



# Zukunftskolleg Newsletter Issue #35

Dear fellows and friends,

The last months were filled with intensive work - not only because of the on-site visit for the Excellence Strategy competition on 7 and 8 March. The Zukunftskolleg also was engaged in new and exciting developments, which we would like to share with you.

In order to enhance our intercontinental dialogue in research, the Zukunftskolleg has issued a first call for five AAA fellowships, supporting early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The application deadlines are: **31 March and 30 April 2019** (more information below). Furthermore, we are delighted to announce the decisions on our latest calls for 2-year and 5-year fellowships as well as our research funding programmes. Congratulations to our new fellows and all winners!

Finally, we have two other exciting announcements to make: First, the Zukunftskolleg Day Trip 2019 will take place from 9-10 April 2019. This year, we will visit the UN and CERN in Geneva, Switzerland. Secondly, **our first Jour Fixe in summer semester 2019 will take place on 16 April 2019**. This semester's topic will be "Migration" - which is also the UBIAS network's Topic of the Year.

We look forward to welcoming you to these events!

With warm greetings

The Zukunftskolleg team

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# Current calls

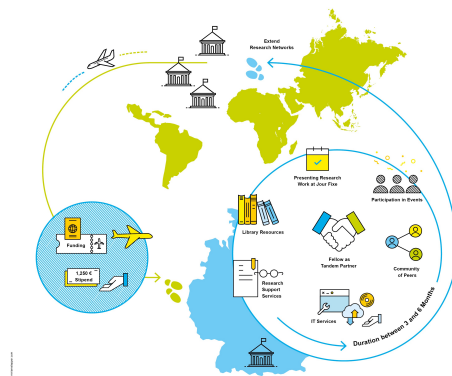
## More intercultural exchange at the Zukunftskolleg

### New call for early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America launched.

The Zukunftskolleg is pleased to announce our new call for five AAA\* Fellowships to support early career researchers from **Africa, Asia and Latin America**. The AAA Fellowships will help to strengthen the cultural diversity at the Zukunftskolleg and stimulate the intellectual and integrative discourse amongst our fellows. By broadening our academic horizons to include AAA countries, we will promote greater intercontinental dialogue in research.

The AAA Fellowships have a duration of three to six months, which gives the fellows enough time to extend their research networks into new regions, and initiate intercontinental research partnerships. The research stays at the Zukunftskolleg also enable AAA Fellows to get to know the research environment at the University of Konstanz and enrich the scientific discussions within the university, while maintaining ties to their home university. [Read more.](#)

*\*After the publication of this call, we learned that in the 1970s and 1980s the acronym "AAA" also referred to paramilitary organizations in Argentina, Colombia and Spain. We distance ourselves from these political movements and will change the title of the fellowship with the next call.*



# Latest fellowship call

## Decisions regarding 2-year and 5-year fellowships

The Zukunftskolleg had issued calls for applications for three 2-year and 5-year fellowships. The closing date for applications was 15 October 2018. In three meetings in December, January and February, the Recruitment Committee selected the candidates.

The **2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship** is aimed at researchers in the early career stages who plan to develop and implement an independent research project. The **5-year Research Fellowship** is attractive to researchers with significant work experience and an established academic profile at the postdoctoral level. Both fellowships are open to applicants from all fields represented at the University of Konstanz. Please find more information on [our website](#).

We are delighted to announce that the fellowships have been awarded to

**2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship recipients:**

- Henri Kauhanen (Linguistics)
- Cornelia Klocker (Law)
- Nihan Toprakkiran (Politics and Public Administration)

**5-year Research Fellowship recipients:**

- Morgane Nouvian (Biology)
- Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin (Biology)
- Benjamin Eva (Philosophy)

The new fellows will start working at the Zukunftskolleg in the coming months. We congratulate the successful candidates and would also like to thank all those involved in the recruitment process for their time and commitment.



# Decisions regarding support measures

The Zukunftskolleg has reached a decision on applications for five funding programmes open to all postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz. The deadline for all programmes was 31 January 2019.



## Mentorship winners

The [Mentorship Programme](#) enables postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz to meet with distinguished colleagues both in Germany and abroad and to maintain these contacts.

1. **Giulia Fabrini** (Mathematics)  
Mentor: Tommaso Lorenzi (Univ. of St. Andrews, UK)  
Title of the project: Numerical optimal control for a stochastic individual-based model modelling the dynamics of cancer cell populations under cytotoxic therapy.
2. **Stefan Fischer** (Philosophy)  
Mentor: David Copp (Univ. of California, Davis USA)  
Title of the project: Morality and the Challenge of Conative Conflict
3. **Robert Hussein** (Physics)  
Mentor: Sigmund Kohler (Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid (CSIC), Spain)  
Title of the project: Stochastic Resonance in Quantum Transport
4. **Natalia Korotkova** (Linguistics)  
Mentor: Tyler Peterson (Arizona State Univ. USA)  
Title of the project: Ignorance in Grammar
5. **Sasha Kosanic** (Biology)  
Mentor: Jen Dyer (Univ. of Leeds, UK)

Title of the project: Climate change impacts on ecological grief and human well-being from the perspective of cultural ecosystem services

6. **Ritwik Mondal** (Physics)  
Mentor: Peter Oppeneer (Uppsala Univ., Sweden)  
Title of the project: Ultrafast Orbital and Spin Dynamics for Magnetic Materials
7. **Mialy Razanajatovo** (Biology)  
Mentor: Eva Knop (Univ. of Bern, Switzerland)  
Title of the project: Do pollinators visit phylogenetically related plants?
8. **Michael Smith** (Biology)  
Mentor: Tim Landgraf (FU Berlin)  
Title of the project: n. A.
9. **Maria Zhukova** (Literature)  
Mentor: Stephen Hutchings (Univ. of Manchester, UK)  
Title of the project: Television and its Media Counterparts in Russian Film and Literature, 2000s-2010s
10. **Katarina Zigova** (Economics)  
Mentor: Chris Doucouliagos (Deakin University of Melbourne, Australia)  
Title of the project: Publication Bias and Authors' Characteristics



## Interdisciplinary Collaborative Project winners

The [Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects Programme](#) gives grant holders the opportunity to identify and explore new, innovative or risky research perspectives with neighbouring disciplines and across disciplines.

1. **Eugenia Delgado** (Biological Pharmacy) and **Barbara Franke** (Biology)  
Title of the project: Investigating mutual regulation by master switches of intestinal cell death and inflammation
2. **Liang Li** (Biology) and **Hanhe Lin** (Computer Science)  
Title of the project: A high-performance closed-loop platform for collective fish behaviour experiments
3. **Anna Pia Plazzo** (Biology) and **Thomas Böttcher** (Chemistry)  
Title of the project: Modulation of the host nuclear receptor LHR-1 by intestinal microbiota
4. **Mialy Razanajatovo** (Biology), **Jan Petzold** (Geography, Alfred-Wegener-Institute for Polar and Marine Research Bremen) and **Sasha Kosanic** (Biology)  
Title of the project: Cultural ecosystem services and human well-being in Madagascar under climate change
5. **Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin** (Biology) and **Helge Giese** (Psychology)  
Title of the project: The communication network in collective decision-making: How does group structure affect decision dynamics and outcomes?
6. **Jennifer Flemming** (Biology) and **Christoph Globisch** (Chemistry)  
Title of the project: Exploring emerging mechanisms of ubiquitin signalling in muscle regulation
7. **Elena Sturm** (Chemistry) and **Dmytro Sysoiev** (Biochemistry)  
Title of the project: Multifunctional Gold Mesocrystals: How to create light-induced "Switches"?



## Zukunftskolleg Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching winners

The [Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching Programme](#) promotes the development of new teaching courses and expands departmental curricula. It offers participants the chance to explore new, innovative topics in teaching and to further develop teaching skills and cross-disciplinary teaching approaches.

1. **Thomas Böttcher** (Chemistry), **Bernard Lepetit** (Biology), **Andreas Lorbach** (Chemistry) and **Michael Kovermann** (Chemistry)  
Title of the teaching project: Methods bridging disciplines: from Chemistry to

- Biology
2. **Tanja Klemm** (Literature) and **Sarah Bildstein** (Artist)  
Title of the teaching project: 100 Spectres' – An Interdisciplinary Art Exhibition about Water



## Intersectoral Cooperation Programme winners

The [Intersectoral Cooperative Programme](#) aims to promote collaboration between early career researchers and the nonacademic sector. It supports collaboration on joint research projects with companies, social and cultural institutions, archives, public institutions or nonprofit organizations.

1. **Moritz von Brescius** (History) in cooperation with the Alpines Museum, Munich  
Title of the project: The art of expeditionary science: Asia in the images of the Schlagintweit Brothers
2. **Torsten Twardawski** (Economics) and Inrate AG  
Title of the project: The impact of sustainability ratings on corporations and investment performance



## Research Visit Programme winners

The [Research Visit Programme](#) seeks to enhance international research cooperation and to support international mobility. It funds temporary research stays both at the Zukunftskolleg and abroad to promote international exchange among peers.

1. **John Hoffmann** (Department of Literature, John Hopkins Univ., USA) has been invited by **Udith Dematagoda** for a six-month research visit  
Title of the research project: Technology and Transnational Modernism: Gottfried Benn's Fascist Aesthetics



# Review of events

## Critical Thinking in Education and Research – Why and How?

**Jour Fixe talk by Gerd Folkers on 29 January 2019**

[Gerd Folkers](#) was invited by the Zukunftskolleg to present a highly interesting talk on critical thinking in education and research. Since 2016, he has been professor for science studies with a particular focus on chemistry and pharmaceuticals at ETH Zurich. We thank Gerd and all participants for their contributions!

**Abstract:**



Critical thinking in science” – isn’t this expression a mere tautology? Science, it seems, is always about critical reflection, is always about inquiring and questioning things rather than taking them simply at face value. But perhaps this is just an ideal? Daily practices may often look very different. There are numerous constraints such as economic needs, funding and time limits, peer pressure and ethical concerns. These constraints often discourage efforts to critically assess the scientific methods employed, the concepts presupposed and the conclusions drawn. [Read more.](#)



Tuesday, 29 January 2019, 15.15 – 16.45, Y 326

Gerd Folkers, Professor of Science Studies, ETH Zürich

**Abstract:**

“Critical thinking in science” – isn’t this expression a mere tautology? Science, it seems, is always about critical reflection, is always about inquiring and questioning things rather than taking them simply at face value. But perhaps this is just an ideal? Daily practices may often look very different. There are numerous constraints such as economic needs, funding and time limits, peer pressure, and ethical concerns. These constraints often discourage efforts to critically assess the scientific meth-

ods employed, the concepts presupposed, and the conclusions drawn. What we mean by “critical” or “criticality” is the opposite of what might be called “dogmatism” in the sense of not questioning a fixed set of methods, concepts, exemplars, and thereby losing the ability to view things from a distance and from different angles. The rubric the question, rather in the ordinary sense, only in these systems of science production, interest and space can be found to “produce” critical thinking.

\*Thanks to the Research Office of the University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany for proof



— and the future of thinking



## Ageing – Life, Cultures, Civilizations

### Special Jour Fixe Series within the UBIAS’ Topic of the Year 2018

“Age”, can be addressed and analysed in a broad context and from many disciplinary perspectives. The ways in which we view and interpret signs of ageing as well as the age segmentation of the human life span (e.g. when are we considered old?) have changed through history and are subject to major cultural differences. These and many aspects of “Ageing” were discussed in a Special Jour Fixe Series in December and January.



AU Photo: Aarhus University

Within this framework we hosted three events and a travelling exhibition:

### "The Science and Fiction of Ageing"

Jennifer Randerath (Research Fellow / Department of Psychology) & Jeff Kochan (Associated Fellow / Department of Philosophy)

### "0–99, The Ageing Game"

Anne Sophie Santer, artist from Vienna

### "The Role of Age in Leadership and Entrepreneurship"

Hannes Zacher, Leipzig University

### Exhibition of "Life on the Line"

Travelling game on ageing provided by the Medical Museion Copenhagen

**We thank all presenters and participants for their contributions and the Medical Museion Copenhagen for providing us with this innovative and fun game!**



## Selective Internationality? Baseline Study and Counteractive Measures

### Report from the expert workshop on 16 November 2018

On 16 November 2018, an international expert workshop on the internationalization of the university took place at the University of Konstanz. The Zukunftskolleg and International Office invited six experts from Germany and abroad to discuss the issue of selective internationalization.

#### Background:

The skewed internationality at the Zukunftskolleg was impressively demonstrated and challenged for the first time in a lively written discussion on a poster depicting the countries of origin of the Zukunftskolleg's fellows. This ad hoc debate was continued as part of the Zukunftskolleg's Jour Fixe entitled "How international is Academia?" in January 2018. The Jour Fixe brought together Fellows of the Zukunftskolleg and the Cluster of Excellence as well as



representatives of the International Office. During the workshop it became clear that not only the Zukunftskolleg has a selective geographical pattern of internationalization but the University as whole. Subsequently, this expert workshop was initiated in order to deepen the conversation with the help of external expertise.

[Read more.](#)



# Upcoming events

## Politics meets Physics - Zukunftskolleg Day Trip 2019

The Day Trip is an off-site excursion for our fellows and provides opportunities to identify and explore new and innovative research directions. The joint topic of the trip – Migration – parallels the current theme of [the global network UBIAS](#) (University-based Institutes for Advanced Study), of which we are a member.

### Politics meets Physics - Zukunftskolleg Day Trip 2019

9-10 April

UN and CERN (Geneva)

Find more information [here](#).



## Jour Fixe summer semester 2019

This semester, we will explore “Migration”, the very exciting and important UBIAS topic of the year (more information will follow on our website). Further, we will have two Jour Fixe sessions reserved for the newly selected fellows this term (Call 13) and one session in winter.

We will also introduce a new format: “Open Mic Jour Fixe”. This new format seeks to encourage a wider participation of all Fellows and Associated Fellows as well as to inspire new and creative Jour Fixe sessions. We will have three Open Mic sessions next semester and each will be filled by three (randomly selected) fellows.



Yet before we start with our many interesting talks and discussions, we would like to focus on getting to know each other better. Therefore, at [the first Jour Fixe session this semester, on 16 April 2019](#), each fellow will have the opportunity to introduce themselves by giving a short presentation of max. 3 minutes.

### Get-to-know each other

16 April  
15:15-16:45  
Y 326

### Open Mic Jour Fixe (I)

23 April  
15:15-16:45  
Y 326

**We are looking forward to creative Jour Fixe sessions!**





# Four EC members elected

[In the Assembly of Members on 4 December 2018](#), the fellows nominated **Jolle W. Jolles** (Department of Biology) to serve on the Executive Committee (EC), replacing Sven Lauer (Postdoctoral Fellow / Department of Linguistics). Jolle joined the Zukunftskolleg in March 2018. Our thanks to Sven for his past engagement; we wish him all the best for the future!



[On 12 January 2019](#), the Assembly of Members reelected **Carolín Antos Kuby** (Department of Philosophy), **Udith Dematagoda** (Department of Literature) and **Oleksandra Kukharenska** (Department of Chemistry) to serve on the Executive Committee. Their first one-year term of office in the Executive Committee will end in March / April. According to the statutes, a second term of office lasting one year is possible.

We thank Jolle, Carolín, Udith, and Oleksandra for their commitment and wish them good luck!



## Careers, distinctions and grants

### [Sarang Dalal becomes full professor](#)

We congratulate [Sarang Dalal](#) (Alumnus / Department of Psychology) who has accepted a full professorship at the Center of Functionally Integrative Neuroscience at Aarhus University in Denmark. Since 1 March 2016, he has been working as an Associated Professor there in a tenure-track position.

Sarang Dalal was a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from January 2011 until December 2015.

We wish him all the best!



## Sasha Kosanic fights for researchers with disabilities in the academic system

[Sasha Kosanic](#) (Bridge Fellow / Department of Biology) has published a paper raising awareness about the obstacles researchers with disabilities can face in the academic system.

She was invited by the American Association of Geographers (AAG) to organize and chair a panel on “Researchers with disabilities and the obstacles they face in academia”. Sasha Kosanic says: “Researchers with disabilities are still a very much underrepresented group in academia worldwide. Although some laws and policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability do exist, they are still rarely enforced or implemented”

[Read more.](#)



## Heisenberg Stipend for Roxana Halbleib

We congratulate [Roxana Halbleib](#) (Research Fellow / Department of Economics) who was successfully accepted in the Heisenberg Programme of the German Research Foundation (DFG).

The Heisenberg Programme is directed primarily at researchers who have

qualified for professorship on the basis of the Emmy Noether Programme, leadership of a junior research group, a DFG project staff position, private-sector research or a non-professorial academic staff position.

[Read more.](#)



## Raúl Acosta-García investigates urban ethics in Mexico City

[Raúl Acosta-García](#) (Associated Fellow / Department of History and Sociology) has accepted a position at the Institute for Ethnology at the Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität in Munich.

In January, he started working as project manager for the initiative “Mexico City: Ethical Conjunctures, Globalized Environmental Discourses, and the Pursuit of a Better City (2018 - 2021)”, which is one of several research sub-projects of a large team project on urban ethics funded by the DFG.

[Read more.](#)



## New position for Nina Schneider

[Nina Schneider](#) (Alumna / Department of History and Sociology) has accepted a position at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research in Duisburg. There she works on the project “Child Labour Opponents in Global Perspective, 1888-1940”. [Read more.](#)

Nina was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from 02/2013 until 01/2015. We congratulate her and wish her all the best for this new

position!



## ERC-Award for Daniele Brida

The European Research Council (ERC) has awarded a Consolidator Grant for Laser Imaging Research to [Daniele Brida](#) (Associated Fellow / Department of Physics).

Daniele Brida will receive roughly two million euros over a period of 60 months to use sophisticated laser-based imaging technology to study the properties of materials. He will use the grant to strengthen his team of researchers and to set up a new laboratory. [Read more.](#)

Daniele joined the Zukunftskolleg in April 2013 as a 5-year Research Fellow. Since 1 July 2018, he has been Full Professor in Experimental Condensed Matter Physics at the University of Luxembourg.



We congratulate Daniele on this success and wish him all the best!

