

EDITORIAL

Johannes Müller, Speaker of the Graduate School



A busy summer is followed by a busy fall: Many Graduate School members have recently returned to Kiel after intense, exciting fieldwork campaigns in Serbia, Hungary, Poland and on Sumba (more information in this newsletter). In October, a productive retreat in Lenzen/ Elbe brought us one step forward in outlining the future of excellent socio-environmental research at Kiel University after the second funding phase of the Graduate School. Thanks to support from the federal

state government, we are already able to fill two post-doc and one junior professor position in order to foster interdisciplinary investigations of human-landscape interactions.

In addition to interdisciplinarity, the Graduate School also consistently aims at broadening its international network. Living proof of this are four guest PhD students and one post-doctoral fellow, who we are hosting at the moment (see text and photo below).

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to Archaeology Day in Schleswig-Holstein on November 15, which focuses on pre- and proto-historic research at Kiel University this year. I would be happy to welcome you at the event in Audimax on that day!

MODERN MEGALITHS

Megalithic tombs are relics of by-gone times in Europe. On Sumba, however, they are still currently being used. Together with our partner Knut Rassmann (DAI), Johannes Müller (PI), and Maria



Photo: K. Rassmann

Wunderlich (associated PhD student) visited the southern Indonesian island in August and September. They spent their stay documenting ca. 2.000 megalithic tombs and investigating how the tombs are presently being utilized by the people of Sumba. Through interviews with locals, supported by a translator, Wunderlich, Rassmann and Müller also gained insights into the subsistence and wealth economy and social structures (clans and castes) on the island, where non-literate memory culture still exists. Maria Wunderlich is going to analyse the collected data for her PhD thesis in the sub-project "Equality and Inequality" within the Priority Programme 1400 "Early Monumentality and Social Differentiation". Our picture shows a megalithic tomb in the village Wainyapu in the western, more densely populated part of Sumba.

VIVID INTERNATIONALITY

"We are happy about this unique opportunity to advance our research projects and to deepen our network", announced in a joint statement four international guests at the Graduate School when they recently assembled for the photo shown above. The short-time PhD scholarships for early-stage researchers from abroad tendered by the GS this summer were awarded to the archaeologists Liudmyla Shatilo and Vitalii Rud from Ukraine, Mirco Brunner from Switzerland and Stanislav

Terna from Moldova. They all have close connections to the GS, for example by previous co-operation work in a Tripolian megalith project, and are mentored by local project partners such as the GS PhD student René Ohlrau. Liudmyla, Vitalii, Mirco and Stanislav each have a desk in the GS building and will be here until December. They are eager to get in contact with fellow investigators from their respective fields. Postdoctoral research fellow Pedro Germano Leal from Brazil is visiting the GS through an initiative of PhD student Maren Biederbick. He is an expert in visual arts and offers seminars and a talk during his one-month stay in Kiel.



Our picture shows (from left) Pedro Germano Leal, Maren Biederbick, René Ohlrau, Liudmyla Shatilo, Mirco Brunner and Vitalii Rud.

A DAY FULL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

November 15th is "Tag der Archäologie" (Archaeology Day) in Schleswig-Holstein. In Kiel University's anniversary year, research achievements of CAU members are the main focus of the programme. From 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., researchers from the Institute of Pre- and Protohistory, the Johanna Mestorf Academy and the Graduate School provide insight into their work in public lectures (Venue: Audimax of Kiel University, Christian-Albrechts-Platz 2, 24118 Kiel). Topics range from underwater archaeology and the excavation of a church in Dänischer Wohld to the Bronze Age diet.

Anke Spoorendonk, Minister of Justice, Cultural and European Affairs, is going to award the "Golden Shovel" for special personal efforts in archaeology. The Archaeological Society Schleswig-Holstein honours an outstanding student research paper from the Institute of Pre- and Protohistory. In the foyer of Audimax, numerous archaeological institutions and associations present themselves to the visitors. The Graduate School screens a documentary about the experimental archaeological construction of a megalithic tomb, which was built on campus in May as one of the highlights of Kiel University's 350th anniversary. Admission to the entire event is free of charge. "Tag der Archäologie" is a joint event organized by the Archaeological State Office Schleswig-Holstein, the Institute of Pre- and Protohistory and the Johanna Mestorf Academy at Kiel University.

Link to the programme: www.gshdl.uni-kiel.de/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/TdA_2015_Programm.pdf

CONFERENCE ON MEGALITHS, SOCIETIES AND LANDSCAPES IN KIEL

From June 16-21, international expertise from Europe and beyond gathered in Kiel to discuss the latest results in the field of megalithic research at the International Conference "Megaliths, Societies, Landscapes: Early Monumentality and Social Differentiation in Neolithic Europe" that was organised by the Priority Programme 1400, the GSHDL/JMA and Kiel Archaeology. Simultaneously, a meeting of the European Megalithic Studies Group convened. In six sessions with 126 contributions, 160 participants from 14 countries presented their results re-

garding individual monuments and monumental landscapes, aspects of social differentiation and material culture in connection with monuments, as well as ethnological and anthropological research and new evidence associated with Neolithic subsistence that helps to explore the background of the megalithic phenomenon in Europe. The conference proceedings will be published in multiple volumes within the series of the Priority Programme.

STAFF & PERSONAL NEWS

Ingmar Unkel has been appointed Professor for Environmental History at the Institute for Ecosystem Research of Kiel University. He started as a Junior Professor at the Graduate School in September 2009.

Camille Butruille, doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on “Mid- to late Holocene seasonal variability in northern Germany and adjacent oceans and its potential impact on human societies” on October 28, 2015.

Merle Zeigerer, doctoral student of the Graduate School, passed her disputation on “Die Bedeutung von Kriegsberichterstatuen in den drei deutschen Kolonialkriegen in China und Afrika und ihre Wahrnehmung von Gewalt” on July 9, 2015.

Daniela Moser attended the 6th International Anthracology Meeting “Local to global significance of charcoal science” in Freiburg (Germany) from August 30 to September 6 with an oral presentation and a poster. Her talk was about “Soil charcoal analysis at Cecita Lake (Sila Massif, southern Italy): A useful tool to understand local environmental change”. Her poster focused on “Timber for building in the Vesuvius area during the 1st century AD: Wooden and charcoal remains from Oplontis and Herculaneum (Naples, southern Italy)”.

Kathrin Marterior participated in the annual meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists 2015, which took place in Glasgow on September 2–5. Within the session “Place-names and Archaeology: inter-disciplinary perspectives in a European context”, she presented aspects of her onomastic research in a paper titled “Mixed names as an indicator of Slavic-German settlements?”

Jos Kleijne co-organized the conference „3e Metaaltijdendag: ‘Van heinde en verre: contact- en uitwisselingsnetwerken in materiele en culturele zin’”, which was held in Amersfoort on October 17. He presented a paper titled “To Be or not to Beaker? Veranderende gemeenschappen aan het eind van het Neolithicum in Europa”.

Gianpiero di Maida was invited to give a public lecture at the Geological Museum in Palermo on October 21. His talk, titled “Sicilian Graffiti – L’Arte parietale del Tardoglaciale in Sicilia: Una Revisione del Record e nuove Metodologie di Analisi” was part of the 3rd “Week of the Planet Earth”, an event dedicated to Geosciences.

Hans-Rudolf Bork and Verena Winiwarter (Klagenfurt University) recently published the book “Geschichte unserer Umwelt. Sechzig Reisen durch die Zeit” („History of our Environment: 60 Journeys through Time“). In February, the book was honoured as “Science book of the Year” (“Wissenschaftsbuch des Jahres”) by the Austrian Ministry of Science and the Buchkultur publishers. In addition, the volume has now been honoured with the distinction „Environment book of the year“ („Umweltbuch des Jahres“) by the German Environment Foundation (Deutsche Umweltstiftung).

GSHDL ALUMNI (X): RICARDO FERNANDES

Many PhD students of the Graduate School have been awarded their doctorates by now and successfully fill positions in diverse academic fields. We keep in touch with them and trace their next steps after they leave the Graduate School. Where have they gone after their PhDs, and what are they doing there?

Eating fish is healthy – or isn’t it? Well, in the eyes of future archaeologists it might make you (or more precisely your mortal remains) look much older than you are – they might date your bones way earlier than 21st century. But Ricardo Fernandes, who finished his dissertation (“Challenges, approaches, and opportunities in radiocarbon reservoir effects”) at the Graduate School in 2013, gives archaeologists the tools necessary to avoid such mistakes: He has developed new and improved methods to quantitatively reconstruct past human diets. These methods have different archaeological applications, as Ricardo explains: “For instance, correcting chronologies based on radiocarbon dates from human remains which are older than expected as the result of a diet that included aquatic foods. However, their main archaeological application rests in offering a better understanding of the social organisation of past societies since this is often reflected in the access to specific food resources by groups or individuals.”



Ricardo Fernandes wants to improve the precision of archaeological age determination and chronologies. In the picture, he prepares a bone sample for analysis.

Currently, Ricardo, who holds a Bachelor degree in Physics from Porto University, a Minor in Mediterranean and Near Eastern Archaeology and a Master in Earth Sciences from the VU University in Amsterdam, works as a postdoctoral research fellow at Cambridge and Kiel universities under Royal Society and German Research Foundation grants. “I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to address the scientific challenges involved in method development. However, what currently pleases me the most is seeing the multitude of applications that rely on these methods to answer relevant research questions”, Ricardo explains, adding an example: “I am particularly interested in the role of the individual in shaping historical development. It will be interesting to see if diet reconstruction methods, combined with other approaches, can help us to identify individuals that were intentionally outside of general group behaviour.”

Ricardo is still in touch with the Graduate School, for example he organized a session at the international open workshop in March. He notes: “I had an intense experience at the GS. I will certainly not forget the contributions made by several of its members in defining my own vision of what should be the pursuit of academic excellence”.

SELECTED EVENTS

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

Venue for Biweekly Colloquia: Leibnizstraße 1, Room 204

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 15: **Tag der Archäologie in Schleswig-Holstein** – Audimax, Christian-Albrechts-Platz 2

Monday, November 23, 4:15 p.m. – **Biweekly Colloquium – Florian Klimscha (TOPOI, DAI Eurasien)**: Technical Innovations in Prehistory: Back to Childe or forward to new Horizons?

DECEMBER

Monday, December 7, 4:15 p.m. – **Biweekly Colloquium – Arlene Rosen (University of Texas)**: A Phytolith and Geoarchaeological Perspective on Rising Social Complexity, Agricultural Intensification, and Neolithic Rice Farming on the Loess Plateau of China