusion and lack of service thereof is a natural state in these communities. But this political process of banking the unbanked has failed to take into consideration the lived experiences of the local and the created nature of exclusion as its guiding principle, thereby undermining the potential of studying the social life of such initiatives as mobile money in heterogeneous contexts. This study therefore takes the women’s experiences as its starting point in order to understand financial inclusion from their perspective, as mobile money generates new kinds of social and economic opportunity and vulnerability as well as a way of overcoming the constraints of time and space.



Diego Fabián Morales Navarrete

Biology, Herz Fellow since 07/2022, Postdoctoral researcher from Chile
Local host: Patrick Müller

Research project

“Cell signalling data mapping into cell trajectories from live imaging”

Understanding how cell signalling and tissue morphodynamics are coupled during embryogenesis is still an open question in developmental biology. Cell signalling and reaction-diffusion models have been extensively used to understand self-regulated pattern formation during embryonic development. However, due to the lack of experimental tools to simultaneously visualize tissue dynamics (i.e. cell movements) and signalling in vivo, these studies are restricted to time scales in which tissue morphodynamics can be neglected. To overcome this need, we propose developing a novel mathematical model that can estimate activation levels of different signalling pathways with high spatio-temporal resolution during early zebrafish development. Briefly, signalling data (i.e. extracted from immunostained fixed embryos) will be sparsely mapped into single cell trajectories from live imaging experiments (i.e. SPIM microscopy images). A statistical model based on random fields and an optimal linear predictor will then be used to generate a continuous description of the signalling activation levels over time and space. The model will be applied to study some of the most important signalling pathways active during early zebrafish development, such as Nodal, BMP and FGF.



Angelo Javier Neira Albornoz

Computer and Information Science, ZUKOnnect Fellow (funded by Manfred Ulmer Fellowship) since 07/2022, Doctoral candidate from Chile, Local host: Andreas Spitz

Research project

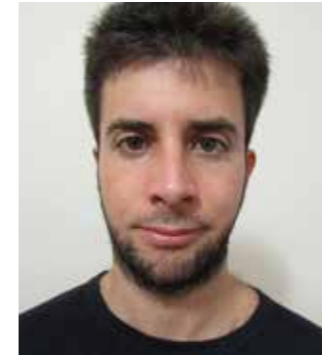
“Development of continuous improvement QSAR models to predict sorption of organic pesticides in soils at field conditions”

To reduce the economic cost and accelerate environmental decision-making in soil pollution, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) proposed the use of Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR) models that predict sorption coefficients using molecular descriptors of different organic pollutants to describe their environmental fate in soils. In my research, I generated QSAR models, including pedodiversity and science policy interaction, analyzed reliability and applicability in specific environmental contexts and detected three problems preventing representative prediction:

- (i) QSAR are reductionistic tools based only on molecular properties of pollutants, but soils are complex systems that require pedological and climatic information on different spatial and time scales to improve predictivity,
- (ii) the lack of consensus in literature makes the detection and validation of causal relationships difficult, and
- (iii) the information is heterogeneous due to the diversity of assumptions and methodologies to define sorption coefficients and select potentially relevant soil pollutant properties.

This work investigates possible solutions by answering the following open questions:

- 1) To what extent can we simplify the environmental dynamics of organic pollutants in soils?
- 2) Can we detect and estimate the causal relationships between endpoint and descriptors?
- 3) Can we extract reliable information from current soil sorption studies?



Pedro Panhoca Silva

Literature, Art and Media, Herz Fellow since 07/2022, Postdoctoral researcher from Brazil, Local host: Barbara Feichtinger

Research project

“Studying literary adaptation for the gamebook format. The case of Apuleius’ Metamorphoses”

This project aims to study literary adaptation for the gamebook format. To this end, it will create a gamebook adaptation inspired by Metamorphoses by Apuleius (c. 125 – c.170), written in English. Concomitantly with the rewriting and improvement of this interactive text, we seek to reflect on what new perspectives a classic text can gain through literary adaptation for the interactive gamebook format and in what way. Huizinga (1971) and Caillois (1990) will be authors used to explain the concept of game; Iser (1996, 1999, 2002, 2013) will be chosen regarding the type of game promoted by literature itself; Silva (2019), finally, will explain what a gamebook is. In a short time, the project will present the hypothesis that gamebooks coming from literary adaptations may contribute to the diffusion of literary works through their adaptation, e.g. the new version of Metamorphoses, the first gamebook created from a text originally written in Latin. To conclude, this project will result in the most in-depth study ever done with gamebooks, which may bring this textual hybrid closer to academic studies.



Kanuengnit Wayo

Biology, ZUKOnnect Fellow since 07/2022, Doctoral candidate from Thailand, Local host: Mark van Kleunen

Research project

“Introduced plant-pollinator interactions across a gradient of anthropogenic landscapes”

Plant-pollinator interactions are important, as flowering plants require pollinators for pollination and most pollinators rely on angiosperms for food resources. Apart from native plants, introduced plants may be key food resources for pollinators. Understanding the potential value of introduced plants to pollinators is urgently needed. However, introduced plants which are more attractive and may have larger flowers or more flowers per plant can outcompete native plants for pollinators. Little is known about introduced plant-pollinator interactions across anthropogenic landscapes, particularly in tropical orchards. Hence, information about which pollinators forage on introduced plants and how landscape composition influences plant diversity in tropical orchards is important for habitat management and pollinator conservation. This project aims (1) to assess introduced plant diversity in tropical orchards, (2) to identify key floral traits of introduced plants based on available taxonomic databases and published studies, (3) to construct pollination networks between introduced plants and pollinators, and (4) to examine whether anthropogenic landscapes (proportions of surrounding agricultural and urbanized cover) affect the number of introduced plant species in tropical orchards.



Yuqi Zou

Biology, Herz Fellow since 07/2022, Postdoctoral researcher from China, Local hosts: Iain Couzin/ Michael Griesser

Research project

“The fitness consequences of collective coordination during predator mobbing”

During the Herz Fellowship, Yuqi Zou will focus on collective predator mobbing. In social animals, collective decisions are a vital part of their daily live, including moving about and antipredator defence. Birds give diverse mobbing calls, presumably to recruit others and to coordinate collective predator mobbing. Individuals and groups likely vary in their collective decision-making during mobbing, but this aspect remains unexplored. The project will be carried out under the supervision of Dr Michael Griesser and Professor Iain Couzin.

Research Visit Fellows

Research Visits are intended to enhance international research cooperation and to support international mobility. The Zukunftskolleg provides funding for Research Visits for international early career researchers (Invited Research Visits), Research Visits for international early career researchers from partner research institutions (Network Research Visits) and Research Visits for Zukunftskolleg Fellows (Outgoing Research Visits). The duration of a Research Visit in either direction should range from one to three months.



Ekaterina Mikhailova

Politics and Public Administration, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland, Local host: Nihan Toprakkiran

Research project

“European Border Twin Cities under Strain of Migration before and during COVID-19: Responses by Civil Society and Political Actors”

The project surveys attitudes to migration among NGOs and political actors in twin cities in Europe. Local political actors, on the one hand, appeal to their electorate and, on the other hand, to higher level politicians and to a lesser extent address migrants themselves. NGOs, on the contrary, primarily target migrants – both transient flows and those who have settled down locally – and the receiving community. Finally, more often than not there is a dialogue between NGOs and political actors involved in migrant processing and integration that influences collective narratives portraying migrants either as a local hazard or a resource.

Two twin city pairs – Nikel and Kirkenes on the Russian-Norwegian border and Konstanz-Kreuzlingen on the German-Swiss border – have been selected for a comparative analysis of their capacity for and experience in migrant processing and integration before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the findings will be discussed in the context of the fear of competition for scarce welfare resources.



Paula Tesche

Literature & Linguistics, Austral University of Chile
Local host: Gruiá Badescu

Research project

“Memories of the resistance to the catastrophe in the city of Concepción, Chile”

The macro objective of this project is to re-evaluate the socio-political catastrophe of the military coup (1973) and the dictatorship (1973-1990) in Chile from the vantage point of the present by examining the transmission and memory of these acts 50 years after they occurred. The focus is the urban memory of these events through this study of the places of memory in the city of Concepción, Biobío region, Chile, thus embracing a regional approach (Cavieres, 2006) to the memories of the political resistance (Tesche, González, 2019b).

How to support scholars at risk?



Story with digital content

The fellows of the Zukunftskolleg stand in solidarity with their fellow researchers in Ukraine who are suffering from the war and with those who oppose the war in Russia who are suffering from state repression. The fellows are horrified and shocked, and they condemn the Russian leadership's war of aggression. Both the members of the Zukunftskolleg and the Zukunftskolleg as an institution offer affected researchers the best support they can: in kind, through offers such as office space or private accommodation, or financial support, including temporary fellowships. They coordinate their efforts with the university (uni-konstanz.de/en/university/news-and-media/topics-of-focus/solidarity-with-ukraine/uni-konstanz-helps-ukraine/informal-support-network/) and with their national and international partners. Initiated by the fellows of the Zukunftskolleg, the University of Konstanz has established a network of informal/non-financial support – ranging from tandem partnerships, scholarships and job offers to office space – for refugee students and researchers from Ukraine – to which every person at the university can contribute. Moreover, in March 2022, the Zukunftskolleg launched a new call for applications for Visiting Fellowships, which was open to early career researchers in Ukraine threatened by the current war (“scholars at risk”). The postdoctoral stipends for up to six months were awarded on a rolling basis. The “Politics of Inequality” cluster is supporting this endeavour by currently funding two out of twelve Visiting Fellowships.

The following seven Visiting Fellows joined the Zukunftskolleg between May and July 2022. Further five Visiting Fellows that joined the Zukunftskolleg in autumn 2022 will be presented in the next annual report.



Hanna Klipkova

Politics and Public Administration, Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations, International Information and Security at Kharkiv Karazin National University, Visiting Fellow since 05/2022 funded by the Cluster of Excellence „The Politics of Inequality“

Project

“The Impact of the War on State-Institutional Building Processes in Ukraine”

The Russian invasion in February 2022 raised new challenges for researchers in post-Soviet states. One could consider the post-Soviet state as a specific type of state that cannot be described just as a transition stage from the authoritarian regime to the democratic one. We propose to consider the post-Soviet state as a self-sufficient phenomenon and research instrument for trajectories of political regimes and state institutions. The post-Soviet state can be described as a stable constellation of formal and informal state and political institutes. Instead of being a temporary frame for describing transition, the post-Soviet state emerged as a new, relatively sustained type of state with its own arsenal of governing techniques. More than 30 years of state-building in Ukraine, like in other post-Soviet countries, seems to have brought unsuccessful results. The outcomes of democracy, sovereignty and the whole political system were qualified in terms of neopatrimonialism (Fisun 2016, Hale 2016) and explained with the low quality of the institutional system. The lack of mature and legitimate institutions for the circulation of elites, institutional imbalances in the state power system and an undeveloped party system led to structural defects in political governance and to inversions of its political transformation. The post-Soviet type of state is characterized by the emergence of Soviet and Western liberal state systems. The socialist legacy remained partly destroyed, while the new liberal economy and state models were not implemented completely. This symbiosis created a specific destructive, but viable state-institutional system. At its core lies neopatrimonialism with the profit-seeking behaviour of elites, the emergence of authorities and business groups, using the state's capacity in private interests and patron-client networks as the dominant principle of political market organization. Neopatrimonialism can be considered as a state capture problem, as privatization of the public policy sphere. There is a dominance of informal institutions hidden behind the facades of formal but incapable institutions. When it comes to further post-conflict reconstruction, there is no doubt that the war will have a strong influence on the nation-building process. Ukrainian society nowadays demonstrates a new level of consolidation. All social and political cleavages have the opportunity to be repaired by the powerful rise of national unity. The theory tells us that the war can create a state and support nation-building processes. There is an opportunity to trace this hypothesis. It seemed impossible in the 21st century, but the crisis in the global security system has brought it back into the centre of the political discourse. History demonstrates that large-scale wars can enhance or even create nations. And for political scientists, the key question will be whether Ukraine is able to build a capable political-institutional system after the war? Will it follow the Afghan failed-state scenario or will it give us a chance to use the war in terms of the Tillian perspective as the state-making driver? It will be the main post-conflict challenge for Ukrainian statehood.

The purpose of her research is to define possible trajectories of state-institutional system building after the greatest bifurcation point for the Ukrainian nation. There is a chance to rebuild the Ukrainian state on the new principles and to change the “path dependence” trap (Mahoney 2000). The most crucial point for the Ukrainian state after the war will therefore be how Ukraine can improve the quality of governance and avoid further corrosion of state capacity.

“Since my arrival at the Zukunftskolleg on 10 May, I’ve received tremendous support from the team as well as from other fellows. My current research is devoted to the post-conflict reconstruction of Ukraine. The focus of my research is state-institutional resilience in the post-war period. I’m very happy to have an opportunity to make my contribution to the possible reconstruction of my country. Apart from that, this project gives me an opportunity to proceed with my work as a researcher in these complicated times. I presented first outcomes of my research at the Jour fixe on 14 June. The fruitful discussion afterwards gave me great insights for further work. In addition, on 4 July I gave a project presentation for my local host professor Dr Nils Weidman and for the Research Group “Communication, Networks and Contention”. We already have some material to publish. Zukunftskolleg fellows are making a significant contribution to my research by sharing their experience in post-conflict reconstruction.”



Yeliena Kovalska

History and Sociology, Assistant at the Department of Methodology and Methods of Sociological Research, Faculty of Sociology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Visiting Fellow since 06/2022

Project

“Use of factorial design to determine the significance of personal social status characteristics (according to the adaptation of Warner’s Index of Status Characteristics for Ukraine)”

Methodological principles of the factorial design method (FD) were described by German sociologists Katrin Auspung and Thomas Hinz. According to “Factorial Survey Experiments” (2015), the FD method allows us to find both common social principles of judgements and differences of subgroups. Thus, the intention is to provide a deeper understanding of the principles of respondents’ judgements.

Combining the potential of the FD method with the possibilities of social status measuring methods has possible cognitive potential. Operationalization of social status in terms of FD provided characteristics for Ukraine - according to the adaptation of Warner’s Warner’s Index of Status. Ukrainian sociologist Yeliena Kovalska has adapted W. Warner’s index to the conditions of modern empirical research in Ukraine, using the example of Kyiv. It comprises a wide range of characteristics, but is also calculated by a formula that measures the individual weight of each component. These weights were proposed on the basis of an expert survey, but they should be verified in a national survey in order to measure the significance of the subjective social status characteristics.

All characteristics of the adapted index can be redesigned to factors and scales to levels. The factorial research method assumes the presence in the questionnaire of one or a set of specific questions, which are called “vignettes” and in which a certain situation is formulated from which the respondent needs to find a way out. As part of their work, they will create vignettes based on the above factors and levels of the adapted Warner index (in Kyiv). After the sample of vignettes is finalised, they will be distributed among the survey participants. There are many different ways to accomplish this, but Kovalska and her colleagues will use the R statistical environment. Web research is the planned method (using LimeSurvey).

“The Visiting Fellowship 1) allows me to avoid downtime in my career because the possibility to conduct empirical research in Ukraine remains questionable at the moment. Writing a doctoral thesis, as a development in my career, will allow me to continue scientific and teaching work in Ukraine at a new career level in the future, and 2) contributes to improving both the quality of the research work and deeper cooperation between European and Ukrainian colleagues through the exchange of research experience and involvement in the European sociological scientific discussion, and 3) supports the goal of Ukrainian sociology in the post-war period of becoming one of the areas of rebuilding society – highly qualified specialists in this field will be in high demand.”



Yaroslava Muravetska

Literature, Junior researcher in the Department of Theory of Literature, Taras Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Visiting Fellow since 04/2022

Project

“Cultural practices of anti-Soviet struggle”

One of the fronts of Russia’s war against Ukraine is ideological, which is largely related to the propaganda of the mythologized past of the Soviet Union. In fact, this discourse is based on opposite theses: on the one hand, the Soviet Union is interpreted as a union of fraternal nations, and, on the other hand, Russia’s supremacy is asserted. Consequently, the collapse of the Soviet Union is interpreted as a tragedy caused by the separation of the Ukrainian nation from Russia, and not as the liberation of Ukraine from occupation. Thus, Russia’s attack on Ukraine is interpreted as a war of “fraternal nations”. The purpose of this report is therefore firstly to record the fact of the Ukrainian nation’s struggle against the Soviet Union (using the information leaflets of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations (ABN) as an example) and secondly to interpret and analyze narratives of the ABN ideology, in particular to debunk the myth of “fraternal nations” and outline the imperial essence of both the Soviet Union and Russia.

“The Visiting Fellowship means a new step in my career. It’s a great possibility to connect with other researchers and to make my project more interdisciplinary.”



Tetyana Nikolaychuk

Economics, Junior research fellow in the Department of Economic Regulation and Management, Institute of Economic & Ecological Research of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
Visiting Fellow since 04/2022

Project

“Post-war sustainable development in Ukraine: Innovative economic and environmental activities (cybernetic planning and chess business modelling: new rules, new tools)”

The Russian military invasion of Ukraine has led to numerous transformations in the social, economic, political, ecological and regulatory field. The formation of effective main economic drivers in the post-war period is the key to restoring civil society institutions and the market economy in Ukraine.

The invasion means the destruction of existing markets, business collaborations and the formation of new vectors of military and civilian activities.

The study considers the economic and organizational feasibility and profitability of the post-war market. Chess business modelling will find the most available business options for entities and identify the side effects for society and the environment. Chess business modelling could also be used as a tool for dealing with institutional traps.

The aim of the study is to identify the main possible milestones related to the implementation of economic and environmental reform in the context of decentralization in the post-war period.

“For me as a Ukrainian scholar, the Visiting Fellowship means solidarity and help for Ukrainian science in its struggle for independence. I can’t handle a gun because I’m not a soldier. But my research project is also a tool now fighting for Ukrainian independence.

I can show the face of Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified invasion to the EU’s scientific community and the influence of this disaster on nature. I do not want to repeat my political and social positions, but I would like to emphasize in my project some economic significance of the natural environment, especially protected areas, in the post-war market and society, which should increasingly attract not only the EU research community but also all representatives of the European family. I would also like to share some good news. The first manuscript of my research project has already been published. Without the Zukunftskolleg, I would have no opportunity to continue my research during such a difficult time for Ukraine. Here is the link unwe.bg/eajournal/en/journalissues/article/23627.”



Svitlana Podplota

Philosophy, Senior lecturer at the Department of Preschool Education and Social Work, Bogdan Khmelnytsky Melitopol State Pedagogical University, Melitopol, Ukraine, Visiting Fellow since 06/2022

Project

“Peer Tutoring in Higher Education Institutions”

Peer tutoring is learning and consultation among equals. Today, peer tutoring is common in many universities and becoming even more important especially at German universities. As opposed to rather classic situations in a university context in Ukraine, where both learning and consultation take place between students and professors, peer tutoring creates an environment that does not involve an imbalance in power and authority.

Peer tutors are not a replacement for professors, but rather initiate and encourage their fellow students to reflect on their learning process and problems through the use of moderating and consulting techniques. For successful peer tutoring in Ukraine, it is vital that peer tutors go through qualified training. An increased popularity of peer-assisted learning has triggered a growing interest in taking a closer look at how student tutors are trained to handle the task. Her future study will provide an overview of tutor training strategies at different faculties in Germany. She is going to look at professional training programmes in Germany that focus on both the theoretical and practical aspects of a peer tutor’s work. The study will also attempt to investigate the concept of peer tutoring and its impact on learning.



Bohdan Shumylovych

History and Sociology, Lecturer at the Department of Cultural Studies of the Ukrainian Catholic University (L’viv), Visiting Fellow since 05/2022

Project

“Healing the socialist body: The Ukrainian broadcasts of Anatoly Kashpirovskii”

On 31 March 1988, Soviet television introduced the media bridge between Moscow and Kyiv with the popular television programme “Vzgliad”. This programme, which had an experimental character in the spirit of Perestroika, showed amazing surgery, which aimed to improve the health of Soviet people through the media. A Ukrainian physician, Anatolii Kashpirovskii, performed drug-free anaesthesia remotely via a TV bridge from Moscow while a surgeon did the operation in Kyiv. In 1989, Kashpirovskii presented six instalments of these so-called televised healings, and, soon after, these broadcasts in the media were stopped. The case of Kashpirovskii and televised surgeries, followed by the repetitive mass TV hypnosis sessions in 1989, exposed several aspects of late Soviet history: late détente, televisual experiments, media bridges and perception of the socialist body. Schumylovych’s talk explored Ukrainian broadcasts of 1989 and how they were perceived by ordinary people, media professionals and medical circles. Late Soviet television was shaped by the specific “unimaginative imagination” of these broadcasts.



Andrii Zhorniak

Politics and Public Administration, Lecturer at the Department of Public Management and Administration, Dmytro Motornyi Tavria State Agrotechnological University, Melitopol, Ukraine, Visiting Fellow since 06/2022 funded by the Cluster of Excellence „The Politics of Inequality“

Project

“The Influence of the Authorities in the Integration of People with Disabilities in Germany”

There is an urgent need for further implementation in Ukrainian legislation of international standards to ensure the integration of persons with disabilities in the context of current globalization challenges and strengthening European integration processes in Ukraine. The scientific significance of the study lies in the development of conceptual provisions and practical recommendations for improving the activities of local governments in the field of social integration of persons with disabilities in Ukraine.

The aim of the study is to analyze the legislative support of state policy for persons with disabilities in Germany; to substantiate the institutional capacity of interaction between local self-government bodies and civil society institutions on issues concerning the social integration of persons with disabilities; to consider modern international standards for ensuring the social integration of persons with disabilities; on the basis of the analysis of various scientific sources to determine the features of the implementation of German state policy on the research topic, to update ideas and experiences for Ukraine.

The Zukunftscolleg is grateful that the Visiting Fellows have joined the ZuKo community. The Zukunftscolleg can only provide a limited number of fellowships, but does its best to create ideal conditions for those researchers to develop and advance their research independently and to establish strong networks between the University of Konstanz and Ukrainian academic institutions. The Visiting Fellows maintain all legal and academic ties to their home institution in order to be able to return home at any time. In this way, the Visiting Fellowship is creating sustainable, long-term cooperation. The Zukunftscolleg has built this bridge because its members stand in solidarity with their fellow researchers in Ukraine and want to maintain it long after the war has ended. This is why the double affiliation – with strong departmental integration – is so incremental to the programme. Participation in the Zukunftscolleg programme and its successful completion will allow the beneficiaries to achieve several goals: (1) It supports the beneficiary’s academic career, as it will avoid breaks in the career path due to unstable research conditions in Ukraine. (2) The exchange of research experience and involvement in the European academic discussion will improve the quality of research work and deepen cooperation and communication between European and Ukrainian colleagues. (3) The programme particularly supports early career scholars during a crucial period in their careers and will help to increase the number of young people in research who have a long academic career ahead of them – be it in Ukraine, Europe or worldwide.

Working together with the central services at the university, the Zukunftscolleg is seeking to create a network that contributes to European research communities and compensates for a small but important part of the effects of the war. The Zukunftscolleg is thankful to its colleagues at the International Office and the Welcome Centre that continuously strive to support Ukrainian scholars and students alike: “We are proud to be part of their team and honoured that the University Council has granted this year’s prize to the Ukraine Support Team.”

27

Events

More +

45

**Grants &
distinctions**

More +

63

**Media
appearances**

More +

114

Talks

More +

50

Courses

More +

101

Publications

More +



Story with digital content



Events organized by the Zukunftskolleg and its fellows

Gruia Badescu

6–7 April 2022

Colloquium for Central and Eastern European History
Workshop, Konstanz (Germany), co-organized as part of AG Kolar

20 April 2022

Mémoire et espace urbain à Bucarest
Workshop and walk, Bucharest (Romania), co-organized with Damiana Otoi

5–6 May 2022

Deutsch-Schweizerischer Studientag für Osteuropäische Geschichte
Workshop, Wiesneck (Germany), co-organized as part of AG Kolar

12 May 2022

Surviving the Anthropocene: Emigration Online and the Limits of the Colonial Metaphor
Prof. Alexander Etkind (EUI/Konstanz)
Welt in Wandel – Gemeinsinn Lecture Series, Konstanz (Germany)

20 June 2022

We Fight for Peace! Romania and the War in Vietnam
Prof. Jill Massino (UNC)
Colloquium for Central and Eastern European History, Konstanz (Germany)

22 June 2022

Memories for the future: Contemporary memory debates in Barcelona
Dr. Kathrin Golda Pongratz (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya & Universitat Internacional de Catalunya), Summer semester 2022
Cities, Memory and Communal Sense – Lecture Series, hybrid

22 June 2022

Memoria y ciudad en Chile
Short workshop
„Memorias decoloniales de las violencias largas, en el estallido social Chileno de 2019“, Dr. Carolina Aguilera (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile)
„Emociones y memorias a propósito de un lugar desaparecido“, Dr. Paula Tesche (Universidad Andrés Bello, Concepción, Chile), hybrid

23 June 2022

Memory, cities and communal sense: Latin American perspectives
Dr. Carolina Aguilera (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile), Dr. Kathrin Golda Pongratz (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya & Universitat Internacional de Catalunya), Dr. Paula Tesche (Universidad Andrés Bello, Concepción, Chile), Summer semester 2022
Cities, Memory and Communal Sense – Lecture Series, hybrid

7 July 2022

Europa als Prozess, Projekt und Problem
Prof. Dr. Manuela Boatca (University of Freiburg)
Welt in Wandel – Gemeinsinn Lecture Series, Konstanz (Germany)

7–8 July 2022

Colloquium for Central and Eastern European History
Workshop, Konstanz (Germany), co-organized as part of AG Kolar

11–12 July 2022

Memory, Space and Place
Roundtable, Memory Studies Association Annual Conference, online

14 July 2022

Queerness in the City? LGBTQ+ Monuments for Civic Inclusivity
Dr. Martin Zebracki (University of Leeds), Summer semester 2022
Cities, Memory and Communal Sense – Lecture Series, hybrid

Armin Bahl

14 May 2022

Workshop as part of Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften, University of Konstanz

Ariane Bertogg

14–16 October 2021

Organization of the Divorce Network Conference, online

Jacob Bloomfield

23 September 2021

Pink Narcissus (1971)
Fiftieth anniversary film screening event
Queergestreift film festival, Zebra Kino Konstanz (Germany)

4 May 2022

Marx in Texas: Slavery, Capital, and the Revolutionary 1860s
Prof. Eric Lott (CUNY Graduate Center)
Zentrum für Kulturwissenschaftliche Forschung, hybrid

10 May 2022

Monarchs, Diplomats and Human-Interest Journalists: A Berlin Wedding 1913
Prof. Frank Mort (The University of Manchester)
Colloquium Modern History, Konstanz (Germany)

Bianca Gaudenzi

16–18 May 2022

The Return of Looted Artefacts since 1945: post-fascist and post-colonial restitution in comparative perspective

22–24 June 2022

Ruling the Waves
Transnational Radio Broadcasting in the Middle East and the Mediterranean between Production and Reception, 1920–1970, international conference, Danish Academy in Rome, University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, German Historical Institute in Rome (Italy), hybrid
Global annual conference of the Max Weber Stiftung, German Historical Institute in Rome (Italy), hybrid

Morgane Nouvian

28 June 2022

Pheromones and pheromone processing
Lecture given as part of the Advanced Course in Behavioural Neurobiology, University of Konstanz (Germany)

Cristina Ruiz Agudo

July 2022

Minerals to Materials: Geomimetic Pathways and Exotic Reactivity for a Sustainable Future
Goldschmidt conference, hybrid

Valeria Vegh Weis

2–4 November 2021

Lawfare and Media Criminology (in Spanish), I Jornadas Internacionales - Desafíos en el Campo de los Derechos Humanos
Secretaría de Derechos Humanos, online

7–9 December 2021

Argentine Cinema and Human Rights
Argentine Embassy in Brussels (Belgium), KU Leuven (Netherlands), University of Konstanz (Germany), online

February 2022

Public talk within Racism in Academia Series, online

24 March 2022

Discutiendo el legado argentino en Memoria, Verdad y Justicia a 46 años del Golpe
Embajada Argentina en Alemania, online

24 March 2022

Diplomacia y Derechos Humanos
Embajada Argentina en Italia, KU Leuven (Netherlands), online

Abena Yalley

January 2022

Love Shouldn't Hurt: Story from a Survivors' Shoes
Intersectoral discussion on Domestic Violence in collaboration with the African Mums in Germany

Grants, Awards, Distinctions & Honours

Angelo di Bernardo

- Appointed as external member of the Ph.D. examination committee of Dr. Lennart Bours from Scuola Normale Superiore in Italy (passed Ph.D. defense exam on 10 November 2021)
- Appointed as reference for the European Union (EU) ERC Advanced grants in the year 2021/2022
- Appointed as Associate Editor of the Journal of Low Temperature Physics (in June 2022)

Ariane Bertogg

- Wissenschaftspreis der Werner und Erika Messmer-Stiftung, 2021, „Social Aspects of Cognitive Ageing“, 10,000 EUR
- Dr. August and Annelies Karst Stiftung, 2021, Divorce Network Conference, 3,000 EUR

Jacob Bloomfield

- Institute of Historical Research (IHR), Scouloudi Historical Award: Publication Award, funding for “Drag: A British History”, 1,000 GBP, awarded August 2021
- Diversity Pool, Equal Opportunity Office, University of Konstanz, funding for “Pink Narcissus” (1971) fiftieth anniversary film screening event at the Queergestreift film festival, 200 EUR, awarded September 2021

- Archives and Collections Visiting Fellowship, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, funding for “Drag: A British History”, 2,500 GBP, January-February 2022
- GALE-Committee on LGBT History (CLGBTH) Non-Residential Fellowship, funding for “Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe”, 2,500 US-D, June-December 2022

Klaus Boldt

- DFG, Heisenberg-Professorship, „Rational Synthesis of Nanoheterostructures with Directional Properties“, 459,800 EUR, 2022-2027
- DFG (Sachbeihilfe), „Formation and Charge Carrier Dynamics of Hybrid I-III-VI₂ Nanoheterostructures“, 242,800 EUR, 2022-2025

Sidney Carls-Diamante

- Wissenschaftspreis der Werner und Erika Messmer-Stiftung, “Attitudes towards voluntary death in persons with bipolar disorder”, 10,000 EUR, funding period flexible
- Dr. August and Annelies Karst Stiftung, “Attitudes towards voluntary death in persons with bipolar disorder”, 1,200 EUR, funding period flexible
- 9th MindBrainBody Symposium Special Poster Prize, “A predictive processing/active inference account of procrastination in the context of autism spectrum disorder (ASD)” (with Alice Laciny)

Gabriella Gall

- CASCB Small Project Grant, “Exploring the effect of early experience on individual vocal flexibility and group functioning”, 9,117.07 EUR

Bianca Gaudenzi

- Max Weber Stiftung, funding for conference at the German Historical Institute in Rome, ‘The Return of Looted Artefacts since 1945: post-fascist and post-colonial restitution in comparative perspective’, 30,000 EUR, March-June 2022
- Carlsberg Foundation (8,000 EUR), the Danish Institute in Damascus (4,300 EUR), the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC, 6,000 US-D) and The American Research Institute in Iraq (TARII, 7,700 US-D) funding for international conference “Ruling the Waves”. Transnational Radio Broadcasting in the Middle East and the Mediterranean between Production and Reception, 1920–1970’, April-June 2022
- Appointment as expert at the Working Group for the Study of the Dispossession of Jewish-owned cultural property following the Racial Laws, 1938-1945, at the Italian Ministry of Culture

Cornelia Klocker

- Mittelbauinitiative, University of Konstanz, since 2020

Gisela Kopp

- Small Project Grant, Centre for the Advance Study of Collective Behaviour/University of Konstanz, 9,969.60 EUR, January-December 2022
- Uni Konstanz, Flexible working conditions for Postdocs with Family Duties, 2,310 EUR, February-December 2022
- Senate, elected member, University of Konstanz, since 2021
- Faculty Council, elected member, Natural Sciences Faculty, University of Konstanz, since 2021
- ALLEA working group European Research Area (ERA), appointed member, since 2021
- Board of Die Junge Akademie, elected member, since 2022

Noelia Martinez-Doallo

- Extraordinary Doctorate Award 2019/20 in the field of Law, University of A Coruña (Spain)

Prerna Nadathur

- Assistant professorship in semantics, Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University (USA), to begin August 2022

Morgane Nouvian

- Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour (University of Konstanz), "Self-organization during honeybee colony defence", 165,000 EUR, 2022-2025

Jennifer Randerath

- Member of the editorial board, Reihe Fortschritte der Neuropsychologie, Hogrefe Verlag
- Lead of the Scientific Review-Board at the German Society for Neuropsychology
- Certified Psychological Psychotherapist: April 2022
- Habilitation: May 2022

Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin

- Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behavior, Large Project Grant, „Communication in collectives: The dynamics of multi-participant exchange in social groups“, 222,800 EUR, 2022-2024

Julian Torres-Dowdall

- Review Editor for the section "Evolutionary Population Genetics" Journals: "Frontiers in Genetics and Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution"
- Member of the Editorial Council of Journal "Acta Zoologica Lilloana", Argentina
- Tenure track position as Assistant professor at the Department of Biological Sciences at University of Notre Dame (USA)

Valeria Vegh Weis

- Funding, Tel Aviv University (Israel), Transitional justice from below, 10,000 EUR, July 2022/December 2022. Funding co-obtained with Prof. Dr. Leora Belsky
- Critical Criminology of the Year Award, Division of Critical Criminology of the American Society of Criminology
- ProFiL Programme Fellowship, Germany

Abena Yalley

- Konstanza Fellowship, University of Konstanz, 2022-2024
- Max Weber Stiftung, Restitution is Equal to What? The return of the head of Badu Bonso II to the Ahanta People of Ghana, 2,000 EUR, 2022-2023
- The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) grant, Layers of Inequality: Gender, Medicalization and Obstetric Violence in Ghana 2000, June-August 2022
- Diversity pool for Childcare, University of Konstanz, 2021-2022
- COST Action Devotion CA18211 - Perinatal Mental Health and Birth-Related Trauma, Leader of Subgroup 10, Obstetric Violence
- Leader of domestic violence and marriage support committee, "African Mums in Deutschland"

Media Appearances

Gruia Bădescu

„Dacă ar fi să împrumutăm ceva de oriunde, ar fi ideea de oraș pentru oameni”, Revista Cultura

„verde-n față”: „Orașele din Vest au înțeles că mașina nu este un drept, este un lux”, (republica.ro), Gruia Bădescu, cercetător român în Germania, le spune șoferilor români un adevăr

“Regenerare urbană și regenerarea mentalității noastre”, Interviu cu Gruia Bădescu. - YouTube

“Regenerarea urbană: Ar putea urma Bucureștiul exemplul Barcelonei de a deveni o destinație turistică la fel de atractivă?” (wall-street.ro)

“Cum îl scoți pe român din mașină?”, (pressone.ro)

Angelo di Bernardo

“Unveiling unconventional magnetism at the surface of Sr2RuO4”, Science Daily, Phys.org, Azoquantum

“SuperGate”, EU FET-Open Grant, Superconductor Week, March 2021

Jacob Bloomfield

“Drag Kings: A Brief History of Male Impersonators”, Source for BBC History Extra, Ella Braidwood, 23.02.2022

Episodes “Georgiois Bourgeois” and “ShayShay”, Guest historian on The Perverts Podcast, released February 2022

Gabriella Gall

„Plaudernde Eier”, FameLab Germany 2022
youtube.com/watch?v=v9kQvie8YeQ, 26.04.2022
youtube.com/watch?v=WtxemRGI1Vg, 30.5.2022

Bianca Gaudenzi

“Passato e Presente” (Italy’s main history TV programme), hosted by Paolo Mieli, on Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Rai 3 and RaiStoria, visible on Rayplay: , 28.01.2022

Gisela Kopp

Podcast „Wissen – Handeln?“, discussions on science, outreach and activism with various researchers, contribution to conceptualization and content (as part of Die Junge Akademie AG Engagierte Wissenschaft)

Eduardo Luersen

Dietrich, C. Participação do egresso Eduardo Harry Luersen no workshop “The Anthropocene” pela University of Konstanz em cooperação com o Zukunftskolleg e o Waseda Institute of Advanced Study, Short article for the Audiovisualidades e Tecnocultura website, 10.06.2022

Noelia Martinez-Doallo

“El derecho al consentimiento informado del paciente”, Book presentation, YouTube (channel of the Spanish publishing house Comares), 05.07.2021

Morgane Nouvian

„Bee Communication During Collective Defense & Harvesting Honey“, interview podcast in „Two bees in a podcast“, University of Florida (2021)

„Wie Honigbienen stechen“ in „Bienengespräch“ (2021, interview for podcast, June 2021)

„Auf ihn mit Bananenduft!“ in the journal „Bienen & Natur“, August 2021

Daniela Rößler

“Spiders can have arachnophobia!“, Interview on NPR short wave, 27.10.2021

Media coverage of REM sleep-like state in jumping spiders based on a published paper in PNAS:

PNAS: pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.2204754119

Check all news outlets: pnas.altmetric.com/details/133823564/news

News coverage in German-speaking media

Radio

Deutschlandfunk Nova - Interview with Dr. Christine Blume: share.deutschlandradio.de/dlf-audiothek-audio-teilen.html?audio_id=dira_DRW_ed6f093c

Print / Web

GEO Magazin: geo.de/natur/tierwelt/neue-studie--spinnen-koennen-offenbar-traeumen--32615480.html

Spektrum der Wissenschaft: spektrum.de/news/es-scheint-als-koennten-spinnen-traeumen/2047779

Bild der Wissenschaft: wissenschaft.de/erde-umwelt/traeumen-spinnen-im-schlaf/

Spiegel: spiegel.de/wissenschaft/natur/springspinnen-und-rem-phasen-sie-traeumt-vielleicht-von-einer-fetten-fliege-a-a4097323-40c3-4050-8fe0-6aba157d499e?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter#ref=rss

spiegel.de/wissenschaft/natur/spinnen-forscherin-sie-zucken-im-schlaf-und-bewegen-dabei-die-augen-a-aeeb141f-4617-4e95-bba4-af88a7bc5582

Der Standard: derstandard.at/story/2000138144800/spinnen-koennten-schlafen-und-sogar-traeumen?ref=rss

Deutschlandfunk: deutschlandfunknova.de/nachrichten/tierwelt-traeumende-spinnen

English-speaking media

Radio

ABC Melbourne (live): abc.net.au/melbourne/programs/drive/drive/14003422

CBC Radio Toronto: cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/as-it-happens-monday-edition-1.6551438/the-stuff-of-nightmares-scientists-think-spiders-may-experience-rem-like-sleep-1.6551604

NPR: npr.org/2022/08/23/1118495210/jumping-spiders-rem-sleep-dreams

Print / Web

New York Times: nytimes.com/2022/08/08/science/spiders-dreaming-sleeping-rem.html

Wall Street Journal: wsj.com/articles/do-spiders-dream-a-new-study-suggests-they-just-might-11659983047

National Geographic: nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/jumping-spiders-dream-rem-sleep-study-suggests

Science Magazine: science.org/doi/10.1126/science.ade6391

Popular Science: popsci.com/science/spider-sleep-dream-video/

Washington Post: washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/08/15/jumping-spiders-rem-sleep-study/

Guardian: theguardian.com/environment/2022/aug/20/spiders-dream-study

Scientific American: scientificamerican.com/article/spiders-seem-to-have-rem-like-sleep-and-may-even-dream1/

Harvard Gazette: news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2022/08/harvard-researchers-find-rem-sleep-in-jumping-spiders/?utm_medium=Feed&utm_source=Syndication

I fucking love science: iflscience.com/jumping-spiders-display-rem-like-sleep-behavior-suggesting-spiders-dream-64784

AP News apnews.com/article/science-oddities-animals-spiders-27b23d77d2397780f00a86201cadcf7

Mashable US: mashable.com/article/spiders-sleep-rem-dream

Video

New Scientist: youtube.com/watch?v=dNYYbBrTSos

Valeria Vegh Weis

“Hacia un juicio de la verdad por los fusilamientos de las huelgas patagónicas”, Telam, 13.06.2022

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, Book Presentation, Podcast Eins 99, Berlin, 14.03.2022, online

“Hablemos de Justicia Transicional en las Americas”, Diálogos Connectas, 09.03.2022, online

“Lawfare, direito penal e criminologia: uma conversa com Valeria Vegh Weis”, Tirant Le Blanch, 27.01.2022

“Marxism and Criminology”, Zu Eins Podcast, 13.01.2022

“Juicio Centenario”, Página/12, 9.10.2021

“Qué Significa Desfinanciar a la Policía?”, Página/12, 01.08.2021

Talks

Gruia Badescu

“Migration in the Context of Architecture and the City”, Roundtable, Midissage Romanian Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice (Italy), 25 August 2021

„Even Romanians come research us now’: On positionality and nested orientalism within Southeast European Studies”, Südosteuropa ist tot? Lang lebe Südosteuropa! Positionierungen in einem interdisziplinären Forschungsfeld, Dr. Fritz-Exner-Kolloquium zur Südosteuropaforschung, Frankfurt (Oder) (Germany), 8 October 2021

“Entangled Memories of Diaspora and Exile: Circulations between Southeastern Europe and Chile during the Cold War”, ASEES Annual Conference, New Orleans (USA), 24 November 2021

“Cartographies of frontier urbanism: Documenting destruction and planning reconstruction after border change in Yugoslav Rijeka”, Cartographies of Catastrophes, Bamberg (Germany), 30 November 2021

“Representations of political rupture in Romania”, public event “The democratic revolutions of 1989 in art and everyday life”, Vienna (Austria), 17 February 2022

“Amnesia, Silencing, Obsolescence”, The presence and absence of the past, final Max Planck project conference, Berlin (Germany), 3-5 March 2022

„After War, Architecture“, invited lecture, ARUP Lunch Talks “One Step Ahead”, Berlin (Germany), 10 March 2022, online

“Exclusionary cosmopolitanisms? On urban imaginaries and exclusions in Southeast European cities”, Basler Arbeitskreis für Südosteuropa – BASO, workshop, 25 March 2022, online

“Post-war reconstruction after border change: Interrogating frontier urbanism in Rijeka”, Colloquium for Central and Eastern European History, workshop, Konstanz (Germany), 7 April 2022

“Recentering dialogues beyond Europe: Bridges to a Global South-East”, Unsettling the Hegemonic Gaze: Translation and Transfer of Knowledge on Southeast Europe, workshop, Regensburg (Germany), 29-30 April 2022

“Making sense of ruins: The reconstruction of cities after war in the former Yugoslavia and beyond”, German-Swiss Workshop on East European history, Deutsch-Schweizerischer Studientag für Osteuropäische Geschichte, Wiesneck (Germany), 5 May 2022

“Lo urbano como ámbito de transformación social. Memoria, conflicto y el derecho a la ciudad“, Invited keynote talk for Symposium El mundo en transformación: Los movimientos sociales como catalizadores de cambio en tiempos de crisis, Guadalajara (Mexico), 2-3 June 2022

“Comparisons and Transnational Entanglements: Contextualizing Romanian and Yugoslav Trajectories in a Global Perspective”, Romania in the 20th Century: Global and Transnational Perspectives, Workshop, Bucharest (Romania), 7 June 2022

Armin Bahl

„The ontogeny of sensory-motor decision-making in young zebrafish“, 2022 Collaborative Research Centre Initiative Symposium (Host Bernd Fakler), 4 March 2022

“The neural basis of zebrafish decision-making – From individuals to collectives.“, 2022 CASCB Spring Retreat, Konstanz (Germany), 4 April 2022

„Neural basis of decision-making in zebrafish larvae“, ZDMS Virtual Neural Disorders Research Interest Group (Host Prof. Summer Thyme), 11 May 2022

Angelo di Bernardo

“Unconventional superconductivity in a hybrid molecule/superconductor system“, International scientific meeting „Low-dimensional superconducting hybrids for novel quantum functionalities“, College de France (Paris), 12-14 October 2021

“Exchange coupling between ferromagnetic insulators mediated by a nodal superconductor“, 7th International Conference on Superconductivity and Magnetism (ICSM), Bodrum (Turkey), 21-27 October 2021

“Orbital loop current magnetism in an unconventional superconductor“, International workshop QuSpin 2021, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim (Norway), 1-2 December 2021, online

“Evidence for unconventional superconductivity in a hybrid molecule/superconductor system“, invited by Prof. C. Attanasio, Department of Physics (seminar series), University of Salerno (Italy), 7 December 2021

“Exchange coupling between ferromagnetic insulators mediated by a nodal superconductor“, Oxide SuperSpintronics (OSS) Workshop 2021, Kyoto University (Japan), 13-17 December 2021, online

“Spectroscopic evidence for unconventional superconducting and magnetic states“, 769th WEH seminar, Bad Honnef (Germany), 29 May-2 June 2022

“Evidence for surface magnetism in the superconductor Sr₂RuO₄“, Superstripes 2022, Rome (Italy), 20-24 June 2022

Ariane Bertogg

„COVID-19 Policies for (Un-)Equal Sharing? Implications for Couples' Division of Labour and Men's and Women's Life Satisfaction“, ESPANet Conference, 31 August-3 September 2021, online

„Solidarity During the COVID-19 Crisis and its Long-term Effects on Social Capital. Who has Benefited?“, ESPANet Conference, 31 August-3 September 2021, online

„Solidarity During the COVID-19 Crisis and its Long-term Effects on Social Capital. Who has Benefited?“, AS Conference, 29 September-1 October 2021, online

„Solidarity During the COVID-19 Crisis and its Long-term Effects on Social Capital. Who has Benefited?“, ECSR Online Conference, 7-8 October 2021

„The Making and Breaking of Social Ties During the Pandemic. The Role of Partnership and Parenthood“, Divorce Network Conference, 14-16 October 2021

„Gender Norms, Gendered Life Courses and Cognitive Functioning in Older Age“, Poster Presented at Venice Seminar for Analytical Sociology, Venice (Italy), 8-10 November 2021

„Double Disadvantage? Between and Within Country Social Inequality and Intergenerational Transfers“, Colloquium, University of Trento (Italy), 11 November 2021

„Making or Breaking Social Ties During the COVID-19 Pandemic? The Role of Solidarities“, IRSEI Brown Bag Seminar (Luxembourg), 22 November 2021

„Contextual Conditions for Economic Inequality and Social Mobility“, University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland), 29 March 2022

„All Stressed Out? How Education and Employment Affect Women's Coping with Covid-19 Challenges. A Dutch-German Comparison“, Poster Presented at InEquality Conference, Bodenseeforum Konstanz, 4-6 April 2022

„Gendered Life Courses and Cognitive Functioning in Later Life: The Role of Gender Norms and Employment Biographies“, RC28 Spring Meeting, LSE London (UK), 8-10 April 2022

„Pressured to Care Alone or Sharing the Burden?“, Kolloquium Soziologie Mainz, 9 Mai 2022 (invited)

„Needs or Obligations? Disentangling Normative from Institutional Influence in Grandparents' Work-Care Reconciliation“, ENSAE/CREST, Paris (France), 18 May 2022

Jacob Bloomfield

„Splinters: Cross-Dressing Ex-Servicemen on the Interwar Stage“, International Federation for Theatre Research Conference, Galway (Ireland), July 2021, online

Introduction to „Pink Narcissus (1971) fiftieth anniversary film screening event“, Queergestreift film festival, Zebra Kino, Konstanz (Germany), September 2021

„Renegade or Retrograde: Questioning Little Richard's Legacy“, Queering the Groove, Dublin City University, Dublin (Ireland), October 2021, online

„Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe“, Long Night of the Sciences, University of Konstanz, Konstanz (Germany), May 2022

Introduction to „No Straight Lines: The Rise of Queer Comics (2021)“, Zebra Kino, Konstanz (Germany), May 2022

Introduction to „Queer History“, International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia, Transphobia, Asexualphobia event, University of Konstanz (Germany), May 2022

„Expressions of LGBTQIA+ Joy: Celebrating Self, Community, Media & Art“ (panel discussion), SAGE Publishing, London (UK), June 2022, online

„Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe“, Waseda University (Japan), June 2022, online

Klaus Boldt

„Formation and Charge Localisation Properties of Nano-hetero- junctions“, invited lecture, Rostock (Germany), 21 May 2021, online

„Photonic Nanostructures with Increasing Complexity“, invited lecture, Rostock (Germany), 21 February 2022, online

Svetlana Boycheva-Woltering

„Identification and characterization of autophagy regulators“, SFB Planning Workshop 14 -15 March 2022, Höchsten (Germany)

Sidney Carls-Diamante

„The octopus and consciousness: What can we learn?“, (keynote lecture), 6th Annual De La Salle University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, Manila (Philippines), 27 August 2021, online

„Philosophical explorations of bipolar disorder: Towards a humanistic turn in psychiatry“, European Society for Philosophy and Psychology Conference 2021, Leipzig (Germany), 1 September 2022, online

„A predictive processing framework for single arm use in octopuses“, Austrian Neuroscience Association Meeting 2021, Salzburg (Austria), 30 September 2021

„A predictive processing/active inference account of procrastination in the context of autism spectrum disorder

(ASD)“, (with Alice Laciny), 9th MindBrainBody Symposium, Leipzig (Germany), 16 March 2022, online

„The octopus: A different kind of mind“, pre-conference talk, Animal Minds 2022, San Diego (United States), 13 May 2022, online

„The octopus: Implications for cognitive science“, Creating Agency and Cognition in Automated Systems: What can we learn from the Octopus?, Konstanz (Germany), 17 May 2022

Bianca Gaudenzi

„The 'Return of Beauty'? The politics of restitution of Nazi-looted art in Italy, the FRG and Austria, 1945-1998“, international workshop, „The 'return of beauty'. The restitution of Nazi-looted art in comparative perspectives“, Universities of Bonn (Germany) and Tel Aviv (Israel), 2 February 2022, online

„The 'return of beauty'? The restitution of fascist-looted art in postwar Italy“, international conference „The importance of provenance research into Nazi-looted art in Italy“, Ateneo Veneto, Venice (Italy), 25 March 2022, hybrid

„Die kathartische Rückführung italienischen Kulturerbes, 1945-1950“, international Symposium „Europa und Deutschland 1939-45. Gewalt im Museum“, Deutsches Historisches Museum Berlin (Germany), 31 March 2022, hybrid

„The economic consequences of the Racial Laws“, book launch, Fondazione Besso and Fondazione Museo della Shoah, Rome (Italy), 30 May 2022

Gisela Kopp

„How genomic relatedness within and across groups shapes the behaviour of vulturine guineafowl“, Invited seminar talk, University of Zürich (Switzerland), 13 December 2021, online

„Baboons in Ancient Egypt: Geographic origin of mummified baboons as revealed by Ancient DNA“, Joint Conference of the European Federation for Primatology and the Gesellschaft für Primatologie, Arnhem (Netherlands), 1-3 June 2022

„An evening with Dian“, introductory talk to „Gorillas in the Mist“, SFB 969, Equal Opportunity Office and Lumière University Cinema: Movie series with female role models, 8 June 2022

Noelia Martinez-Doallo

Talent Fare at GAIN 21, 26 August 2021, online

„Impro(ve) the future“, Long Night of The Sciences, University of Konstanz, Baden-Württemberg (Germany), 14 May 2022

Prerna Nadathur

„Causal dependence in ability and actuality“, Invited colloquium talk, Department of Linguistics, University of Konstanz, 18 November 2021

„Modeling progress: causal models, event types, and the imperfective paradox“, joint talk with Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Invited colloquium talk, Department of Linguistics, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel), 30 November 2021, online

„Aiming at culmination: causal models, event types, and the imperfective paradox“, joint talk with Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Agency and Intentions in Language 2 (refereed workshop), Harvey Mudd College (USA), 13 January 2022, online

„Aiming at culmination: causal models, event types, and the imperfective paradox“, based on joint work with

Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, invited talk for the Construction of Meaning Workshop, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University (USA), 26 January 2022, online

“Causal dependence in actuality inferences: enough and too predicates as a case study”, invited colloquium talk, Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University (USA), 18 February 2022, online

“Modeling progress: causal models, event types, and the imperfective paradox”, joint talk with Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (refereed conference), Stanford University (USA), 15 May 2022, online

“Modeling progress: event types, causal models, and the imperfective paradox”, based on joint work with Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, invited talk for the Comparative Syntax seminar, Centre for Linguistics, University of Leiden (Netherlands), 2 June 2022, online

“Causation and the logic of ability”, invited workshop talk, Converging on Causal Ontology Analyses (COCOA), CNRS/Paris 8 (France), 28 June 2022

“Modeling progress: event types, causal models, and the imperfective paradox”, based on joint work with Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, invited colloquium talk, Institute of Linguistics, University of Stuttgart (Germany), 5 July 2022

Morgane Nouvian

„Das Stechverhalten der Biene“, Annual meeting of Konstanz’s beekeeping club, Konstanz (Germany), 7 April 2022

Daniela Rößler

“Arachno-Arachnophobia! Static visual predator recognition in jumping spiders”, European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB), Satellite Symposium – Evolution of multiple prey defenses: from predator cognition to community ecology, August 2021, online

“Arachno-Arachnophobia! Static visual predator recognition in jumping spiders”, Animal Behavior Society (ABS) 2021 Virtual Meeting, August 2021, online

Cristina Ruiz Agudo

“Calcium carbonate crystallization”, invited talk in the Nanocem Molecular Simulation Working group, 25 October 2021, online

“Nucleation and early growth of Magnesium Silicate Hydrate”, in the annual ‘Granada-Münster discussion meeting’ focused on water-mineral interfaces, Münster (Germany), 28 November 2021

“Nano-exploration for the Development of Sustainable Materials”, invited talk in the TEDx event Konstanz (Germany), 6 May 2022

Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin

„Communication and coordination across scales: A collaborative project“, invited talk, Animal Behavior Society Symposium: Weaving the Future of Animal Behavior: Technological Advances to Reveal the Secret Lives of Animals, 3-6 August 2021, online

„Communication and Collective Behavior in Animal Societies“, invited talk, Stanford Hopkins Marine Station Seminar Series (USA), 29 October 2021, online

„Communication and Collective Behavior in Animal Societies“, invited talk, Queen Mary University London (UK), 12 December 2021, online

Nihan Toprakkiran

„Discrimination, Political Representation and Populism: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Germany“, Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies, Neuchâtel (Switzerland), 7-8 July 2022

Julian Torres-Dowdall

Cichlid Science Virtual Meeting, Cambridge (UK), 1-2 September 2021

“Local variation and parallel evolution of lake cichlid fishes: morphological and genetic diversity in Midas cichlids.”, Current Topics in Zoology and Evolution Seminar, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Basel (Switzerland), 15 November 2021

Valeria Vegh Weis

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, book presentation, Centro Cultural de la Cooperación (Argentina), 8 July 2021, online

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, book presentation, Universidad de Avellaneda (Argentina), 17 July 2021, online

“Lawfare y Derecho Penal en Latinoamérica”, Diálogos Penales, Academia Ecuatoriana de Ciencias Penales y Criminológicas (Ecuador), 16 August 2021, online

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, book presentation, Tirant Le Blanch (Brazil), 18 August 2021, online

“Jenseits von Nürnberg: Deutschland, sein koloniales Erbe und das Strafrecht“, Keynote Speaker, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany), 20-21 September 2021

“Domesticating International Criminal Justice - Current Challenges”, Commentee, Alexander von Humboldt Kolleg on Domesticating International Criminal Justice, University of Milan (Italy), 30 September 2021

“Germany: A Model of Transition or a Ventriloquy Memory”, (in Spanish), A 75 años de los Juicios de Nuremberg. Castigo y Teorías, XXXV Jornadas Nacionales de la Asociación Argentina de Filosofía del Derecho, Santiago del Estero (Argentina), 4 November 2021, online

“Criminologi(es) (of) (from) (for) the South”, (in Spanish), El Estado de la Criminología en América Latina, UNL (USA), 12 November 2021, online

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, Book Presentation, Ministerio Público del Perú, 17 November 2021, online

“A Criminological Overview of Criminalization of Activism, Social Movements and the Social Question”, Institute for the Study of Protest and Social Movements, 25 November 2021, online

“Bienvenidos al Lawfare”, Book Presentation, Jornadas Internacionales de Derechos Humanos (Argentina), 2 December 2021, online

“Criminalization of Activism”, Book Presentation, Brighton University (UK), 1 February 2022, online

“Nothing to Lose. Lack of Freedom as a Source of Empowerment for Victims of Atrocity Crimes”, Freiheit. Access Denied?, Leuphana University, 2 February 2022, online

“Criminalization of Activism”, Book Presentation, University of Barcelona (Spain) – University of San Marcos (Perú), 14-15 February 2022, online

“Exploring German international criminal law practices through the SVS Complex”, The Hertie School’s Centre for Fundamental Rights, 23 February 2022, online

“A victim-driven approach to confront crimes of the powerful. The case of Argentina”, Essex Center for Criminology, 10 March 2022, online

“Commissions of truth (and reconciliation)”, International Francqui Professor David Scheffer: Dealing with perpetrators and victims of atrocity crimes in judicial and non-judicial settings – looking back, reaching forward, KU Leuven (Netherlands), 11 May 2022, online

“Transitional Justice and Human Rights”, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, 13 June 2022, online

“Reassessing the Post-Holocaust Accountability Process in Germany through a Victim-driven Approach”, Transitional Justice – A Time for a Material Turn?, University of Jerusalem (Israel), 14 June 2022, online

“Justicia Transicional: de los derechos civiles y políticos a los derechos económicos, sociales y culturales. Discusiones acerca de la inclusión de delitos económicos en Argentina”, Seminario Colombo-Alemán 2022, University of Konstanz (Germany), 17 June 2022, online

“The South within the South: Historical Justice for Indigenous Peoples in Argentina”, Second International Conference. Punishment in Global Peripheries, Oxford University (UK), 6 July 2022, online

“Lawfare in Latin-America”, ECCHR, Berlin (Germany), 19 July 2022

James Wilson

“Arabic chronicles, colonialism and the Crusades”, Colloquium Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Seminar Series, University of Konstanz (Germany), June 2022

Abena Yalley

“Policing Domestic Violence in Ghana and Nigeria: Challenges”, Anthropology Colloquium, University of Konstanz (Germany), 26 October 2021

“Feminism, Feminist theories and contestations”, AG Hoeffler Goup, University of Konstanz (Germany), 2 November 2021, online

“‘Shakespeare in the Bush’: Gender Constructions and Interpretations of Hamlet by the West African Tivs”, Conference on Women’s Rights and Global Adaptations of Shakespeare, Freie Universität Berlin (Germany), 25-26 November 2021

“The Role of Women in the End SARS Protest in Nigeria: Mothering the Nation against all odds”, co-presented with Chibuzor Mirian Azubuike, Conference on Decolonizing Futurities, Radical Imaginaries, University of Alberta (Canada), 18-19 March 2022, online

“Engendering Hamlet”, Anthropology Colloquium, University of Konstanz (Germany), 18 April 2022, online

“Restitution Is Equal To What? The Assassination and return of the head of King Badu Bonso II and its implications for the Ahanta people of Ghana”, Conference on The Return of Looted Artefacts since 1945 post-fascist and post-colonial restitution in comparative perspective, Goethe-Institute, Rome (Italy), 16-18 May 2022

“To seek or no to Seek: Challenges encountered by domestic violence victims while seeking police assistance in Ghana and Nigeria”, 11 European Feminist Research Conference, University of Milano-Bicocca (Italy), 15-16 June 2022

Courses

Gruia Badescu

- Winter semester 2021/22: From urban cosmopolitanism to conflict: Ethnoreligious diversity in cities
- Winter semester 2021/22: European Identities: Approaches on Diversity and Conflict, National School of Political and Administrative Studies, Bucharest
- Summer semester 2022: Urbaner Wiederaufbau nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg

Armin Bahl

- Winter semester 2021/22: Animal Physiology, Compact Course
- Winter semester 2021/22 and summer semester 2022: Bahl Lab Group Meeting
- Winter semester 2021/22 and summer semester 2022: International Zebrafish Journal Club
- Summer semester 2022: Neurobiology, Advanced Course

Angelo di Bernardo

- Winter Semester 2021/22: “Superconductivity: fundamentals and applications”, lecture course for master’s degree students (26 lectures), Department of Physics, University of Konstanz.
- Summer Semester 2021/22: “Advances in Nanomaterials”, seminar for master’s degree students, Department of Physics, University of Konstanz.

Svetlana Boycheva-Woltering

- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of one bachelor student, Tabea Gruber
- Summer semester 2022: lecture entitled “GWAS – basic and application in plant biology” in the frame of VTK Physiology and Biochemistry of Plants + Practical work – two students

Gabriella Gall

- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of Research Assistant Ingerid Helgestaad (University of Konstanz/ University of Exeter)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Co-Supervision – MSc Student, Aline Scheider (University of Zurich)
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision, Research internship Ashlesh Pattanaik
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision, Research internship He MA
- Summer semester 2022: Co-Supervision – MSc Student, Megan Letherbarrow (University of Exeter)

Bianca Gaudenzi

- Winter semester 2021/22: The restitution of colonial-era cultural heritage in France and the UK since the 1980s, HP2 ‘The Historical Project’, undergraduate course for History & Politics, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge
- Winter semester 2021/22: La restituzione dei beni culturali nell’Europa post-fascista, 1945–1998, lecture, graduate seminar on the History of Museums, University of Udine

Cornelia Klocker

- Winter semester 2021/22: Introduction to the law of armed conflict and international criminal justice, teaching and course development

Noelia Martinez-Doallo

- Winter semester 2021/22: Assisted Dying—The Special Case of Switzerland, Special Seminar, Law Department of the University of A Coruna, Galicia (Spain).
- Winter semester 2021/22 and summer semester 2022: Law & Biomedicine, Seminar, Law Department, University of Konstanz (Germany)

Prerna Nadathur

- Summer semester 2022: Causal semantics for implicative verbs, invited guest lecture, Structure of Finnish doctoral seminar (Paul Kiparksy and Arto Anttila, instructors), Stanford University, Department of Linguistics, 10 May 2022.

Morgane Nouvian

- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of the BSc thesis of Lena Seitz
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of Lea Riede, Advanced Course in Behavioural Neurobiology
- Summer semester 2022: Pheromones and pheromone processing, lecture given as part of the Advanced Course in Behavioural Neurobiology, University of Konstanz

Jennifer Randerath

- Winter semester 2021/22: Neuropsychologische Psychotherapie: Fatigue bei neurologischen Erkrankungen und Post Covid
- Winter semester 2021/22: Apraxia for the Advanced studies of Motor Neurorehabilitation, Short workshop, University of Konstanz, with Sarah Stoll (February 2022)
- Winter semester 2021/22 and summer semester 2022: Motor Cognition, Research Colloquium
- Supervising more than 10 bachelor- and master students and 4 doctoral students, Department of Psychology

Cristina Ruiz Agudo

- Winter semester 2021/22: Nanochemistry and analytics, Semester Course for Master Students
- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of Master thesis, Yannick Emminger, Insights on the early stages of Magnesium Silicate Hydrate (M-S-H) crystallization in the presence of additives (June 2021-January 2022)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of Bachelor thesis, Annika Bastian, Trace element incorporation during BaSO₄ crystallization from different routes (July 2021- September 2021)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of Bachelor thesis, Denise Ilogu, Formation of magnesium hydroxide in the magnesium-silicate-hydrate (M-S-H) system (July 2021-September 2021)
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of Bachelor thesis, Lars Dieminger, Formation of magnesium-silicate-hydrate (M-S-H) system from MgO waste products (since June 2021)
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of Bachelor thesis, Christoph Popko, Detection and determination of Nucleation times during titration experiments (since June 2021)
- Summer semester 2022: Materialanalytik, Semester Course for Bachelor Students
- Summer semester 2022: Geochemical modelling applied to lime (PHREEQC), Invited lecturer for the PHREEQC course held as part of the training program of SUBLime
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of PhD thesis, Maximilian Marsiske (since March 2020 - now)
- Summer semester 2022: Supervision of PhD thesis, Marc Staiger (since July 2021 - now)

Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin

- Summer semester 2022: Playing with Data: Quantitative Methods for Behavioral Ecology (VTK)

Nihan Toprakkiran

- Winter semester 2021/22: Social Policy and Development, Advanced BA Seminar

Julian Torres-Dowdall

- Winter semester 2021/22: Supervision of Cesar Bertinetti Cerrato (Master) and Sina Rometsch (Ph.D)

Valeria Vegh Weis

- Winter semester 2021/22: State Crime Criminology with a focus on NS in Germany, BA/MA Seminar, Freie Universität Berlin, Law School (Germany)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Green Criminology, LLM in Criminal Justice, Bologna University (Italy)

- Winter semester 2021/22: Mental Health Law and Human Rights, Post-Doctoral Degree "Estudios interdisciplinarios en prevención de la violencia y el delito. Base metodológica desde la Seguridad Humana para los y las Habitantes y sus comunidades, ILANUD/Suprema Corte de Justicia de Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Green Criminology, UNL, MA in Criminology (Argentina)
- Winter semester 2021/22: Criminology, MA in Criminology, Quilmes National University (Argentina)
- Summer semester 2022: Post-Holocaust Germany: Challenges in Justice, Memory and Truth, BA/MA Seminar

Abena Yalley

- Winter semester 2021/22: The Legacy of Violence in Pandemic Times: Global Health Challenges and Gender Dynamics, Advanced Seminar for MA students
- Summer semester 2022: Gender, Globalization and Health, Advance Seminar for BA Students

Publications

Gruia Badescu

Bădescu, G. 2022: Urban Memory After War: Ruins and Reconstructions in Post- Yugoslav Cities (2022). In Contested Urban Spaces: Monuments, Traces, and Decentered Memories, edited by Ulrike Capdepón and Sarah Dornhof. London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 229-252.

Bădescu, G. 2021: Architects as Memory Actors: Ruins, Reconstructions, and Memorials in Belgrade (2021). Contemporary Southeastern Europe 8 (2), pp. 51-82. doi.org/10.25364/02.8:2021.2.4.

Bădescu, G.: War ruins and facing the past: Architectural modes of engagement' (2021). In Thinking with Ruins. Interdisciplinary approaches to functions, interpretations and (mis-)uses of remnants of the past, edited by Enass Khansa, Konstantin Klein and Barbara Winckler. Berlin: Kadmos, pp. 307-325.

Bădescu, G. 2021: Homelands and Dictators: Migration, memory, and belonging between Southeastern Europe and Chile (2021), Journal of Contemporary European Studies, doi.org/10.1080/14782804.2021.2014305

Armin Bahl

Harpaz, R., Aspiras, A.C., Chambule, S., Tseng, S., Engert, F., Fishman, M.C.*, Bahl, A.* 2021: Collective behavior emerges from genetically controlled simple behavioral motifs in zebrafish. Sci. Adv. 7 (41), 1-13.

Harpaz, R., Nguyen, M.N., Bahl, A., Engert, F. 2021: Precise visuomotor transformations underlying collective behavior in larval zebrafish. Nat. Commun. 12 (1), 1-14.

Angelo di Bernardo

Fittipaldi, R., Hartmann, R., Mercaldo, M. T., Komori, S., Bjorlig, A., Kyung, W., Yasui, Y., Miyoshi, T., Olde Olthof, L. A. B., Palomares Garcia, C. M., Granata, V., Keren, I., Higemoto, W., Suter, A., Prokscha, T., Romano, A., Noce, C., Kim, C., Maeno, Y., Scheer, E., Kalisky, B., Robinson, J. W. A., Cuoco, M., Salman, Z., Vecchione, A., Di Bernardo, A.* 2021: Unveiling unconventional magnetism at the surface of Sr₂RuO₄, Nature Communications 12, 5892 (2021). DOI: doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-26020-5

Alpern, H., Amundsen, M., Hartmann, R., Sukenik, N., Spuri, A., Yochelis, S., Prokscha, T., Gutkin, V., Anahory, Y., Scheer, E., Linder, J., Salman, Z., Millo, O., Paltiel, Y., Di Bernardo, A.* 2021: Unconventional Meissner screening induced by chiral molecules in a conventional superconductor, Physical Review Materials 5, 114081 (2021). DOI: doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevMaterials.5.114801

Cirillo, C., Granata, V., Spuri, A., Di Bernardo, A., Attanasio, C. 2021: NbReN: a disordered superconductor in thin

film form for potential application as superconducting nanowire single photon detector. *Physical Review Materials* 5, 085004 (2021). DOI: doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevMaterials.5.085004

The symbol “” indicates corresponding authorship*

Ariane Bertogg

Bertogg, A., Kulic, N., Strauss, S. 2021: Protected through part-time work? Employment, domestic responsibilities, and changes in life satisfaction of women during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Social Politics*, doi.org/10.1093/sp/jxab048

Bertogg, A., Koos, S. 2022: Who receives social support during the Covid-19 pandemic: Life course and pandemic-specific risks and social networks. *Social Indicators Research*, doi.org/10.1007/s11205-022-02890-0

Bertogg, A., Koos, S. 2022: The Making and Breaking of Social Ties During the Pandemic. Socio-Economic Position, Demographic Characteristics, and Changes in Social Networks. *Frontiers in Sociology*, doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2022.837968

Bertogg, A. 2022: Needs or Obligations? The Influence of Childcare Infrastructure and Support Norms on Grandparents' Labor Market Participation. *Journal of European Social Policy* (accepted)

Jacob Bloomfield

Bloomfield, J. 2021: Review: Adult Responses to Popular Music and Intergenerational Relations in Britain, c. 1955-1975 by Gillian A. M. Mitchell. In: *Clio-online/H-Soz-Kult*.

Bloomfield, J. 2021: Review: Reframing Drag: Beyond Subversion and the Status Quo by Kayte Stokoe. In: *Sexualities*.

Bloomfield, J. 2022: Review: Rocking the Closet: How Little Richard, Johnnie Ray, Liberace, and Johnny Mathis Queered Pop Music by Vincent L. Stephens. In: *Cultural History*.

Bloomfield, J. 2023: *Drag: A British History*. Oakland, California: University of California Press. Under contract.

Klaus Boldt

Noby, S. Z., Fakharuddin, A., Schupp, S., Sultan, M., Krumova, M., Drescher, M., Azarkh, M., Boldt, K., Schmidt-Mende, L. 2022: Oxygen Vacancies in Oxidized and Reduced Vertically Aligned α -MoO₃ Nanoblades, *Materials Advances*, 3: 3571-3581.

Zeng, P., Ren, X., Wei, L., Zhao, H., Liu, X., Zhang, X., Xu, Y., Yan, L., Boldt, K., Smith, T. A., Liu, M. 2022: Control of Hot Carrier Relaxation in CsPbBr₃ Nanocrystals Using Damping Ligands, *Angewandte Chemie*, e202111443.

Boldt, K. 2022: Raman Spectroscopy of Colloidal Semiconductor Nanocrystals, *Nano Futures* 6: 012003.

Peters, E., Rosenberg, R., Cölfen, H., Boldt, K. 2022: Analysis of Magic-Size Nanocrystals in Crude Reaction Mixtures Using Multiwavelength Analytical Ultracentrifugation, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 126/5: 2642-2655.

Sutter, S., Grings, J., Boldt, K. 2022: Chemo-selective Surface Trap-mediated Metal Growth on Semiconductor Nanocrystals, *Chem. Mater.*, 34: 1325-1333.

Sidney Carls-Diamante

Carls-Diamante, S. 2022: Where is it like to be an octopus?. *Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience*, March 2022, vol. 16, pp. 1-9.

Carls-Diamante, S. 2022: The Argument from Evel (Knievel): Daredevils and the Free Energy Principle. *Biology and Philosophy*, accepted July 2022.

Gabriella Gall

Gall, GEC., Evans, JE., Silk, MJ., Ortiz-Jimenez, CA., Smith, JE. 2022: Short-term social dynamics following anthropogenic and natural disturbances in a free-living mammal. *Behavioral Ecology*, June 2022

Gall, GEC., Pereira, TD., Jordan, A., Meroz, Y. 2022: Fast estimation of plant growth dynamics using deep neural networks. *Plant Methods*, January 2022, vol. 18, no. 1, pp. 1-11.

Bianca Gaudenzi

Gaudenzi, B., Niemeyer, L. (guest editors) 2021: Historicising the Restitution of Nazi-Looted Art, 1945 to the Present, Special Issue of the *International Journal of Cultural Property* 28:3, 333-477.

Gaudenzi, B. 2021: The "Return of Beauty"? The Politics of Restitution of Nazi-looted Art in Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria, 1945-1998, *European Review of History/Revue européenne d'histoire* 28: 2, 323-346, doi: doi.org/10.1080/13507486.2021.1885350

Gaudenzi, B., Niemeyer, L. 2021: Between material culture and "living-room art": historicizing the restitution of fascist-looted art, *International Journal of Cultural Property* 28:3, 333-341, doi: doi.org/10.1017/S0940739122000029

Gaudenzi, B. 2022: Die "Rückkehr der Schönheit"? Geplünderte Kunst im Italien der Nachkriegszeit, *Historische Urteilskraft. Magazin des Deutschen Historischen Museums*, Nr. 4, pp. 44-45

Gaudenzi, B. 2022: The restitution of fascist-looted cultural property in Italy, 1945-1991, in *Network of European Restitution Committees on Nazi-Looted Art Newsletter*, N. 13 (spring 2022), pp. 39-45

Cornelia Klocker

Klocker, C. 2022: Compensating victims of armed conflict: Evidence from the European Court of Human Rights, in *Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law: Challenges Ahead*, Edward Elgar Publishing, eds. Norman Weiß and Andreas Zimmermann, 175-197.

Klocker, C. 2022: Collective punishment, in *Elgar Encyclopedia of Human Rights*, Edward Elgar Publishing, eds. Manfred Nowak, Jane A Hofbauer, Philipp Janig and Christina Binder, doi.org/10.4337/9781789903621. collective.punishment.

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Klocker, C. 2021: The UN Security Council and EU CSDP operations: Exploring EU military operations from an outside perspective, *Europe and the World: A law review* 5 (1), 3-17.

Gisela Kopp

Kopp, GH., Dorendorf, T., Hume, B. 2022: A workflow for sWGS genotype likelihood calling and relatedness estimation (with no known variant sets). *GitHub Repository*

Eduardo Luersen

Luersen, EH. and Paula, J. 2022: Exoplanetary exploration and the end of the world in 22 minutes: filosofiction in Outer Wilds. In *Proceedings of the 2021 Digital Games Research Association (DiGRA) Brazil Conference*. (Under review).

De Paula, BS. and Luersen, EH. 2022: Gambiarra e a condição in(ter)dependente: relações ecológicas na construção de instrumentos musicais experimentais. In *Castanheira, JCS et al. Poderes do som: borderline*

sonorities. Florianópolis: Insular Livros. (Accepted).

Luersen, EH. 2022: Fantasmagoria maquina: mídia e memória no design sonoro dos jogos digitais. In Revista Eco-Pós, vol. 25, no 1, pp. 223 – 248.

Noelia Martínez-Doallo

Martínez-Doallo, N. 2022: The Conceptual Legal Structure of The Patient's Right to Informed Consent. *European Journal of Health Law* (published online ahead of print): 1-24.

Martínez-Doallo, N. (forthcoming): La teoría de los principios de Robert Alexy: algunas notas acerca de su interpretación. In Villa-Rosas, G., et al. (eds.), *Derecho, argumentación y ponderación. Ensayos en honor a Robert Alexy*. Bogotá: Universidad Externado de Colombia.

Martínez-Doallo, N. (forthcoming): Justicia y transmisión de enfermedades contagiosas. El argumento del bien común como fundamento de las restricciones a la autonomía individual. In Arcos, M.L. (Dir.) and Elizari Urtasun, L. (Coord.), *Implicaciones ético-legales del contagio de enfermedades*. Bosch-Wolters Kluwer.

Prerna Nadathur

Nadathur, P., Filip, H. 2022: Telicity, teleological modality, and (non-)culmination. *Proceedings of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 39. Cascadilla Proceedings Project*. (forthcoming)

Nadathur, P. 2022: Actuality inferences: causality, aspect, and modality. *Oxford University Press (Studies in Semantics & Pragmatics)*, (under contract/in press).

Nadathur, P. 2022: Causal semantics for implicative verbs. Under review with the *Journal of Semantics* (submitted February 2022), (under review, available at: ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/006510).

Morgane Nouvian

Kannan, K., Galizia, C.G., Nouvian, M. 2022: Olfactory strategies in the defensive behaviour of insects. *Insects*, 13:5.

Petrov, T., Hajnal, M., Klein, J., Safranek, D., Nouvian, M. 2022: Extracting individual characteristics from population data reveals a negative social effect during honeybee defence. *PLoS Computational Biology*, accepted.

Jennifer Randerath

Rohrbach, N., Krewer, C., Löhnert, L., Thierfelder, A., Randerath, J., Jahn, K. and Hermsdörfer, J. 2021: Improvement of Apraxia With Augmented Reality: Influencing Pantomime of Tool Use via Holographic Cues. *Front. Neurol.* 12:711900. doi: 10.3389/fneur.2021.711900

Dettmers, C., Weich, C., Herrmann, C., Saile, R., Preuss, M., Chanyalew, S. H., Schleicher, L., Klaasen van Husen, D., Randerath, J., Stoll, S., Tempfli, M., Vieten, M., & Jöbges, M. 2021: Fallvignetten aus der neurologischen Rehabilitation bei Patienten mit Post-COVID-Syndrom – Diskussionsvorschlag für die Leistungsdiagnostik. *Neurologie & Rehabilitation*, 3. doi.org/10.14624/NR2103001

Stoll, S. E. M., Mack, L., Scheib, J. P. P., Pruessner, J. & Randerath, J. 2022: Selective effects of psychosocial stress on plan-based movement selection. *Scientific Reports*.

Stoll, S., Finkel, L., Buchmann, I., Hassa, T., Spiteri, S., Liepert, J., & Randerath, J. 2022: 100 years after Liepmann – Lesion correlates of diminished selection and application of familiar versus novel tools. *Cortex*.

Leibinger, K., Bauer, I., Gözl, M., Stoll, S., Tempfli, M., Aschenbrenner, S., and Randerath, J. 2022: Berufsperspektive Scientist Practitioner für zukünftige nichtapprobierte klinische Neuropsycholog_innen. *Zeitschrift für Neuropsychologie*.

Daniela Rößler

Rößler, D.C., De Agrò, M., Kim, K., Shamble, P.S. 2021: Static visual predator recognition in jumping spiders. *Functional Ecology*. doi.org/10.1111/1365-2435.13953

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Ringler, M., Himmel, T., Werner, P., Luger, M., Rößler, D.C., Ringler, E., Lötters, S., 2022: Male life history of a harlequin toad from French Guiana. *Salamandra*. (forthcoming).

Cristina Ruiz Agudo

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Putnis, C., Wang, L., Ruiz-Agudo, E., Ruiz-Agudo, C. and Renard, F. 2021: Crystallization via Nonclassical Pathways: Nanoscale Imaging of Mineral Surfaces. *Crystallization via Nonclassical Pathways Volume 2: Aggregation, Biomineralization, Imaging & Application: American Chemical Society*, pp. 1-35.

Gruber, D., Ruiz-Agudo, C. and Cölfen, H. 2022: Cationic Coacervates: Novel Phosphate Ionic Reservoir for the Mineralization of Calcium Phosphates [online]. *ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering*. Available here: doi.org/10.1021/acsbomaterials.1c01090

Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin

Thomas, M., Jensen, F.H., Averly, B., Demartsev, V., Manser, M., Sainburg, T., Roch, M., & Strandburg-Peshkin, A. 2022: A practical guide for generating unsupervised, spectrogram-based latent space representations of animal vocalizations. *Journal of Animal Ecology*.

Gaisbauer, F., Strandburg-Peshkin, A., & Giese, H. 2022: Local Majority-with-inertia Rule Can Explain Global Consensus Dynamics in A Network Coordination Game. *Social Networks* 70:218-227.

Segota, I., Strandburg-Peshkin, A., Zhou, XQ, Rachakonda, A., Daie, K., Lussenhop, A., Lee, S., Tharratt, K., Deshmukh, A., Sebesta, E.M., Zhang, M., Lau, S., Bennedson, S., Ginsberg, J., Campbell, T., Wang, C., & Franck, C. 2022: Confirmation and variability of the Allee effect in *Dictyostelium discoideum* cell populations, possible role of chemical signaling within cell clusters. *Physical Biology* 19:026002.

Julian Torres-Dowdall

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Torres-Dowdall, J., Meyer, A. Sympatric and allopatric diversification in the adaptive radiations of Midas cichlids in Nicaraguan Lakes. *The behavior, ecology and evolution of cichlid fishes* 2021

Valeria Vegh Weis

Vegh Weis, V.: Argentine Truth Commission. In Parmentier, S., Romero: *Memory Papers*, Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2022.

Vegh Weis, V., O Friedrichs, D.: Covid-19 and the U.S. Health Care Industry. Towards a 'Critical Health Criminology' within State Crime Studies. *State Crime Journal*, 2021, vol. 10, no. 1, pp. 126-146.

Vegh Weis, V.: *Criminalizing Atrocity: The Global Spread of Criminal Laws against International Crimes*. By Mark S. Berlin, Rg – Legal History, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory (forthcoming 2022)

Vegh Weis, V.: Critical Criminology. In Jones-Brown, D and Barrow, C, *Encyclopedia of Race, Crime, and Justice: An Encyclopedia of the American Mosai*, Greenwood, 2022.

Vegh Weis, V.: *Criminalization of Activism: Historical, Present and Future Perspectives*, London: Routledge, 2021

Vegh Weis, V.: Critical Criminologist Spotlight, DCCSJ Newsletter, Dec. 2021

Vegh Weis, V.: Critical Criminology for the 21st Century, *Howard Journal of Crime and Justice*, Special Issue Critical Criminology Today, vol. 60, no. 3, 2021

Vegh Weis, V., Magnin, B.: Essential Crimes? Essential Punishments? Rethinking Essentiality in the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Critical Criminology*, vol. 29, 2021, pp. 273-288.

Vegh Weis, V.: Exploring the First World's First Successful Truth Commission: Argentina's CONADEP and the Role of Victims in Truth-Seeking, *Journal of Human Rights Practice* (accepted for publication)

Vegh Weis, V.: Operationalizing Injustice. Criminal Selectivity as a Tool for Understanding (and Changing) Criminalization in Argentina, *Criminological Encounters*, vol. 4, no.1, 2021, pp. 13-30

Vegh, Weis, V.: Report | Valeria Vegh Weis on her new edited collection *Criminalization of Activism*, Centre for Spatial, Environmental and Cultural Politics, Dec. 2021

Vegh Weis, V.: Review of Tony Platt. *Beyond these Walls: Rethinking Crime and Punishment in the United States*. *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict & World Order*, vol. 47, 2021, pp. 1-2.

Vegh Weis, V., Raúl Zaffaroni, E., Caamaño, C.: *The Criminalization of Democratic Politics in the Global South*, Brill, 2022. Republished in paperback. Haymarket Books, 2022

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Vegh Weis, V., Zysmna, D.: White Collar-Crime (or the Remaining BlindSpot in Criminology and Transitional Justice). *Journal of White Collar and Corporate Crime*, vol. 1., 2021, pp. 1-3.

Vegh Weis, V.: Who Can Organize and Exercise Effective Resistance? A Victim-Driven Approach to Confront State Crime, *Theoretical Criminology* (accepted for publication)

Vegh Weis, V., Sosa, J.: *Construyendo Política Post-Carcelaria desde Abajo*. In Gusic, G. and Barresi, M. *Dolor y Punición*, Buenos Aires: Ediar, 2022, pp. 579-594.

Vegh Weis, V.: *Criminologías y Géneros. Por una Reforma Judicial Feminista y Antipunitivista*. In Red de Profesoras de Derecho de la Universidad, *Reforma Judicial Feminista*, Buenos Aires: Editores del Sur, 2021.

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James Wilson

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For the public



Story with digital content

Both the Zukunftskolleg and its fellows are present in both the public debate and public media by offering talks and events that are open to the whole of society. In the following chapter, you can find a selection of public events that took place in the past year:

Public event series “Racism in Academia”

On 9 February 2022, in the framework of the Zukunftskolleg public event series “Racism in Academia”, Máximo Sozzo (Professor of Sociology of Law and Criminology at the National University of Litoral, Argentina) and Magdalena Candiotti (Researcher of the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) at the Instituto de Historia Argentina y Americana “Dr Emilio Ravignani”) gave a public talk.

Máximo Sozzo: “Southernizing and decolonizing criminology: discussions and perspectives”

In recent years, various perspectives have emerged that have led to the need to decolonize and southernize the field of criminology, generating a debate that has been gaining importance internationally, as has happened in other fields of the social sciences. In this presentation, an overview of the main discussions that have been triggered was outlined, trying to identify agreements and disagreements, some tentative routes for future developments and some concrete examples of significant progress in this direction.

Magdalena Candiotti: “The abolition of slavery in Spanish South America (1810-1870): inter-American dialogues and experimentations”

The abolition of slavery in Spanish South America is one of the least studied of the Western Hemisphere and needs to be integrated into the history of global abolition. This presentation reconstructed the anti-slavery policies adopted in contemporary Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela and presented some of the elites’ inter-South American dialogues that frame them. Secondly, it sought to demonstrate the inseparable character between gradual abolitionist laws and a set of strategies to control emancipated persons by creating ambiguous legal status for them.

Valeria Vegh Weis (Research Fellow / Department of Law & Literature) chaired the event.

TEDxKonstanz 2022 (funded by the Zukunftskolleg)

The TEDxKonstanz 2022 event took place on 6 May 2022 at the Kulturzentrum am Münster, Konstanz. The motto “Infinitely Far, Infinitely Close” was explored by a range of different speakers, addressing topics such as space exploration, sustainable farming, genetics, synthetic biology, virtual reality, aerial photography, material engineering, and much more. Research Fellow Cristina Ruiz Agudo (Chemistry) and Associated Fellow Alejandra Quiros (Computer and Information Science) gave a presentation. Associated Fellow Caterina Moruzzi co-organised the event. TEDxKonstanz 2022 was organised by volunteers from the Konstanz community, the University of Konstanz and the HTWG Konstanz – University of Applied Sciences.

tedxkonstanz.com

About TEDx

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a programme of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TED Talks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx programme, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

TED is a non-profit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less) delivered by today’s leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED’s annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman. TED’s open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include TED.com, where new TED Talk videos are posted daily; the TED Translators Programme, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from thousands of volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative TED-Ed; the annual million-dollar TED Prize, which funds exceptional individuals with a “wish” or idea to create change in the world; TEDx, which provides licences to thousands of individuals and groups who host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the TED Fellows programme, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

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Caterina Moruzzi
Associated Fellow



Alejandra Quiros
Associated Fellow



Cristina Ruiz Agudo
Research Fellow

Film screening “No Straight Lines – The Rise of Queer Comics”

On 12 May 2022, the Zebra Kino Konstanz organized a film event in cooperation with the Equal Opportunity Office, the Zukunftskolleg and the student union Uniqueer (University of Konstanz).

“No Straight Lines” tells the story of five scrappy and pioneering cartoonists who depicted everything from the AIDS crisis, coming out and same-sex marriage to themes of race, gender and disability. They tackled the humour in queer lives in a changing world and the everyday pursuits of love, sex and community. Their work is funny, smart and profound, and provides a unique, uncensored window into LGBTQ lives from the 1970s onwards, beginning at a time when there was no other genuine queer storytelling in popular culture. Equally engaging are their personal journeys, as they, against all odds, helped build a queer comics underground that has been able to grow and evolve in remarkable ways.

Improtheater by the Zukunftskolleg at the Long Night of the Sciences

On 14 May 2022, the Long Night of the Sciences took place at the University of Konstanz as well as at the Bodenseeforum, HTWG Konstanz – University of Applied Sciences) and PHTG (Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau).

Within this context, the Zukunftskolleg extended an invitation to an Improtheater entitled “Impro(ve) the future” at the university’s Studiobühne, where Gabriella Gall (Biology), Noelia Martínez Doallo (Law) and Jacob Bloomfield (Literature) presented their research, which was improvised by performers from the Improtheater Konstanz.

The starting point for the Improtheater were these abstracts:

Jacob Bloomfield:

Tutti Frutti: Little Richard, Sex, Gender, and Transgression in America and Europe

The project investigates the extraordinary career of musician Little Richard. Covering the years 1955-64, the project explores a wide range of facets related to Richard’s career through its examination of a central question: How did the singer become one of the most successful figures in mid-twentieth-century popular music, achieving groundbreaking popularity with cross-racial audiences in the US and Europe, while consciously predicating his persona on male effeminacy and the suggestion of same-sex desire?

Using Richard’s career, music and image as a case study, Jacob illuminates how post-war Western audiences interpreted gender nonconformity, sexual difference, black masculinities, contemporary popular music and Americana.

Noelia Martínez Doallo:

Is there a moral duty to participate in (bio)medical research?

Insofar as (bio)medical research has the potential of improving the life quality of the whole of society, it is to be considered as an important scientific activity that should be upheld by everybody. Nonetheless, the existence of healthcare and pharmaceutical markets with a focus on making economic profit, along with certain ethically questionable practices, has led to mistrust towards (bio)medical science practices in general and (bio)medical research in particular. The advancement of (bio)medical sciences certainly requires collective efforts, as human testing exemplifies. Yet the construction of a genuinely fair scheme of cooperation requires the democratization of (bio)medical sciences as a prior step, since all the parties involved deserve to be placed in conditions of material equality. Uncontroversially, a fair-minded scheme of cooperation can be built on the culture of universal human rights, theories of justice and

democratic values. In her postdoctoral research, Noelia will set the main pillars of this enterprise from an interdisciplinary perspective, i.e. merging moral and political philosophy, law, economics and (bio)medical sciences in an effort to foster a holistic slant.

Gabriella Gall:

Exploring the effect of early experience on individual vocal flexibility and group functioning

Many animals live together in social groups and benefit from this community, for example, through reduced predation pressure or increased reproductive success. However, such a community also means that animals with different needs have to adapt to each other and compromise accordingly in order to remain in the group. To make and influence group decisions, many animals use acoustic signals. In her project, Gabriella seeks to understand how the ability to coordinate with others and to influence others with their own signals evolves, what the mechanism of such coordination is, and how far individual differences in coordination ability affect animal survival and reproductive success. She is investigating these questions in pheasants and chickens because it is possible to raise, observe and manipulate them in the laboratory under controlled conditions right from the egg and then either release them (in the case of pheasants) or keep them in the field (in the case of chickens) and thereby measure the effect of experience on animal survival and reproduction, particularly in the case of pheasants.



Public Lecture “Queer History”

On 17 May 2022 (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia, Transphobia, Asexualphobia), the Equal Opportunity Office – in collaboration with the Zukunftskolleg, the student union Uniqueer (University of Konstanz) and the Zebra Kino Konstanz – organized a public lecture on “Queer History”.

At this event, which was part-lecture and part-interactive workshop, Jacob Bloomfield gave an introduction to queer histories, methodologies and artefacts. He provided some scintillating anecdotes from queer history that might impress a date to attend the next drag ball, and he offered the listeners the opportunity to walk in the shoes/sequined heels of a queer historian by analyzing some genuine archival sources.

Public Talk: “Whose child are you?” – Past, present and future”

On 22 June 2022, the Zukunftskolleg extended an invitation to the witness talk with Tswi Herschel and his daughter Natali Herschel entitled “Whose child are you?” – Past, present and future”.

Tswi Herschel was born into a Jewish family in the Netherlands in December 1942. After the young family was deported to the Amsterdam ghetto in the spring of 1943, the parents manage to smuggle the infant out. A family active in the resistance took Tswi in. After the war, he was taken by his grandmother from his foster family and brought up in the Jewish tradition. In 1986, Tswi Herschel emigrated to Israel with his family. His story of survival is so special because he only learned his true identity and the history of his family at a late stage and little by little. It was not until he was 21 that he received all the remaining documents of his murdered parents. Among them was a unique life calendar that his father had drawn for him. Tswi Herschel’s testimony was supplemented by a contribution from his daughter Natali, who described the impact of the Shoah on the generation of children and grandchildren of the survivors.

The event was organized by the Initiative Stolpersteine für Konstanz – Gegen Vergessen und Intoleranz, in cooperation with BiSE and the Zukunftskolleg.



European NetIAS Lecture Series – Topic “Knowledge in the Digital Age”

The European NetIAS Lecture Series is organized jointly by the institutes participating in NetIAS. In the 2021/22 winter semester and the 2022 summer semester, the New Europe College was responsible for organizing the current **series of conferences**.

Researchers from different fields and from various European centres reflected on **knowledge in a digital age**.

28 October 2021

Constantin Ardeleanu

Professor of Modern History, The Lower Danube University of Galați (Romania)

Long-term Fellow, New Europe College, Bucharest (Romania)

“Cruising through Europe’s South-Eastern Periphery in the Nineteenth Century: Steamships, the Transportation-Communication Revolution and ‘Social Media’”

The advent of steamships on the world’s rivers and seas revolutionized economic, political and cultural realities wherever they started plying. Steamships served as agents of modernization that galvanized regional and global mobility with their ability to transport passengers and cargo relatively inexpensively, rapidly and safely. This paper aims to turn steamships into arenas of global history and explore the social dimension of cruising by looking at the sociality engendered by the coming of the transportation revolution to the Black Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean. While gliding along a politically disputed borderland that separated – and connected – the Austrian, Ottoman and Russian empires, steamships themselves became a busy platform, where voyagers from all corners of the globe engaged in various social exchanges.

25 November 2021

Violeta Ivanova-Rohling

Postdoctoral Fellow, Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz (Germany)

“Machine-learning Approaches for Debugging a Quantum Computer”

In the past decades, the mounting evidence that quantum algorithms can solve specific tasks with efficiency beyond the capability of a state-of-the-art classical computer has attracted tremendous interest in the field. A turning point was Shor’s algorithm for prime factorization, a polynomial quantum algorithm solving a problem that is hard for classical computers. A fully functioning all-purpose quantum device would have an enormous impact on our lives, with applications in science, drug discovery, disaster preparedness, space exploration and environmental sustainability, among many others. As a consequence, an increasing number of countries and companies are investing billions of dollars in a race to produce and commercialize the quantum computer. Various physical systems for quantum computation have already been developed, and hybrid quantum algorithms, which aim at solving optimization problems more efficiently, can run on existing noisy intermediate-sized quantum devices. However, a full-size general-purpose quantum computer is still out of reach. One of the difficulties in developing such a device is that as the size and complexity of the quantum computer grow, more sophisticated techniques for calibration and evaluation of their performance are required in order to develop fault-tolerant devices. Quantum state tomography (QST) is a prominent technique for the verification of a quantum computer, which allows for the reconstruction of a given quantum state from measurement data. By providing comprehensive information for a given quantum state, QST is known as the “gold standard” for the verification of a quantum device. However, its computational costs make it infeasible for a system larger than a few qubits. Moreover, it can be time-consuming even for small systems, i.e. building blocks of a quantum computer of only one or two qubits. Efficient QST would be an important step to making a general-purpose quantum device possible. One aspect of the efficiency of the QST procedure depends on the choice of the measurement scheme, which determines the number of measurements needed to perform the QST. Finding a measurement scheme that minimizes the number of required measurements can be formulated as an optimization problem. Ivanova-Rohling’s work focuses on applying and developing various optimization and machine-learning methods, with the goal of finding measurement schemes that minimize the number of measurements needed. By using prior knowledge of the landscape of potential solutions, such as particular symmetries and invariances, it would be possible to improve the exploration of search space and find optimal measurement schemes.

16 December 2021

Lino Camprubí

Ramón y Cajal Researcher, University of Sevilla (Spain)
Resident, Institut d'Etudes Avancées d'Aix-Marseille Université (France)

“Knowing the Earth in the Digital Era”

In the popular imagination, earth and environmental scientists are adventurous explorers ready to fight the elements in the field, on the mountain peak, in the dark cave or the blue ocean. This naturalist type still exists in real life. But much of the knowledge generated about the Earth in the last decades has come from remote sensors gathering and processing data that scientists then study on their computers. What is lost and what is gained? In this conference, the question was explored historically and philosophically, with special attention to the role of digital and satellite data in ocean sciences.

27 January 2022

Ruben Pauwels

Biomedical Scientist, Associate Professor, the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies (Denmark)

“Evolution of the Radiology Profession due to Artificial Intelligence”

In this talk, a particular example of ‘Knowledge in a Digital Era’ was discussed. Digitization of medical imaging started well over 30 years ago and is still ongoing. Within this time span, certain innovations did not require a significant adaptation in radiological know-how (e.g. photostimulable phosphor plate), whereas other technologies required significant adaptations of training curricula and/or additional postgraduate certification (e.g. CT, MRI). Currently, artificial intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the radiological landscape. Following the development of highly performant algorithms for deep learning, along with the ever-increasing computational power available to us, the use of AI for diagnostics as well as image processing has been explored. While the development of clinical AI tools is very much work in progress, the hype around AI has already raised several questions regarding its impact on the radiological profession. Although it is generally believed that radiologists will not become obsolete any time soon, and that the ultimate responsibility for a patient’s diagnosis and treatment will remain in human hands, several questions can be raised regarding the effect of AI on the required knowledge and competencies of future radiologists. Most of the current perspectives regarding the use of AI in radiology are somewhat simplified and static, and focus mainly on the ways in which AI can enhance the diagnostic workflow (‘augmented radiology’). The reality, however, may be much more complex and dynamic, and might require a significant alteration to the training requirements of radiologists or, perhaps, the inception of an entirely new profession.

31 March 2022

James D. Hollan

Professor of Cognitive Science and Computer Science, University of California, San Diego
2021/2022 Fellow, Paris Institute for Advanced Study

“Addressing the Challenge of Human-Technology Partnership in the Digital Era: A Human-Centred Information Space Approach”

“The computer desktop was an amazing design for its time, but does not reflect the complexity, flexibility, and sociality of human activity...Eventually we will have to reorganize the desktop to reflect the complex mix of activities users engage in and move beyond the rigidity of separate applications and files-and-folders.” – Bonnie Nardi, *Acting with Technology: Activity Theory and Interaction Design*, 2009.

For far too long we have conceived of thinking as something that happens exclusively in our heads. Thinking happens in the world as well as in the head. We think with things, with our bodies, with marks on surfaces and with other people. Increasingly, we think with computers, often the one we carry with us everywhere. Computers are now ubiquitous and embedded in virtually every new device and system, ranging from the omnipresent cell phone to the complex web of socio-technical systems that pervade and shape modern life. They connect our activities to ever-expanding information resources with previously unimaginable computational power. Yet with all the increases in capacity, speed and connectivity, computer-mediated

information activities remain fragmented and frustrating.

Designing the future of work at the human-technology frontier is one of the ten long-term science and engineering challenges identified by the National Science Foundation in the US. In this presentation, Hollan argued that a core aspect of this challenge arises from an unquestioned view of information systems as collections of separate passive tools rather than active partners. The scale of information available and the sophisticated cognition demanded by contemporary information work has outpaced innovation in user interfaces. In modern computing systems, information is encapsulated in silos, leaving users to shuttle files between applications, cobbling together workflows, requiring troublesome context switching and increasing attentional demands. In short, we lack a human-centred information work space, a cognitively supportive visual space for intellectual work.

A human-centred information space is both an idea and a computational environment. It is the idea of a spatial cognitive workspace – a desktop for intellectual activity – reified as a computational environment that actively supports the coordination of information activities. It should develop awareness of the history and structure of a user’s action: how they accomplish activities through discrete tasks across devices, programmes and working sessions. Through use, each representation in the linked computational environment accumulates structure and context: not only who accessed it and when, but relationships to concurrent and other semantically related information and activities. This context and history of activity should drive the behaviour of information representations. To the user, their information should seem alive, have awareness, know where it came from, how it got there, what it means – and behave accordingly. These dynamic representations will in turn guide the user’s future action, providing a supportive personalized information context. It is important to emphasize that the human-centred information space will not replace the user’s ecosystem of documents and applications, but be a separate space linked to them, acting as a home, a control centre, a multi-modal but fundamentally ‘spatial workshop’, where information across applications will converge, augmented with visual features and active behaviours to support the user in not only completing their tasks, but accomplishing long-term overarching activities.

**This presentation benefitted from a FIAS Fellowship at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study (France). It has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 945408, and from the French State programme “Investissements d’avenir”, managed by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR-11-LABX-0027-01 Labex RFIEA+).*

28 April 2022

Nadine Suttmöller

Postdoctoral Researcher, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld University
Coordinator, Research Group Economic and Legal Challenges in the Advent of Smart Products

“Filter Clashes and Democracy: The Dissemination of Information via Social Media and its Impact on Freedom”

Media and, increasingly, social media play a key role in democratic societies by disseminating information. However, the new instruments and their dynamics are fundamentally changing this game: as often explained, the new media are characterized in particular by the algorithmically controlled curation of content based on collected data. To avoid information overload, the filtering approach makes perfect sense. However, at the same time, this procedure raises questions that strike at the heart of a democratically ordered society: What impact do these activities have on individual freedom? What does this mean for shaping social coexistence? And what consequences do these developments have for the democratic system? The claim to grant citizens equal freedoms is an essential component of democracy. This enables people to work together, since everyone can assume that they do not have to fear for their place in society. Social networks and their dynamics are increasingly calling this essential requirement into question: the user-specific presentation of content creates different horizons of experience. The phenomenon of the filter bubble is referred to with concern in this context. The term describes the situation where users no longer participate in the opinions and experiences of others and thus distance themselves from one another. Another fear is that when these different horizons of experience collide, members of society no longer succeed in exchanging ideas with one another. Rather, a deep irritation and speechlessness is to be expected (filter clash). That this is not a wrong premonition was evident at the beginning of 2021, when increasingly hardened fronts could be observed in disputes in the wake of the 2020 US election, with participants facing each other aggressively. This development poses a threat to freedom in that members of society are increasingly given the feeling that they have to fight for and defend their

own views and opinions. This can be impressively demonstrated not least by the storming of the Capitol on 6 January. In this situation, it was no longer possible to exchange views and develop common solutions based on fundamentally shared knowledge. This ultimately endangers democratic order, since social connectedness is increasingly lacking, and thus trust that cooperation is possible cannot be readily assumed. To consider the issues raised, Suttmöller linked different disciplines (including computer science, media studies) and, in particular, illuminated the situation from the perspective of political philosophy – especially in the context of John Rawls's theory.

26 May 2022

Roar Høstaker

Professor of Sociology, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences
2020 Fellow, Nantes Institute for Advanced Study

“Including or Excluding Context – from the Information Crisis to Natural Language Processing”

A common thread in the debates over the digital age, since its inception in the 1940s, is the question whether information must have a meaning or not. Or, whether a text depends on its context or not. Both meaning and context are at times kept away from being relevant topics in these debates, but they somehow come back again: from the controversies between librarians and documentalists in the 1950s to mass digitization of books and the contemporary controversy over the sources for the datasets in Natural Language Processing (NLP). The talk looked into some of these debates in order to show how and why the question of context and meaning tends to return.

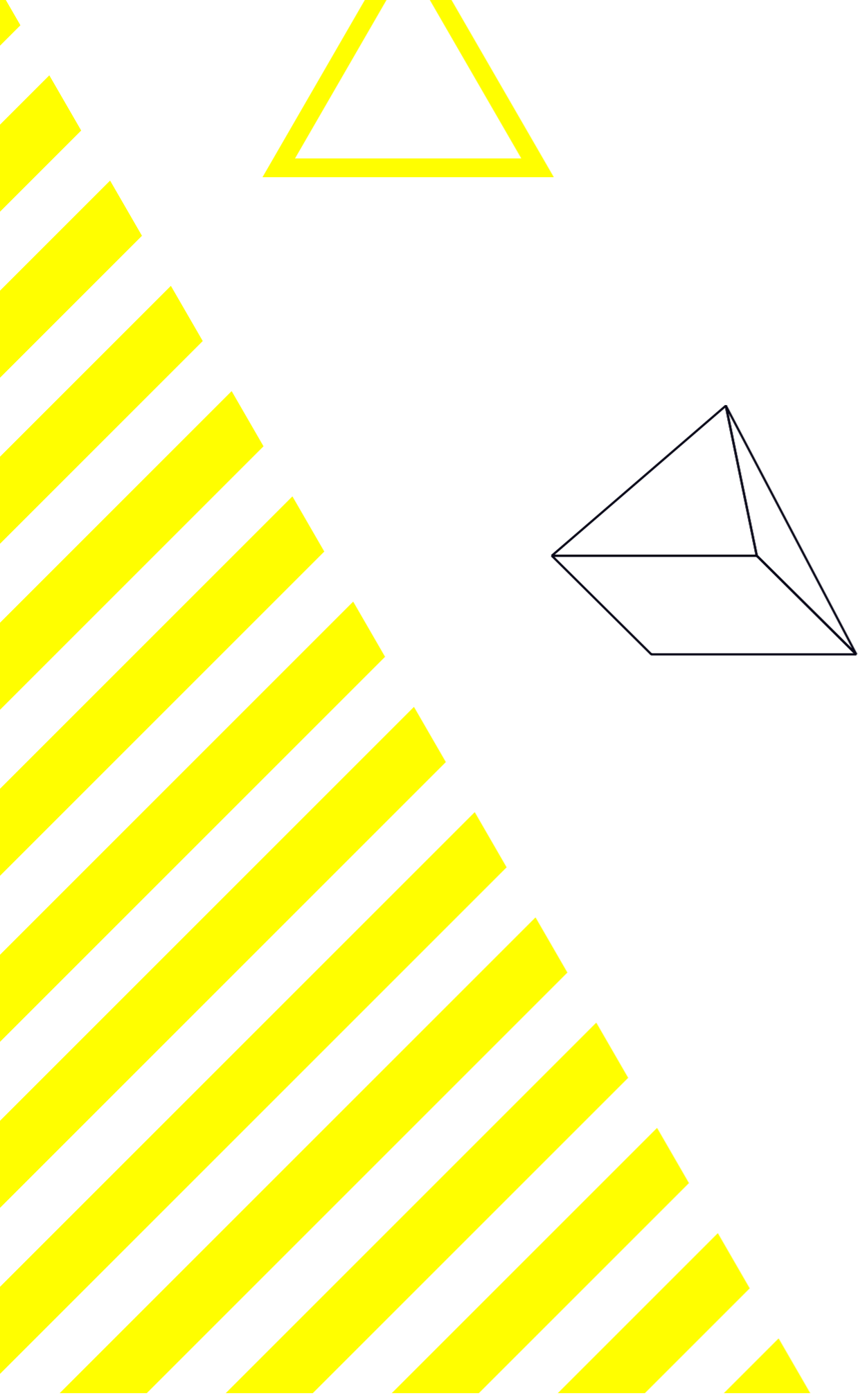
30 June 2022

Jennifer Guiliano

Associate Professor, Department of History, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis, USA
2022 Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh

“Decolonizing Knowledge Production through Linked Open Data”

A hallmark of the North American colonial process was the production and dissemination of knowledge about Indigenous peoples through the journals and records of colonizers. The violent and virulent practices that led to widespread disease, genocide, trauma and displacement in the Americas were bolstered by data collection and distribution that relied on the physical death and cultural destruction of Indigenous peoples. Equally as damaging were 20th century preservation efforts by non-Indigenous peoples that form the core of most cultural heritage collections. Analogue archival collections about Native American, First Nations and Indigenous peoples were constructed through “salvage” ethnography that sought to document “disappearing” peoples. Collectors, anthropologists and historians embarked on decades-long collecting efforts that led to the extraction (forcibly and otherwise) of cultural objects, knowledge and even physical bodies from Native communities. They created the data culture that most historians operate within as they work with indigenous materials. Historians are struggling to connect data and decolonize data practices so that they align with indigenous communities and their ways of knowing. This becomes further complicated by the fact that an overwhelming amount of historical data is held by colonial repositories and not Native communities who have different epistemological and cultural priorities. There are general ethical and epistemological issues to which researchers need to be attentive when exposing historical materials (especially photographs, documents and artifacts) authored by and about Indigenous peoples. First and foremost, there is the issue of identity politics: Who has the right to speak for/about whom and what role should non-members play in articulating a community's history, authority or beliefs? Significantly, in colonial-centric collections, only legal access is required and/or commonly completed. Every community, every tribe, and even a single family might differ in their sense of what is appropriate for research or reuse and dissemination. When national borders divide those families, the question of research ethics becomes more complex. Can linked open data account for any of these issues or does it rely on colonial systems of knowledge production that cannot be teased apart from issues of rights and access? This presentation highlighted preliminary answers to these questions, while seeking to present a vision of what a collaborative, shared authority model of indigenous digital humanities and digital history would look like.



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