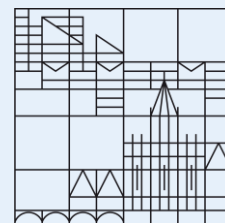


Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May – July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 1

Zukunftskolleg Newsletter

Introduction

15 June 2012 was a great day, not only for the Zukunftskolleg, but also for the University of Konstanz as a whole, since it succeeded in achieving the second phase of the Excellence Initiative with its renewal proposal and the institutional strategy "Modell Konstanz – towards a culture of creativity". This means that the Zukunftskolleg can offer numerous new fellowships for excellent young researchers from all around the world and continue with its fruitful work on presenting the interdisciplinary research conducted by its Fellows to the public. This Newsletter will show how this is proceeding.

Table of Contents

Concerning Zukunftskolleg	1
Funding Instruments	2
Events	4
Lectures, workshops and symposia	11
Attending an International University Debate	13
Guests Come to Visit ZuKo	13
Latest Collaborations	13
People	17
Grants, Approvals	19
Careers	20
“Very young scientific researchers”	20

Concerning Zukunftskolleg

Central Office

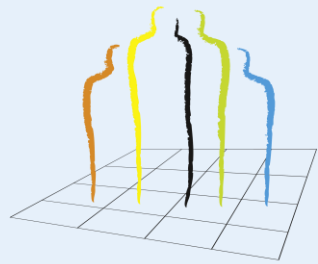
The Central Office welcomed **Sigrid Elmer** at the Zukunftskolleg on 1 June, who works as the public relations coordinator. Her area of competence includes:

- Public relations
- Website content
- Events/organization
- Newsletter and Annual Report
- Contact with cooperation partners

Ursula Stricker-Ellsiepen started her maternal leave in June. Her areas of competence are being covered by **Anda Lohan** (Applications and Support for Senior Fellows, Alumni Work) and **Sigrid Elmer**.

Imprint

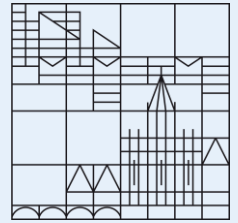
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 2

Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee held its first meeting on June 21 after the DFG had made its important decision on 15 June to support the excellence status of the University of Konstanz until 2017. For the Zukunftskolleg this means that up to three **2-year Postdoctoral Fellowships**, five **5-year Research Fellowships**, fifteen **ZIF Marie Curie 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowships** and eight **ZIF Marie Curie 5-year Research Fellowships** can be offered to new Fellows. Therefore, these calls for applications were the EC's main topic of discussion about it in the meeting. It was important for all the EC-members to learn how the exact guidelines of the application process will work and how the candidates are selected. The EC-members also suggested involving the current (women) Fellows in the selection process for the candidates and not only representatives from the departments or external experts. Therefore, the EC decided to nominate **Doris Penka**, **Eleanor Coghill** and **Zsuzsanna Török** as advisory members.

Besides the calls for proposals, some of the applications submitted by the research Fellows for co-funding were addressed and passed by the EC: an application for a student assistant position for four months, an application for a Scientific Retreat at Schloss Marbach in September 2012 and an application for an electro-optic modulator for femtosecond electron diffraction. The EC also accepted the nominations/extensions for the Senior Fellowships: **Viktor Kabanov's** Fellowship was extended for two months and Hans Adler's Fellowship was granted. **Thomas Voigtmann** reported briefly about the "Tacit Knowledge Group" that met several times. As usual, one of the

last topics at the EC meeting included some information by Director **Giovanni Galizia**, mainly concerning some co-funding below 3,000 Euros, which therefore didn't have to be approved by the EC, but were granted by the Director himself. The meeting finished with the outlook for the next meeting.

The EC held its last meeting before the summer break on 12 July. One of the main topics included the decision on the next winner of the Manfred Ulmer Stipendium (read more on "Funding Instruments"). Other topics at the EC-meeting were an application for co-funding for an interdisciplinary scientific research project and an application for the extension of **Christoph Fehige's** Senior Fellowship. Finally, the EC decided to hold a plenary meeting in October to inform all Fellows about recent developments concerning the call for Fellowships and the changes this intake of new Fellows will bring to the Zukunftskolleg. Furthermore an insight into the Zukunftskolleg's strategic perspectives for the next 5 years will be given.

Funding Instruments

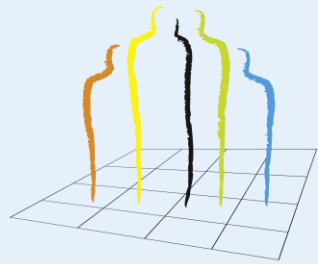
New Fellowships

The Zukunftskolleg currently offers new Fellowships; the deadline for applications is 26 August 2012.

➤ Up to three **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 financed by the

Imprint

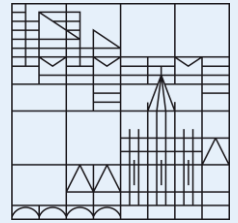
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



German Research Foundation (DFG) and the University of Konstanz. These Fellowships will begin on 1 March 2013 and end on 28 February 2015.

➤ Up to five **5-year Research Fellowships** (for any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz) (Salary Scale 14 TV-L) to develop and implement individual research projects. This call for proposals is financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the University of Konstanz. These Fellowships will begin on 1 March 2013 and end on 28 February 2018.

➤ Up to fifteen **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 Program (FP7) Marie Curie Actions – People (co-funding by regional, national and international programs), 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 1 March 2013, and end on 28 February 2015.

➤ Up to eight **ZIF Marie Curie 5-year Research Fellowships** (for any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz) (Salary Scale 14 TV-L) to develop and implement individual research projects. This call for proposals is part of the Zukunftskolleg Incoming Fellowship Program (ZIF) and is financed by the Seventh Framework Program (FP7) Marie Curie Actions – People (co-funding for

regional, national and international programs), 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 1 March 2013, and end on 28 February 2018.

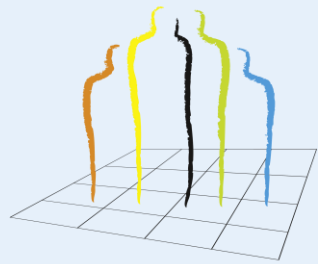
Manfred Ulmer Grant

On behalf of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft at the University of Konstanz, the Zukunftskolleg annually awards the Manfred Ulmer Doctoral Student Grant. The program is open to doctoral students of all disciplines and dedicates 1,000 EUR per month for a period of six months. It enables the scholars to bridge the financial gap between their studies and their doctoral phase. This year, eleven students applied for the favored scholarship: four from the field of history, two from literary studies, one from philosophy/economics, one from psychology, one from linguistics, one from biology and one from physics. After intensive discussion, the EC voted for Lena Dreher, the candidate from philosophy/economics, for her project entitled "Neuroeconomics – eine wissenschaftstheoretische Analyse". The award ceremony for the Manfred Ulmer Grant is held, as usual, during the annual Foundation's "Regional Science Forum" in autumn.

Co-funding

The Executive Committee and the Director of the Zukunftskolleg approved 45 applications for start up funding, student assistants, travel allowances and consumables during the summer term 2012 for a total amount of 226,121,41 Euros.

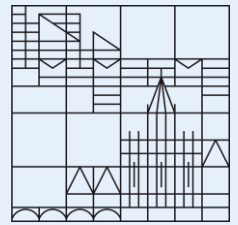
Imprint



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 4

Events

Konstanzer Geistes Slam

The second "**Konstanzer Geistes Slam**" (**Konstanz Humanities Slam**) held on 5 May was a great success. For an hour during the "Lange Nacht der Wissenschaft" (Long Night of Science), five young researchers from various institutions presented their research topics. Although the well established PowerPoint presentation is a useful aid, this event was marked by the motto: anything is allowed, as long as it serves a better understanding. The participants had eight minutes to bring across their message. After eight minutes had passed, presenter **Mario Müller** ("Theater mit beschränkter Hoffnung") drew attention by tapping his feet to warn the competitors. He did not eventually manage to impose his measures because the cheerfully protesting audience had the last word, calling everyone to finish their presentations. More than 280 people formed a large and enthusiastic audience, applauding and cheering the event and its participants.



Finally, it was a beaming **Julia Everke** (from the Department of History and Sociology, specializing in Sport Sciences,

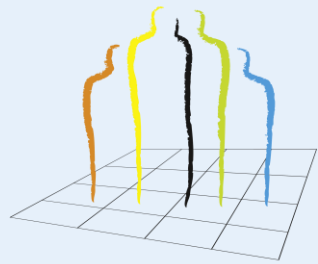
Alumna of the "Zukunftskolleg"), who climbed the winner's podium. Her topic "**Motor Activity and Cognition – Bored Neurons Say Goodbye**", enthralled the audience, although the final decision was a narrow win. The event was held in cooperation with the Faculty of Humanities.

"Certainly: Science" with Giovanni Galizia

Neurobiologist and Director of the Zukunftskolleg, **Giovanni Galizia**, talked about scents, how contiguous they are to our emotions, and how important they are for bees on 8 May. This scientific dialogue took place in the comfortable ambience of the Café Voglhaus in connection with the series of events "**Certainly: Science**" organized and held by the local newspaper Südkurier, the University of Konstanz, and the HTWG Konstanz (University of Applied Sciences).

Imprint

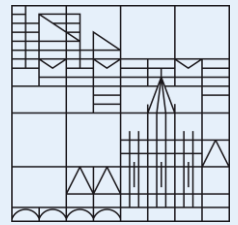
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 5

DAS VOGLHAUS CAFE UND KAUFHAUS

Ausgesprochen:
WISSENSCHAFT

Der SÜDKURIER im Gespräch mit
Prof. Dr. Giovanni Galizia Professor für Zoologie und Neurobiologie und Direktor des Zukunftskollegs, Universität Konstanz

Di, 8.5.2012, 20 Uhr c.t.
DAS VOGLHAUS
Wessenbergstraße 8

EINTRITT FREI!
www.ausgesprochen-wissenschaft.de

Giovanni Galizia ist fasziniert von Bienen und Düften. Warum sind Düfte so nah an unseren Gefühlen? Wie kann uns ein Duft oft nach Jahrzehnten an ein altes Haus erinnern? Und wie finden Bienen immer wieder zur richtigen Blüte? Warum erforscht ein Neurobiologe solche Fragen am nur ein Millimeter großen Gehirn einer Biene?

Kommende Termine: Di, 10.6.2012: Prof. Dr. Tatjana Thimm, Leiterin Institut für Dienstleistungsmanagement, HTWG Konstanz Di, 10.7.2012: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Spohn, Professor für Philosophie, Universität Konstanz

Eine Initiative von:

SÜDKURIER Universität Konstanz HOCHSCHULE KONSTANZ TECHNISCHE WIRTSCHAFT UND GESTALTUNG

evolving into many parallel, and splitting universes, each containing copies of every observer and object.

Jeffrey Alan Barrett, Professor of Logic and Philosophy of Science at the UC Irvine School of Social Sciences in California (USA) and Senior Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, and **Guido Burkard**, Professor of Physics at the University of Konstanz, discussed the matter, chaired by **Dominik Wöll**, Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg in Chemistry.

Philosophy Beyond Borders

The final event of the series "**Philosophy Beyond Borders**" was held under the heading of "**Reality and Quantum Information: A Conversation between a Theoretical Physicist and a Philosopher**". Quantum mechanics is considered to be the most puzzling physical theory we have ever had to deal with. On the one hand, it offers excellent empirical predictions; while on the other, it is also known that it cannot be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Trying to understand quantum mechanics in order to maintain its predictive success, scientists have started to construct alternative formulations of the theory. One of the most suggestive of these, Hugh Everett III's pure wave mechanics, describes a quantum universe constantly

Universität Konstanz

Jeffrey Alan Barrett
Professor of Logic and Philosophy of Science at the UC Irvine School of Social Sciences in California (USA) and Senior Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg

Guido Burkard
Professor of Physics at the University of Konstanz

Chair: Dominik Wöll
Doctor of Chemistry and Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg

Philosophy Beyond Borders

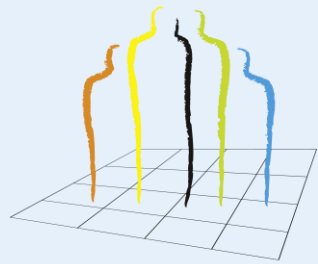
"Reality and Quantum Information:
A Conversation
between a Theoretical Physicist and a Philosopher."

16th May 2012
5 p.m. – 6.30 p.m., V1001

Further information: www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de

Imprint

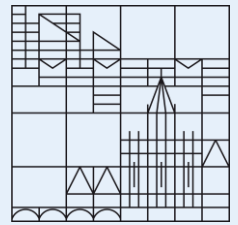
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 6

Public Lecture

The Zukunftskolleg Senior Fellow, **Bernard D. Frischer**, Professor of Art History and Classics at the University of Virginia (USA), visited the Zukunftskolleg again to report on the progress made by “**The Virtual Hadrian’s Villa**” project, which was already the focus of his work during his stay at the Zukunftskolleg from October 2010 to July 2011. Together with a team of specialists, **Bernard Frischer** succeeded in creating a 3D digital model of the archaeological site of Hadrian’s Villa along with a project related website. The virtual world provides a restoration of the villa as it appeared and functioned in antiquity and shows the terrain, gardens, buildings, people, animals, and furnishings recreated in 3D. Another goal of the project was to see whether Problem-Based Learning (PBL) could be made more effective in the field of Archaeology by using virtual world technology as an educational resource. With the assistance of experts on PBL and educational assessment, **Frischer** deployed “**The Virtual Hadrian’s Villa**” in an undergraduate class at the University of Virginia. In his talk on 21 May, he presented the website, the virtual world and preliminary results of the educational experiment.

The event took place in cooperation with the Centre of Excellence “Cultural Foundation of Social Integration” and was chaired by **Ulrich Gotter**, Professor of Ancient History at the University of Konstanz.

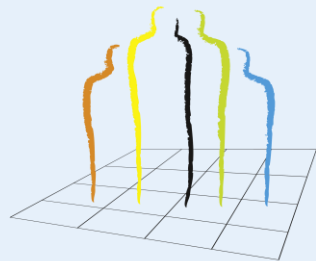
The poster features the Zukunftskolleg logo at the top left. The main title is "The Virtual Hadrian's Villa" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is the date "21st May 2012" and the time "6.45 - 8.15 p.m., A 704". The presentation is by Bernard D. Frischer, Professor of Art, History and Classics, University of Virginia (USA). The moderation is by Ulrich Gotter, Professor of Ancient History, University of Konstanz. At the bottom, it states "A public lecture in cooperation with The Center of Excellence 'Cultural Foundations of Social Integration'" and provides the website "www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de". The University of Konstanz logo is in the bottom right corner.

Zukunftskolleg Lecture

Once every semester, a Senior Fellow closely related and associated with the Zukunftskolleg is honored with the **Zukunftskolleg Lecture**, in which the Senior Fellow presents the research work done to a broad and diverse audience. This semester, Senior Fellow **Joseph Y. Halpern**, Professor for Computer Science, Cornell University, Ithaca, USA, gave a talk on "**Knowledge and common knowledge in multi-agent systems**". **Joseph Y. Halpern's** interdisciplinary research combines topics of Computer Science, Economics, Linguistics, Mathematics and Philosophy. In his talk he addressed the question of how information exchange can change a system's state of knowledge to achieve a better understanding of distributed protocols.

Imprint

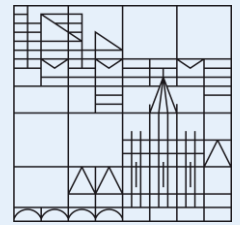
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 7

Franz Huber, Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, chaired the public lecture and the subsequent discussion. Then, a reception gave the audience an opportunity to exchange opinions with **Joseph Y. Halpern** about his research work.

Zukunftskolleg
free • creative • connecting

**Zukunftskolleg
Lecture
SS 2012**

**Knowledge
and
common
knowledge
in
multi-agent systems**

Joseph Y. Halpern
Prof. of Computer Science
Cornell University, Ithaca, USA

June 21, 2012
5.00 - 6.30 p.m., A 702

We cordially invite everybody to the lecture and the following reception.

If necessary the Zukunftskolleg will reimburse the costs for the childcare during the lecture. Please register by e-mail to sigrid.elmer@uni-konstanz.de

Further information: www.zukunftskolleg.uni-konstanz.de

Universität
Konstanz

Friday Social Events

Giovanni Galizia sent out invitations for another **Friday Social Event** on 22 June. With some snacks and drinks, all the interested Fellows from the Zukunftskolleg assembled to discuss the return visit to the Martin Buber Society in Jerusalem from 28-30 October 2012 (read more on the "Latest Collaborations").

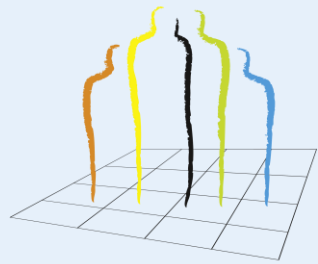
Zukunftskolleg Summer Event

The Zukunftskolleg held a round table discussion entitled "**How our ancestors control our gene expression**" on 29 June in connection with the Zukunftskolleg's Summer Event. The participants were: **Thomas Elbert** (Psychology), **Helen Gunter** (Biology) and **Iris-Tatjana Kolassa** (Psychology). The discussion was chaired by **Christoph Fehige** (Philosophy). The discussion provided a clear demonstration of the Zukunftskolleg's multi-disciplinarity and transcended the boundaries between social and biological sciences.

Recent research indicates that the social environment, including exposure to social stressors, can interact with genetic inheritance to determine the course and outcome of the development including phenomena such as social behavior, health and ageing. There is also evidence that some epigenetic memories ("epigenetics" describes the mechanisms of the temporal and spatial control of gene activity) may be inherited from one generation to the next. This is why not only medical but also social and biological scientists all stand to benefit from the escalating field of epigenetics. First of all, each scientist presented their research before the audience had the opportunity to enter a vivid discussion. **Iris-Tatjana Kolassa**, Professor of Clinical and Biological Psychology at the University of Ulm and Alumna of the Zukunftskolleg, focused on the relevance of epigenetics in general for the social sciences. She presented some findings on how stress influences our risk of developing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), but also mentioned that in order to understand their "true"

Imprint

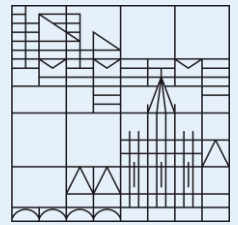
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 8

influence we should study genetics and epigenetics in combination. **Helen Gunter**, Postdoc in Biology at the University of Konstanz and Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, argued that stress, when experienced during pregnancy, can leave lasting epigenetic marks on the DNA. She presented the molecular biology component of a collaborative study that examined the influence of gestational stress on DNA methylation in adolescent children.

Thomas Elbert, Professor for Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology at the University of Konstanz asked if epigenomics (the study of the complete set of epigenetic modifications on the genetic material of a cell) presents a paradigm shift in the social sciences. He argued that several factors, in addition to stress and violence, can influence our epigenomes, including what we eat or drink, and the chemicals we consume. The presentations spurred on discussions from highly diverse perspectives, such as the ethical implications of this research. The question arose on if and to what extent we should manipulate peoples' epigenomes, particularly when this may cause long-term changes to their behavior and personalities. To make the most of a warm summer's evening, the discussion was followed by the Zukunftskolleg summer party with a barbecue and music played by the Uni Combo Band in the university's courtyard.

Zukunftskolleg
free • creative • connecting

*How our
ancestors
control our
gene
expression*

Round table with
Thomas Elbert (Psychology),
Helen Gunter (Biology) and
Iris-Tatjana Kolassa (Psychology)

Moderator:
Christoph Fehige (Philosophy)

June 29, 2012
5.30 p.m., Studiobühne

Followed by a BBQ in the
courtyard of the university

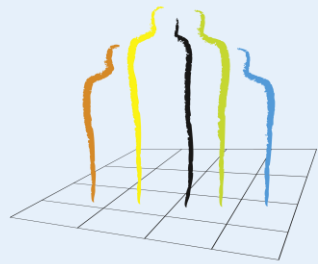
Universität
Konstanz

Jour Fixe

The presentation provided by **Dimitri Ginev**, Professor of Philosophy of Science and Hermeneutics, on 21 June was quite abstract, but also enlightening. He explained the specificity of scientific theorizing in the natural sciences in comparison with the human sciences. In this regard, it is quite important to respect the competing positions of realists and empiricists/constructivists, on the one hand, and of contextualists and objectivists, on the other, as well as the conflict between structural and non-structural factors in interpreting scientific theories. Realists believe in scientific truth and objectivity, constructivists are only interested in the empirical adequacy of scientific theories. **Dimitri Ginev** argues that the objects of inquiry are not to be

Imprint

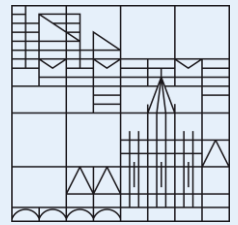
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 9

disentangled from the configurations of scientific practices in which they are constituted. This means that an ongoing contextualization is taking place in the constitution of the objects of inquiry. The constitution itself is constantly projected upon open horizons of research opportunities. Seen from this perspective, the reality under study in scientific research is the potentiality-for-being within open horizons. He then explained the concepts of hermeneutic fore-structure and the characteristic hermeneutic situation of scientific research that are considered to account for the formation of the intrinsic epistemic norms and criteria in the research process. He argues that this formation takes place in the hermeneutic circularity between all the projected opportunities (of doing research) and their particular contextualized actualizations. According to him, the great merit in the hermeneutics of scientific research (as a post-metaphysical program) lies in the new opportunities it offers for new dialogue between the interpretative human sciences and the objectifying natural sciences. In conclusion, **Dimitri Ginev** stressed that the aim of this hermeneutic is to overcome scientism by offering a new strategy for defend science's cognitive specificity and the ethos of academic autonomy.

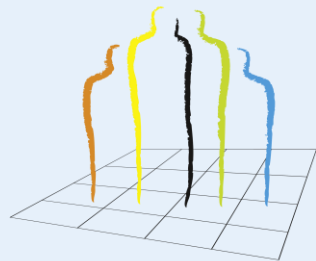
He had just arrived as a Senior Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, and immediately presented his research at the Jour Fixe on 5 July. **Giora Hon** is a full professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Haifa, Israel, and holds a BSc degree in Physics as well as an MA degree and PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science. Hence his work is located at the interface between the history of physics

and the philosophy of science. What could fit better into the interdisciplinary context of the Zukunftskolleg? This was also shown in his presentation about "**Maxwell's contrived analogy: An early version of the methodology of modeling**". James Clerk Maxwell was a Scottish physicist and mathematician, who studied, among other things, electricity and magnetism, beginning in 1855/56. One of his renowned achievements addressed the formulation of an electromagnetic theory that unified all previously unrelated observations, experiments and equations of electricity, magnetism and optics in a single consistent theory. **Giora Hon** argued that until the middle of the 19th century, modeling had not been considered to be scientific methodology; due to the pioneering work done by Maxwell, this methodology was introduced into science as a new concept at the turn of the last century. Maxwell adopted William Thomson's physical analogy and modified it into what he called "mathematical analogy". But Maxwell's argumentation was different to that of Thomson: He did not seek an analogy with some physical system in a domain different from electromagnetism as advocated by William Thomson; rather, he constructed an entirely artificial one to suit his goal — recasting Michael Faraday's rich experimental results in electromagnetism into mathematical formulae. Maxwell gave a new meaning to the analogy; in fact, it comes close to modeling in current usage.

Giovanni Galizia (Director of the Zukunftskolleg/Dept. of Biology) gave a lecture on "**What is evidence in the biological sciences? Examples from olfactory research**" on 12 July. He

Imprint

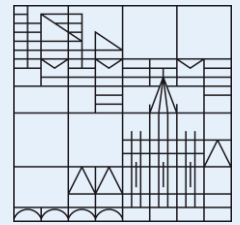
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 10

started his presentation with the question of how and when a scientist knows that he has found the (right) solution for a particular question. He described research on the basis of the Eureka moments (Eureka is an interjection – attributed to Archimedes – and used to celebrate discoveries). According to **Giovanni Galizia**, a scientist has three Eureka moments: firstly, when he first thinks of a solution or finds evidence in his research, secondly, when the data yields sufficient evidence, and thirdly, when he has to create a Eureka moment before an audience, i.e. to convince others of his findings.

In his lecture, **Giovanni Galizia** focused mainly on the second aspect, which he illustrated with his own research data on how odors are processed in insect brains. He left the biological field and talked about how we generate knowledge and how standards of good science are defined in practice. He revealed six entities that define these standards in various ways: journals, societies, scientists themselves, philosophers, funding agencies and communities, drawing examples from each of these. From the philosophical point of view, Karl Popper's way of thinking about science is dominant in a practicing scientist's mind: We can only falsify, but cannot verify our hypotheses. However, this creates a dilemma for the scientist in practice: While Popper teaches us that we can never trust our hypotheses, but only what we have shown to be false, we are nevertheless more interested in a (positive) answer than in its rejection. Supporters of data-driven research would argue that statistics are the answer. But here, **Giovanni Galizia** objects: Statistics are a technique for describing data and for testing it, but it is not the answer itself.

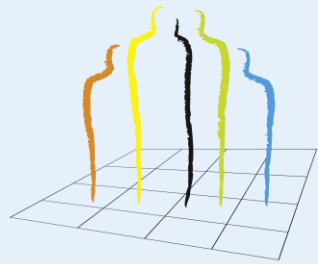
The subsequent discussion covered several aspects, in particular the distinction between "hypothesis free" and "hypothesis driven" approaches to biological questions. One answer that **Giovanni Galizia** was able to give his audience at the end of the presentation was certainly true: Science is fun and the most beautiful job in the world! (For more information, see Galizia CG (2010): "Biowissenschaft". Chapter in: "Heureka - Evidenzkriterien in den Wissenschaften", Engelen E-M, Fleischhack Ch, Galizia CG, Landfester K (Eds.), Spektrum Akademischer Verlag Heidelberg. pp 15 – 36.)

At the last Jour Fixe for the summer term, on 19 July, **Jesus Zamora Bonilla** (Dept. of Philosophy, UNED Madrid), visiting professor at the Zukunftskolleg, gave a lecture on "**Choosing what to know: rational deliberation and negotiation in the constitution of scientific knowledge**". He analyzed scientific knowledge as a social construct and distinguished between radical and contemporizing views. In his opinion, some of the supporters of the radical view are David Bloor, Bruno Latour and Andrew Pickering, while supporters of the contemporizing way of thinking are Jan Hacking, Joseph Rouse, André Kukla and Paul Boghossian. **Jesus Zamora Bonilla** explained some of the claims of the radical view: situatedness, contingency, relativism, rhetoric, anti-realism and anachronism. From his radical point of view, he argues that science is indeed a "social construct" (what else could it be?), and what is finally written in scientific journals or textbooks is the result of a process of choice and negotiation.

Jesus Zamora Bonilla defines "choice" by saying that any author might have

Imprint

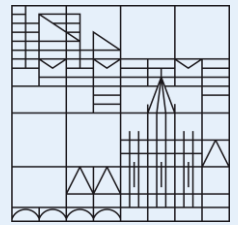
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



ZukunftsKolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



ZukunftsKolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 11

written something different and "negotiation" by saying that different scientists might have preferred that what is finally written was different (e.g. co-authors, referees, editors, readers, critics, colleagues in general). The question for **Jesus Zamora Bonilla**, therefore is, how these processes of choice and negotiation could run, so that their output has the highest (cognitive, practical, economic) value from our point of view. This led him to the question of what the outcome of science should be? He is quite sure that each citizen would define it differently. But research processes are essentially chosen by the scientists themselves. Most likely, the methods are chosen through some kind of Darwinian mechanism: methods that work better tend to be imitated more often than others ("better" in the sense of allowing scientists to be more successful in the pursuit of achieving their results). **Zamora Bonilla** argues that despite the different scientists having different goals and being motivated in part by some non-cognitive goals (like recognition or profit), some institutional mechanisms have evolved that justify that the output of scientific research tends to be of considerable epistemic value.

Lectures, workshops and symposia

Activities by Fellows and Senior Fellows in chronological order

In May, **Attila Tanyi** gave a lecture on "**Between Boredom and Ignorance**" at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand, as well as at

the 2nd Glasgow Philosophy of Religion Workshop at the University of Glasgow, UK.

On 22 May, **Margarita Stolarova** gave a lecture on "**Children with special needs in Bulgaria today**" at the Centennial Infant and Child Centre in Toronto.

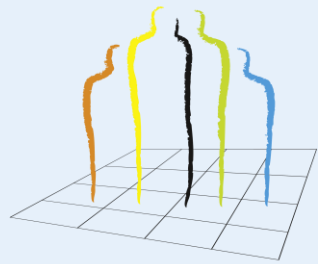
In May and June, **Malte Drescher** gave a lecture on "**Electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy in biophysical chemistry**" at the Bunsen Conference held in Leipzig, on "**Intra-cellular conformations of human telomeric quadruplexes studied by electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy**" in the Departmental Seminar on Biology held in Konstanz as well as on "**Jenseits von Mitteleuropa**" at the Junge Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft Konstanz.

Between May and July, **Jeff Barrett** gave several presentations in and out of Konstanz: "**On the Co-evolution of Theory and Language**" at the Center for Mathematical Philosophy, LMU Munich, "**On the Empirical Adequacy of Pure Wave Mechanics**" at the Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar, held at the University of Oxford, on "**The Co-evolution of Numbers and Basic Arithmetic Knowledge**" at the Fourth Annual Formal Epistemology Festival at the University of Konstanz, "**On the Physical Possibility of Ordinal Computation**" at the Physics and Computation Workshop, Institut Henri Poincaré, and on "**Empirical Adequacy and Pure Wave Mechanics**", at the Department of Physics, University of Konstanz.

In June, **Franz Huber** gave a talk on "**Belief and Degrees of Belief**" at the

Imprint

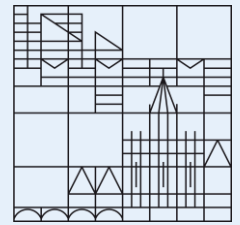
ZukunftsKolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftsKolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftsKolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 12

Sixth Workshop on Decisions, Games & Logic in Munich, as well as a presentation on **"What Should I Believe? What Would Have Been the Case?"** at the Fourth Formal Epistemology Festival in Konstanz.

From June 6-9, **Andreas Karrenbauer** visited the stars Symposium entitled **"Building Bridges"** in Penglai, China. 120 "Leaders of the Next Generation" from all around the world met in Penglai, the small coastal town of China's economically strong province of Shandong. Together with outstanding leaders and experts, they discussed China- and Asia specifics, as well as global challenges in the economy, politics and society. The symposium is regarded as an excellent platform for exchanging views and opinions and for learning from each other beyond cultural backgrounds and disciplines.

During his stay in Konstanz from June to July, **Joe Y. Halpern** gave several lectures in and outside of Konstanz, e.g. on **"Actual Causality, Responsibility and Blame: A structural model approach"**, at the Conference on Quantitative Justice and Fairness in Lisbon on 22 May, on **"Constructive decision theory"** at the Fourth Formal Epistemology Festival in Konstanz on 5 June and at the Philosophy Colloquium in Munich on 11 July, as well as on **"Ambiguous language and differences in belief"** at the Thirteenth International Conference on the Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning in Rome on 13 June.

In July, **Helen Gunter** discussed **"Exploring the molecular basis of phenotypic plasticity in the pharyngeal jaw of the cichlid, *Astatoreochromis alluaudi*"** at the conference of the European Society for Evolutionary

Developmental Biology in Lisbon.

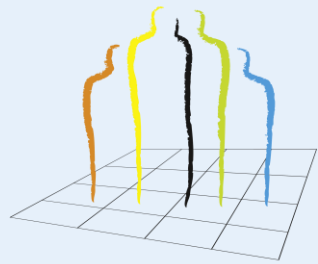
In June, **Andreas Thum** gave a lecture on **"Learning and memory in *Drosophila* larvae"**, at the University of Lausanne, and in July on **"The role of biogenic amines in associative olfactory learning in *drosophila* larvae"** at the Symposium of the Research Unit on Biogenic Amines in Insects in Berlin.

From 12-14 July, Senior Fellow **Giora Hon** and Alumnus **Samuel Schindler** organized the workshop **"Theoretical virtues in theory choice"** held in Konstanz. The workshop brought together philosophers and historians of science to advance the discussion on theoretical virtues in theory choice, because in the philosophy of science they have received little attention and in the history of science these are rarely discussed systematically. The invited speakers were: Dragos Bigu (Bucharest), Jesús Zamora Bonilla (Madrid) Elena Castellani (Florence), Jereon van Dongen (Utrecht), Malcolm Forster (Madison), Stephan Hartmann (Tilburg), Gil Hertshten (San Diego), James McAllister (Leiden), Michael Morreau (UMD at College Park), Andrei Nasta (East Anglia), John Norton (Pittsburgh), Dana Tulodziecki (Missouri).

Sarang Dalal co-organized two events at the 18th International Conference of Biomagnetism to be held in Paris from 25 to 30 August. One is a workshop entitled "Studying the brain as a network using MEG: Practical considerations", and the other, a symposium entitled "Magnetoencephalography and the cerebellum: Old questions and recent evidence".

Imprint

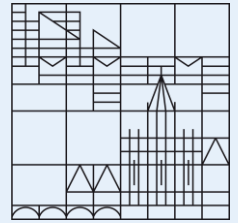
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 13

Attending an International University Debate

Jeff Kochan and **Cordian Riener** took part in **The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings** from 1 to 6 July, where 27 Nobel Laureates and 592 young researchers from all over the world met to exchange ideas, discuss projects and build international networks. The 62nd Lindau Meeting was dedicated to physics.

Anda Lohan represented the Zukunftskolleg at the Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) in Dublin from 11-15 July 2012.

Martin Bruder will represent the Zukunftskolleg at the "Forum Alpbach" in Austria on 24 August in connection with the Workshop "Klettersteig in die wissenschaftliche Karriere" ("Via ferrata into the scientific career").

Guests Come to Visit ZuKo

Douglas McNichol, Deputy Manager of the Australian National University College of Arts and Social Sciences, came to visit the Zukunftskolleg to inform himself about the organization and funding instruments at the Zukunftskolleg on 29 May. **Giovanni Galizia** gave him a short presentation of the Zukunftskolleg and both exchanged their experiences in supporting young researchers. They also agreed on further co-operation between both institutions.

Latest Collaborations

Martin Buber Society Workshop I "Forgetting"

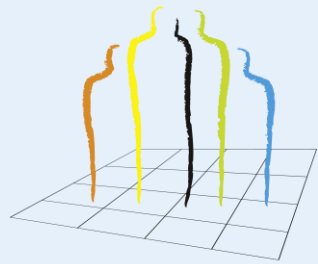
Both, the Zukunftskolleg and the **Martin Buber Society of Fellows in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, are new interdisciplinary institutions designed to foster outstanding early-career researchers. Since their inception, the two institutions have kept in contact and have sought to find ways of cooperating with each another. One great collaborative project was the **Workshop I "Forgetting"** held from 10-13 June 2012 in Konstanz.

A report by Sigrid Elmer

"Memories beautify life, but only forgetting makes it bearable" (Honoré de Balzac).

Imprint

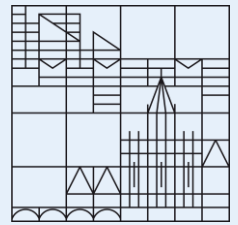
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 14

The concept of "Forgetting" normally has a negative connotation, which is evident, because all contrasts with forgetting, such as remembering, knowing, learning etc. are positive. But how fruitful "Forgetting" really is, was analyzed by a group of scientists at the Zukunftskolleg.

In connection with the workshop "Forgetting", held on June 11 to 12 2012 in Konstanz between the Zukunftskolleg and the Martin Buber Society of Fellows at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, the notion of "Forgetting" was discussed from different perspectives and backgrounds of expertise in a spirit of cross-disciplinary communication. Biologists, philosophers, psychologists, artists, historians, philologists, sociologists and archaeologists came together and tried to provide an insight into their various ways of understanding "Forgetting". Apart from scientific exchange, there was also time for engaging in social activities.

To familiarize themselves with the city of Konstanz, the guests from the Martin Buber Society started their visit with a guided tour around Konstanz on Sunday evening and learned much about the important places and buildings, and the sometimes forgotten history of the old town of Konstanz.



1st day

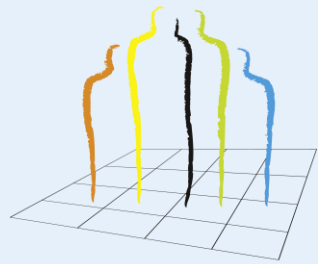
On Monday morning, the scientific part of the workshop started with a presentation by **Alexander Schellow**, Artist in Residence at the Zukunftskolleg. He addressed the concept of "Forgetting" from an artistic and creative point of view. His work documents the process of visual reconstruction from memory in drawing series, animations, installations, lectures, performances and book publications. His project "*νερό_II_06/2011*", for example, is an exploration along Athens' Kifissos River, which has nearly disappeared as a real urban environment. The river's material and imaginary "presence" in daily life is investigated, along with the related strategies of remembering, forgetting and actualizing. The project reconstructs the flow of the river through the perceptions and practices that preserve this former reference line of Athen's cartography as an urban reality – despite its eradication through urban planning. With the research done along the Kifissos and in conversations with residents, city planners, politicians, historians, ecologists and archaeologists, he intends to reveal the concrete effects it had on the way people of Athens move about, familiarize and position themselves, as well as the polemics, projections and social realities ignited by the "Kifissos issue".

Artificial forgetfulness

Alexander Schellow's presentation was followed by a panel discussion. The panelists were **David Shulman**, as Director of the Martin Buber Society, **Giovanni Galizia**, as Director of the Zukunftskolleg, and **Kirsten Mahlke**, as Professor of Cultural Theory and Methodology at the University of Konstanz

Imprint

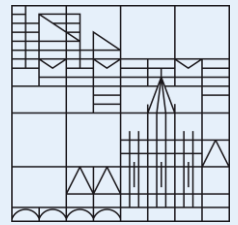
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 15

and also an Alumna of the Zukunftskolleg. They each explained the concept of "Forgetting" from various perspectives and disciplines: Kirsten Mahlke, who studies "Narratives of terror and disappearance during the last dictatorship in Argentina (1976-1983)", treated the issue from a cultural perspective; David Shulman, Professor of Humanistic Studies, took a socio-cultural point of view; and Giovanni Galizia, Professor of Neurobiology, who analyzes the memory and forgetting processes of bees, from a biological standpoint. The result was a quite eclectic and productive discussion that sets a good basis for the following scope of presentations by the Fellows from the Martin Buber Society and the Zukunftskolleg. **Sybille Schmidt**, PhD candidate in Philosophy, asked "**Is there an ethics of forgetting?**", while **Gadi Sagiv**, Postdoc in Jewish History, reflected on "**Forgetfulness in Judaism: between a forgotten commandment and a commandment to forget**". **Nira Alperson-Afils**, Postdoc in Prehistoric Archaeology, took a concrete look at "Forgetting" by reporting on "**A forgotten 'working memory': on basalt tool-making in the lower paleolithic levant**". With **Jeff Kochan** and **Wiebke-Marie Stock**, two presentations on famous literary and philosophical scholars followed: "**Science and forgetting: Jorge Luis Borges on the misery of perfect memory**" and "**The good soul is forgetful: Plotinus on memory**".

Besides Giovanni Galizia's honey bees, another insect kept the participants' interest: **Andreas Thum**, Emmy Noether Group Leader in Biology, gave "**Insights into a mini-brain**" and explained "how a fruit fly forgets". **Uriel Simonsohn**, Postdoc in Near Eastern History, finished the first workshop day with "**The selective**

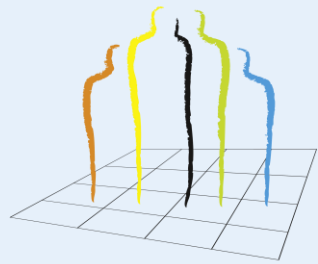
memory of a byzantine orthodox patriarch" and made "**a few remarks on the interplay between narrative and identity in the annals of Sa'īd ibn Baṭrīq**".

2nd day

The second workshop day began with some tourism, unfortunately in pouring rain: a boat trip from Konstanz to the Isle of Reichenau, with the historical "Inselbus" to the church of St. Georg, where **David Ganz**, Substitute Professor of Art History at the University of Heidelberg and Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, offered a guided tour, in which he explained the meanings of the medieval frescos on the walls. Later, the group went by bus to the Ganter Hotel & Restaurant Mohren for lunch and then to continue their scientific exchange about "Forgetting". **Kim Wünschmann**, PhD candidate in History, asked after "**Forgotten victims?**" and presented a case study on local memorial culture surrounding the early Nazi camp of Osthofen and its Jewish prisoners. **Agata Nörenberg**, Doctoral Student in History and Associate Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, presented "**Polish discourses of memory in Poland and Exile 1945-1990**", and discussed the claim that "for us, for all Poles the Warsaw Uprising will be forever a great epic". A totally different perspective on "Forgetting" came from **Michal Pagis**, Postdoc in Sociology and Anthropology, who asked "**Can the body forget?**", while reporting on pain and embodied memories. Before all the participants entered into the general and final discussion, **Gerd Waldhauser**, Postdoc in Psychology, explained "**How the brain can forget**". The general discussion collected key insights into the first workshop, and created curiosity in the

Imprint

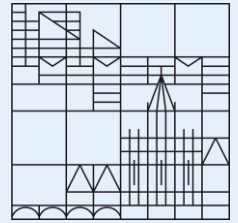
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



ZukunftsKolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



ZukunftsKolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 16

next workshop on "Forgetting", to be held in Israel from 28 to 30 October 2012.



Dinner Speech

From the Isle of Reichenau, the participants then travelled to the Restaurant Bleiche in Konstanz, where they had their final dinner, accompanied with a speech by **Aleida Assmann**, Professor of English Studies and Literature. Everyone was quite curious about her presentation. **Aleida Assmann** gave a comprehensive summary of the concept of "Forgetting", which she divided into seven "Social and cultural frames of forgetting": selective, automatic and preservative forgetting, which she defines as neutral forms of forgetting; aggressive/destructive/repressive, and defensive/complicitive forgetting, which are negative, as well as constructive and therapeutic forgetting, which she describes as positive forms of forgetting.

Although "Forgetting" is mostly used in a negative way, **Aleida Assmann** also spoke about the value of forgetting, quoting Jan Philipp Reemtsma: „We live with the consensus that we need to remember and that we must fight forgetting. (...) But what should be positive

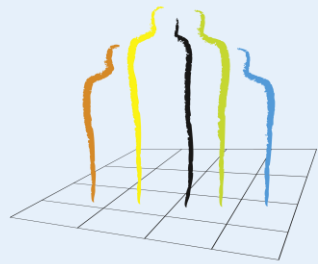
about remembering? Remembering and forgetting are human features that are neither positive nor negative per se, but are both needed to cope with life.“ And she finished her presentation with a quote from Francis Bacon: “When you carry the light into one corner, you darken the rest.”



The participants of the first workshop on "Forgetting" will carry their light of knowledge to Israel in October, where continuing productive and creative discussions are expected. And, when they carry their light of knowledge to Israel, what remaining corners will they darken as a result?

Imprint

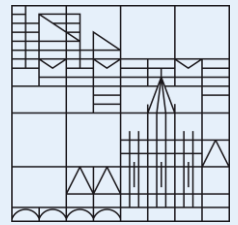
ZukunftsKolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftsKolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftsKolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 17



"Visualization in social networks". Then the students and researchers-to-be were given the choice of participating in one of three workshops: **Julia Jones** (biologist) worked with the pupils on **"Evolutionary biology and population genetics"**, **Alexander Schellow** (artist) tried a practical approach to **"Thinking in space – observations on a short-circuit"**, and **Zsuzsanna Török** (historian) and **Andreas Thum** (biologist) discussed in **"Knowledge spaces and cultures"** about the researcher's everyday work.



Hegau-Bodensee Seminar

In the cooperation between the Hegau-Bodensee-Seminar and the Zukunftskolleg, the so called "Universitätstag" was held on **June 26** at the University of Konstanz. It was titled **"Knowledge – spaces and mediation"**. The Universitätstag gives scholars of the Hegau-Bodensee-Seminar the opportunity to get into contact with the Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg and to find out more about their research areas. After **Ulrich Rüdiger**, Rector of the University of Konstanz, had welcomed the pupils, **Ulrik Brandes**, Computer Scientist, presented a lecture on

People

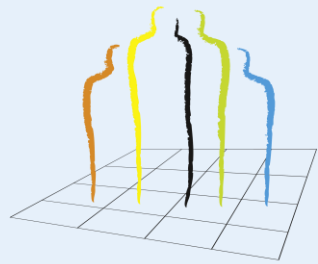
Senior Fellows

The Zukunftskolleg welcomed the Senior Fellows **Valerie Shafer** and **Joseph Y. Halpern** in **June**.

Valerie Shafer has been nominated by Zukunftskolleg Fellow **Tanja Rinker**, and stayed there **until 26 July**. She dedicated this time to her project **"The relationship**

Imprint

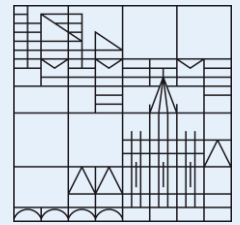
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 18

between speech-perception and language development in bilingually exposed preschoolers", she also held a workshop about "Studies on normal and impaired language acquisition in monolingual and bilingual children and adults", which took place on 12 and 13 July and was organized together with Tanja Rinker.

Joseph Y. Halpern, nominated by the Zukunftskolleg Fellow **Franz Huber**, resumed his last stay in Konstanz from 2011 and held the lecture "**Intransitivity and Vagueness**" on 18 June, with a workshop from the Department of Philosophy.

He was honored by the Zukunftskolleg Lecture on 21 June and gave a presentation on the topic of "**Knowledge and common knowledge in multi-agent-systems**" (see events). Joseph Y. Halpern remained in Konstanz until 20 July.

In July, the Zukunftskolleg welcomed Senior Fellow **Giora Hon** from the University of Haifa. He had been nominated by our Alumnus **Samuel Schindler**, and will stay there until 30 September. Giora Hon is a great addition to the Zukunftskolleg. His work is based at the interface between the history of physics and the philosophy of science. He is thus well-versed in and prepared for the interdisciplinary context of the Zukunftskolleg.

People Leaving the Zukunftskolleg:

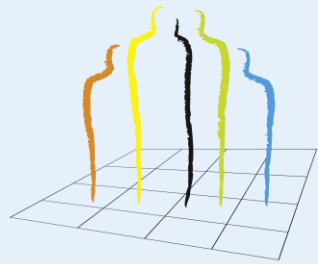
Brian Leahy has left the Zukunftskolleg. He took up a position at the Department of Linguistics on 1 July, 2012 on the project "**The Semantics and Pragmatics of**

Counterfactual Statements", in the DFG-funded collaborative research centre "What if? On the meaning, epistemology, and scientific relevance of counterfactual claims and thought experiments". He had been a postdoctoral Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg since August 2010. The "What if?" research center is an interdisciplinary group comprised of linguists, philosophers, historians and literary critics. Brian's project studies the grammatical composition and pragmatics of conditional sentences. Some conditional sentences, such as "If John had come, Bill would have been happy", strongly suggest that their component clauses are false: in the example, that John did not come and that Bill was not happy. Brian's work explains how this information is generated while also providing compositional semantics that explain how the meaning of the example above compares and contrasts with the meaning of other conditional sentences such as "If John came, Bill was happy". Brian also has a philosophical project that addresses the problem of conditionals within a teleosemantic framework.

Brian expressed his gratitude to the Zukunftskolleg and added that he had enjoyed a great time here: "I've learnt immensely from my colleagues; it's clear that my future as a scientist will benefit from the broader perspective that I was provided with by the Zukunftskolleg. Spending time with practicing scientists and learning about the challenges they face and their methods for addressing those challenges were particularly productive. I think this has enabled me to improve my philosophical work; there are methods that I simply hadn't realized could be applied to philosophical work before."

Imprint

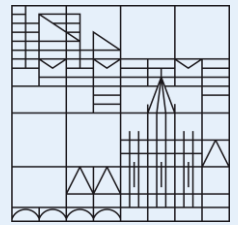
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 19

Several (Senior) Fellowships ended with the summer term:

31 May Senior Fellowship **Alexander Schellow**, 18 July Fellowship **Jure Demsar**, 20 July Senior Fellowship **Joe Halpern**, 26 July Senior Fellowship **Valerie Shafer**, 31 July Senior Fellowship **Jeff Barrett**, 15 August Senior Fellowship **Dimitri Ginev** and 15 August Senior Fellowship **David Leep**.

Grants, Approvals, Prizes

Andreas Karrenbauer's DFG-project was granted. The main objective of this project is to advance the state-of-the-art in modern display technology by means of discrete optimization. Karrenbauer and his colleagues aim to reduce power consumption in the next generation of flat-panel displays by reducing their address time.

Ulrich Sieberer's grant application was funded. He will analyze the "**Parlamentarisches Abstimmungsverhalten im Deutschen Bundestag**" ("parliamentary voting behavior in the German Bundestag"). It started in May 2012 and is being financed by the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung for two years. Ulrich Sieberer cooperates with Thomas Saalfeld (Bamberg) und Stefanie Bailer (ETH Zurich).

Malte Drescher received a DFG-grant to run from September 2012 to May 2016 for his project "**Distance measurements in the nanometer range by In-Cell Electron Paramagnetic**

Resonance Spectroscopy".

Joe Halpern's paper "**Ambiguous language and differences in belief**", together with Willemien Kets, was awarded the Ray Reiter Best Paper Prize at the Thirteenth International Conference on the Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning in Rome on 13 June.

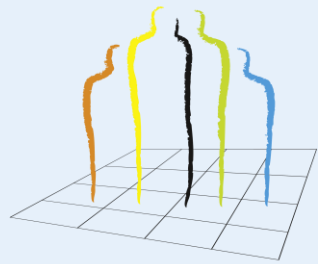
In July, **Simon Hanslmayr**, in collaboration with the MRC Cognition & Brain Sciences Unit in Cambridge and the Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg, published a paper in the journal "Current Biology". The researchers have identified a rapid memory reactivation mechanism that has so far only been speculated about. In this project, participants learned long lists of words while the screen flickered at different frequencies. Such flickering stimulation is known to induce a frequency-specific "oscillating" brain signal that is clearly visible in the human electroencephalogram (EEG). The study revealed that when participants later remember one of the previously studied words, the brain rapidly reproduces a signal at the particular frequency that had been present during the learning phase. These results indicate that when people recollect past events, the brain transiently returns to the state that it was in when the event had first been encountered. The study is available online in Current Biology:

[http://www.cell.com/current-biology/abstract/S0960-9822\(12\)00646-X](http://www.cell.com/current-biology/abstract/S0960-9822(12)00646-X)

Daniel Summerer received a second DFG grant for his project "**Programmable Genome Blocking by Genetically Encoded, DNA-Intercalating Repressor Modules**". On 19 July in the priority program "**Chemoselektive Reaktionen**

Imprint

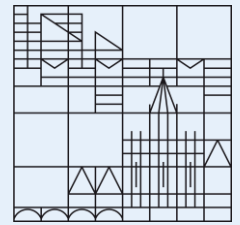
Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>



Zukunftskolleg

free • creative • connecting

**Universität
Konstanz**



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter | Konstanz | May - July 2012 | Issue No. 14 | Page 20

für die Synthese und Anwendung funktionaler Proteine".

Thomas Voigtmann received the Teaching Prize of the Universität Konstanz awarded by students (LUKS) 2012. It distinguishes lecturers at the University of Konstanz for their outstanding teaching. The award ceremony will take place in October 2012.

Careers

New Appointments

From April to July, **Margarita Stolarova** worked as visiting scientist at the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) of the University of Toronto, Canada. For this she received a scholarship from the Ministry of Science, Research, and Arts, Baden-Württemberg in the Ontario/Baden-Württemberg Faculty Mobility Program.

Franz Huber accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto, Canada, downtown campus (St. Georg), at the rank of an Assistant Professor, starting on 1 January 2013.

“Very young scientific researchers”

The Zukunftskolleg community continually welcomes an increase to its "Human Resources".

On 4 July, **Ursula Stricker-Ellsiepen's** daughter Anna Katharina was born.

The Zukunftskolleg congratulates the parents and wishes the family all the very best.

Imprint

Zukunftskolleg
University of Konstanz
Box 216
D -78457 Konstanz
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 -4897
Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 -4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>

Photos by Zukunftskolleg, Universität Konstanz, Sigrid Elmer, Daniela Leykam

Imprint

Zukunftskolleg - University of Konstanz
Box 216 | 78457 Konstanz | Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4897 | Fax: +49 (0)7531 / 88 - 4829
Email: zukunftskolleg@uni-konstanz.de
<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/zukunftskolleg>