International Workshop
The Rise and Fall: Environmental Factors in the Socio-Cultural Changes of the Ancient Silk Road Area

1st day: Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017
8:30-9:00 Registration

Session 1: Historic China towards the west
Chair: Liang E. Yang
9:00-9:20 Welcome and Introduction
Prof. Josef Wiesehöfer, Prof. Johannes Müller
9:20-9:45 On the social impacts of climate change in the historic China
Prof. Dr. Xiaoqi Fang, Beijing Normal University, P.R. China
9:45-10:10 The expansion of the Chinese empire to the west and the resulting deterioration of lakes during the Han Dynasty
Prof. Dr. Steffen Mischke, University of Iceland, Reykjavík
10:10-10:35 Kashmir Valley and the Ancient Silk Road: multi-proxy investigation in an ecocological niche
Mr. Michael Spate (PhD candidate), Dept. of Archaeology, University of Sydney

10:35-11:00 Coffee break

Session 2: Central Asia as Silk Road node
Chair: Millinda Hoo
11:00-11:25 Climate change and the rise of the central Asian Silk Roads
Dr. Daniel J. Hill, School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds, UK
11:25-11:50 Non-linear dynamics in Gandhara: Bridging cultural and environmental development along the ancient Silk Roads
Dr. Marike E.J.J. van Aarde, Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University, Netherlands
11:50-12:15 A drought reconstruction of northwestern Kyrgyzstan indicates relationships between hydroclimatic changes and social unrest in Central Asia
Dr. Feng Chen, Institute of Desert Meteorology, China Meteorological Administration, Urumqi, China

12:15-14:30 Lunch break

Session 3: Changes of water & agriculture
Chair: Josef Wiesehöfer
14:30-14:55 Age and origin of Kariz irrigation systems along the silk road in the Turpan basin, Xinjiang, China
Dr. Stefan Hecht, Geographisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
14:55-15:20 The Ili River Delta: Holocene hydrogeological evolution and evidence of bronze age colonization by vertical migrations
Dr. J.-M. DEOM, Laboratory of Geourarchaeology, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Faculty of History, Archaeology and Ethnology, Kazakhstan
15:20-15:45 Human stable isotopes and dietary reconstruction between urban and nomadic communities
Mr. Taylor Hermes (PhD candidate), GSHDL, Kiel University, Germany

15:45-16:10 Coffee break

Session 4: Climate, disaster and impacts
Chair: Josef Wiesehöfer
16:10-16:35 The fall of the Oxus civilization (Bronze Age, southern Central Asia) and the climate change
Dr. Elise Luneau, CNRS-UMR 8215, France
16:35-17:00 Paleoclimatic change, disaster history and the urbanscape development in Athens
Dr. Liang Emlyn Yang, GSHDL, Kiel University, Germany
17:00-17:25 Living with earthquakes along the Silk Road
Prof. Dr. Miklos Kaznner, Eötvös University, Department of Palaeontology, Hungary
17:25-17:50 Glacio-archaeological evidence of human survival in glacier end moraine complex during the Little Ice Age in Miyar Basin, Lahul Himalaya, India
Dr. Rakesh Saini, Applied Geography, Dr. Harisingh Gour Central University, India

18:30 Dinner
At the LOUF Restaurant, Kiel

2nd day: Friday, Sept. 29, 2017
8:45-9:00 Morning Coffee

Session 5: Climate links to social evolution
Chair: Millinda Hoo
9:00-9:25 The Coming of the Barbarians: Can Climate explain the Saljuqs’ advance?
Prof. Dr. Yehoshua Frenkel, Haifa University, Israel
9:25-9:50 Climatic and Environmental Limiting Factors in the Mongol Empire’s Westward Expansion: A Discussion of Büntgen and di Cosmo’s “Environmental Hypothesis” for the Mongol Withdrawal from Europe in 1242
Mr. Stephen Pow (PhD candidate), Central European University, Hungary
Prof. Dr. Susanne Marten-Finns, University of Portsmouth, UK

10:15-10:40 Coffee break

Session 6: Lake/sea regions to the recent
Chair: Liang E. Yang
10:40-11:05 Evaluation of the ratio of natural and anthropogenic forcing in the regression of the Aral sea during the medieval warm period
Dr. Renato Sala, Laboratory of Geourarchaeology, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan
Ms. Anning Xu (PhD candidate), Fudan University, China
11:30-11:55 Critical investigation of the regeneration of Silk Road with executing 2 Mega-Projects in Iran and Pakistan coastal zone.
Mr. Faraz Nikpour (Master student), Kiel University, Germany

12:00-14:00 Lunch seminar
On joint publishing and project cooperation