



Universität  
Konstanz



# Zukunftskolleg

## Newsletter

### Issue #37

Dear fellows and friends,

Welcome to the winter semester 2019/20!

Summer has come and gone, and we can look back on an eventful second half of the last semester. Unforgettable of course our success - for the third time - within the Excellence Strategy.

Now, we are looking forward to the winter semester. A particularly important piece of news is that the application phase for the **14th call for 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellowships** has almost come to an end (application deadline: 15 October 2019). In addition, **six further research funding programmes** at the Zukunftskolleg have been announced (application deadline: 31 October 2019). Most of the programmes are open to all postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz, so feel free to apply!

We are happy to welcome a number of new fellows to the Zukunftskolleg, including our **first round of Africa, Asia and Latin America Fellows**. We wish all fellows a pleasant time at the University of Konstanz!

What's next at the Zukunftskolleg? Both the **Executive Committee** and the **Scientific Advisory Board** will meet in October. The weekly Jour fixe will also start up again.

We are looking forward to an exciting new semester and wish you all the best!

With warm greetings

The Zukunftskolleg team

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Tübingen

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# Current call for applications

## 14th call for applications for Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships

The Zukunftskolleg has published its 14th call for applications for Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships.

The **2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship** is aimed at researchers in their early career stages who plan to develop and implement an independent research project. The **5-year Research Fellowship** is attractive to researchers with significant work experience and an established academic profile at the postdoctoral level. Both fellowships are open to applicants from all fields represented at the University of Konstanz.

Applications must be submitted via the [online application portal](#). The deadline for submissions is **15 October 2019** (11:00 Konstanz time).

Find more information on the [Zukunftskolleg's website](#). If you have any additional questions, please contact Anda Lohan by emailing: [zukunftskolleg-application@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:zukunftskolleg-application@uni-konstanz.de).



# Current research funding opportunities at the Zukunftskolleg

## New calls for applications for six funding programmes

The Zukunftskolleg has issued new calls for applications for six funding programmes. The deadline for all programmes is **31 October 2019**.

The **Mentorship Programme** enables postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz to meet with distinguished colleagues both in Germany and abroad and to maintain these contacts. [Read more](#).

The **Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching Programme** aims to promote the development of new teaching courses and expand departmental syllabi. It gives the opportunity to explore new, innovative topics in teaching and to expand participants' teaching skills and their interdisciplinary approach to teaching. [Read more](#).

The **Intersectoral Cooperative Programme** aims to promote collaboration between early career researchers and the nonacademic sector. It supports collaboration on joint research projects with companies, social and cultural institutions, archives, public institutions or non-profit organizations. [Read more.](#)

The **Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects Programme** gives grant holders the opportunity to identify and explore new, innovative or risky research perspectives with neighbouring disciplines and across disciplines. [Read more.](#)

The programmes are **open to all postdoctoral researchers** at the University of Konstanz.

The **Research Visit programmes** (for Zukunftskolleg's fellows only!) seek to enhance international research cooperation and to support international mobility. They fund temporary research stays both at the Zukunftskolleg and abroad that promote international exchange among peers:

(1) The Research Visit programme for Zukunftskolleg fellows encourages temporary assignments for one to three months at either a partner institution or a location of the applicant's choice (Outgoing Research Visit).

(2) Zukunftskolleg fellows can nominate international early career researchers for a Research Visit to the Zukunftskolleg lasting from one up to three months (Invited Research Visit).

(3) Early career researchers from the Zukunftskolleg's partner institutes can apply for a Research Visit at the Zukunftskolleg lasting from one up to three months (Network Research Visit).

The grant will cover travel and accommodation costs. [Read more.](#)

The **Alumni Cooperation Programme** supports collaboration between current and former fellows of the Zukunftskolleg. Grants will be given to support partnerships that foster joint research projects. The programme follows the motto "once a fellow, always a fellow" and aims to strengthen the connections among our international community of fellows. Furthermore, alumni are actively encouraged to act as mentors for younger generations of fellows at the Zukunftskolleg. [Read more.](#)



# We welcome our new fellows

During the summer months, we welcomed another new Research Fellow from the 13th call for applications, a Research Visit Fellow as well as the six Africa, Asia and Latin America Fellows from our [first call for AAA Fellowships](#):



**Stephan Streuber** started his 5-year Research Fellowship in June. He is affiliated with the Department of Computer and Information Science.

His research at the Zukunftskolleg is about how an individual's behaviour is affected by

the presence of others and how the social context influences the perception of the self. The title of his project is “Studying Collective Behaviour using Virtual Reality”.

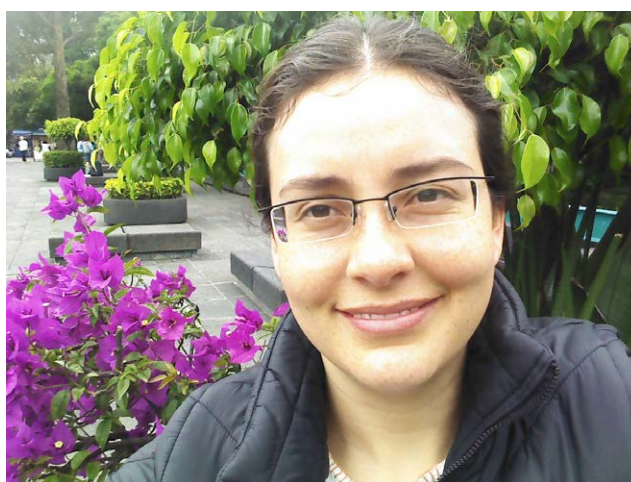
[Read more.](#)



**Eliana Barriga** is a new Research Visit Fellow. She started her 3-month Research Visit at the end of June. She is affiliated with the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Eliana's current research project at the Zukunftskolleg aims to provide new advances on locally definable and approximate groups in tame expansions of o-minimal structures, which is a joint project with Dr Panteleimon Eleftheriou (Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg).

[Read more.](#)



**Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli** is one of our new AAA Fellows. She started her AAA Fellowship in June and is affiliated with the Department of Politics and Public Administration.

During her fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg, Patricia has been investigating the changes in family-reunification policies in Brazil since 1997. Her project, titled "The Family Reunification Policy for Refugees in Brazil", aims to improve the understanding of best practices and challenges in family reunification procedures for refugees in Brazil. Using different quantitative and qualitative methodologies, she analyzes various phenomenological interviews with refugees who requested family reunification in São Paulo in addition to key-informant interviews with Brazilian authorities and organizations involved in the family reunification process.

[Read more](#)





**Leila Abdala** is also one of our new AAA Fellows and joined the Zukunftskolleg in July. She is affiliated with the Department of Literature, Art and Media Studies.

At the Zukunftskolleg, she collaborates with Professor Kirsten Mahlke on a new research project about the global midwifery crisis. Her interest lies in a comparative study of the midwifery situations in Germany and Argentina. Specifically, she studies how – despite these countries having different socioeconomic structures and regulatory frameworks – agreement on this topic can be found, since the demand for the humanization of birth has been established globally.

[Read more.](#)



**Hamadjam Abboubakar** started his AAA Fellowship in August. He is affiliated with the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

His research project at the Zukunftskolleg concerns the mathematical modeling and control of a transmission dynamics model for typhoid fever.

[Read more.](#)



**Abena Yalley** is another AAA Fellow who started her fellowship in August. She is affiliated with the Department of History and Sociology/Gender Studies.

Abena's research project at the Zukunftskolleg focuses on police intervention strategies for handling cases of

domestic violence against women in Southern Ghana and Lagos, Nigeria. She uses the qualitative research methodology to examine how the masculine occupational culture of the Ghana Police Service and the Nigeria Police Force affects the domestic violence intervention process and its outcomes.

[Read more.](#)



**Denisha Gouden** also started her AAA Fellowship in August. She is affiliated with the Department of Chemistry.

Her research programme involves constructing inverted planar heterojunction solar cells where the active light absorbing layer made of perovskites and synthesized phthalocyanines behaves as the hole transport material (HTM). The efficiency of these cells will be tested against industrial standards.

[Read more.](#)



**Sana Shams** was another AAA Fellow to join the Zukunftskolleg in August. She is affiliated with the Department of Linguistics.

Sana's research project at the Zukunftskolleg focuses on recognizing a user's intent from his/her web search queries. She is working with Professor Miriam Butt and aims to use computational semantics with deep neural networks to study how linguistic features can effectively help recognize user intent from text-based web queries.

[Read more.](#)



# Review of Events

## Migration

### Special Jour fixe series within the UBIAS' Topic of the Year 2019

/mʌɪ'greɪʃ(ə)n/ is at once a historical constant, a social predicament, a political gambit, a human rights emergency, a geo-political trend, an economic calculus, a literary trope, a highly mediatized phenomenon, and more. It is not limited to human migration but encompasses the movement of animals from one region to another as well as the migration of cells within a plant and data migration issues.

This Special Jour fixe series in June and July aimed at examining the interdisciplinary scope of migration and disentangling intersections and discrepancies in the different academic disciplines.

Within this framework we hosted three events and an exhibition:

#### Migration (I)

*Jour fixe talks by Gisela Kopp and Andrea Flack on 11 June 2019*

"Animal migration - a quick introduction to the terminology"

Gisela Kopp (Biology / Research Fellow)

"Migration of the white stork"

Andrea Flack (Biology / Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour)

#### Migration (II)

*Jour fixe talks by Maurizio Strazzeri and John Hoffmann on 18 June 2019*

"Human mobility and Internet usage: Evidence from Nigerian micro-level data"

Maurizio Strazzeri (Economics; Graduate School of Decision Sciences / Associated Fellow)

on a Doctoral Fellowship)

"Beyond the Border: Transnational Film Culture between Germany and Great Britain"

John Hoffmann (Literature / Research Visit Fellow)

### **Exhibition "Anima Mundi"**

*12 June - 12 July 2019 in the foyer of the library*

Exhibition by illustrator George Butler (London)

### **Migration Stories**

*Lightning talks and midissage of "Anima Mundi" exhibition on 25 June 2019*

On 25 June 2019, the Zukunftscolleg and the three Clusters of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality", "Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour" and "Cultural Foundations of Social Integration" presented short research talks on "Migration" as well as the exhibition "Anima Mundi".

**We thank all presenters and participants for their contributions and George Butler for sharing his illustrations as well as his views and thoughts with us!**



### **Presentations by new fellows**

*Jour fixe talks by Morgane Nouvian and Nihan Toprakkiran on 2 July 2019*

**Morgane Nouvian** (Biology / Research Fellow)

"Individual brains, collective task: social regulation of stinging behaviour in honeybees"

*Abstract:*



*Honeybees defend their nest against large predators thanks to a collective effort to harass and sting the intruder. The stinger apparatus has evolved to detach upon stinging elastic skin (such as ours) to maximize venom delivery, but the drawback is that the mutilated bee will then die within a few hours. Thus, the honeybee colony under threat has to achieve a delicate balance: enough bees need to respond in order to successfully deter the intruder, but without unnecessarily depleting the colony of its workforce. What are the mechanisms regulating how each individual decides whether to engage in this collective response, so that this balance is reached? Morgane proposes that honeybees integrate information about the behaviour of their nestmates (social feedback) to fine tune their own response. The aim of this project is to study both the behavioural and the neurobiological bases of this regulatory mechanism. Thanks to the behavioural experiments, Morgane can characterize the postulated social feedback and identify the sensory channels involved. In order to study the neurobiological mechanism underlying this regulation, the role of known and putative neuromodulators of honeybee aggression is investigated. The characterization of the neurons involved provides a starting point to unravel the neuronal circuitry mediating the stinging response of honeybees.*

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

"Immigrant Support for Home-Country Populism: A Comparative Look at the Turkish, Polish and Italian Communities in Germany"

*Abstract:*

*Nihan's research addresses two contemporary political developments: the spread of external voting, that is the possibility of voting in national elections from abroad, and the rise of populism. Not only have these two phenomena drawn the attention of the public recently, but also some immigrant groups are particularly inclined to vote for populist parties in their countries of origin. This raises the following question: How can populist parties, with their anti-European and anti-immigration attitudes and opposition to liberal democratic principles, find support among immigrants who reside in a Western European democracy? In this talk, Nihan described current trends among the Turkish, Polish and Italian population in Germany based on some empirical figures and discussed which parties she examined as 'populist' parties. Then, she outlined how she approaches the issue of explaining external political preferences in her current project.*



## Waldrapp excursion to Heiligenberg

To further explore the UBIAS 2019 Topic of the Year „Migration“, several fellows and their families visited the flight training camp of the Northern Bald Ibis in Heiligenberg on 6 July 2019.

The Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) is a migratory bird which became extinct in Europe 400 years ago. The project "Waldrappteam" aims to reintroduce this species to Europe by establishing an independently viable population that migrates to a wintering area in Tuscany. One of several breeding colonies is located in Überlingen at Lake Constance and the flight training for the human-led migrations of the hand-raised young birds takes place in Heiligenberg this year.



Anne-Gabriele Schmalstieg, member of the Waldrappteam since 2012 and Foster Parent, gave an in-depth

presentation of the project and answered many questions by the curious fellows. The excursion ended with a BBQ.



## Open Mic Jour fixe (III)

*Jour fixe talks by Eliana Barriga, Guilia Fabrini, Makoto Fujiwara and Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli on 9 July 2019*

**Eliana Barriga** (Mathematics / Research Visit Fellow / Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia), **Guilia Fabrini** (Mathematics and Statistics / Associated Fellow per Mentorship), **Makoto Fujiwara** (Mathematics / Research Visit Fellow / Meiji University, Japan) and **Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli** (Political Science / AAA Fellow / Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil) organized this Jour fixe.

Eliana Barriga presented "New advances on locally definable and approximate groups in tame expansions of o-minimal structures".

Guilia Fabrini's talk was entitled "Numerical optimal control for nonlocal parabolic equations modeling the evolutionary dynamics of cancer cell populations under cytotoxic therapy".

Makoto Fujiwara introduced "An axiomatic approach for foundations of constructive reasoning".

Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli talked about "The Family Reunification of Refugees in Brazil".

Find [more information about the talks](#).



## Video award and Assembly of Members

*Jour fixe event on 16 July 2019*

In the first part of the Jour fixe, the participants watched eight research videos submitted by fellows and voted for the best among them. The winning video from Jennifer Randerath was part of the European Researchers' Night in September. Congratulations!

In the second part, an Assembly of Members took place and elected two new members to the Executive Committee (to replace Oleksandra Kukharenko and replace/reelect Gisela Kopp).



## Scientific Retreat

The Scientific Retreat, entitled “Re-Wiring the Switchboard: Interdisciplinarity, Intercultural Exchange and Academic Community in Context” took place from 19 - 21 September 2019. The aim of the retreat was to discuss how academic community is viewed by its individual members. Participants focused on divisions between different academic fields as well as how academia is linked to the broader social context. Some of the sub-themes they discussed included interdisciplinarity, intercultural exchange, the internal organization of the academic community, the role of the academic community in society, and digitalization. The retreat was mainly structured around small group work, with each group defining a more specific focus for itself. These groups then discussed the following questions and built a model of their discussion using Lego bricks to present to other participants:

- What is the importance of digitalization in your field?
- To which academic community/ies do you belong? How do those communities intersect/relate to each other?
- What is the role of interdisciplinarity, diversity and complexity in science?
- How does/should the academic community interact with the broader society?

To round off the Scientific Retreat, the fellows and their families went on a hiking trip together, enjoying the panorama of the Swiss Alps. The evening programme included movie and quiz nights.

[Read more.](#)



## Upcoming Events

## Executive Committee meeting

The next meeting will take place on 15 October 2019.



## Scientific Advisory Board meeting

The Scientific Advisory Board focuses on the future development of the Zukunftskolleg. Its members are renowned researchers from Germany and abroad who enjoy international recognition in their research fields. With their external perspective and expertise, they advise the Executive Committee and propose strategies for advancing the Zukunftskolleg's profile.

The next meeting will take place on 28 - 29 October 2019 at the University of Konstanz.



## Jour fixe winter semester 2019/20

### **Presentations by Africa, Asia, Latin America Fellows**

Hamadjam Abboubakar (Mathematics and Statistics, Cameroon)

Denisha Gounden (Chemistry, South Africa)

Abena Yalley (Gender Studies, Nigeria)

### **Presentation of possible topics of the term (resulting from Scientific Retreat)**

### **Info on current calls for applications for Funding Programmes**

15 October

15:15 - 16:45

Y 326

### **Presentation by a new Fellow (I)**

Benjamin Eva (Research Fellow / Philosophy)

### **Vote on topic of the term**

### **Preparation of Scientific Advisory Board Meeting**

22 October  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### **Lightning talks + poster session**

Jour fixe on the occasion of the Scientific Advisory Board meeting:

- Lightning talks by about 10 Fellows, lasting 3 min
- Poster session

29 October  
15:15 - 18:00  
Y 326

### **Presentations by new Fellows (II)**

Henri Kauhanen (Postdoctoral Fellow / Linguistics)  
Ari Strandburg-Peshkin (Research Fellow / Biology)

05 November  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### **Open Mic Jour fixe (I)**

Sven Lauer (Fellow / Linguistics)  
Philip Rathgeb (Postdoctoral Fellow / Politics and Public Administration)  
Katarina Zigova (Associated Fellow / Economics)

12 November  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### **Mittelbauinitiative (mid-level academic staff initiative Konstanz)**

Carolin Antos-Kuby (Research Fellow / Philosophy)  
Sibylle Röth (History and Sociology)

19 November  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### **Transfer Science into Society**

Julia Wandt (Communication and Marketing (KUM), University of Konstanz)

### **Assembly of Members**

Election of three new members to the Executive Committee

26 November  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### **Open Mic Jour fixe (II)**

Thomas Böttcher (Fellow / Chemistry)  
Stephan Streuber (Research Fellow / Computer and Information Science)  
*tba*

03 December  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### Open Mic Jour fixe (III)

Klaus Boldt (Research Fellow / Chemistry)  
Robert Hussein (Associated Fellow / Physics)  
Maria Zhukova (Associated Fellow / Literature)

10 December  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

### Xmas Jour fixe

17 December  
15:15 - 16:45  
Y 326

Find all dates for the weekly Jour fixe sessions in the current winter semester [here](#).



# New EC members elected

In its meeting on 16 July, the Assembly of Members elected Gisela Kopp (Department of Biology) and Cornelia Klocker (Department of Law) to serve as members in the Executive Committee.

Gisela's current term of office of one year in the Executive Committee ended in September. According to the statutes, a second one-year term of office is possible. Oleksandra Kukhareenko's term of office ended in August. Since she has already served as EC member for two years, the election of one new member was necessary.

We thank Oleksandra for her hard work and commitment in the Executive Committee and wish Gisela and Cornelia good luck for their term of office!



# Careers, distinctions and grants

**James Griffiths becomes a**

## professor in Tübingen

We congratulate [James Griffiths](#) (Associated Fellow / Department of Linguistics) who has accepted the position of Tenure-Track Professor in English Linguistics at the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Tübingen. He started on 1 August 2019.

“I wish to thank the Zukunftskolleg once again for its support – I’m 100% certain that being part of the Zukunftskolleg secured this position for me”.

James Griffiths was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from April 2016 until March 2018.

We wish him all the best!



## Assistant professorship for Margaret Thomas at Purdue University

[Margaret Thomas](#) (Associated Fellow / Department of Mathematics and Statistics) joined the Department of Mathematics at Purdue University as a new tenure-track assistant professor in August 2019.

She held the position of Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from January 2011 until March 2018.

We congratulate her on this new position!



## Jennifer Randerath receives Transfer Award

We congratulate [Jennifer Randerath](#) (Research Fellow / Department of Psychology) on receiving the Transfer Award from the University of Konstanz Society (UGK). The awards ceremony will take place during this year's Dies academicus on 18 October 2019.

This year, the Transfer Award was granted to two projects that bridge the gap between science and society.

Jennifer's prize-winning project focused on implementing a diagnostic instrument for limb apraxia.

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to my mentors for their nomination and to all those who have made different steps of this project possible, especially of course Dr Ilka Buchmann, who, as a doctoral student, has achieved important milestones in this translational work".

