What changes took place at the Zukunftskolleg in early 2013? – The new members of the Scientific Advisory Board held their first meeting, new 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellows arrived; "old" Fellows left us, and took on challenging positions in academia. Furthermore all the Fellows were successful in raising grants, giving lectures or publishing their latest research results. Read more on the following pages.

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Concerning the Zukunftskolleg

Executive Committee Meetings

The recent Executive Committee Meetings were held on January 9 and 31 (winter term 2012/13) as well as on April 22 (first meeting in summer term 2013). The EC members had gathered on March 19, for their regular strategic meeting in the Water Tower in Konstanz to discuss general questions. One important topic involved the question of organising the first meeting of the new Scientific Advisory Board for the Zukunftskolleg on April 18 and 19 at the university. Furthermore, the EC discussed questions relating to the Mentorship Programme for all Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg and the status of 2-year and 5-year Fellows, as well as of Fellows in transitional positions. They planned future calls for Fellowships and discussed the sustainability of the Zukunftskolleg after the Excellence Initiative comes to its end.

At the regular EC-meeting on April 22, the members approved some of the topics
discussed at the strategic meeting, as well as several proposals submitted by Fellows for the nomination of Senior Fellows and for co-funding their research projects, equipment and resources, as well as conferences and workshops.

Scientific Advisory Board Meeting

On April 18 and 19, the new members of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Zukunftskolleg held their first meeting in Konstanz. The first day started in the evening with a guided tour led by historian Harald Derschka through the historic premises of the Steigenberger Inselhotel, a former cloister. On Friday morning, the rector of the University of Konstanz, Ulrich Rüdiger, opened the meeting in the Senate Hall and welcomed the new board members as well as the director and Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg. Joachim Netzelbeck, former member of the Scientific Advisory Board, gave a review of the work of recent years. This was then followed up by a short round of introductions by the new members of the Scientific Advisory Board, before the Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg presented their research in Lightning Talks. The director of the Zukunftskolleg, Giovanni Galizia, gave an overview of the status quo for the Zukunftskolleg and the expectations of the Scientific Advisory Board. In the following round table discussion, important questions were discussed in the plenum. After lunch in the Common Room at the Zukunftskolleg, the Scientific Advisory Board met for an internal meeting, before providing feedback on the future development of the Zukunftskolleg for the director, the Executive Committee and the Back Office.

Funding Instruments

Last Call for New Fellowships

As far as the final call for proposals (closing date for applications was August 26, 2012) is concerned, the final “Workshop on Future Research Directions” was held in January from 10-11, 2013. The Recruitment Committee decided to offer nine candidates that applied for the 5-year Research Fellowships with a position at the Zukunftskolleg. Three of them are co-funded by the Marie Curie Zukunftskolleg Incoming Fellowship (ZIF), a European Union Cofund Programme (for more information see below), and six provided by the German Excellence Initiative. These are:

5-year Research Fellowships (ExIni):
1. Magdalena Balcerak Jackson, Philosophy
2. Daniele Brida, Physics
3. Roxana Halbleib, Economics
4. Daniel Plaumann, Mathematics
5. Torsten Pietsch, Physics
6. Elena Rosseeva, Chemistry

ZIF Marie Curie 5-year Research Fellowships:
1. Maria Cruz Berrocal, History
2. Janine Kirstein-Miles, Biology (position declined)
3. Nils Weidmann, Politics and Public Administration

Some of the Fellows have already started working at the Zukunftskolleg, while others will follow over the next few months.
Current call for new Fellowships

In its most recent call for proposals, (the closing date for applications was March 15, 2013), the Zukunftskolleg received more than 180 applications for the 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellowships, as part of the Marie Curie Zukunftskolleg Incoming Fellowship Programme (ZIF) supported by the European Union Cofund Programme. The Recruitment Committee chose 35 finalists for the 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowships and 4 finalists for the 5-year Research Fellowships. These applications will be judged by external peer reviewers. In its next meeting on June 17, the Committee will select the final 15 candidates for the 2-year Fellowships. The candidates for the 5-year Research Fellowships were invited to take part in the "Workshop on Future Research Directions" at the University of Konstanz, which will also be held on June 17. After the Workshop, the Committee will make the final decision concerning the 5-year Fellowships.

The Zukunftskolleg offers the following Fellowships:

- **ZIF Marie Curie 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowships** (for any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz, Salary Scale 13 TV-L) for researchers in the early stage of their career to enable them to develop and implement individual and independent research projects. This call for proposals is part of the Zukunftskolleg Incoming Fellowship Program (ZIF) and is financed by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) Marie Curie Actions – People (co-funding by regional, national and international programmes), the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the University of Konstanz. The rules and ethical principles for FP7 and the DFG guidelines apply. These Fellowships will begin on September 1, 2013, and will end on August 31, 2015.

- **ZIF Marie Curie 5-year Research Fellowships** (for any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz, with a Salary Scale of 14 TV-L) to develop and implement individual research projects. This call for proposals is part of the Zukunftskolleg Incoming Fellowship Programme (ZIF) and is financed by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) Marie Curie Actions – People (co-funding for regional, national and international programmes), the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the University of Konstanz. The rules and ethical principles for FP7 and the DFG guidelines apply. The Fellowships will begin on November 1, 2013, and end on October 31, 2018.

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<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>2-year</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>137</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
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1 double application (2-year and 5-year), Biology

Gender

- Female: 88
- Male: 114
- Total: 182
Co-funding
The Executive Committee and the Director of the Zukunftskolleg approved 18 applications for start-up funding, student assistants, travel allowances and consumables between December 2012 and April 2013 for a total amount of 75,811.41 Euros.

Events

Jour Fixe
When Females Love Long Swords – Jour Fixe speech by Julia Jones, December 13, 2012

“Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution” – a sentence spoken by evolitional biologist Theodosius Dobzhansky (1900-1975) which also guides the work done by Julia Jones. Starting with the evolution of bees, she continued to study butterflies and is currently working with fish. In her Jour Fixe speech of December 13, she spoke about “Evolution and Speciation in Xiphophorus Fish: a New Genomic perspective”. And it was this perspective that gave her audience an interesting insight into some interesting questions in evolutionary biology in general, and those that Julia Jones aims to address: These include: How do new species arise? How is diversity maintained? And what is the genomic architecture behind this diversity? To answer these questions Julia Jones travelled to Mexico and went fishing. Not just for any fish, but rather, Xiphophorus fish (xiphos = sword, phorein = wear, carry), small freshwater fish endemic to Meso-America that include 26 different species.

Julia was particularly interested in three species: Xiphophorus (X.) hellerii, X. maculatus and X. clemenciae. She wanted to find out how hybridisation and speciation occurs within these species. Differences in the evolutionary relationships were estimated to lie between various Xiphophorus species, when such estimations are based on various genetic markers, suggests that at least two Xiphophorus species arose through hybridisation events. Under laboratory conditions X. helleri and X. maculatus hybridise, the offspring is fertile and males have intermediate sword lengths (or elongated caudal fins) similar to X. clemenciae (one of the putative hybrid species).

In addition, further support for the influence of hybridisation in the evolutionary history of these fish comes from their behaviour: X. maculatus females (whose males don’t have a sword) prefer males with a sword, a preference that could have encouraged hybridisation between the species. However, in the wild, Julia and her team couldn’t find any evidence for ongoing hybridisation between these species. Even where species occur in the same
streams and ponds, the molecular data revealed clear and consistent genetic differences between these species. Furthermore, ecological niche data indicated extensive separation between X. maculatus in particular, and the other two species. In addition, the molecular results of the study suggest that there is a large amount of genetic differentiation, even within individual species. Tectonic activity in the region appears to have created a barrier causing geographic isolation and potentially leading to further speciation events.

Julia concluded her speech with further questions based on this interesting fish system: How do exaggerated male traits (like the sword) evolve and what is the role of natural versus sexual selection? To try and address these questions, Julia Jones took samples from all Xiphophorus species and is using next generation sequencing techniques to obtain high-resolution estimates of the evolutionary relationships among these fish. Excitingly, these sequencing results provide part of the framework for understanding the impact of hybridisation events throughout the entire genome.

**Signs – Jour Fixe speech given by Karim Becher, on January 17, 2013**

It was his second Jour Fixe speech at the Zukunftskolleg. While he spoke about “numbers” the first time, and this time he decided to tell his audience about “signs”: “This speech is not about a mathematical topic, it is rather about the role of notation for mathematics”, Karim Becher introduced. “It is based on my readings from the last two weeks, leading me into basic responses about my own research field. It is nothing more than an accumulation of sketchy, possibly inspiring or entertaining thoughts.” So he started his speech by telling a short story: A colleague’s young daughter once said to her maths teacher at school: “My mother also does mathematics. But she calculates with letters rather than numbers.” Karim explained that non-mathematicians often wonder how mathematicians can communicate by word and mouth about such an abstract and formal topic such as maths. They ask whether the mathematical signs and drawings actually mean anything or whether they are just a fake. Karim admitted that he sometimes asks these questions himself. But on the other hand, he confessed that oral communication about mathematics, the fact that it is possible to exchange and generate abstract ideas in the air with words, signs, and drawings, is what he likes about the subject.

Building on three points, Karim illustrated the role and development of notation in various mathematical eras: antiquity, the beginning of the modern age in the 16th/17th century and the turn of the 20th century. Around 600 B.C., many deep mathematical facts – procedures for computation and geometrical construction – in Arithmetic and Geometry, had already been discovered, in particular by the Egyptians and Babylonians. But their ideas had little to do with the type of mathematics such as we understand it today. They introduced rigorous reasoning, showing dependencies between various claims.

After an extremely prolific period in pure mathematics with an emphasis on geometry in Ancient Greece, it took roughly 15 centuries for mathematics to once again enter into an area of
continuous progress. Nevertheless, over these 15 centuries, many important mathematical discoveries, in particular in arithmetic, have been made and this gradually began to create the basis for a new discipline: Algebra. According to Karim, the success story for Algebra is connected to the slowly growing acceptance to use symbols that do not need to have a meaning at each step in the way, i.e. the calculation as such.

The use of notation in mathematics, especially the use of symbols for basic operations and of the letters for quantities involved, took until the 16th century. “The crucial importance of notation is not that a word like “unknown” is abbreviated by a letter, e.g. “X”, but rather that mathematical reasoning can be performed by using symbols”, explained the Fellow. He noted that the turn of the 19th to the 20th century was a very important time, since mathematics were then already quite developed. Furthermore notation and formalism in the mathematical language at the time allowed a new view of mathematical proofs, leading to Hilbert’s program and Gödel’s famous incompleteness theorems.

More information about Karim Becher: [http://www.math.uni-konstanz.de/qfi/becher/becher.htm](http://www.math.uni-konstanz.de/qfi/becher/becher.htm)

**Between Words and Numbers – Jour Fixe speech by Gunhild Berg and Zsuzsanna Török, January 24, 2013**

It was a perfect follow-up to Karim's speech, when, after his speech about "Signs" from the previous week, **Gunhild Berg** and **Zsuzsanna Török** spoke about “Words and Numbers – construing Knowledge and Ignorance in Central European Scholarship, 1750-1850". Their presentation was based on a workshop called “Literature between description of the state (Staatenbeschreibung) and statistics. Narratives of Knowledge and Ignorance in Central Europe (1750-1850)", held at the University of Konstanz in December 2012. The event was organised by the two Fellows, plus Marcus Twellmann, affiliated with the Centre of Excellence on the "Cultural Foundations of Social Integration".

Eighteenth-century statistics varied widely from our modern understanding of the discipline. The two Fellows engaged in explaining these differences, as well as the process of shaping modern statistics. They addressed two primary questions: first, what kind of knowledge did contemporary statistics seem to claim and what was left out of its grasp? Secondly, how did literature and other scholarly disciplines (such as pedagogy, psychology) relate to the epistemological claims, results and pretences of the statistical methods? As an answer to these questions, they distinguished between qualitative forms of statistics (Staatenkunde) and quantitative (political arithmetic, statistical tables, probability calculus). According to the renowned professor of the discipline, August Ludwig Schlözer, for the description of the state, a quantifiable (size of a territory, number of inhabitants) was needed and unquantifiable (governmental form and character, inhabitants’ national character) objects. Specifically, this meant that the scholarly version of statistics, “Staatenkunde” used both numbers and descriptions.
Gunhild and Zsuzsa presented case studies to illustrate the use of statistics. As part of her project “A Media History of Knowledge,” Gunhild showed how the tabular notation systems were used in the 18th century for characterising individuals. As the human sciences began to discover a large number of possible impacts on human characters during the 18th century, the demand for voluminous narrations emerged for comprehensive characterisations of individuals. On the quantitative side, tabular notation systems were used for pedagogical, psychological and other practices, on the qualitative side, narrative notation systems like novels, diaries and case studies continued to rule the pedagogical practice.

Zsuzsa reported on “The (relative) Strength of the State: “Staatenkunde” in Hungary around 1800”. She explained how scholars from Hungary tried to determine the parameters of the country in an age when most numerical data relevant for such purposes were not available to the general public. The ratio between territorial extent and the number of inhabitants – a population density of sorts – was such a criterion. The general solution was to use probability estimates and/or a medium count of other data gathered by fellow “statisticians.” No wonder “Staatenkunde” remained largely encyclopaedic in format for a long time, based on descriptions and comparisons. People and produce of the country were classified according to their language, race, religion, profession etc. This method harboured, of course, the huge problem of precision. Furthermore, a lot of data became obsolete by the time such a handbook had received permission from the censors to print these. The birth pangs of modern statistics illustrate that knowledge production was largely dependent on state infrastructure and support.

Zsuzsa and Gunhild finished their speech with the conclusion that the problem area for quantification is connected to gains and losses of the mathematisation of science. In the case of “Staatenkunde”/statistics, this led in the long run to the relegation of descriptions into specific discourses and disciplines. Moreover, as state bureaucracies themselves engaged in producing aggregate numerical statistics, this new knowledge led to the loss of qualitative analyses, and therefore to the production of new ignorance.

More information on Gunhild Berg and Zsuzsanna Török:

http://www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de/people/personendetails/berg-gunhild-205/6338/2415/
http://www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de/people/personendetails/toeroek-zsuzsanna-1042/6338/2415/

Future Visions of the Zukunftskolleg – Visit by the Rector to the Jour Fixe on January 31, 2013
The Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg invited Rector Ulrich Rüdiger to the Jour Fixe at the end of January. The topic was to discuss general questions about the future development of the Zukunftskolleg and, especially its prospects after the Excellence Initiative comes to its end in 2017. Since the Rector is currently working on a structure and development plan for the post 2017 period, he couldn’t make any specific statements and concessions about the future budget of the university. “In 2014, I will have an answer on the budget after 2017”, Ulrich Rüdiger predicted. Moreover it doesn’t seem to be clear yet as far the state government will support the university after 2017.

Besides financial aspects, the Rector was asked about the possibility of having a seat on the Senate for the Zukunftskolleg, represented by Giovanni Galizia, so that the Zukunftskolleg could be integrated better into the university’s various bodies. Ulrich Rüdiger agreed to discuss this in the Senate and in the Rectorate. Furthermore, the Fellows noted possible changes to the structure of the Zukunftskolleg, based on the new ZIF Co-funding programme and the new Fellowship format consisting of 2+5 years. They also emphasised the great advantages of the Zukunftskolleg – early independence and no teaching obligations for the Fellows – plus the necessity to keep this successful model alive after the end of the Excellence Initiative. One problem that the Fellows have to face is the lack of Tenure Track and Transitional Positions for excellent researchers at the University of Konstanz. Eleanor Coghill mentioned that in other countries, such as the UK, the effort aims to keep good people at the universities.

Ulrich Rüdiger admitted: “We don’t have enough permanent positions at “Mittelbau” (non-professorial staff) in Germany. I’m expecting changes to the system of permanent positions, but not in the next five years.” He explained that the so-called “Hausberufungsverbot” (ban on internal appointments) no longer exists, and that all Fellows are able to apply for professorships at the University of Konstanz.

Finally, the Fellows deplored the lack of information flows to the AFF (Ausschuss für Forschungsfragen) at the University of Konstanz. It seems unclear as to whether Fellows can apply for calls from the AFF and the Young Scholar Fund (YSF). Some Fellows experienced that their applications were rejected on the grounds that the Zukunftskolleg has its own internal funds. On the other hand, the ERC encourages Fellows to apply for the YSF. The Rector promised to clarify the misunderstanding, so that Fellows would be able to apply for these funds in the future as well.

Studying Molecular Chameleons – Jour Fixe presentation by Malte Drescher, on February 14, 2013

It was an extremely interactive session that Malte Drescher gave in the last Jour Fixe of the winter term. In order to involve his audience in his presentation, everyone received a classroom response system device. Malte used it to ask several questions related to his speech on “Molecular chameleons studied by ESR Spectroscopy”. Thus, he gained an impression of what his audience knows about chemistry in general, and his research in particular.
Malte started by explaining the basics: Proteins (the main object of his research) are macromolecules, and one molecule consists of several atoms. Then he asked his audience, what the term "protein chameleon" refers to. He gave four possible answers. After thirty seconds, the classroom response system showed clearly that many listeners knew or guessed the correct answer: A "protein chameleon" is a protein that can change its conformity. Using Electronic Spin Resonance (ESR) Spectroscopy, the physicist can analyse the structure and dynamics of macromolecules; therefore a spin label is attached to the macromolecule under study. Based on the ESR spectrum, you can measure the distance between two labels to find out more about the rotational mobility of the spin label. One of the primary aims of the Fellow and his research group is to measure inter- and intramolecular distances in the nanometer range as well as dynamics on time scales of between pico- and microseconds.

Malte illustrated the “benefits” of his studies on the basis of the “protein chameleon” Alpha-Synuclein, – an intrinsically disordered protein that is abundantly present in Lewy bodies (Parkinson’s disease) and where the physiological function is unknown. Investigating its intrinsic disorder can potentially help to find healing methods for Parkinson’s disease. So Malte's group determined that the structure in the protein chameleon adapts when interacting with membranes. At the end of his speech, Malte mentioned further uses of ESR Spectroscopy: to analyze the Human Telomeric DNA and In-Cell ESR. For More information about Malte Drescher see: www.uni-konstanz.de/drescher

Zukunftskolleg Lecture

Benevolence – a Conceptual Approach
Zukunftskolleg Lecture with Senior Fellow Christoph Fehige, January 31, 2013

What is benevolence? – In a word, it is the attitude of wanting others to fare and do well. But perhaps the easiest way to answer the question is to show a picture of Saint Martin, who cut his coat in two and shares it with a beggar to help him.
“This special case of wanting somebody to be happy is one fibre, so to speak, of Saint Martin’s benevolence”, explains Christoph Fehige. “And you and I are further examples; presumably, we all at least want the lives of our friends to do well, and so we all are, at least in that respect, benevolent. In the extreme, a person could be universally benevolent: That person could care about the happiness of every entity in the universe – past, present, or future, small or large, human or non-human.”

“People’s concern for other people’s well-being is an enormous matter”, says the Senior Fellow. The absence or presence, the weakness or strength of that attitude shapes our private and public lives so significantly that many disciplines make a point of studying it. Evolutionary biologists, motivational psychologists, and behavioural economists, for example, are deeply involved. And so are moral philosophers, since one of the largest fields of philosophy is ethics, or moral philosophy, and benevolence plays a significant role in that field. It does so because most moralities are, at least partly, concerned with happiness. Many of them say that you have the moral obligation to maximise happiness; or that a world is better, the more happiness it contains; or that you yourself, as a moral agent, are better the more you want people to be happy. Each of these claims has the consequence that benevolence is of great value – either as a means or as an end in itself.

“There are many aspects about benevolence that can be, and indeed have been, studied”, the philosopher points out. Quite a few of them can be subsumed under the heading: “To what extent, (e.g., towards whom, and under what circumstances) are people benevolent, and why?” But the main focus of Christoph Fehige's speech was not one of issues, but rather one of the conceptual connection between a person's benevolence on the one hand, and its situational preferences on the other. Situational preferences are a person's preferences as far as to what to do, all things considered, in a specific situation – for example, when it meets a naked beggar. These “situational preferences” are what many economists would call a choice function. In that terminology, the question would be: How does a person's general attitude – in this case benevolence – relate to that person’s choice function? To visualise the relationship between a person’s benevolence and its situational preferences, Christoph Fehige presented a diagramme in which he clarified the question in several respects and then outlined the answer he proposes. He suggests distilling from each situational preference a numerical value (the situational benevolence value, abbreviated as SBV), which is the
average of the amounts of happiness in those worlds that – among all the possible worlds that make up the respective situation – a person favours; the SBVs from all conceivable situations are then processed in an additive spirit.

Furthermore, he illustrated how some significant issues about benevolence and the connections between those issues, unfold in that framework. Although the focus and the strength of benevolence are covered – and are reflected in the amount of benevolence – they are covered and reflected in a non-standard approach. While each situational benevolence value on its own says very little about focus and strength, the completeness of such values says a great deal.

As to the morally notorious issue of impartiality, it is important to distinguish between various kinds of partiality in benevolence, and then to ask about each kind separately and as to how it affects the amount and the value of benevolence.

During his speech, Christoph Fehige admitted that whenever the focus is on concepts rather than empirical facts, there is a risk that things become too theoretical: that the inquiry leads to an empty terminological machinery, not translatable into experiments and too removed from the real world. “On the other hand”, he noted, “that there is a chance of substantial benefits: The conceptual groundwork might reveal blind spots and inspire new lines of inquiry; and it might enable us to avoid muddles by seeing and articulating more aptly what has been going on, and what has or has not been shown or measured, in the relevant sciences all along.”

He concluded his speech by saying that he had to leave so much unsaid about these and other aspects of benevolence, and thus he hoped that the audience would engage in a discussion with extensive situational benevolence value.

More information about Christoph Fehige: http://www.fehige.info/
Lectures, Workshops and Symposia

Activities by Fellows and Senior Fellows between December 2012 and April 2013:

**Attila Tanyi**, lecture: “How Hard Can It Get?”, Research Forum, Department of Philosophy, University of Bayreuth, Germany

**Nils B. Weidmann**, conference presentations and invited speeches:
- “Social Media and Police-Protest Dynamics”, Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, USA
- “Communication Networks and the Transnational Spread of Civil War”, Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, USA
- “Intra-group Inequality and Conflict”, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), Germany, December 3, 2012
- “How Much Violence Do We See? War Reporting in the Media”, Media and Communication Research Group, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, March 25, 2013

**Karsten Lambers**, lectures and invited speeches:
- “Mapping in context: Peru”. International Workshop on “Archaeology from Aerial Photographs”, University of Bamberg, Germany, February 20, 2013
- “IT-Applications in Archaeology at the University of Bamberg”, AG Education & Qualification in the IANUS-Project, German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, Germany, February 26, 2013
- „Satellitengestützte Prospektion im Hochgebirge”, Archaeological Service of the canton Bern, Switzerland, March 1, 2013

**Nina Schneider**, conference papers and invited speeches:

**Malte Drescher**, speech: „Moderne ESR-Spektroskopie“, GDCH-Kolloquium, Bielefeld, Germany, March 20, 2013

Tanja Rinker, speech and network meeting:
- “German plural processing in Turkish-German children”, Second Konstanz-Utrecht Workshop (KNUT), Utrecht Institute of Linguistics OTS, Utrecht University”, Netherlands, April 3-4, 2013

Margarita Stolarova, invited speech: „Das interdisziplinäre Netzwerk KIND für Familien in Konstanz und Kreuzlingen“, Stadtteilkonferenz Petershausen, Konstanz, Germany, March 2013

Gunhild Berg, conference, workshop and speeches:
- „Literatur zwischen Staatenbeschreibung und Statistik. Narrative des (Nicht-)Wissens in Mitteleuropa / Central Europe (1750-1850)“, interdisciplinary and international conference, organised by Gunhild Berg, Marcus Twellmann and Zsuzsanna Török, collaboration between the research centre „Kulturtheorie und Theorie des politischen Imaginären“ and the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz, Germany, December 6-8, 2012
- „Der deutschsprachige Experimentroman“, lecture in the workshop on „Wissenstexturen. Literarische Gattungen als Organisationsformen von Wissen“
- „Dieser ganze experimentellelteristische Lärm“. Der Begriff des Experiments zwischen Naturwissenschaft und Literatur (1850-1900)“, invited speech, University of Siegen, Germany, April 11, 2013

Dominik Wöll, lectures:
- “Single molecule spectroscopy and microscopy in soft matter“, lecture, University of Cologne, Germany, December 10, 2012
- “Interfacial effects on the glass transition temperature in thin supported polymer layers“, brief presentation at the “DPG Frühjahrstagung”, Regensburg, Germany, March 14, 2013

Thomas Voigtmann, invited speeches:
- “Slow Dynamics in External Forces: Creep and Microrheology“, 4th International Symposium on Slow Dynamics in Complex Systems, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan, December 2012
- “Slow Dynamics in External Forces“, 42nd Winter Meeting on Statistical Physics, Taxco, Mexico, January 2013
Gianluca Rastelli, presentations:
- “Quantum Phase Fluctuations in Josephson Junction systems”, 11.03.2013, Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft (DPG) March-Meeting, Regensburg, Germany, March 11, 2013
- “Quantum Phase Slips in Josephson Junction chains” - Groupe de Physique Statistique, Institut Jean Lamour, Nancy, France, January 31, 2013
- Laboratoire de Physique de Solides, Orsay-Paris, France, April 16, 2013
- Laboratoire de physique théorique de la matière condensée, Paris, France, April 17, 2013

Ulrich Sieberer: Workshop Director at the ECPR Joint Sessions on Workshops in Mainz, leading the workshop “Understanding Parliamentarians”, Mainz, Germany, March 2013

Helen Gunter, Julia Jones and Senior Fellow Giora Hon, interdisciplinary workshop: “Philosophers meet Biologists: Experimental Studies of Population Phenomena”, University of Konstanz, Germany, May 6-7, 2013

Latest Collaborations

„Memory and Meaning“

Collaborative project between Artist in Residence Alexander Schellow and Senior Fellow Klaus von Heusinger

It started with an encounter at the Zukunftskolleg and now resulted in a conference on “Memory and Meaning between Dynamic and Stability”. When Artist in Residence Alexander Schellow and Senior Fellow Klaus von Heusinger met at the Zukunftskolleg about two years ago, they had the idea of taking on a shared project between artists and linguists. In cooperation with the department of German Linguistics at the University of Cologne, Klaus von Heusinger and Alexander Schellow invited five artists and four linguists to take part in the two-day conference in the rooms of index.film in Berlin in December 2012. According to the Artist in Residence, it was a great success: “The discussions between artists and linguists were very productive and fundamental. The various positions were very interesting and multifaceted enough without creating two fronts.”

The next step will be to establish a website to continue the discussions and recruit new people. In several months, the two
initiators plan to organise a second conference in Cologne.
More information on the project:
http://www.fsk.uni-stuttgart.de/Projekte/ErinnerungBedeutung.html

People

Fellows

In February, March and April, the Zukunftscolleg welcomed Denis Gebauer (Chemistry), Nina Schneider (History), Ilja Serzants (Linguistics), Tamir Hassan (Computer and Information Science), Gianluca Rastelli (Physics), Julia Boll (Literature), Martin Elff (Politics and Public Administration), Philip Leifeld (Politics and Public Administration), Filip Wojciechowski (Chemistry) and Andrea Lailach-Hennrich (Philosophy). As the first of 15 2-year Postdoctoral Fellows who had been chosen in the last call for applications, they started their Fellowships. The other new Postdoctoral Fellows will come in the course of the next few months. These are:

1. Michael Teague O’Mara, Biology
2. Aline Steinbrecher, History
3. Tyler Peterson, Linguistics
4. Panteleimon Eleftheriou, Mathematics
5. Julien Bernard, Philosophy

Furthermore, the Zukunftskolleg welcomed Daniele Brida (Physics), Torsten Pietsch (Physics), Elena Rosseeva (Chemistry) and Nils Weidmann (Politics). As the first of a total of eight 5-year Research Fellows who had been selected in the latest call for applications, they started their Fellowship between February and April. All four newcomers are not new to the University of Konstanz: Torsten Pietsch has been a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Physics since September 2009. Daniele Brida has been working as a group leader at the Department of Physics since September 2012. Elena Rosseeva has been a Postdoctoral Fellow in Physical Chemistry since October 2012. And Sofia Kovalevskaja prize winner Nils Weidmann has also started working at the university since October 2012.

Senior Fellows

In January, the Zukunftskolleg warmly welcomed Senior Fellow Hans Adler from the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Wisconsin, USA. He was nominated by Gunhild Berg and stayed at the Zukunftskolleg until March 23, 2013.

In February, the Zukunftskolleg warmly welcomed Artist in Residence Patrick Tresset from the Computing Department at Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK. He was nominated by Oliver Deussen from the Department of Computer and Information Science at the University of Konstanz and by Giovanni Galizia, and will spend 9 months there. Patrick Tresset’s main internationally recognised achievements in the field of computational aesthetics, computational creativity and arts. As Artist in Residence, Patrick Tresset will continue his research on robot painting. His current project is called “Aikon-II” – an art-sciences research project mixing art, cognitive computing and robotics to investigate the sketching activity. During his stay in Konstanz, he will study painting strategies by using the robot painting machine that was developed in
the group headed by Oliver Deussen. “Patrick is an artist with a lot of technical skills, since he has already built painting machines and thus is the perfect complement to my group”, explains Oliver Deussen. “During his stay in Konstanz, we want to create works of acrylic art in some specific styles and so investigate to what extent the machine can mimic such styles in painting.” Patrick Tresset and Oliver Deussen will present the results of their collaboration as well as individual works in the exhibition “Robotic painting. Auf der Suche nach künstlicher Kreativität” in September/October 2013 in the Bildungsturm Konstanz. The Zukunftskolleg funds the exhibition. Zukunftskolleg Alumnus Albert Kümmel-Schnur will serve as curator.

For more information on Patrick Tresset: www.patricktresset.com, and his project “Aikon-II”: http://www.aikon-gold.com/

From February 21 to March 8, 2013 erg’s gallery in Brussels presented a solo exhibition by Senior Fellow Alexander Schellow, which was dedicated to the city of Tirana. Based on the artist’s practice to reconstruct experiences through drawings from memory, the installation featured drawings, animations, texts and other materials related to the Albanian city, and testified the work in progress that the former Artist in Residence had devoted to it.

More information about the exhibition: http://galerie.erg.be/

**Associated Fellows**

The Zukunftskolleg welcomed new Associated Fellows: Stephan Hacker (Chemistry) and Johanna Kastl (Biology) are members of the Graduate School “Chemical Biology”; Tahmina Sadat

Hadjer (Politics and Public Administration), Karsten Wasiłuk (Economics) and Katarina Zigova (Economics) are members of the Graduate School on “Decision Sciences”. They received a Doctoral Fellowship from the Zukunftskolleg to finance the final year of their thesis.

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**Publications**

Due to her research on age-related diseases, chemist Marilena Manea was interviewed for the university magazine Uni’kon, as was psychologist Simon Hanslmayr, too, who analyses deliberate forgetting processes in the brain. The Uni’kon issue is called “Research in every phase of life”. Published in the same edition, you can read an article about the award for Manfred Ulmer Scholarship to philosopher Lena Dreher, doctoral student and Associated Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg. The Uni’kon is always published at the beginning and end of each semester.

You can download this particular Uni’kon issue here: http://www.aktuelles.uni-konstanz.de/uni-kon/uni-kon-49/

What happened in 2012 at the Zukunftskolleg? Which Fellows were successful and which Senior Fellows visited us? – Answers to these and many more questions can be found in the Annual Report 2012 of the Zukunftskolleg, published in February 2012, and was distributed via mail. It can also be downloaded here: http://www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de/downloads/

In February, an article on “Oscillatory
activity of the human cerebellum: The intracranial electrocerebellogram revisited" by Sarang Dalal et al. was published in the journal “Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews”. Their insights might be invaluable to bridge the role of oscillatory networks for bridging the cerebellum with those of the cerebral cortex in mediating perception, action, and cognition and for investigating possible cerebellar involvement in neurological dysfunction. Please find the complete abstract here: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0149763413000419

Based on their interdisciplinary cooperation at the Zukunftskolleg, Dominik Wöll and Andreas Karrenbauer published an article in the journal of “Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics”, one of the most renowned magazines in physical chemistry. The result of their computational-chemical collaboration is “A novel method of automatic single molecule tracking of blinking molecules at low intensities”. Read more about it here: http://pubs.rsc.org/en/Content/Articlelanding/2013/CP/C3CP44693J

Moreover Andreas Karrenbauer and Dominik Wöll published an article on “Blinking Molecule Tracking", arXiv:1212.5877 [cs.CV], 2012

Andreas Thum:

• „The Role of octopamine and tyramine in Drosophila larval locomotion", Selcho, M.; Pauls, D.; El Jundi, B.; Stocker, RF.; Thum, AS.; J Comp Neurol. 2012 Nov
Attila Tanyi, forthcoming publications, two in English and two in Hungarian:
- “Silencing Desires?”; forthcoming in “Philosophia"
- “Immortal Curiosity”, with Karl Karlander, forthcoming in “The Philosophical Forum”
- “Demokrácia és igazolás” (‘Democracy and Justification’), forthcoming in a volume for the 70th birthday of János Kis, edited by Attila Gábor Tóth

Nils B. Weidmann, peer-reviewed articles:

Karsten Lambers:
- Posluschny, Axel; „Archäologisches Nachrichtenblatt“ 4/2012: 334-336
- „Alpine Archäologie in der Silvretta“, Reitmaier, Thomas; Lambers, Karsten; Walser, Christoph; Zingman, Igor; Haas, Jean Nicolas; Dietre, Benjamin; Reidl, Daniel; Hajdas, Irka; Nicolussi, Kurt; Kathrein, Yvonne; Naef, Leandra and Kaiser, Thomas; „Archäologie Schweiz 36“, 2013/1: 4-15.

Karim Johannes Becher:

Malte Drescher:
- “Structural Characterization of Quadruplex DNA with in-cell EPR approaches”, Holder, Isabelle T,; Drescher, Malte; Hartig, Jörg S.; “Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry” (2013), accepted
- “Oxidative and nitrative α-synuclein modifications and proteostatic stress: implications for disease mechanisms and interventions in synucleinopathies”, Schildknecht, Stefan; Gerding, Hanne; Karreman, Christa; Drescher, Malte; Lashuel, Hilal A.; Outeiro, Tiago F.; Di Monte, Donato A.; Leist, Marcel; “Journal of Neurochemistry” (2013), in press, DOI: 10.1111/jnc.12226
- “Site-directed spin-labeling of
nucleotides and the use of in-cell EPR to determine long-range distances in a biologically relevant environment”, Azarkh, Mykhailo; Singh, Vijay; Okle, Oliver; Seemann, Isabelle T.; Dietrich, Daniel R.; Hartig, Jörg S.; Drescher, Malte; “Nature Protocols 8” (2013), 131–147

Thomas Voigtmann:

Helen Gunter:

Gunhild Berg:

Marilena Manea:

Ulrich Sieberer:

Grants, Approvals, Prizes

Thomas Voigtmann is one of this year's 142 Outstanding Referees nominated by the American Physical Society (APS). The editors of the APS journals selected them out of more than 60,000 currently active referees. Initiated in 2008, the Outstanding Referee program recognises scientists who have been exceptionally helpful in assessing manuscripts for publication in the APS journals. Selections are based on two decades of records on the number, quality, and timeliness of referee reports. The 2013 honourees come from 27 different countries, with large contingents from the US, Germany, UK, Canada, and France. For more information and a listing of all Outstanding Referees, please visit http://publish.aps.org/OutstandingReferees

Philip Leifeld won the Südwestmetall prize 2013. With the Südwestmetall prize the Baden-Württemberg, Employers' Association of the Metal and Electrical Industry honours outstanding young researchers of the state's universities. The award ceremony was held on April 25 in Fribourg.

Andreas Thum received a Janelia Visitor Grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). With an amount of 166.937$ he and his co-applicants will work on the “development of a novel associative conditioning paradigm using Drosophila larvae”.

With the „fund for innovative measures in teaching“ (Fonds für innovative Maßnahmen in der Lehre) Malte Drescher was granted a Classroom-Response-System (CRS). The CRS helps to test the knowledge of students by asking multiple-choice-questions and visualising them.

Careers

New Appointments

Nils B. Weidmann was appointed Professor of Political Science (W2) at the University of Konstanz as of February 1, 2013.

Doris Penka has been offered a Substitute Professorship in “General Linguistics with Semantics as the Main Focus” at the University of Konstanz in the summer term 2013. She will teach four courses for Bachelor and Master students and will stand in for Prof. Maribel Romero, who will be on sabbatical.

Attila Tanyi’s temporary professorship at the University of Bayreuth was extended for six months. He will hold his position in the “Philosophy and Economics program” as well as in the summer term 2013.

David Ganz has been offered a professorship in Art History at the University of Zurich. “For me, this means
that a long-standing dream has come true since the scientific conditions there are very attractive for my work”, says David Ganz. He also thanks the Zukunftskolleg for its support in achieving this success. David has been a Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg since December 2007.

Ulrich Sieberer has been offered a Stand-in Professorship in “Comparative Politics” at the University of Konstanz for the summer term 2013. He will stand in for Prof. Dr. Christian Breunig, who has held the chair since August 2012.

Zukunftskolleg Alumnus Rudolf Bratschitsch accepted a professorship from the Physical Institute at the University of Münster. Rudolf Bratschitsch was a Fellow from December 2007 until October 2010 as well as a member of the Board of Directors from October 2008 until September 2009.

Karsten Lambers was elected as first chairman of the association of „Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology“ (CAA-D, at the same time the German section of the international CAA) within the 4th Workshop of the CAA-D, February 14-15, 2013, Free University of Berlin.

Helen Gunter was appointed as teaching deputy at the Department of Biology at the University of Konstanz. In the summer term 2013 and winter term 2013/14, she will stand in for Prof. Ph.D Axel Meyer from the chair of Zoology and Evolutionary Biology in teaching.