

### EDITORIAL

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

An important step for the Graduate School has been taken: In late August we submitted our renewal proposal to the DFG. In a second funding period within the excellence initiative, spanning from November 2012 to 2017, we intend to continue training doctoral students and to proceed in fostering interdisciplinary cooperation within Kiel's regional and international network.



Photo: private

In the last months, the members of the Graduate School have come together in brainstorming meetings to further develop our concepts for promoting young researchers and to present fresh new ideas for the second period. In the proposal, we

outlined these thoughts for the future, which are based on the successful work of the first period. Our international workshop in March of this year is just one of the recent highlights demonstrating the important role which the Graduate School now plays within the research community. We look forward to presenting the content of our proposal to the reviewers in Bonn in January.

As a spotlight on the recent work of doctoral students at the Graduate School you can read a report on Annegret Larsen's PhD project in this newsletter. Furthermore, we would like to introduce our readers to Swedish guest professor Karl-Göran Sjögren and the new Facebook site of the Graduate School.

### SEDIMENT CHRONOLOGY

Metaphorically, scientists usually intend to shed light on the darkness. During her fieldwork, Annegret Larsen is trying hard not to do so. For her PhD project at the Graduate School, the geomorphologist analyzes quartz grains from soil samples of a gully in the Kirschgraben catchment. This catchment is situated in the Spessart, a low mountain range east of Frankfurt (Main) where gullies are only formed under unusual circumstances.



Scientists in the dark: Annegret Larsen and two colleagues prepare to take samples at night. Photo: V. Robin

Annegret and her team collect the quartz grains during the darkness of the night, using only red light for guidance. Small defects in the crystal structure of quartz can store a tiny amount of energy, but this is quickly removed under natural light. However, once quartz is buried, the crystals build up energy in these defects (from natural radiation in the soil) in direct proportion to the time they have been kept away from sunlight. Using the optically stimulated luminescence method, Annegret can roughly determine the timeframe since a soil sample has been exposed to sunlight. This allows her to analyze the age of the different layers formed by colluvial and alluvial sedimentation, which is critical when trying to determine whether the causes of erosion are natural, human induced, or some combination of both. "The low mountain ranges in Germany have been widely ignored by science so far", Annegret points out. "I want to contribute to filling this gap."

An interdisciplinary group of scientists, amongst them Annegret, aims at investigating influences on the landscape which lead to widespread erosion and in some cases the formation of the gullies. "We found out that mankind played a big role in this, humans have been largely responsible for erosion from our slopes", she says. Deforestation for

charcoal production and agricultural activities makes it easier for water to erode the thin fertile loess layer on the slopes – which in turn has degraded huge parts of the landscape and made them unprofitable for crop production. However, humans are not the only actors in this landscape-forming process: when the soil is saturated with water, nature acts alone and incision of these gullies can begin, even if vegetation covers the surface. *jnm*

### FROM BOSAU TO FALBYGDEN

Karl-Göran Sjögren's stay at Kiel University continues a long tradition: The first Scandinavian guest professors came here already in the 1960s. Sjögren, born in Karlstad in 1949, was invited to come to Kiel by the Institute for Pre- and Protohistory.

**Karl-Göran Sjögren, welcome to Kiel. Is it your first stay in Schleswig-Holstein?**

*Sjögren:* I came here for the first time 35 years ago. In 1975, I participated in the excavation of a late Iron Age Slavonic fortification on the small island of Bischofswarder, near Bosau in the Great Plön Lake.

**Was it a childhood dream of yours to become an archaeologist, or did that develop over time?**

I never really planned to become an archaeologist. When I was about to finish school, I was rather interested in history in general, in anthropology and questions concerning how very old societies can be understood. First I studied engineering and then sociology, history and a bit of mathematics – I was interested in lots of different things. When I started working in archaeology, I got kind of trapped in it rather by chance.



Photo: private

**Is there a field campaign you will always remember?**

That would be the one I already talked about, my first employment as a fully trained archaeologist. During the four months in Bosau and Bischofswarder, I met lots of interesting people. I also learned quite a bit of German there and even some Plattdeutsch (Low German). A few years later I returned to Schleswig-Holstein for a Neolithic excavation near Flensburg.

**What were the next stations in your archaeological career?**

I worked in Norway for a year and also in Switzerland, Italy and France before concentrating on Sweden, especially the area of Falbygden.

**What is so interesting about Falbygden?**

It is a small area of many, many tombs which has not been seriously investigated since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It has always been sort of a mystery in Swedish archaeology. Falbygden is different from the surroundings for example in terms of geology, topography and vegetation.

**Sometimes when a map displays such a hotspot of finds, it is just because there has been a project concentrating on this special area while neglecting the surroundings.**

This is not the case in Falbygden, because there have been archaeological campaigns searching for tombs all over Sweden. To me, it is a fascinating question why there is such a high concentration of finds in this small area. There are some answers, but nothing that really explains it. In my opinion, it must be some sort of a combination of many different factors.

**Besides the Institute for Pre- and Protohistory, you are also a guest professor at the Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes". What do you think about the concept of the School?**

I am really impressed by it – so many people working in cooperation on different interesting subjects, looking at things from different angles. This creates a fruitful scientific atmosphere.

*continued on page 2*

## What is your schedule for the next months?

I will offer a course for undergraduate students about the Pre- and Proto-history of Sweden. Maybe I am also going to do some course or lecture at the Graduate School as well.

## Last question: How do you like Kiel?

Well, I am used to the rain from Göteborg (smiles). But I think Kiel has improved in many ways, comparing it to the 1970s: the atmosphere is much more relaxed, there is more life in the streets, cafés, events and so on.

Thank you for the interview. Enjoy your stay in Kiel! *Interview: jnm*

## GRADUATE SCHOOL IN BOSNIA



Photo: R. Hofmann  
During September GS fieldwork took place in Bosnia near Gorazde. The excavation at Jagnilo is a training project in archaeological field work both for Bosnian students and scientists. It recovered a multi-periodical house dating around 5300 cal BC. On- and off-site samples were taken for landscape research to clarify the environmental and economic dynamics of the Neolithic community. Archaeologists, soil scientists and archaeobotanists of the GS staff worked together with students, headed by GS-PhD student Robert Hofmann. Additional ethnographic studies of Junior Professor Antonia Davidovic (Environmental Anthropology) analyzed the relation of locals, refugees, and foreign scientists in the village. Humans are also visible in small figurines, found during the excavation. *jnm*

A female figurine found at Jagnilo.

## INSPIRING NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD

The Graduate School moved to a new location in September. After nearly four years in the “factory” at Neufeldtstraße, the GS now resides in a brand new building in the midst of the campus. In fact, the facilities include two new buildings: one with office space, the other with a lecture hall and seminar rooms. Both are situated at the intersection of Leibnizstraße and Olshausenstraße. “There are many advantages connected with the new address”, postdoc programme coordinator Hanno Kinkel points out. “For example, all the doctoral students and staff that were divided up in different places before the move are now researching and working on the same floor. This facilitates fast support in arising scientific questions among the graduates and fosters teambuilding.” Library and information expert Frank Förster remarks: “From our new offices, it is just a short walk to the university library.” Furthermore, it is now much easier for external guests to find the Graduate School. *jnm*



Photo: CAU

## STAFF & PERSONAL NEWS

We would like to congratulate some of our doctoral students:

**Martin Hinz** passed his disputation on “Paläolithische Kunst und die Evolution der Kognition” on June 21. His dissertation, which deals with “Neolithische Siedlungsstrukturen im südöstlichen Schleswig-Holstein. Dynamik in Landschaft und Besiedlung”, was graded with “magna cum laude” (1,0).

**Ben Krause-Kyora** passed his disputation on July 25. His dissertation “Molekulargenetische und archäologische Untersuchungen zur Domestikation und Züchtung des Schweins (*Sus scrofa*)” was graded with “magna cum laude” (0,7).

**Carolin Lubos** passed her disputation on “Geomorphologisch-umweltarchäologische Untersuchungen der Genese eines urgeschichtlichen Siedlungshügels bei Niederröbblingen (Sachsen-Anhalt) und seiner Umgebung” on August 25. The dissertation was graded with “magna cum laude” (1,0).

**Kemal Moetz** passed his disputation on “Sesshaftwerdung. Aspekte der

Niederlassung im Neolithikum in Obermesopotamien” on September 19. The dissertation was graded with “magna cum laude” (1,0).

**Rémi Berthon** passed his disputation on “Animal exploitation in the Upper Tigris River valley (Turkey) between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> millennia BC” on October 10. The dissertation was graded with “magna cum laude” (1,0).

**Numerous members of the Graduate School** participated in this year’s INQUA conference in Bern, Switzerland. Wiebke Kirleis, Mara Weinelt and Walter Dörfler convened the session “Climate, Environment, and Economy in the North and Central European Neolithic” together with Felix Bittmann and Ingo Feeser. Kirleis, Johannes Müller, and Stefan Dreibrödter delivered oral presentations, while Marta Dal Corso, Sarah Diers, Hannes Knapp, Doris Mischka, Daniela Moser, Vincent Robin, Mykola Sadovnik and others went to Bern with posters about their scientific work. Ingmar Unkel spoke during the session “Geoarchaeology: Paleoenvironments and Human Interactions”, while Elke Hänßler and Christian Heymann took part in poster sessions.

**Ricardo Fernandes MSc** gave a talk about “Reservoir effect: establishing ancient chronologies based on the radiocarbon dating of human remains” at the European Association of Archaeologists 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting from September 14 to 18 in Oslo. He also presented a paper on this issue at the Department of Physics of Aarhus University on September 9.

The article “Deletion/Substitution/Addition (DSA) model selection algorithm applied to the study of archaeological settlement patterning” authored by Ricardo, Geert Geeven, Steven Soetens, and Vera Klontza-Jaklova was published in the Journal of Archaeological Science (Volume 38, Issue 9, September 2011, 2293-2300).

**Frank Förster MA MLIS** presented a paper entitled “Illustrating Conrad in Germany” at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Joseph Conrad Conference “Conrad’s Polish Footprints”, which took place in Lublin from July 12 to 16.

**Michael Teichmann MA** talked about aspects of his PhD project “Landschaftsarchäologische Forschungen zum südwestlichen, küstennahen Latium” at the Colloquium of Classical Archaeology, Bonn University, on July 8.

**Natalia Toma-Kansteiner MA** presented an aspect of her PhD project at the colloquium “Antike Bauornamentik – Möglichkeiten und Grenzen ihrer Erforschung” which took place in Munich from October 13 to 15. The title of Natalia’s talk is “Vom Marmorblock zum Halbfabrikat. Ein neuer Vorschlag zum Entwurf und Herstellungsprozess eines korinthischen Kapitells in der Kaiserzeit”.

## SELECTED EVENTS (complete calendar: [www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes](http://www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes))

Venue for Biweekly Colloquia: Leibnizstraße 1, Room 204

### October

Monday, October 31, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Ulf Ickerodt, Archäologisches Landesamt Schleswig-Holstein. Primitive Men and their Environments – Journey into the World of Motion Picture Prehistoric Pasts.

### November

Monday, November 14, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Ann Kuttner, University of Pennsylvania, Dept. of History and Art. Trees, Waters, and Sculptured Stories: Inhabiting the Forum Romanum as a Landscape of Memory.

November 21 to 25 – GIS course 1, Bianca Willié – Leibnizstr. 1, GIS laboratory (Room 205)

Tuesday, November 22, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Joint Workshop: Crop growing and climate in the Neolithic – Sabine Karg, University of Copenhagen; Wiebke Kirleis and Johannes Müller, GSHDL – Leibnizstr. 3, Room 123

Monday, November 28, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Inge Adriansen, Museum Sønderjylland, Sønderborg Slot. The Isted Lion: The most travelled and reinterpreted Danish monument.

### December

Thursday, December 1, 4:00 p.m. – GS Plenary Meeting – Audimax lecture hall C, Christian-Albrechts-Platz 2

Monday, December 12, 5:00 p.m. – Biweekly Colloquium: Stanley W. Trimble, UCLA, Dept. of Geography. Historical Soil Erosion in two Regions of the United States.