



Universität
Konstanz



Zukunftskolleg Newsletter Issue #36

Dear fellows and friends

The first half of the semester is already over, but we still have many exciting events to look forward to! Also, we would like to give you an “update” on the latest developments at the Zukunftskolleg:

The Collegium Helveticum and the Zukunftskolleg have opened up a **prize question competition with the title “Disrupted Orders?”** which invites contributors to unravel ‘order’ and to show how it can be disrupted and what consequences may result from disrupted orders. The deadline is **12 September 2019**. Please find more information below and on [our website](#).

What else is new? In April and May, we welcomed five new Research and Postdoctoral Fellows. Read more about who they are and what their research is about in this newsletter! This year, even more fellows will join us: In order to enhance our intercontinental dialogue in research, the Zukunftskolleg issued a first call for five AAA Fellowships, supporting early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America. We congratulate our six winners!

Last but not least, we have another exciting announcement to make: **The special event series within the UBIAS’ Topic of the Year continues in 2019!** This year’s topic is “migration” and our fellows have prepared very informative talks. On 25 June, we will also have a **midissage of the exhibition “Anima Mundi”** with the illustrator George Butler. Save the dates and see you soon!

With warm greetings

The Zukunftskolleg team

2019 prize question competition: "Disrupted Orders?"

- › Cooperation between Collegium Helveticum and Zukunftskolleg

Latest fellowship calls

- › Results of the first AAA Fellowship Call

We welcome our new fellows

Review of events

- › NetIAS meeting in Aarhus
- › Politics meets physics
- › Get-to-know each other
- › Film screening “The Cakemaker”
- › Presentations by new fellows (I)
- › Open mic Jour fixe (I)
- › Open mic Jour fixe (II)
- › Jour fixe on Open Access & Preparation for the rector’s visit
- › Visit of Rector Kerstin Kriegelstein

Upcoming events

- › Migration - Special event series within the UBIAS’ Topic of the Year 2019
- › Presentations by new fellows (II)
- › Executive Committee meeting
- › Scientific retreat

Careers, distinctions, grants

- W2-Professorship for Tanja Rinker
- Martin Dege Assistant Professor in Paris
- Udith Dematagoda left for a Visiting Scholarship at Waseda University, Japan
- Manfred Fuchs Award for Thomas Böttcher

2019 prize question competition: "Disrupted Orders?"

Cooperation between Collegium Helveticum and Zukunftskolleg

The prize question competition hosted by the Collegium Helveticum and the Zukunftskolleg invites contributors to unravel 'order' and to show how it can be disrupted and what consequences may result from disrupted orders. The competition explores the societal, political, economic, artistic and scientific scope of order and its disruption in the past, present and future. [Read more.](#)

The best contributions will be published in a jointly edited volume or other suitable publication by the Collegium Helveticum and the Zukunftskolleg.

The top three entrants will receive prize money of

1st place: € 1,300 / CHF 1,500,

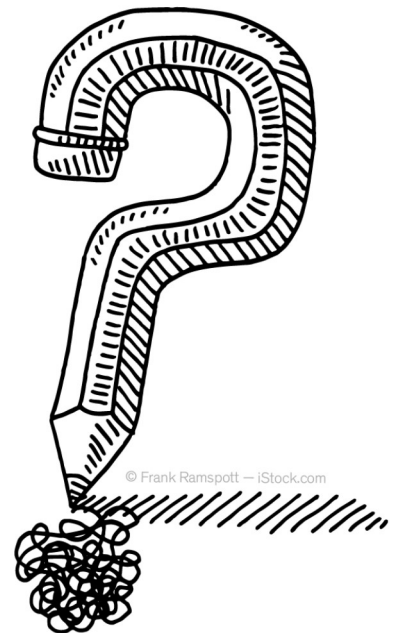
2nd place: € 650 / CHF 750, and

3rd place: € 300 / CHF 350.

The deadline is **12 September 2019** at 24:00 (GMT).

Theme

As a common German saying goes, "Ordnung ist das halbe Leben" (approx.: order is half the battle). And indeed, different orders are part of our lives and, of course, of many research disciplines: social orders – referring to the conduct of communality in the social sciences; orders – as tools for classifying organisms by rank in biology; a holy order, the *ordo salutis* – which relates to the salvific business of the church; or an order – as antithetical concept of chaos in philosophy. And sometimes it is the lack of order or its intentional or latent disruption that attracts the researcher's attention.



Order can vaguely be regarded as the nature or quality of something. The Oxford English Dictionary defines order /'ɔː.dər/ as “the arrangement or disposition of people or things in relation to each other according to a particular sequence, pattern, or method”. It can relate to an authoritative command or instruction, as well as a particular social, political, or economic system, and, not to forget, orders within the context of nature and the natural sciences. As manifold as orders can be, as divergent can be the modes of their disruption. Disruption /dɪsˈrʌpʃn/ has a negative connotation as it relates to the “interruption, disturbance or problems which interrupt an event, activity, or process.” But can disruption not be constructive and fruitful as well? Or conversely, is order always welcome?



Latest fellowship calls

Results of the first AAA Fellowship Call

In its [first call for AAA Fellowships](#) for early career researchers from Africa, Asia and Latin America (the closing date for applications was 30 April 2019), the Zukunftscolleg received 206 eligible applications.

The following six applicants have been selected to join the Zukunftscolleg in the following five months as AAA Fellows:

- Hamadja Abboubakar, Mathematics and Statistics, Cameroon
- Denisha Gounden, Chemistry, South Africa
- Patrícia Nabuco Martuscelli, Political Science, Brazil
- Sana Shams, Linguistics, Pakistan
- Leila Abdala, Cultural Theory and Social Anthropology, Argentina
- Abena Yalley, Gender Studies, Ghana

The fellows will receive a stipend of € 1,200/ month and a partial travel grant for the trip to Konstanz. AAA Fellows will team up with researchers from within and outside the Zukunftscolleg who will support the AAA Fellows during their research stay and help them get integrated into their respective departments. Thus, the AAA Fellows are an integral part of the community at the University of Konstanz although their stay is rather short, and the Zukunftscolleg will benefit greatly from the resulting broader intercultural exchange.



We welcome our new fellows

Between March and June 2019, we welcomed our new Research and Postdoctoral Fellows from the 13th call for applications:



[Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin](#) was the first of our new fellows from the 13th call for applications to join the Zukunftskolleg. She has started her 5-year Research Fellowship in March and is affiliated with the Department of Biology.

Her research at the Zukunftskolleg will be about how animal groups communicate and coordinate with one another to make collective decisions and engage in collective action. “My project is highly interdisciplinary, integrating field biology, bio-logging, and quantitative analyses”, explains Ariana. “To make this happen, collaboration is key - I collaborate with a network of other researchers including field biologists and computer scientists”. [Read more.](#)



[Cornelia Klocker](#) is a two 2-year Postdoctoral Fellow who joined the Zukunftskolleg in April. She is affiliated with the Department of Law.

“My research at the Zukunftskolleg centres on an empirical study of the European Court of Human Rights' non-discrimination case law and the groups it considers to fall within its scope”, Cornelia explains. “By analyzing the ways in which the Court has addressed groups in its non-discrimination case law and whether its approach is limiting or supporting rights held by groups, this study aims to contribute to the body of group rights research from a practical perspective”. [Read more.](#)



[Nihan Toprakkiran](#) also is a two 2-year Postdoctoral Fellow who joined the Zukunftskolleg in April. She is affiliated with the Department of Politics and Public Administration.

Nihan's research project at the Zukunftskolleg is about the determinants of the political behaviour of immigrants in Germany. She focuses on people with a Turkish, Polish or Italian migration background and explains their party choices in the elections of their countries of origin, especially with regard to the support that they show for populist parties. “In doing so, I bring together the debates on the integration of immigrants in the country of residence with voting behaviour and party

choice", she says. [Read more.](#)



[Morgane Nouvian](#) is a 5-year Research Fellow. She began her fellowship in April and is affiliated with the Department of Biology.

"The research project I will do at the ZuKo focuses back on the defensive behaviour of honeybees, but this time approaching it as a collective behaviour. I would like to understand how the bees coordinate so that an appropriate number of defenders respond, and how each individual bee takes the decision to attack or not depending on the social information it receives", Morgane explains. Her



research project has two parts: a behavioural one in which she wants to understand which information are important for the bee, and a neurobiological one in which she will study how this information is integrated by the bee brain. [Read more.](#)



[Benjamin Eva](#) is a 5-year Research Fellow. He started his fellowship in April and is affiliated with the Department of Philosophy.

"My project at the Zukunftskolleg focuses on what I call the problem of 'theory formation', i.e. the problem of identifying the basic rules and strategies that rational agents should follow if they hope to successfully develop new theories and concepts for describing the world in a fruitful way. The project's methodology will rely heavily on theoretical resources from

philosophy and the cognitive science of creativity and will also aim to develop new computational models of theory formation in artificial intelligence agents”, explains Benjamin. [Read more.](#)



[Stephan Streuber](#) has started his 5-year fellowship in June. He is affiliated with the Department of Computer and Information Science.

The title of his research project is "Studying Collective Behavior using Virtual Reality". More information will follow...



Review of events

[NetIAS meeting in Aarhus](#)

On the occasion of the annual [NetIAS business meeting and EURIAS Fellows meeting](#), Giovanni Galizia and Daniela Kromrey travelled to Aarhus at the beginning of April.

With their sister institutions they discussed perspectives on and the future of international IAS collaboration. An initiative for junior researcher groups, a joint public outreach activity during the “European researcher night” and the promotion of global south fellowships were more concrete examples of the ongoing work and upcoming



activities of the network.

The Zukunftskolleg has been a member of NetIAS (Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study) since June 2018. The network brings together 24 Institutes for Advanced Study across Europe. Researchers affiliated with member institutions are eligible to apply for a Research Visit at the Zukunftskolleg. Find more information about our cooperation partners [here](#).

The next meeting will be held on 11 and 12 November 2019 in Edinburgh.



Politics meets physics

From 9 until 10 April 2019, the Zukunftskolleg organized a two-day-trip for its members. This year's destinations were the United Nations and CERN in Geneva.

The Day Trip was an off-site excursion of our fellows and provided opportunities for identifying and exploring new and innovative research directions. The joint topic of the trip – Migration – aligns with the current theme of the global network UBIAS (University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study), in which we are a member.

The participating fellows and members of the Zukunftskolleg's Central Office were impressed by their experiences:

Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin (Research Fellow / Biology):

“My favourite part of the trip was seeing CERN - not just for the cool science, but also to learn about how this amazing international cooperation came about and continues to function. It was also great to get to know my fellow Zukunftskolleg fellows a bit better. Thanks for the great trip”!

Takayuki Kurihara (Research Fellow / Physics):

“I was especially impressed by the openness and brightness of the researchers in CERN. It gives me quite an awe to see how everyone who works in such a big institute is enthusiastically seeking for the same single goal of finding out the most fundamental question of the world. This is something we in the field of material science can learn a



lot from their attitude, to share a true big problem”.

[Read more.](#)



Get-to-know each other

The first Jour fixe meeting in the summer semester 2019 on 16 April 2019 was about getting to know each other, as the Zukunftskolleg welcomed some new Postdoctoral, Research and Associated Fellows.

Thus, each fellow was invited to present himself/herself and his/her current research project in max. 2-3 min.

We would like to thank all fellows for their participation!



Film screening “The Cakemaker”

The Jour fixe on 23 April 2019 was organized by Andrea Lailach-Henrich (Politics and Public Administration / Associated Fellow), who introduced the movie ["The Cakemaker"](#), a story about a German-Israeli relationship. The film screening took place on 8 May, followed by a social event with fruitful discussions in the Common Room.

Abstract "The Cakemaker":

Thomas, a young, solitary German baker,

is having an affair with a married Israeli man named Oren, who frequently visits Berlin on business. When Oren fails to return Thomas's calls one day, Thomas discovers that he died in an accident in Israel, and he goes to Jerusalem and visits the cafe of Oren's widow, Anat. Without revealing his identity, he gets a job in the cafe's kitchen and rents an apartment in the city. Though at first he is not allowed to make food, as it puts the cafe at risk of losing its kosher certification, Anat eventually tries some baked goods that Thomas made for her son's birthday and allows him to make food.

Thomas learns more about Anat's life and her family, including her brother-in-law, Motti, who is initially suspicious of him. He also grows closer to Anat, who is still grieving her husband's death despite her awareness of his infidelity...

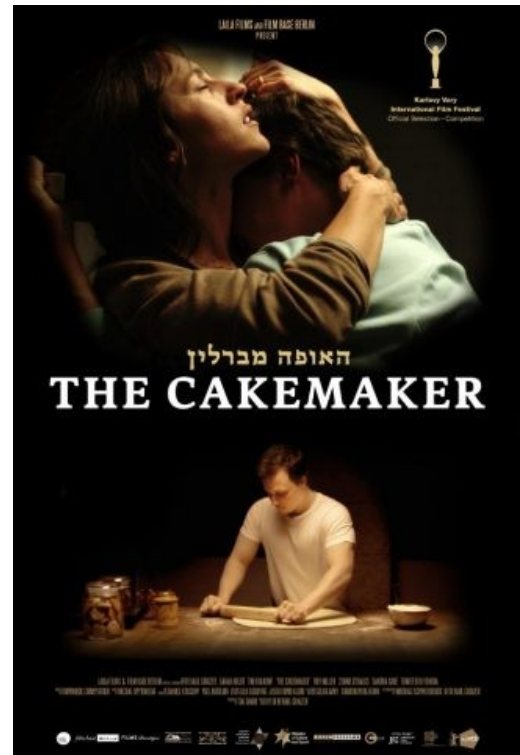


Photo: Düsseldorf Filmkunstkinos



Presentations by new fellows (I)

Jour fixe talks by Stephan Streuber and Cornelia Klocker on 30 April 2019

Stephan Streuber (Computer and Information Science / Research Fellow)
"Studying Collective Behavior using Virtual Reality"

Cornelia Klocker (Law / Postdoctoral Fellow)
"The European Court of Human Rights and non-discrimination: Exploring collective dimensions"

Abstract:

Although the European Convention on Human Rights does not contain group rights per se, the European Court of Human Rights had to deal with a variety of situations bearing a "collective dimension" so far. These situations include cases on armed conflict, the discrimination of ethnic groups in the education system and the limitation of free speech of the LGBT+ community, just to name a few. My past research focused on cases arising from armed conflict and affected groups such as ethnic minorities in the context of collective punishment. Now this research project proposes a study based on the Court's case law on non-discrimination and the groups it considers to fall within its scope in a broader sense. By analyzing the ways in which the Court has addressed groups in its non-discrimination case law and whether this approach is limiting or supporting rights held by groups on a theoretical level, this study aims to contribute to the body of group rights research from a practical perspective.



Open mic Jour fixe (I)

Jour fixe talks by Claudius Kratochwil, Roxana Halbleib and Andreas Scherer on 7 May 2019

Claudius Kratochwil (Biology / Postdoctoral Fellow), Roxana Halbleib (Economics / Research Fellow) and Andreas Scherer (Chemistry / Associated Fellow per Doctoral Fellowship) talked

“About genomes, financial markets and bird navigation”.

Claudius Kratochwil works with fish genomes to understand how changes in the genetic code explain the wide diversity of animals on our planet. He told how we got to read the genetic code and how genetic information is starting to influence what we know about our past, present and future.

Roxana Halbleib deals with studying the financial markets from an intrinsic time perspective in order to predict their risks. This perspective is relatively unexplored and aims at capturing the real heartbeat of the markets in accordance with their trading activity and volatility.

Andreas Scherer talked about the navigational capabilities of migratory birds. Despite numerous studies, it is still unclear how birds can travel over thousands of kilometres and still find their breeding sites with astonishing precision. He presented a theory by which birds use chemical reactions which are sensitive to the earth's magnetic field as a chemical compass.



Open mic Jour fixe (II)

Jour fixe talks by Jolle Jolles, Sasha Kosanic and Max Reinwald on 21 May 2019

Jolle Jolles (Biology / Postdoctoral Fellow), Sasha Kosanic (Biology / Associated Fellow) and Max Reinwald (Politics and Public Administration / Associated Fellow per Doctoral Fellowship) talked about

"Diversity".

Jolle Jolles analyzed "Diversity within and between animal groups: the costs and benefits of being equal". In his talk, Jolle gave insights into the role of individual differences between socially grouping animals. He discussed examples of both observational, experimental and computational work from the fields of behavioural ecology and collective behaviour research that highlight how both being different and being similar to the others can provide grouping benefits to individual animals.

Sasha Kosanic explained why "Academia needs to be Equal and Inclusive".

Max Reinwald talked about "Diversity at Work - Opportunities and Challenges for Teams".



Jour fixe on Open Access & Preparation for the rector's visit

1. Open Access (Anja Oberländer / KIM)
2. Preparation for the visit of Rector Kerstin Krieglstein on 4 June



Visit of Rector Kerstin Krieglstein

On 4 June, the rector of the University Konstanz, Kerstin Krieglstein, visited the

Zukunftskolleg. On this occasion, the fellows held so-called "Lightning Talks".

Titles of talks:

Roxana Halbleib (Economics / Research Fellow)
"Doing data science and predicting risk in finance"

Bernard Lepetit (Biology / Postdoctoral Fellow)
"Why can diatoms escape sunburn?"

Michael Kovermann (Chemistry / Associated Fellow)
"Copper and crowding: a fruitful cooperation"

Inga Schalinski (Psychology / Associated Fellow)
"Traces of Past Exposure to Adversities in the Hair (Cortisol)- A Study in Severe Mental Illness"

Thomas Böttcher (Chemistry / Research Fellow)
"The Chemistry of Microbial Interactions"

Nihan Toprakkiran (Politics and Administration / Postdoctoral Fellow)
"Immigrants in Germany as External Voters: Explaining Support for Home-Country Populism"

Elena Sturm (Chemistry / Research Fellow)
"Nanostructured Composite Materials: From Biological and Bioinspired Materials to Self-Assemblies of Nanoparticles"

Jennifer Randerath (Psychology / Research Fellow)
"UKon methods to Rehab Centers - a ZuKo transectoral project"

Cornelia Klocker (Law / Postdoctoral Fellow)
"What makes a group? The European Court of Human Rights and non-discrimination"



Upcoming events

Migration - Special event series within the UBIAS' Topic of the Year 2019

/mɪˈɡreɪʃ(ə)n/ is at once a historical constant, a social predicament, a political gambit, a human rights emergency, a geo-political trend, an economic calculus, a literary trope, a highly mediatized phenomenon, and more. It is not limited to human migration but encompasses movement of animals from one region to another as well as the migration of cells within a plant or data migration issues. In this term's Jour Fixe, the aim is to examine the interdisciplinary scope of migration and disentangle intersections and discrepancies in the different academic disciplines.

"Animal migration - a quick introduction to the terminology"
Gisela Kopp (Biology / Research Fellow)

"Migration of the white stork"
Andrea Flack (Biology / Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour)

Tuesday, 11 June 2019
15:15 – 16:45
Y326

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"Human mobility and Internet usage: Evidence from Nigerian micro-level data"



Photo: George Butler
Maurizio Strazzeri (Economics; Graduate School "Decision Sciences" / Associated Fellow per Doctoral Fellowship)

"Beyond the Border: Transnational Film Culture between Germany and Great Britain"
John Hoffmann (Literature / Research Visit Fellow)

Tuesday, 18 June 2019
15:15 – 16:45
Y326

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Exhibition "Anima Mundi" by Illustrator George Butler (London)

12 June until 12 July 2019
Foyer of the Library

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Lightning Talks & Discussion on "Migration",
Midissage of the exhibition "Anima Mundi" with George Butler

Tuesday, 25 June 2019
16:00 – 18:00
BibCafé in the Library



Presentations by new fellows (II)

Morgane Nouvian (Biology / Research Fellow)
"Individual brains, collective task: social regulation of stinging behaviour in honeybees"

Nihan Toprakkiran (Politics and Public Administration / Postdoctoral Fellow)
"Immigrants in Germany as External Voters: Explaining Support for Home-Country Populism"

Tuesday, 2 July 2019

15:15 – 15:45
Y 326



Executive Committee meeting

The applications to be decided in the executive committee on 16 July should be submitted by **9 July** by 10:00 at the latest.

Tuesday, 16 July 2019
11:30 – 13:30
Y 132



Scientific retreat

We look forward to the next scientific retreat in September 2019 in the Swiss Alps. This year's theme will be "Thinking and talking across disciplines". More information will follow...

Thursday, 19 September 2019 – Saturday, 21 September 2019



Careers, distinctions, grants

W2-Professorship for Tanja Rinker

Tanja Rinker (Associated Fellow / Linguistics) has accepted a W2-Professorship for "German as a Foreign Language / Didactics of German as a Second Language" at the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany.

"Many thanks to the Zukunftskolleg that made this path possible"! she summarized her gratitude. In summer semester 2019, she took up her position there. Tanja Rinker was a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from June 2009 until September 2017.

[Read more.](#)



Martin Dege Assistant Professor in Paris

Martin Dege (Alumnus / Psychology) has accepted a tenured Assistant Professorship at the American University of Paris, France.

He was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from April 2014 until March 2016.

[Read more.](#)



Udith Dematagoda left for a Visiting Scholarship at Waseda University, Japan

Udith Dematagoda (Postdoctoral Fellow / Literature) left for a Visiting Fellowship at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Waseda University in Japan from 19 April to 20 May.

There, Udith conducted research on the Japanese novelist Yukio Mishima as part of his research project under the direction of Professor Koji Toba, a leading scholar of modern Japanese literature. He also participated in events at our partner institute WIAS (Waseda Institute of Advanced Study).

Read more about [WIAS and our other international cooperation partners.](#)



Manfred Fuchs Award for Thomas Böttcher



Photo: HAdW/Tobias Schwerdt

Congratulations to Thomas Böttcher, who was honoured with the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities' Manfred Fuchs Award.

Thomas Böttcher and his interdisciplinary Emmy Noether research team investigate the chemical interactions of microbes in the human body and how they use chemical signals to either coordinate their behaviour or keep their competitors in check with highly-specific antibacterial substances. The overall research aim is to better understand the underlying natural processes and the microbial metabolites involved in order to develop new strategies for combating infectious diseases.

[Read more.](#)

