

EDITORIAL

Johannes Müller, Speaker of the Graduate School

Kiel University is celebrating its 350th anniversary, and the Graduate School has participated in the festivities by constructing a megalithic tomb – yes, a megalithic tomb. Built with Neolithic methods on the midst of campus, it will hopefully outlast at least the next 350 years.



Read more in this newsletter. Further highlights of the past weeks were the conferences on megaliths (report in the next issue), inequality (see below) and geoarchaeology.

In the question & answer section of this newsletter, you will find an interview with Humboldt fellow Carl Heron from Bradford, who is going to be our guest at the Graduate School until this summer. He has brought highly interesting new research approaches with him.

Many Graduate School members are about to leave Kiel for excavations and other field work, near or far, during the summer. I wish you all a safe and productive time.

CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL INEQUALITY IN KIEL

Scholars from GS international partner institutions gathered together in Kiel with other scientists for the DFG-supported international conference “Social Inequality as a Topic in Archaeology” from March 9-12. It was organized by the Eurasia Department of the DAI, the GSHDL/JMA and Kiel Archaeology. Presentations on a timeframe from ca. 10,000 to 100 BCE clarified that different forms of inequality – obviously independent from the technological development – could appear in prehistoric societies. Nevertheless, societies in Central Europe fall back into less social differentiation during all of prehistory after the development of first social stratifications. The participants (who came from Turkey, Ukraine, Poland, Italy, Britain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Germany) intensely debated the question if from an anthropological point of view “equality” is a cultural value that developed over time or if “equality” was a “golden age” at the beginning which was subsequently lost. Publication of the conference proceedings is under process in the new series of the GS.

A NEW MEGALITHIC TOMB ON CAMPUS

Approximately 60 interested citizens, students and teachers of Kiel University literally pulled together on May 14th in order to set something big in motion. With only muscle power and simple tools, a megalithic tomb was constructed on the campus according to a Neolithic model. The capstones, each weighing several tons, were pulled onto the chamber stones with the help of a wooden sled over a prepared ramp. Further building material was brought to Christian-Albrechts-Platz with an oxcart of the Arche Warder, which set out in the morning from Flintbek with a load of flint. After completion of the construction, CAU President Professor Lutz Kipp, accompanied by delegations from



Using a wooden sled, numerous helpers pulled the capstones onto the grave.
Photo: Böschen/ CAU

associated universities in Poland and the Netherlands, deposited a ceramic vessel in the tomb replica.

Throughout the day, about 2,000 visitors viewed the construction work and took advantage of the colorful program accompanying the event in order to try out their skills in archery or to find out how our ancestors nourished themselves.

“This archaeological experiment has impressively demonstrated the workload that was shouldered by Neolithic societies in order to construct a megalithic tomb and the meaning that could be assigned to such a tomb”, explained Johannes Müller, organizer of the action. “For our students it was also an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience with Neolithic working methods”, added his colleague Walter Dörfler. The prototype of the newly constructed monument, megalithic tomb Wangels LA69, has been excavated in Eastern Holstein by Kiel archaeologists in recent years. From the 37th to 34th century BC, up to 30,000 megalithic tombs were in existence in Northern Germany, mostly with chambers built of boulders.

TINY TRACES ON POTTERY

INTERVIEW WITH HUMBOLDT RESEARCH FELLOW CARL HERON

Carl Heron is Professor of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford in the UK. He specialises in the study of organic molecules from archaeological artefacts and deposits. He was selected for a Humboldt Foundation Research Award in 2014 and is staying in Kiel and Schleswig until summer 2015. In our interview, which is published here in extracts and in full on the Graduate School website, Carl Heron talks about pottery and chemistry, England and Germany.

When you were awarded the Humboldt fellowship, did you have a special research project in mind that you wanted to push forward during your stay in Germany? If so, has it worked out fine?

My principal research interest lies in the study of organic substances preserved in association with pottery containers. One major project that I am developing deals with the adoption, use and spread of the earliest pottery vessels in NW Eurasia. I have already worked with Sönke Hartz (Landesmuseum, Schloss Gottorf), Harald Lübke (ZBSA), Aikaterini Glykou (PhD, GSHDL) and others on continuity and change in Ertebølle and Funnel Beaker pottery from Northern Germany. I have extended this with a recent project completed in the Southeastern Baltic and I am preparing a bid to the European Research Council on the spread of ceramic technology use from the Urals to the Baltic. This includes John Meadows (ZBSA). [...]

With a profound background in organic chemistry, you have specialised in the analysis and identification of organic residues such as lipids, waxes and resins in archaeological artefacts. What is so fascinating about these tiny traces and have they already led to archaeological discoveries during your scientific career?

My first degree is in archaeological sciences. This degree was a challenging mixture of archaeological method and theory, together with maths and physics. The organic chemistry came later when I did a PhD and post-doc. I am fascinated by the application of analytical organic chemistry to archaeology, but it's more important to try and use these data to make meaningful statements about people in the past. Until 30 years ago archaeologists knew very little about how pots were used in the past, why and where pottery vessels were introduced, why pottery styles changed through time, at what stage in human history were certain foods introduced and what can be assumed about the origins of cuisine. The techniques of analysis have improved, as has sample size and strategy. I'm particularly proud of two recent projects – determining patterns of continuity and change in Ertebølle and Funnel Beaker pottery during the period when domesticates were introduced

and tracing funerary practices involving exotic imported resins, such as frankincense, in late Roman burials in Britain. Both of these projects relied on the detection of microgram quantities of organic molecules which could be identified with specific organic substances.

You were co-nominated by Berit Eriksen and Johannes Müller. They represent the partners who have institutionalized their cooperation in the Johanna Mestorf Academy: the Centre for Baltic and Scandinavian Archaeology in Schleswig, the Graduate School Human Development in Landscapes and the Institute for Pre- and Protohistoric Archaeology at Kiel University. In your opinion, how can this cooperation push archaeological research forward?

This cooperation is extremely important and already well established. You have a wonderful opportunity to strengthen links between the university and Schloss Gottorf and to secure funding which relies on the skills that such a grouping possesses. In the UK, we have benefited from funding to support 'heritage science.' It's not a clearly defined term, but it spans a wide range of concerns – for example, the impact of climate change on heritage resources, promoting sustainability, understanding decay mechanisms of vulnerable artefacts and promoting public engagement in heritage. The Johanna Mestorf Academy is well placed to make a valuable contribution to this agenda.

Finally, I'm very grateful to Berit and Johannes for their nomination and to John Meadows (ZBSA) who has been so supportive throughout the process. I would also like to thank the members of the Graduate School Human Development in Landscapes who have made me feel so welcome. I would also like to acknowledge the support of the Humboldt Foundation. I have tremendously benefited from the opportunity to be based in Germany during 2014-2015 and I hope that those who have worked with me believe that it has been worthwhile too.

Thank you for the interview!

STAFF & PERSONAL NEWS

Luise Lorenz, associated doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on "Kommunikationsstrukturen mittelneolithischer Gesellschaften im nordeuropäischen Tiefland" on June 12, 2015.

Jan Piet Brozio, associated doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed his disputation on "Megalithanlagen und Siedlungsmuster im trichterbecherzeitlichen Ostholstein" on June 12, 2015.

Franziska Hage, associated doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on "Büdelsdorf/Borgstedt: eine trichterbecherzeitliche Kleinregion. Siedlung, Grabenwerk, megalithische und nicht-megalithische Grabanlagen" on June 11, 2015.

Karina Iwe, doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on "Studien zum Tierstil skythenzeitlicher Reiternomaden im eurasischen Steppengürtel. Mehrfigurige Kompositionen der älteren Eisenzeit" on June 11, 2015.

Stefanie Bergemann, doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on "Zauschwitz (Lkr. Leipzig): Siedlungen und Gräber eines neolithischen Fundplatzes" on June 11, 2015.

Two new colleagues have recently joined the joint GS/ JMA office. **Angelika Hoffmann** worked at the GS in its early days (2006/07) before switching to the cluster of excellence "Future Ocean" and its graduate school ISOS. Since April 2015, she has been filling the vacant project assistant position at the JMA. The new secretary at the GS, **Boris Gudschun**, started in early May and brings along CAU experience from an earlier engagement in a collaborative research centre at the Faculty of Engineering. Both are located in Room 123 of the GS building.

In 2011 the conference "Human Development in Sacred Landscapes" was held at Delphi, financially supported by the Graduate School. A volume presenting essays from the conference has now been published, edited by **Lutz Käppel** and **Vassiliki Pothou**: Human Development in Sacred Landscapes – Between Ritual Tradition, Creativity and Emotionality (ISBN 978-3-8471-0252-6).

Marion Bonazzi contributed to some interesting research results that have been published in Scientific Reports: Giant deers might have lived in Central Europe much longer than assumed so far. Scientific Reports 5, Article number: 10853, doi:10.1038/srep10853

Johannes Müller was elected to be a member of the Executive Committee (Zentralkommission) of the German Archaeological Institute (DAI). The Executive Committee is the supervisory board of the DAI and consists of representatives of the archaeology of ancient cultures and related sciences who are drawn from universities, museums and other scientific institutions.

Sandra Kiesow was invited to give a talk titled "Sao Tomé, das Reich von Kakao und Schokolade" at the Deutsch-Iberoamerikanische Gesellschaft (German-Ibero-American Society) in Kiel on April 23.

Kathrin Marterior participated in the 7th international conference of the group "Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär (FNI)" from March 5–7 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. The main focus was placed on any aspect of names and naming in early modern Germany. Many of the 50+ papers analysed names from a historical point of view without considering what a name de facto is. Kathrin's paper "The settlement names in Early Modern Germany" presented an analysis from a linguistic aspect and pointed out the characteristics of names. The conference group FNI supports and promotes interdisciplinary research on the culture, politics and society of German-speaking Central Europe during the early modern period (1400 to 1750).

Daniela Moser presented aspects of her PhD research at the workshop "Historical Wood Utilization. Transport of Timber" in Hallstatt (Austria) from May 13–17. Her talk was titled "Wood across the Empire: evidences of imported timber in southern Italy during the Roman Age".

Artur Ribeiro participated in two conferences on theoretical archaeology: At the XV Nordic TAG meeting in Copenhagen, April 16–18, he presented some aspects of his work with a presentation titled "Mereological problems: Challenges to OOO in archaeology". From May 22–24, Artur participated in the USA TAG in New York with a presentation titled "Historical narrative vs. cognitive archaeology: Philosophical problems in archaeological interpretation".

Natalia Toma was awarded the Norman Herz Price for her poster "Aphrodisias and the regional marble trade. The case of the scaenae frons of the theatre at Nysa" at the 11th International Conference of the Association for the Study of Marbles and Other Stones in Antiquity (ASMOSIA XI), held in Split (Croatia) from May 18–23. Natalia presented further aspects of her research in a second poster titled "A Corinthian capital of 'Pietra di Aurisena' on Proconnesos. A prototype for quarry production or a stray find?" and in the oral presentation "Standardised production of monolithic shafts. New evidence concerning the imperial building industry".

The international, interdisciplinary running team of the Graduate School has made another athletic appearance: In the tower run (Hochhauslauf) celebrating Kiel University's 350th anniversary, PhD students **Tobias Danborg Torfing** (archaeologist/ Denmark), **Sandra Kiesow** (ecosystem researcher/ Germany) and **Maren Biederbick** (art historian/ Germany) teamed up with Humboldt Fellow **Carl Heron** (Professor for Archaeology, Bradford). They dashed up the 14 floors/ 261 steps of the university tower in 1:08 minutes, placing 11th among the 20 starting teams in the relay run. Furthermore, Sandra, Carl and PhD student **Jos Kleijne** (archaeologist/ Netherlands) also started in the individual competitions with Sandra placing 6th out of 20 female participants (1:31 minutes), Jos 43rd (1:27) and Carl 50th (1:35) out of 69 runners.

SELECTED EVENTS

(COMPLETE CALENDAR: WWW.GSHDL.UNI-KIEL.DE/CALENDAR)

JULY 21-22 – Workshop: Complexity in Iron Age Societies – Leibnizstr. 1, Room 106a

SEPTEMBER 22-23 – Workshop: Acting the Landscape – Leibnizstr. 1, Room 204