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# Zukunftskolleg Newsletter Issue 01/2021

Dear fellows and friends,

We hope you are all well and wish you a good start to the 2021 summer semester!

With this newsletter, we would like to welcome our new Postdoctoral and Research Fellows, our Senior Fellows as well as the ZUKOnnect Fellows from the 2020 call. In addition, we would like to inform you about the results of our latest call for applications: We received 190 applications within the ZUKOnnect Fellowship programme (the application deadline was 24 February 2021).

Although we still mainly meet in a virtual format, our weekly digital Jour fixe as well as the event series on "Racism in Academia" are a great alternative for meetings and exchanging thoughts and ideas with all fellows; we are looking forward to the forthcoming summer semester events.

Since the current situation is still changing a lot and updates are coming in sporadically, we suggest that you please continue to follow the <u>latest updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic</u>. We hope you and your families are staying safe!

Finally, we are happy to see you back at the Zukunftskolleg!

Warmest regards,

The Zukunftskolleg team

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# Recent calls for applications

### **ZUKOnnect Fellowships: Pre-selection process finalised**

In total, we received 190 applications for the third call for the ZUKOnnect Fellowships (deadline was on 24 February 2021). After a formal eligibility check, the 132 eligible applications were peer-reviewed within the respective discipline by fellows of the Zukunftskolleg. Based on these reviews, the Executive Committee (EC) has preselected 13 candidates, which are now sent out for the final evaluation by their prospective local hosts. By the beginning of May, the EC will have made its final decision.

The ZUKOnnect Fellowships support early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America who are associated with one of the thirteen departments at the University of Konstanz. The aim of the three to four months long fellowships is to promote the cultural diversity at the Zukunftskolleg and to strengthen the intellectual and integrative discourse amongst our fellows. At the same time, the ZUKOnnect Fellows will get to know the research environment at the University of Konstanz during their oncampus research stay. This will give them the opportunity to extend their research networks within the university



and to initiate intercontinental research partnerships. Thus, the programme will enrich the scientific discussions within the University of Konstanz, and ultimately help building

connections around the world.

More information on the ZUKOnnect Fellowships.



# Intra-university calls for research funding opportunities at the Zukunftskolleg

The Zukunftskolleg issued calls for applications for several funding programmes open to all non-tenured researchers of the University of Konstanz. The deadline for all programmes was 31 January 2021.

#### **Independent Research Grants**

(open to all non-tenured researchers of the University of Konstanz)

The funding programme aims to promote independent research by postdocs at the University of Konstanz. In particular, we encourage applications that support the exploration of new ideas and the implementation of pilot projects. The grant can cover consumables, equipment, travel costs and student research assistants.



The following researchers and initiatives are funded in 2021:

1. Rory Archer (History)

Research project: Between opportunity and crises: A Oral History of Serbian labour migration to Greece (1990-2010).

Funding: 2.340,00 euros

2. Hanja Brandl (Biology/CASCB)

Research project: Correlating early life and present stress to differences in aggression in a group living bird, the Siberian jay

Funding: 6.557,00 euros

3. Diana Galos (Sociology)

Research project: New Tools in the Hiring Process? Social Media and Discriminationbased on Social Class

Funding: 5.375,00 euros

4. Javier Martinez Canto (Politics and Public Administration)

Research project: The political representation of left-behind places Funding: 5.324,40 euros

5. Luca Mechelli (Mathematics and Statistics)

Research project: Efficient model order reduction for model predictive control of non-linearinput-output dynamical systems

Funding: 6.200,20 euros

6. Georg Müller (Mathematics and Statistics)

Research project: Efficient Simulation of a Spatiotemporal SIR Model Funding: 5.825,00 euros

7. Baiba Renerte (Economics)

Research project: From Homo Economicus to Homo Prospectus: Bringing "cathedral thinking" to the boardroom

Funding: 5.760,00 euros

8. Joanna Ruszkiewicz (Biology)

Research project: NAD+ supplementation in the protection against genotoxic stress in vivo

Funding: 6.990,00 euros

9. Katrin Vogt (Biology)

Research project: Deciphering the neural circuit underlying decision making in response to conflicting cues

Funding: 7.000,00 euros

10. Susanne Wisshak (Economics)

Research project: tba Funding: 6.820,00 euros

More information <u>here</u>.

### **Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects**

(open to all non-tenured researchers of the University of Konstanz)
The programme aims to promote research collaborations between non-tenured researchers (postdoctoral researchers, junior professors, research group leaders, etc.). An interdisciplinary research project gives grant holders the opportunity to identify and explore new, innovative and/or risky research perspectives with neighbouring disciplines and across disciplines.

The following project is funded in 2020/2021:

"Stratification, ways of life and socio-political orientations in Kenya and Cote d´Ivoire. A comparative mixed-methods study in Sociology and Political Science" - cooperation between **Anja Osei** (Politics and Public Administration) and **Florian Stoll** (Cultural Studies, University of Bayreuth)

More information here.

### **Transdepartmental Collaborative Teaching**

(open to all non-tenured researchers of the University of Konstanz) The programme aims to promote the development of new teaching courses and expand departmental syllabi. It gives grant holders the opportunity to explore new, innovative topics in teaching and to further develop their teaching skills and teaching approach across disciplines.

The following proposal for a new teaching course is funded in 2021:

"The legacy of violence in pandemic times: Global health challenges and gender dynamics" – **Abena Yalley** (Literature / Politics), **Liliana Abreu** (Politics and Public Administration) and **Anke Koebach** (Psychology)

More information <u>here</u>.

#### **Intersectoral Cooperative Programme**

(open to all non-tenured researchers of the University of Konstanz)
The programme aims to foster cooperation between non-tenured researchers
(postdoctoral researchers, junior professors, research group leaders, etc.) and the nonacademic sector. Grants will be given in support of cooperation that fosters joint
research projects with industrial partners, companies, social or cultural institutions,
archives, public bodies or non-profit organizations.

The following project is funded in 2021:

"Beirut-Sarajevo intersections" - cooperation between **Gruia Badescu** (History and Sociology) and **Sabine El Chamaa** (film-maker)

More information here.

### **Research Visit Programmes**

These programmes seek to enhance international research cooperation and support international mobility. They fund temporary research stays both at the Zukunftskolleg and abroad for international exchange among peers:

- The Research Visit programme for Zukunftskolleg fellows encourages temporary assignments to a partner Institute for Advanced Study or any international research university (Outgoing Research Visit). (Fellows only!)
- Zukunftskolleg fellows can nominate international early career researchers for a Research Visit at the Zukunftskolleg (Invited Research Visit). (Fellows only!)
- Early career researchers from the Zukunftskolleg's partner institutes can apply for a Research Visit at the Zukunftskolleg (Network Research Visit).

• A special Research Visit programme at the Zukunftskolleg supports temporary research stays of one to three months by international early career researchers from our partner university Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania.

The aim of the Research Visit programmes is to provide an opportunity to engage in a research project at the University of Konstanz, ideally in collaboration with a Zukunftskolleg fellow. No limitation is placed on the area of research within the humanities, natural and social sciences. Interdepartmental and interdisciplinary study is encouraged (Network Research Visit lasi).

The duration of a Research Visit in either direction should range from one to three months. The grant will cover travel and accommodation costs.

The following Network Research Visits are funded in 2021:

- Iulia Dumitrache (Dept. of History)
   "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iasi, Romania
- 2. **Sergiu Sava** (Dept. of Philosophy)

  "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iasi, Romania

More information here.



### **News review**

# Zukunftskolleg Fellows support "Corona Crisis and Beyond" funding programme of the Volkswagen Foundation

The COVID-19 pandemic also poses major challenges and new questions for science. The Volkswagen Foundation responded to this with its "Corona Crisis and Beyond" funding programme in December 2020, providing support to researchers of all disciplines.

In the meantime, 102 projects have been approved – out of 1,105 applications. In total, the foundation is providing funds of € 11.7 million. Around 60 young scientists were recruited for the review and recommendation process. 21 of them are members of the Junge Akademie, three come from the Zukunftskolleg.

Read more <u>here</u> (available only in German).



### Two new and old Executive Committee members elected

At the Assembly of Members on 9
February, the fellows re-elected Nihan Toprakkiran (Postdoctoral Fellow/Politics and Public Administration) and Henri Kauhanen (Postdoctoral Fellow/Linguistics) to serve for a second term of office as





members of the Executive Committee.

Nihan Toprakkiran and Henri Kauhanen

We thank Nihan and Henri for their commitment in the EC!



### Virtual day trip to Metropolitan Museum of Art / New York

As part of the Zukunftskolleg's annual day trip, on 23 March 2021 the fellows went on a virtual tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (Met) of New York City, during which Margaret Samu explained the highlights of the museum. From Ancient Greece – and one of the earliest marble statues of a human figure carved in Attica – to Ancient Egypt and the Roman Empire, the first stop on the tour were ancient statues and sculptures. In the next room, the oeuvre of Han Gan was on display: Night-Shining White from the Tang Dynasty.



With its burning eyes, flaring nostrils and dancing hoofs, the fiery-tempered horse epitomizes Chinese myths about Central Asian "celestial steeds" that "sweated blood" and were actually dragons in disguise. From c. 750 to 1785 and Adélaïde Labille-Guiard and her Self-Portrait with Two Pupils: It is one of the most remarkable images of women's art education in early modern Europe. In the next room, the participants discovered Emanuel Leutze's Washington Crossing the Delaware from 1851. It is his depiction of Washington's attack on the Hessians at Trenton on 25 December 1776. The work of art was damaged in his studio by fire in 1850 and, although restored and acquired by the Bremen Kunsthalle, was destroyed again in a bomb raid in 1942. In 1850, Leutze began this version of the subject, which went on display in New York in October 1851. The last stop of the tour was contemporary and modern art. The fellows were shown two fascinating pieces by Carmen Herrera, who sold her first painting at the age of 89 and was mostly unknown. Until 2009, that is, when a major show of her work opened in the UK and she was deemed "the find of a decade" by the Observer. Her work is now exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Following the very interesting tour through the Met, the fellows held a virtual "after-museum" party at gather town to meet socially and discuss their favourite pieces from the tour.



# New fellows at Zukunftskolleg

### New 2-year and 5-year Fellows

We are pleased to welcome **Noelia Martines Doallo** (Department of Law), **Prerna Nadathur** (Department of Linguistics), **Daniela Rößler** (Department of Biology), **Alice El-Wakil** (Department of Politics / Cluster of Inequality), and **Gabriella Gall** (Department of Biology / CASCB) as our new Postdoctoral Fellows. In addition, we would like to welcome **Angelo di Bernardo** (Department of Physics) as one of our Research Fellows. They will start their fellowships at the Zukunftskolleg in the course of the summer semester.

In its recent call for three 2-vear and two 5-vear Fellowships (the closing date for applications was 15 October 2020), the Zukunftskolleg received 140 applications. Among the 140 applications were 127 applications for the 2-year Fellowships (73 male, 54 female) and 13 applications for the 5-year Fellowships (11 male, 2 female). Of all 140 applications, 47 came from Germany, 93 from abroad.



In its meetings on 28-29
January 2021 and 18-19 February 2021, the Selection Committee chose the final candidates to be offered 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellowships.



### Welcome to Konstanz, ZUKOnnect Fellows

We are pleased to welcome our ZUKonnect Fellows to Konstanz in person; they already joined the Zukunftskolleg via digital means on 1 October.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were obliged to amend our ZUKOnnect Fellowship for early career scholars from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Instead of short residential stays, we decided to offer a 12-month (digital) ZUKOnnect Fellowship that started in October 2020, combined with an on-campus stay for 3 to 4 months from April 2021 onwards.









We extend a warm welcome to **Giovanna Rodrigez-Garcia** (Politics and Public Administration, Colombian PhD candidate from Mexico, local host: Christian Breuning), **Vishwanath Varma** (Biology, PostDoc from India, local host: Iain Couzin), **Afrasa Mulatu Urge** (Biology, PhD candidate from Ethiopia, local host: Erika Isono), **Josiah Taru** (History and Sociology, PostDoc from Zimbabwe, local host: Thomas Kirsch) and **Krizler Tanalgo** (Biology, Filipino PhD candidate from China, local host: Mag Crofoot).



# Senior Fellows Graham Underwood and Babu Thaliath to join the Zukunftskolleg

Two new Senior Fellows will join the Zukunftskolleg in the 2021 summer semester for a period of 12 months: Professor Graham Underwood (School of Life Sciences, University of Essex, UK) and Babu Thaliath (School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Centre of German Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India).





Graham Underwood and Babu Thaliath

**Graham Underwood**'s research centres on algal biofilms and their role in ecology, ecosystem functioning and biogeochemistry. "The option to come to Konstanz and develop some of my areas of interest with excellent colleagues is too good an opportunity to miss," says Underwood. He will collaborate in particular with Bernard Lepetit (Biology): "Bernard's research specialisms around photosynthesis and regulation in diatoms (often using key model species) and his knowledge and experience of experimental approaches to investigate mechanisms of control and underlying molecular

biology, are of great interest to me," explains Underwood. "Linking his expertise with mine will help us ask some really new questions around cell sensing and behaviour."

During his stay at the Zukunftskolleg, **Babu Thaliath** aims to intensify his work on a research project in the field of philosophy and philosophy of science with the general topic: The Historicity of Axioms. The historicising effect of mathematical formalism on the axiomatization of early modern sciences. "This project, which is in its initial phase, requires an extensive collection of materials, review of the premises, scientific contexts, methodology and, above all, the necessary consultation with the subject experts," says Thaliath. "Carolin Antos-Kuby (Philosophy), who works on the axiomatic set theory, will give me an adequate opportunity to become more familiar with the interdisciplinary research at the Zukunftskolleg – between philosophy and mathematics with regard to its theoretical-axiomatic foundations and their historical development."

The Senior Fellowship programme of the Zukunftskolleg is designed to bring together excellent scholars from all countries and disciplines and to strengthen the intergenerational scientific dialogue between postdoctoral and established researchers.

Senior candidates must demonstrate a track record of significant and original research achievements, have extensive independent academic work experience and enjoy exchange and collaboration with younger generations.

More information on Graham Underwood on his website.

More information on Babu Thaliath on his website.



### Review of events

### "Racism in Academia" event series

Virtual screening "Coded Bias"

On **19 January 2021**, the second event in the framework of the "Racism in Academia" series took place.

Speakers/discussants:

- Sarah Chander, Al and Nondiscrimination (European Digital Rights, Brussels)
- Asanda Saule Ngoasheng, Gender and Racial Justice (Centre for Rights and Justice, University of Sussex)
- Violeta Ivanova-Rohling, Machine Learning and Quantum Computing (Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz)

Introduction/moderation:

Cornelia Klocker (Zukunftskolleg)

Co-moderation:

· Zebra-Kino

Film abstract: When MIT Media Lab researcher Joy Buolamwini discovers that most facial recognition software misidentifies women and darker skinned

CODEDBIAS

THERE IS NO ALGORITHM FOR TRUTH

A SHALINI KANTAYYA FILM

sundance

faces, she is compelled to investigate further. It turns out that artificial intelligence, which was defined by a homogeneous group of men, is not neutral. What Buolamwini learns about widespread bias in algorithms drives her to push the US government to create the first ever legislation to counter the farreaching dangers of bias in a technology that is steadily encroaching on our lives.

Centring on the voices of women leading the charge to ensure our civil rights are protected, Coded Bias asks two key questions: What is the impact of artificial intelligence's increasing role in governing our liberties? And what are the consequences for people stuck in the crosshairs due to their race, colour and gender?

More information and the video can be found here.

In the shoes of the African scholar: The strive for global acceptance

On 2 February 2021, the third event in the framework of the "Racism in Academia" series took place.

Roundtable discussion with Senayon Olaoluwa (University of Ibadan), Maria Martin (University of California) and Victor Araujo (University of Zurich), moderated by Abena Yalley (Zukunftskolleg).

Abstract: Higher education primarily functions to shape the intellectual mindsets and capabilities of individuals through its philosophical, epistemological and ontological techniques and approaches. Without doubt, higher education plays a critical and pivotal role in influencing the tenets of society by reflecting global universalities and diverging perspectives. However, the educational culture, even in the context of globalization, is heavily embedded in inequalities which are played out in brute contexts of race and racial disparities. This panel discussion examines the challenges facing African scholars and people of African descent in their quest for global acceptance in academia.

The discussion seeks to answer the following questions:

- 1. How does race influence academic culture in a globalized context and what are the implications for the African scholar?
- 2. How do African scholars or scholars of African descent experience racism in academia?
- 3. What strategies can be effective forms of resistance to the problems of racism or racial inequalities in academia?

#### "Unconscious Bias" training

**On 9 March 2021,** the fourth event in the framework of the "Racism in Academia" series took place.

As an outcome of the anti-racism debate and as part of the ZUKOnnnect selection process, the Zukunftskolleg offered an internal, virtual, interactive presentation on "Unconscious Bias" in selection processes in cooperation with <u>EAF Berlin.</u>

EAF Berlin accompanies organizations in change processes towards more diversity in leadership and advises on the topics of diversity and equal opportunities, career and leadership, compatibility and resilience as well as democracy and participation.

The target group for the training session was chiefly the Zukunftskolleg's Executive Committee and fellow representatives involved in the ZUKOnnect programme.

### **Executive Committee meetings**

12 January 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual

9 February 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual



### Jour fixe 2020/21 winter semester

Talk about "Naeem revisits Naeem et al. 1994: reading between the lines of a scientific paper" - Hari Sridhar

On 15 December 2020, Hari Sridhar gave a talk on "Naeem revisits Naeem et al. 1994: reading between the lines of a scientific paper"

Abstract: Writing scientific papers is, arguably, the most important task in a scientist's working life. Papers are the universal currency by which all scientists are compared and evaluated and, often, the only scientific legacies they will leave behind. Unfortunately, a paper is an imperfect record of scientific activity because it presents a cleaned-up, simplified and reorganized version of the scientific process, leaving out any detail



that might distract the reader from understanding its findings and arguments. Over the last four years, I have documented the stories behind 160+ landmark papers in ecology and evolution through interviews with their lead authors. During the talk, I will use examples from the interviews to highlight what published papers leave out and discuss what this might mean for the contemporary practice of science as well as its historical understanding.

#### Open discussion on "Sustainability" - Zukunftskolleg

**On 12 January 2021**, the Zukunftskolleg organized an open discussion on "Sustainability".

After short input by Hilmar Hofmann on behalf of the university's "Sustainability Working Group" as well as by the university's Green Office about their plans and goals with regard to sustainability, there was an open discussion on the current situation, challenges and possible solutions regarding sustainable measures at the University of Konstanz.

Presentation on "A psychological approach to international criminal justice..."

On 26 January 2021, the 2019 Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) group (Anna Sagana (Maastricht), Gabriele Chlevickaite (Amsterdam), Dave van Toor (Bielefeld) and Nikolaos Aletras (Sheffield)) presented its thoughts and first results on international criminal justice.

Abstract: The International Criminal Court (ICC) has recently been at the centre of fierce criticism about its ability to fulfil its role to investigate and prosecute the most heinous international crimes. In this project, we aim to help counter the criticisms by exploring an optimal decision-making model within the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP). After considering criminological and psychological literature, cultural aspects, and the legal framework in the context of international criminal law, we have identified factors that hinder decision-making during the investigation phase. Specifically, we have attempted to map the role of bounded rationality and cognitive bias within the investigation phase and thereby address the first cause of decision error in dynamic decision-making environments. Our future plans to explore how data-driven statistical approaches can assist the development of a theoretical, evidence-based model of optimal decision-making will be discussed.



# Forthcoming events

### **Event series: "Racism in Academia"**

Workshop: Unravelling unconscious bias

Speaker: Pragya Agarwal; Moderation: Cornelia Klocker,

Felicia Afriyie

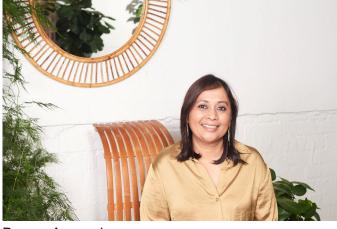
14 April 2021 13:00 – 14:30 Virtual More information here.

### Video presentation by artist Lavi Israel

25 May 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Diversity training by Living Diversity

15 June 2021 Virtual



Pragya Agarwal

Please find the programme of the series online <u>here</u>.



### **University Day 2021: Collective Behaviour**

"Representation of movement patterns in the brain" Workshop with Armin Bahl (Zukunftskolleg)

### "Virtual Worlds, Virtual Swarms" Workshop Sercan Sayin and Mariam

Mahmoud (Centre of the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour - CASCB)

"University Day" is a fixed part of the Hegau-Bodensee Seminar which provides the

chance for pupils to do research directly with scientists and experience recent research done at universities at eye level.

23. April 2021 09:30 – 13:30 Virtual More information





### Jour fixe summer semester 2021



### Welcome to the 2021 summer semester & Presentation of research data management and repository KonDATA

Central Office / Matthias Landwehr (KIM)

13 April 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Unravelling existential suffering and its relation to depression in older adults: EXIST-well in nursing homes

Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) group: Jessie Dezutter, Daan Duppen, Gørill Haugan, Helena Larsson, Suvi-Maria Saarelainen

20 April 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Lightning talks/Poster session by ZUKOnnect Fellow

27 April 2021 15:15 – 16:30

#### Virtual

### Associated Fellows: Daniele Brida (Physics) and Philip Rathgeb (Politics and Public Administration)

4 May 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Biomedical Research Involving Human Subjects. Is There a Duty to Participate? Noelia Martínez Doalla (New Postdoctoral Fellow/Law)

11 May 2021 15:15 – 16:30

Virtual

### Angelo Di Bernardo (New Research Fellow/Physics)

18 May 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Video presentation in the framework of "Racism in Academia" event series Lavi Israel (artist)

25 May 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### New Fellow (tba)

1 June 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) group

Ksenia Robbe (University of Groningen) et. al.

8 June 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### **Diversity Training**

Andreas Hartwig (Living Diversity)

15 June 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### **Research Visit Fellows**

22 June 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### **Coffee meets Chemistry**

Klaus Boldt (Research Fellow/Chemistry)

29 June 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### **Graham Underwood (Senior Fellow)**

6 July 2021 15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

### Assembly of Members: EC election

13 July 2021

15:15 – 16:30 Virtual

See the current Jour fixe programme <u>here</u>.



### **Executive Committee meetings**

28 April 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual

26 May 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual

23 June 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual

14 July 2021 13:00 – 15:00 virtual



# Careers, distinctions and grants

### EPSRC early career fellowship and tenure-track position for Pantelis Eleftheriou

We congratulate Pantelis Eleftheriou (Research Fellow / Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics) who has been awarded an EPSRC (= Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) early career fellowship as well as a tenure-track position at the University of Leeds, UK.

He will start his fellowship in May 2021 with the project "Model Theory, Diophantine Geometry and Combinatorics".

"The EPSRC fellowships are 5-year, UK-based, with many similarities to the ERC grants," explains Eleftheriou. They are awarded by the UKRI (= UK Research and Innovation) and can be taken at any university in the UK. "I'm taking it at Leeds, since the latter has offered me a University Academic Fellowship (= UAF), which is a tenure-track scheme of the University of Leeds, leading after a probationary period to a permanent Associate Professorship."

Pantelis has taken this opportunity to thank the Zukunftskolleg "for eight years of uninterrupted support, in all aspects of my career development and beyond. Living in Konstanz and working with the Zukunftskolleg will have a permanent positive impact in my career and life."

Pantelis Eleftheriou has been a fellow at the Zukunftskolleg since August 2013, working on the project "Groups Definable in Tame Expansions of O-Minimal Structures".

We wish him all the best!

More information on the EPSRC fellowships <u>here</u>.





### **Habilitation and Heisenberg Programme for Klaus Boldt**

Congratulations to Klaus Boldt! He has passed his habilitation and obtained the teaching license in physical chemistry and solid-state chemistry.

The title of his habilitation thesis was: "Shape and Material Anisotropy in Semiconductor Nanocrystals".

In April 2021 he was also successful with his application to the Heisenberg Programme.

Klaus has been a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg since April 2015, working on the project "Binary Nano-Metamaterials as Building Blocks for the Next Generation of Electronics".

We congratulate him and wish him all the best!





### **Group leader position for Jolle Jolles**

We congratulate Jolle Jolles (Postdoctoral Fellow / Dept. of Biology) who has accepted

a position as independent postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Research on Ecology and Forestry Applications (CREAF) in Cerdanyola del Vallès, Spain.

"The position is completely independent and will enable me to develop my own research line and set up my own projects," says Jolle. The position is funded for three years by the Severo Ochoa Excellence programme.

Jolle has been a fellow at the Zukunftskolleg since March 2018, working on the project "Individual Differences in Collective Behaviour: From Proximate Mechanisms to Ecological and Evolutionary Consequences".

We wish him all the best!

More information on CREAF here.





### Assistant professorship for Paraskevi Salamaliki

We congratulate Paraskevi Salamaliki, who has been appointed as Assistant Professor of Macroeconomics at the University of Ioannina, Greece.

During the past winter semester, she taught Macroeconomics I (postgraduate/Master) and Economic Applications using Software Packages (undergraduate/Bachelor). In the 2021 summer semester, she will be teaching Topics in Macroeconomics (undergraduate/Bachelor). Her current research focuses on the effects of fiscal space on the policy response to financial crises (distress), aiming to understand why and how fiscal space matters for policy response. "To this end, we expect to contribute to the literature on the role of market access constraints, the role of persistent budget deficits, and the role of policymakers' choices and ideas," explains Paraskevi.



Paraskevi was a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from September 2013 until August 2015. From March 2016 until July 2019, she was a lecturer (fixed-term contract) at the University of Patras in the Department of Economics.

More information on her website.

We wish her all the best!

## Alexander Titz becomes Professor for Organic and Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Alexander Titz (Alumnus / Dept. Chemistry) has been appointed as Professor for Organic and Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Saarland University.

Alexander Titz studied chemistry at the Technical University of Darmstadt and the University of Bordeaux. In April 2008, he received his doctorate from the University of Basel on the subject of the medicinal chemistry of carbohydrate-protein interactions. He was a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from October 2010 until July 2013. He has headed the research group "Chemical Biology of Carbohydrates" at the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS) since 2013 and been a junior professor at Saarland University since 2018.

Alexander Titz's research focuses on the synthetic development of novel drug candidates and diagnostics for bacterial infections. Starting from the natural carbohydrate receptors of the bacterial proteins, glycomimetics are produced using organic-chemical methods, which can prevent the bacteria from attaching to the host and block the biofilms that are involved in chronic infections.



More information <u>here</u>.

We congratulate Alexander Titz and wish him all the best!



