EDITORIAL

Johannes Müller, Speaker Graduate School Human Development in Landscapes

The winter term has brought new faces and new installations to the Graduate School. In early February, the first of our new PhD students and postdoctoral fellows signed their contracts. They introduce new aspects and ideas for state-of-the-art research at Kiel University. With financial support of the Graduate School, new laboratories for zooarchaeological and botanical analyses were installed at the Institute for Pre- and Protohistory and at the Centre for Molecular Bio-Sciences. Our new colleagues and the new labs will further strengthen the excellent research in the field of human development in landscapes.

Meanwhile, other members have left the school. Several PhD students have finished their dissertations, whereas our esteemed project assistant, Rhina Colunge, and our exhibition coordinator, Daniela Menge, have both headed south for new challenges. Other GS members, such as Katherine Grillo, Sunhild Kleingärtner and Doris Mischka, have left Kiel to take up professorships in Bremen, Erlangen and Wisconsin. Our best wishes accompany them.

By now, the calendar for 2013 is full with numerous interesting events that do not only provide excellent opportunities for scientific exchange in Kiel, but also show how well the Graduate School’s research approaches are embedded into the international research landscape. To be mentioned is the International Graduate School Workshop “Socio-Environmental Dynamics over the Last 12,000 Years: The Creation of Landscapes III” from April 15 to 18. More than 190 contributors from over 25 countries have registered to take part in the 13 sessions, making the workshop a showcase for the latest international research activities in a broad range of fields such as early subsistence, mobility and monumentality. The list of events this year also includes a workshop on Hellenistic houses and their functions, a summer school on modelling the workshop a showcase for the latest international research activities in a broad range of fields such as early subsistence, mobility and monumentality. The list of events this year also includes a workshop on Hellenistic houses and their functions, a summer school on modelling and the annual autumn conference of the Association for Environmental Archaeology. A warm welcome to all our new Graduate School members and a productive spring to everyone!

SCIENTIFIC HIGHLIGHTS AND AN AWARD

From April 15 to 18, the International Open Workshop “Socio-Environmental Dynamics over the Last 12,000 Years: The Creation of Landscapes III” takes place at Kiel University. Several hundred scientists from all over the world will come to the new seminar building Leibnizstraße 1 to discuss recent developments in fields related to human development in landscapes. Among the highlights on the first day are the public lectures, which focus on issues that determined human life in the past and continue to do so today, for example, the emergence of social institutions or human-climate interactions under the influence of El Niño.

For the first time, the Johanna Mestorf Academy and the Graduate School present the Johanna Mestorf Award for Socio-Environmental Research and Landscape Archaeology. The prize will be handed over by Prof. Dr. Waltraud Wende, Minister of Education and Science of Schleswig-Holstein, during the plenary session on Thursday, April 18. On Monday evening, April 15, the workshop icebreaker is combined with the opening of the Graduate School exhibition in the Kiel Art Gallery (Antikensammlung · Kunsthalle zu Kiel).

You can find further information about the programme here: www.workshop-gshdl.uni-kiel.de

RESEARCH ON ICE

In collaboration with the Museum of Cultural History at Oslo University, archaeobotanists from Kiel University investigate the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition in southern Norway. To gain insight into the beginning of crop cultivation in the region, sediment cores from Lake Skogstjern were obtained in January 2013. Wiebke Kirleis describes in her travel report why this coring operation was conducted during the coldest time of the year and what first results have been obtained. The report is available here: www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes/allgemein/news_detail/20130320-coring_norway.shtml

ANCIENT URBANISM AND HELLENISTIC HOUSING

The new Professor of Classical Archaeology at Kiel University, Annette Haug, contributes to research and education at the Graduate School as a Principal Investigator. She succeeds Professor Frank Rumscheid, who followed an offer for a professorship at Bonn University. Annette Haug holds a binational PhD in Classical Archaeology from the Universities of Heidelberg and Paris-Sorbonne and habilitated in the same subject at the University of Leipzig in 2009. From 2010 to 2012, Haug worked at Munich’s Ludwig Maximilian University as a Heisenberg Fellow. Her main research areas include ancient urbanism, body and role concepts in Early Greece, decorative systems in the Roman World, and Hellenistic houses with a special focus on the ancient Greek city of Megara Hyblaia in Sicily.

Your first semester as a professor for Classical Archaeology at Kiel University is over. How would you sum up these first months?

It was a very intensive and inspiring semester. We were able to install quite different projects, for example, new examination regulations. Furthermore, I established contacts with many researchers working in related fields and promoted several scientific events, such as the con-
Among your main fields of work you include ancient urbanism and the development of Hellenistic housing. What is so fascinating about these issues, and how do you want to develop them?

In contrast to many research fields dealing with discourses on ancient realities, urbanism and architecture give us an insight on how reality is created. We can grasp different forms of lifestyles which tell us something about the social reality of antiquity. In the future, I will deal with the sensorial perception and aesthetic sensitivity concerning spatial arrangements.

Do you see parallels between ancient and modern urbanism?

Ancient cities have greatly influenced our understanding of towns and our expectations on what a town should be like. We expect a town to have a public ‘centre’, buildings of public administration, churches, locations of public pleasure (theatres, baths) and of course houses which reflect the social status of its inhabitants. All these aspects have a very long tradition.

What points of contact do you see between your work and the research foci of the Graduate School and what potential benefits do you expect for both sides from the collaboration?

One important point of contact consists in the common interest in different forms of spatial organization, shaping and perception. Space organizes human action and vice versa. On the one hand, I hope to contribute my cultural historical perspective, whereas the Graduate School, on the other hand, possesses a broad competence in the field of natural sciences. I envisage a project, for example a field project, which combines different approaches in analysing material culture.

What scientific aims and plans do you have for the future?

One of my scientific aims consists in the analysis of decorative structures in the Roman world. At the same time, I would like to pursue my scientific interest in visual studies by the analysis of modes of acting with images.

How do you like Kiel?

Kiel is a wonderful place to be, but I certainly look forward to spring and summer with hopefully more light and sun.

Thank you for the interview.

A BIG LOSS FOR THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Our project assistant, Rhina Colunge, left the Graduate School in February to take up a new professional challenge. “On the one hand it is very hard to replace Rhina, especially in this busy phase with new students and the preparation for the International Workshop”, stated Scientific Coordinator Mara Weinelt. “But on the other hand, I am happy to see that the Graduate School served as a stepping stone for her to find an even better position.”

Members and partners of the school knew Rhina as a friendly and helpful person, who always had a smile in her face even in stressful situations and who added to the international and pluralistic atmosphere. She joined the school in May 2008, just after the first PhD students had begun their projects. Since the early phase of the school, she established the office, managed daily tasks, co-organized three big conferences and numerous smaller workshops, helped three generations of scholars to get started with their research and counseled members of the school in administrative questions. In addition to her organizational talent, Rhina also contributed with her skills in graphic design: The well-known logo of the Graduate School, flyers, brochures, posters and even this newsletter were all designed by her and even the school’s website is partly her creation.

Staff and members of the Graduate School wish Rhina all the best for the future. Her contribution to the school was invaluable.

GRADUATE SCHOOL CO-HOSTS AEA CONFERENCE

The Association for Environmental Archaeology promotes the advancement of the study of human interaction with the environment in the past through archaeology and related disciplines. As a network of continental European and UK-based archaeobotanists, archaeozoologists and archaeologists, it is open to all those actively involved or interested in any aspect of environmental archaeology. The Graduate School HDL is proud to host the next autumn meeting of the Association for Environmental Archaeology at Kiel University from September 27 to 29, 2013. The conference on one of the GS HDL core topics “Social space and environment: landscape reconstruction in environmental archaeology” will deal with issues about social space and farming communities, social consequences of environmental restrictions, novel methods and proxies to assess societal and environmental change, and quantification and modeling of environmental and economic processes.

Conference registration began on March 1. The conference committee (Wiebke Kirleis, Mara Weiult, Walter Dörfler, Johannes Müller and Ingmar Unkel) invites oral and poster contributions and also looks forward to the active involvement of Graduate School members to stimulate discussions in this European network.

More information is available on the conference website www.aea-conference.uni-kiel.de and on the AEA-website www.envarch.net

STAFF & PERSONAL NEWS

“Baalbek, Lissos and Kisten voller Knochen – Archäozoologie als Konsumforschung” is the title of the presentation that Anja Prust held at the DAI (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut) in Berlin on January 30. Anja also gave insight into her PhD research at the Institute for Classical Archaeology of Kiel University on February 7.

Together with GS alumnus Fevzi Kemal Moetz, Graduate School members Antonia Davidovic and Bettina Schulz Paulsson organized a workshop at the World Archaeological Congress (WAC) in Jordan (January 13 - 18). The workshop on January 15 was titled “Understanding monumentality: motivations, mentalités and the significance of early monuments for past societies”. A press release by Bettina Schulz Paulsson and Denis Schimpelmann, including some photos, is available for download here: www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes/allgemein/download/news/wac_2013_jordan.pdf

SELECTED EVENTS (complete calendar: www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes)

Venue for Biweekly Colloquia: Leibnizstraße 1, Room 204

April

April 15-18 – International Open Workshop: Socio-Environmental Dynamics over the Last 12,000 Years: The Creation of Landscapes III. Leibnizstr. 1.

Monday, April 15, 6:30 p.m. – Exhibition Opening: Manipulierte Landschaften - 10.000 Jahre Veränderung (in German). Antikensammlung - Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Düsternbrooker Weg 1, 24105 Kiel.

Monday, April 22, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Hans Huisman (University of Leiden & Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency)

May

Monday, May 6, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Christopher Prescott (University of Oslo, Department of Archaeology)

Wednesday, May 15, 6:00 p.m. – Lecture Series Manipulierte Landschaften (in German): Bettina Schulz Paulsson - Erinnerung in Stein: eine Reise durch Europas Megalith-Landschaften. Kunsthalle zu Kiel.