

EDITORIAL

Johannes Müller, Speaker Graduate School 'Human Development in Landscapes'

One of the main Graduate School events was the International Open Workshop last month. In spite of rainy weather the spirit of the workshop was enormous: young and old scholars from Europe and overseas gathered together for nearly a week. This time the main interdisciplinarity focus was on major questions of pre(history): the formation of new social space in landscapes, the collapse of societies, the creation of urban networks to mention just a few of the topics. From round tables to final discussions and extraordinary presentations all participants did quite a remarkable job. Hopefully, the publications will also highlight the outstanding results of our PhD-students.



Photo: private

In general, the work of PhD students in the Graduate School is quite sophisticated. This includes both the transformation of knowledge in between different spheres of research as well as the link between the first and second generation of students. In this respect, the concept of an overlap between main scholarship phases seems to be a great advantage: old and new students learn from each other. However, we have to admit, that this principle also doubles the workload of our office for a short duration. That our office is able to manage such situations as well as the organization of workshops and other tasks in such a positive way is the main base of the graduate school in functioning.

WORKSHOP REVIEW

More than 300 researchers from a variety of research fields assembled in Kiel for the Graduate School's Open Workshop "Socio-environmental Dynamics Over the Last 12.000 Years: The Creation of Landscapes II" from March 14th to 18th. They presented and discussed the latest research results of pertinent topics concerning the broad theme of human development in landscapes. For example, the participants of Session 2 talked about social conflict as a potential driver for change. In Session 8, interactions of early pastoralists with cities were debated. "I was very impressed with the diversity of topics that are being ad-



"Icebreaker" in the Leibniz Laboratory.

dressed and all the different ways people are looking at humans and their use of landscapes over time", stated Christina Warinner from the University of Zürich. "I'm particularly interested in the ancient genetics session and I've been impressed with the quality of talks and also the breadth of projects people are working on", Warinner added. Like her, many participants of the ten sessions came from abroad.

"I decided to come to this conference because I found it very inspiring, because it's international, it's very interdisciplinary. There are people from very different institutions, with very different ways of doing archaeology or science in general", said Constanze Rassmann during a coffee break. She is doing her PhD at Arhus University, Denmark. Janusz Czebreszuk from the University of Poznan told us: "It's very important for European Archaeology to have such meetings, of which there are only few in Europe. So this is a very good opportunity to meet with not only archaeologists from different countries, but also specialists from other sciences. And this forum is, in my opinion, the most important one for archaeologists in Europe." *Text & Photo: jnm*

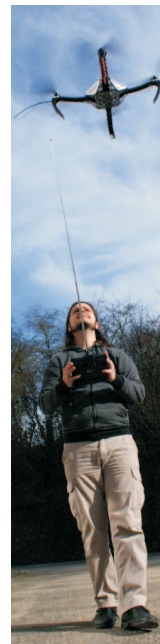
REASONS FOR SETTLING

Which factors influenced the first upper Mesopotamian sedentary villagers when they had to decide where to build their settlements? Fevzi Kemal Moetz is convinced that figures can help to answer this question. For his PhD thesis he has set up a database containing 202 Neolithic sites in modern Turkey, Syria and Iraq. "It includes data on the usage and types of buildings, on the resources processed at the sites, on the lithic tools and much more", says Kemal. Based on the collected data, he attempts to filter specific circumstances in the landscape which were favourable for the earliest sedentary communities. But, as the title of his thesis "Aspects of Sedentism in the Pre-Pottery Neolithic of Upper Mesopotamia" indicates, he also looks at other archaeological facets. For example, he analyses how buildings were used between 10.500 and 6.200 BC. "With more non-domestic architecture – special buildings so to say – the communal or ritual character of a site rises", interprets Kemal.



Quadrocopter-photo showing the site near Bursa.

Photo: Moetz



High-tech archaeology: Kemal demonstrates the quadrocopter.

Photo: Bauer

Yet, extracting data from written sources is not the only way for the young archaeologist to get an overview on digging sites in the Fertile Crescent. During his field campaigns, he piloted a remote-controlled quadrocopter equipped with a digital camera. It supplied him with aerial views of the sites much more detailed than those from airplanes or even satellites. "The quadrocopter can rise higher than 50 metres. Photos taken at such height show everything from settlement structures to small items like ovens." Kemal is going to submit his PhD thesis within the following weeks. After that, the next step is already planned. He tells us: "I was offered a Post-Doc scholarship at Istanbul University by the DAAD. I am going to work at two Neolithic sites which show the development of sedentism." One site is more than 11.000 years old and located in southern Anatolia, representing one of the earliest settlements in the whole region. The other site is comparatively young and situated near Bursa in north-western Anatolia. "It is kind of a landmark for the path sedentism took from Mesopotamia to Europe", explains Kemal. Within his scholarship, he is going to support the excavation of the sites. One of his tasks will be to generate a 3D model of the tells using a geographic information system – and the quadrocopter. *jnm*

CONFERENCE ON SACRAL LANDSCAPES

GS members Lutz Käppel and Vassiliki Pothou from the Institute of Classics are organizing a conference on "Human Development in Sacral Landscapes – Between Ritual Tradition, Creativity and Emotionality". From May 5th to 7th, researchers from Europe and America are meeting in Delphi to discuss topics such as "Ritual and Landscape in the Homeric Hymn to Apollo" or "Landscape and the Cosmos in Apolline Rites of Delphi and Delos", as well as Archaeoastronomy or Archaeobotany. Among the participants are GS members Antonia Davidovic, Helmut Kroll, Bettina Schulz Paulsson and Michael Teichmann. You can find the programme and the poster of the conference on the GS website. *jnm*

LECTURES ON CHANGE AND CONTINUITY

The Graduate School has organised a lecture series to be held during the summer semester. As the presentations aim at informing a broad audience – also from offside the campus – they will be in German. On Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m., GS members from various institutes and institutions present aspects of their work. From Archaeology to Ecology and from Geology to Isotope Research, all scientific fields participate in the programme. The venue is lecture hall B in Audimax, Christian-Albrechts-Platz 2. *jnm*

All dates online: www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

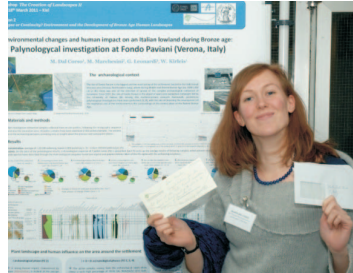
Platform 1 is organizing a presentation skills workshop for PhD students. Unfortunately, trainer Michael Jäger had to cancel the date May 12th and 13th, but he suggests several alternatives in June and July. Please contact Jirka Niklas Menke for information and to register. Jäger comes fully equipped



with a camera for video analysis. Together with the participants, Jäger will focus on chances and perils of verbal and nonverbal communication. The workshop is a good opportunity to find ways for handling stage fright and individual stress. Each participant will receive feedback on her or his performance in front of the student audience. Even those who already have experience in presenting their scientific work will be able to improve their skills. *Text & Photo: jnm*

STAFF & PERSONAL NEWS

Marta Dal Corso MA was awarded the first prize of the poster contest during the International Workshop of the Graduate School. On the poster Marta presented an aspect of her PhD thesis, which focuses on environmental history and development of the human landscape in a north-eastern Italian lowland area during the Bronze Age. **Heiko Scholz MA** placed second in the poster contest, **Merle Zeigerer** was awarded the third prize.



Karina Iwe MA participated in the 6th International Symposium Radiocarbon & Archaeology in Pafos (Cyprus) from April 10th to 15th. On April 12th she presented a paper on "Dynamic Interaction of the Animal Style in Eurasia During the Iron Age (on Selected Examples from the 9th to 3rd Century BC)". From March 25th to 27th, Karina took part in the anniversary conference "20 Jahre FemArc-Netzwerk archäologisch arbeitender Frauen" (20 years FemArc-Women's Network in Archaeology) in Heilbronn which focused on prehistoric and ancient goddesses. She held a lecture on "Göttinnen bei den Skythen" (Goddesses of the Scythians) on March 26th.

On June 4th, **Stefan Inderwies MA** is going to present a paper at the conference "1111 – 2011: 900 Jahre Belehnung des Hauses Schauenburg mit Holstein und Stormarn: Ansätze und Perspektiven der Forschung" in Itzehoe. He talks about "Die Schauenburger als Städtegründer und als Stadtherren".

Q&A - Oliver Nelle

Oliver Nelle was Scientific Coordinator of the Graduate School from April 2010 to March 2011. While Mara Weinelt was engaged in the institutional concept of Kiel's Christian-Albrechts-Universität, Oliver took over her tasks in the office. Before coming to Kiel as a Junior Professor for Historical Geobotany, Oliver was a PostDoc at the University

of Regensburg, where he also graduated. As a PhD student, he was a member of the Graduiertenkolleg "Paläoökosystemforschung und Geschichte" ("Palaeo-Ecosystem Research and History"). His main fields of work are fine-scaled reconstructions of vegetation dynamics since the end of the last Glacial and the historical legacy of past landscape changes in today's landscape and vegetation. Oliver is the speaker of platform 1 at the GS.



Photo: Schön / CAU
Oliver Nelle

What motivated you to become a member of the Graduate School?

My primary motivations were my interest in the chances and challenges of interdisciplinary research in a very attractive topic, connected with an improvement of the education and research environment for doctoral candidates.

During the last year, you substituted Mara Weinelt as Scientific Coordinator of the Graduate School. What experience did you make in this position?

I got very interesting insights into scientific administration. This last year was a highly diverse one considering the problems to solve, the tasks, the events to organise etc., both scientific and organisational. It was an honour to do the job, with such a great support by the office, especially by Rhina Colunge. I took over this task while still having a teaching load, continuing to supervise six PhD students, several Master students and having responsibilities as working group leader and member of the institute's board. It was a very intense time, nevertheless I enjoyed it.

If you had unlimited access to money and manpower, which research issue would you investigate?

There is still a lack of very detailed multi-proxy investigations of past landscape dynamics on a fine spatial as well as high-resolution temporal scale as a key to a differentiated picture of how climate and humans triggered change. For that, it is both necessary to continue to improve the cooperation of scientists from diverse disciplines, as well as to gain a lot of data on a variety of environmental indicators at a lot of sites, which is a time-consuming and expensive task.

Your opinion about Kiel?

An astonishingly multi-faceted city considering its medium size. Of course the Baltic Sea is the big asset. However, I miss huge forests and some real mountains... (smiles)

What do you do on a free weekend?

If there is a free weekend – usually it's only part of it –, I spend it with my family enjoying as many outdoor activities as possible.

Please share your favourite proverb with us!

Unkenntnis der Vergangenheit ist ein Verlust für das Bewusstsein der Gegenwart (Golo Mann)

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

Venue for Biweekly Colloquia: Neufeldtstr. 10, Building 32, Room 4

May 2011

Monday, May 16, 5:00 p.m. – **Biweekly Colloquium: Manfred Seifert** (TU Dresden), **Wolfgang Andexlinger** (University of Innsbruck)

Monday, May 30, 5:00 p.m. – **Biweekly Colloquium: Giovanni Lanfranchi** (University of Padova), **Robert Rollinger** (University of Innsbruck)

June 2011

Monday, June 27, 5:00 p.m. – **Biweekly Guest Lecture: Philippe Della Casa** (University of Zürich)