

# Keeping Track

## The Career Paths of 13 Former Fellows

### 3 Philip Leifeld

Senior Lecturer in Research Methods and Director of Postgraduate Research Training, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow  
**Page 10**

### 4 Karsten Lambers

Associate Professor of Archaeological Computer Science and Chair of the Department of Archaeological Sciences, Leiden University  
**Page 14**

### 1 Malte Drescher

Heisenberg Professor of Spectroscopy of Complex Systems, University of Konstanz  
**Page 2**

### 2 Iris-Tatjana Kolassa

Professor of Clinical and Biological Psychology, Ulm University  
**Page 6**

### 5 Eleanor Coghill

Professor of Semitic Languages, Uppsala University  
**Page 18**

### 6 Karsten Rinke

Head of the Department of Lake Research, Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Leipzig  
**Page 22**

### 7 Martin Bruder

Head of Department „Civil Society-Level Development Cooperation“, German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval), Bonn  
**Page 34**

### 8 Laura Iapichino

Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Eindhoven University of Technology  
**Page 38**

### 9 Monika Class

Junior Professor in English Literature and Culture, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz  
**Page 42**

### 10 Thomas Voigtmann

Professor for Theory of Soft Matter, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (joint appointment with the German Aerospace Center, DLR Köln)  
**Page 46**

### 11 Chiara Gianollo

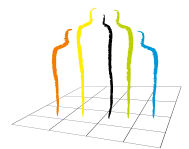
Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies, University of Bologna  
**Page 50**

### 12 Beatriz Puente- Ballesteros

Assistant Professor of East-West Interactions and Exchanges, University of Macau  
**Page 54**

### 13 Julien Bernard

Maitre de Conférences of Philosophy, Aix-Marseille University  
**Page 58**



**Zukunftskolleg**

## Intro

### Dear Reader

**At the Zukunftskolleg, we love to keep track of the career pathways of our former Fellows. We celebrate their successes and hope that the Zukunftskolleg was a helpful stepping stone in their career. We are proud how our former Fellows overcame all obstacles to advance their research and want to tell more people about it: In this booklet, we highlight the career paths of some of our alumni. Take a moment and get inspired by these outstanding researchers.**

## Glossary

This glossary provides definitions of the words marked in blue in the brochure.

The **DAAD** (German Academic Exchange Service) is one of the most important funding organisations in the world for the international exchange of students and researchers.

The German Research Foundation **DFG** is an organisation for science and research in Germany. It receives the large majority of its funds from the federal government and the states. Early career support is one of the main missions of the DFG.

The **Deutscher Wissenschaftsrat** (German Council of Science and Humanities) advises the German federal and state governments on the structure and development of higher education and research.

The prestigious **Emmy Noether Programme** is funded by the DFG. It supports researchers in achieving independence at an early stage of their scientific careers. It gives them the opportunity to rapidly qualify for a leading position in science and research or for a university teaching career by leading an independent junior research group and assuming relevant teaching duties.

The **Excellence Initiative** was passed by the German federal and state governments to promote top-level research and to improve the quality of German universities and research institutions. German universities were invited to apply for this highly competitive funding programme.

The Excellence Initiative has three funding lines: (1) Graduate schools are designed to train doctoral students while offering the best conditions within a research field, (2) Clusters of Excellence support and promote scientific research in socially or economically relevant subjects; several researchers work together on projects and exchange ideas on relevant topics, (3) Universities of Excellence are recognized for their institutional strategies which guide their long-term development. From the very beginning of the Excellence Initiative in 2007, the University of Konstanz has been successful in all three funding lines: Its "Cultural Foundations of Social Integration" cluster was recognized in 2006. This was followed by the recognition of its "Model Konstanz - Towards a Culture of Creativity" institutional strategy as well as its Konstanz Research School of Chemical Biology and Graduate School of Decision Sciences.

The **Habilitation** is a post-doctoral qualification or academic degree at universities.

The DFG's **Heisenberg programme** encompasses the Heisenberg fellowship and Heisenberg professorship. Heisenberg fellowships are designed to enable early career researchers to dedicate themselves fully to their research activities and provide funding for a maximum duration of five years. A Heisenberg professorship is funded for a period of five years by the DFG and, following a positive evaluation, continued on a permanent basis by the respective university. A conversion of a fellowship into a professorship is possible.

The **Jour Fixe** is a weekly interdisciplinary session at the Zukunftskolleg which promotes cooperation across disciplines, discussion of work progress, and research at the University. The meeting focuses on regular presentations on new projects and the results of current projects, the introduction of new junior research groups, as well as topical discussions and debates about higher education policies.

The **Mentorship Programme** enables postdoctoral researchers at the University of Konstanz to network with distinguished colleagues both in Germany and abroad, and to maintain these contacts. The programme gives junior researchers an opportunity to invite renowned scholars in their field to Konstanz for a few days as mentors, and to consolidate the cooperation by in turn visiting their mentor. A junior researcher has an opportunity to develop new projects or establish a research partnership with his or her mentor, to optimise grant proposals together or identify shared areas of key research.

**Senior Fellows** are established guest scholars in the natural sciences, humanities or social sciences who join the Zukunftskolleg for a research stay and work with the Fellows.

You have  
to have an  
objective,  
something  
it all leads  
up to.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2013**

**Heisenberg** Fellowship

**since 2011**

Ombudsman of the "Deutsche Bunsengesellschaft für Physikalische Chemie"  
["German Bunsen Society for Physical Chemistry"]

**2010 –2015**

Member of the executive committee of the  
Research School Chemical Biology, University  
of Konstanz

**2008 –2013**

Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2007**

**Emmy Noether** Grant  
German Research Foundation **DFG**

**since 2006**

Member of the executive committee of  
the Collaborative Research Center 969:  
"Chemical and Biological Principles of Cellular  
Proteostasis"

**2004**

Young Scientist Award, International  
Conference of Science and Technology  
of Synthetic Metals (ICSM)

## 1 Malte Drescher

**There is an advantage to studying the natural sciences, because "you can postpone the decision of what to do with your degree for some time," says Malte Drescher, now a Heisenberg professor at the University of Konstanz. "You are not tied to a specific job profile."**

Because he enjoyed it at school, physics was the right subject for him. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Karlsruhe in 2001 with a final thesis on a topic in solid-state physics. Thereafter, everything fell into place for pursuing an academic career. He completed his PhD work in Karlsruhe, followed by a postdoctoral research position in the Netherlands. It was during this phase that he won an **Emmy Noether** Grant and began searching for the right place to set up his research group. Konstanz was ideal because it had experimental equipment he could not otherwise have financed through his grant. The successful work of his Emmy Noether junior research group and a **Heisenberg** Grant finally led to the first Heisenberg professorship at the University of Konstanz dedicated to the spectroscopy of complex systems. Looking back at his career, Malte never faced a critical situation. Everything worked out to his benefit, although researchers are still under a great deal of pressure until they finally obtain a permanent position or professorship. It may not be easy convincing your family to move, "but no, there was never really a serious challenge in my path, nothing I ever lost sleep over. I was just lucky."

Together with his group, Malte developed a method for determining the structure of macromolecules via distance measurements within cells. They use "spin markers" – basically molecule-sized magnets – that can be attached to interesting macromolecules, making it possible to measure distances on a molecular scale. Because the detection is sensitive only for the marker, no disturbing background signals are detected, unlike with other available techniques. This method works for proteins in cells, but also for polymers in nanoparticles and small molecules in porous materials. Malte emphasizes that, "there are no limits to using the method." He came to Konstanz when the Zukunftskolleg was in its infancy. He applied to the programme and became a fellow in 2008. Malte says it was great being part of such an organization, especially because he was new in Konstanz. He fondly remembers the informal atmosphere, guided tours of the town and the feeling of being part of a community of researchers. Apart from the Zu-

# Curriculum Vitae

## Education

### 2014

**Habilitation**, Physical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Konstanz

"Elektronenspinresonanz-Spektroskopie zur Aufklärung von Struktur und Dynamik polymorpher Biomakromoleküle in vitro und in cellula" ["EPR spectroscopy for unraveling the structure and dynamics of polymorph biomacromolecules in vitro and in cells"]

### 2005

PhD, Institute of Physics, University of Karlsruhe

"Ortsaufgelöste Elektronenspinresonanz" ["Space-resolved electron spin resonance"]

### 2002 – 2005

PhD student in the group of Prof. Elmar Dormann, University of Karlsruhe

### 2001

Diploma thesis, Institute of Physics, University of Karlsruhe

### 1996 – 2001

Studies of physics, University of Karlsruhe

kunftscolleg having a tremendous impact on his scientific career, as Malte points out, three key elements helped him along the way. First, he liked having "official status" within the University. It was very helpful in mentoring PhD students: "I was a member of the Zukunftscolleg and therefore somebody to be trusted with their exams." The second thing he valued was the "generous financial support." If equipment broke down, he could just apply for funds from the Zukunftscolleg. The research process did not slow down, since everything was organized very quickly.

However, the most important element was the opportunity to invite **Senior Fellows** to Konstanz. Malte organized a Summer School with Gunnar Jeschke (ETH Zurich) and invited Adelheid Godt (University of Bielefeld), who had helped by developing molecules he needed, and Vinod Subramaniam, a guest professor from the Netherlands. Without the Zukunftscolleg, it would have been difficult or virtually impossible to get all these inspiring personalities to Konstanz. Just as he had expected, he found the Zukunftscolleg to be a place with an international

## Scientific Career

### since 2015

**Heisenberg** Professor of Spectroscopy of Complex Systems, Department of Chemistry, University of Konstanz

### 2014 – 2015

Heisenberg Fellow, Department of Chemistry, University of Konstanz

### 2008 – 2013

Head of Emmy Noether research group, Department of Chemistry, University of Konstanz

### 2009 – 2010

Interim Professor of Physical Chemistry (with focus on structure and dynamics of matter), Department of Chemistry, University of Konstanz

### 2007 – 2007

Research associate, Molecular Physics, Leiden Institute of Physics, University of Leiden, the Netherlands

### 2006 – 2007

**DFG**-funded research fellowship, Molecular Physics, Leiden Institute of Physics, University of Leiden, the Netherlands

### 2002 – 2006

Research associate, Institute of Physics, University of Karlsruhe

character that fosters interdisciplinarity. The **Jour Fixe**, a weekly meeting at which different fellows present their work, is something Malte describes as "a luxury to indulge in." Taking the time to get insight into a completely different field, in a different style, with no immediate benefit is something he will always remember very positively: "It helped me to understand the differences between the natural sciences and humanities."

Looking at the next generation of scientists, Malte believes the Zukunftscolleg is a unique asset for recruiting young, motivated researchers to Konstanz. He also has some advice: "People stay at the postdoctoral level too long. Two years, preferably abroad, is a wonderful thing, but after that it is essential to work independently and on your own." Another important factor in taking the next step as a young group leader is to apply for professorships in time. "I applied too late, because I feared that my performance wasn't good enough for an application. I compared myself to people who were already there, people who were a few years ahead of me." But candidates should keep in mind that it takes time between the actual application and the appointment, time during which your own research develops and continues. The most important thing to do is to concentrate on visible development, showing "that you can pull loose ends together and are different from your mentors. You have to have an objective, something it all leads up to – something that you didn't learn from your PhD."



Malte Drescher

Ever since  
I was a child,  
I wanted  
to become a  
scientist.

---

#### Distinctions, Awards and Honorary Posts

---

**2015**

Silver Gaming Award, PIAGET Research  
Society for Applied Research

**since 2012**

Fellow of the Association for Psychological  
Science, USA

**2012**

Science Award of the City of Ulm

**2012**

Janet Taylor Spence Award for Transformative  
Early Career Contributions to Psychological  
Science, Association for Psychological  
Science, USA

**2009**

**Emmy Noether** Grant  
German Research Foundation **DFG**

**2008**

DeGPT research award from the Falk von  
Reichenbach Foundation, German Language  
Society for Psychotraumatology

**since 2007**

Member of the Heidelberg Academy of  
Sciences' WIN Kolleg [Junior Academy for  
Young Scholars and Scientists]

**2007 – 2009**

Funding from the Robert Bosch Founda-  
tion's fast track programme for excellent  
early-career scientists

**2006 – 2010**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2002 – 2004**

PhD grant from the Studienstiftung des deut-  
schen Volkes [German Academic Scholarship  
Foundation]

## 2 Iris-Tatjana Kolassa

**When asked whether she would pursue her career the same way again, Iris-Tatjana Kolassa laughs: “Starting a professorship with two young children – twins no less – is not easy. It takes a great deal of commitment and determination. But yes, I would do it all again!”**

Today, Iris-Tatjana is a professor of psychology at Ulm University. Prior to taking up the position, she was an **Emmy Noether** grant holder in Konstanz and a fellow of the Zukunftskolleg. Reconciling a scientific career with maternity leave can be complicated, but the Zukunftskolleg was a great help when she was about to have her twins. It financed scientific retreats, where she could discuss with her team the best way to organize her leave and how they should continue working during her absence. The Zukunftskolleg also helped to organize day care for her children.

Although not from an academic family, Iris-Tatjana says that as a child, she “always wanted to be a scientist.” Her father and grandfather both worked in pharmaceutical research, and at school she focused on chemistry. Eventually she decided to study psychology in Konstanz, because she wanted to do something entirely different, something that was new in her family. After getting her degree, Iris-Tatjana transferred to Jena University for her PhD, a decision in favour of her relationship. Originally, she had wanted to go to the Forschungszentrum Jülich but it was too far away from her partner. For Iris-Tatjana, “family is just as important as your career, or even more so.” When she returned to Konstanz after her PhD, Iris-Tatjana became a fellow of the Zukunftskolleg, “one of the best places to do research in Germany.” With the fellowship came additional resources. Start-up funding for projects is something she especially misses now: “I still like to start small and see how it evolves. With small grants from the Zukunftskolleg, we had a chance to initiate projects and be a little more daring about it. I'd like to have something similar where I am now.”

Iris-Tatjana also liked the exchange between the fellows and their disciplines. In fact, she has adopted a similar approach to her own research, and is regularly collaborating with other disciplines in order to find answers to new research questions which cannot be answered within one discipline. In 2012, the Association for Psychological Science awarded her the Janet Taylor Spence Award for Transformative Early Career Contributions, a prize that distinguishes novel and creative approaches to psychological research. She received the award not least for

her “keen and sustained interest to cross the the borders between scientific disciplines and to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration in order to tackle novel and challenging scientific problems”, as one reviewer put it. Iris-Tatjana’s research focuses on the interface between psychology and molecular biology, resulting in the interdisciplinary field of biomolecular psychology. Originally she wanted to go into brain research using imaging techniques, such as functional magnetic resonance tomography (fMRT). She eventually realized that many limits still existed to understanding the brain and therefore changed direction in her research. Today she focuses on how stress and trauma influence the body as a whole, not just the brain, but even down to the molecular level. She began collaborating with Professor Bürkle and his molecular toxicology group in Konstanz, which led to a publication in 2013. “I mentioned the aging process in trauma patients, how they look so much older, and he said his team was looking into changes in DNA due to aging processes.” Not only did they show that traumatic stress has an effect on the integrity of the DNA of immune cells likely due to increased oxidative stress and inflammation, but also that damage could be decreased by psychotherapy. These are still among her favourite findings.

Iris-Tatjana was inspired by her time in Konstanz and says she was influenced in a very positive way. The University of Konstanz promotes junior researchers, while giving them the autonomy they need to follow their own paths. She found a mentor in Professor Thomas Elbert, which she says is important. “Find a good mentor, somebody who is great, and helps you to become great as well.” Other than that she does not like to give strict advice to junior researchers. “I prefer not to say how things have to be done in order to be successful. If you like what you’re doing, then you’re good at it – and that leads to success.”



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2004

PhD, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Jena

“Cortical correlates of the processing of feared and fear-relevant stimuli. Evidence from event-related potentials studies comparing phobics and non-phobics”

#### 2002 – 2004

PhD student under Prof. Dr. Wolfgang H.R. Miltner, University of Jena

#### 2002

Diploma thesis, Department of Psychology, University of Konstanz

“The role of the hippocampus in delayed match- and nonmatch-to-sample tasks as investigated with event-related fMRI”

#### 1997 – 2002

Psychology studies, University of Konstanz

### Scientific Career

#### since 2010

Professor of Clinical and Biological Psychology, Ulm University

#### 2009 – 2010

Head of the **Emmy Noether** research group “Stress- and trauma-associated immunological changes and their effects on health”, Department of Psychology, University of Konstanz

#### 2006 – 2009

Head of a junior research group, Clinical and Neuropsychology, Department of Psychology, University of Konstanz

#### 2004 – 2006

Postdoctoral researcher, Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Konstanz

#### 2002 – 2004

Research assistant, Biological and Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Jena

#### 1999 – 2000

Studies abroad and research intern, University of Minnesota, USA  
Research assistant, Institute of Child Development and Centre for Magnetic Resonance Research, University of Minnesota, USA

In academia,  
it is  
important to  
have no  
illusions;  
you need  
priorities and  
plans for  
your career.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2016**

Best Poster Award, Political Networks Conference, St. Louis, USA

**2013 – 2015**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2015**

Best Conference Paper Award, American Political Science Association (APSA), Section on Political Networks, Washington, USA

**2014**

Best Paper of an Early Scholar Award, European Conference on Social Networks (EUSN), Barcelona, Spain

**2013**

Südwestmetall Award for the Best Dissertation at the University of Konstanz

**2013**

Best Dissertation Award of the Foundation Science and Society at the University of Konstanz

**2007 – 2011**

MaxNetAging Doctoral Fellowship, Max Planck International Research Network on Aging

### 3 Philip Leifeld

**“Wouldn’t it be great if we could predict the outcome of political debates like we forecast the weather?” Philip Leifeld, now a senior lecturer at the University of Glasgow in the School of Social and Political Sciences, has been pursuing this question since his PhD.**

He completed his dissertation at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research and the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods. The PhD programme was new and designed to bring together graduates from different disciplines. Because they did not have an expert in his field present who could co-supervise him, he collaborated with the University of Konstanz, where he received his PhD in 2011.

Philip studied Politics and Public Administration at the University of Konstanz and took courses in policy networks and network analysis, at a time when network analysis was “quite an esoteric subject within political science, a peripheral area!” It was done descriptively then and clearly defined results were rare. But within the last ten years, it all changed, and now statistical methods and modelling are commonly used, which made analysis more reliable. For his PhD, Philip taught himself how to write specific software programmes, which he needed to visualize the dynamics of political debates as networks. It was then possible to determine how different political actors would form coalitions, how existing coalitions would disappear and how polarisation would emerge in debates. The thesis received two awards and is the foundation of a long-term project in which Philip wants to narrow down even further the mechanisms of political debates.

After his PhD, Philip applied for a postdoctoral position at Eawag, the water research institute of the ETH Domain in Zurich, in the Department of Environmental Social Sciences. “I thought it would be a bit strange to be at a water research institute, but they asked exactly for my expertise, it was a good fit.” The research group is affiliated both with Eawag and the University of Bern, Institute of Political Science. Policy network research is a part of their research. As a senior researcher, he worked in the Policy Analysis and Environmental Governance group, a perfect match for his field of research. He felt comfortable having the disciplinary affiliation in Bern because, “keep in mind that if you want to get a professorship, you have to show a clear disciplinary path. It shouldn’t be clouded by too many interdisciplinary stations along the way.” He got the job, which was temporary for one year with an option for three additional years depending on if he could secure funding for the research projects. So he started to apply for grants. But

since the situation was not ideal, he also looked for other career options in case he was unable to secure a grant. "In academia, it is important to have no illusions; you need priorities and plans for your career. If one plan doesn't work out, try the next one. You really have to be flexible."

When he saw an advertisement by the Zukunftskolleg for a Postdoctoral Fellowship, he was intrigued: "At first, I didn't like the idea of returning to my old university, but the offer was very attractive. I would be part of the Zukunftskolleg and have the autonomy from the faculty to pursue my projects." And then it happened: "Shortly after I got the fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg, I also received a grant for the projects in Switzerland," he laughs. Not surprisingly, he wanted to do both projects. Though the administrative part was tricky, it was possible to combine both positions, something for which he was extremely grateful.

He remembers one prominent feature of the Zukunftskolleg, the **Jour Fixe**, with mixed emotions. Sometimes Philip wanted to collaborate with researchers from other disciplines right away, because their subjects were so fascinating. Other times, he felt the urge to explain to other researchers how it is done, and not in the most diplomatic way! It helped to understand the differences, but also the similarities between research fields. After his experiences there, he

is sure: "Communication between disciplines is far more challenging than explaining your own research to others from the same field."

From the many resources the Zukunftskolleg offered, he especially went for the **Mentorship Programme**. It was not something he planned: "I was convinced I didn't need a mentor because I was used to finding my way around." But he had collaborated with Skyler Cranmer from Ohio State University before, and wanted to finish some joint papers, ideally on site in America. So he applied to the Zukunftskolleg for funds to travel to Ohio. During his stay there, he spent a fair amount of time with his host and indeed a mentorship began! Philip thinks it "is best if your mentor isn't way ahead of you. Just a little bit is perfect, so you learn the most." Skyler Cranmer also told him a lot about navigating the academic job market, a skill which came in handy when coming to terms with the University of Glasgow, where Philip has been a senior lecturer and director of Postgraduate Research Training since July 2016.

## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2011

PhD, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz  
"Discourse networks and German pension politics"

#### 2007 – 2011

PhD student under Prof. Dr. Volker Schneider, University of Konstanz, and Prof. Dr. Christoph Engel, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

#### 2007

Master's thesis, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz  
"Policy Networks: A Citation Analysis of the Quantitative Literature"

#### 2002 – 2007

Studies of politics and public administration, University of Konstanz

### Scientific Career

#### since 2016

Senior Lecturer in Research Methods (tenured) and Director of Postgraduate Research Training, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow

#### 2013 – 2015

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz

#### 2012 – 2016

Postdoctoral researcher, Eawag (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, ETH Domain, Zurich) and University of Bern

#### 2011 – 2012

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz

#### 2008 – 2011

PhD student, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn

#### 2007 – 2008

PhD student, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock

#### 2007

Researcher, **Cluster of Excellence** "Cultural Foundations of Integration", University of Konstanz



Philip Leifeld



There is a risk of your own research becoming a narrow field, but universities need allrounders to do the teaching!

---

#### Distinctions, Awards and Honorary Posts

---

#### 2013 – 2017

Chairman of Computeranwendungen und Quantitative Methoden in der Archäologie e.V. [Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA) – German Chapter] and member of the steering committee of CAA International

#### 2014 – 2016

Member of the general management board of Archaeolandscape Europe (ArcLand)

#### 2008 – 2013

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz

#### 2005

Best Thesis Award, Faculty of Arts, University of Zurich, Switzerland

## 4 Karsten Lambers

Karsten Lambers, associate professor of archaeological computer sciences at the University of Leiden, thinks the interdisciplinary aspect of the Zukunftskolleg is simply intriguing: “When I applied for a position as a Research Fellow, Konstanz didn’t even have a department for archaeology!”

Karsten is a man of many interests: He had even considered studying aerospace engineering before settling on American anthropology, prehistoric archaeology and Spanish. At that point, he did not think much about potential future employment, he simply wanted to do something that was both fascinating and challenging. In 1998 he finished his master’s degree in Bonn and went to Zurich, where he earned his PhD in 2005. He was looking for a branch within the wide field of prehistoric archaeology that was not well-researched, because “that would be very thrilling!” His dissertation on the Nasca geoglyphs of Palpa, Peru, was what pointed him in the direction of archaeological computer sciences: “I simply couldn’t use traditional methods for my fieldwork.” Geoglyphs are man-made ground drawings, which in this case cover areas of some 100 km<sup>2</sup> and can be best mapped from the air. In close collaboration with geomatic engineers at ETH Zurich, he used remote sensing, which included analysing aerial images and modelling the whole landscape and the geoglyphs in 3D. His dissertation received the Best Thesis Award from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Zurich.

After his PhD and a first postdoctoral position in the Nasca project, he wanted to stay in academia and got busy sending out applications. It was a hard time, because “there weren’t many jobs around”. It was then that he saw the advertisement by the Zukunftskolleg. Even though Konstanz had no department of archaeology, he received the support of Professor Saupe of the Department of Computer and Information Science and Professor Gotter of the Department of History.

Karsten became a Zukunftskolleg Fellow in 2008. After two years, he was appointed assistant professor at the University of Bamberg, but was still able to continue his fellowship until 2013 as planned. He still had his desk in Konstanz and tried to be there as much as possible. “I’m very happy that the Zukunftskolleg was flexible and adjusted to my situation.” At the Zukunftskolleg, he worked on a project to detect archaeological objects via satellite images in

alpine terrain above the tree line. “The idea is to automate image analysis. Let the computer look for interesting archaeological records!” Karsten took advantage of the opportunity to invite a **Senior Fellow**, Professor Bernard Frischer, founder of the Virtual World Heritage Laboratory at the University of Virginia. This lab applies 3D digital technologies to model cultural heritage objects, such as artefacts and sites, thus enabling 3D scientific simulation. Even today, they are still in touch with one another. Thinking back to his time at the Zukunftskolleg, Karsten remembers the **Jour Fixe** as “very inspiring.” Listening to talks from other researchers from totally different fields was sometimes difficult, but experiencing up-to-date research at the very moment it was being done was great. “I do miss it, but today I just wouldn't have time for meetings of that kind.” Although collaborating with other fellows was not easy – every fellow had to prioritise his or her own network – he did enjoy discussions with other researchers.

Today Karsten is still connected with the Zukunftskolleg and planning an interdisciplinary project with Associated Fellow Sasha Kosanic from the Department of Biology, with funding from the Zukunftskolleg. Building on previous research in the Alps initiated during Karsten's



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2005

PhD, Department of Prehistory and Protohistory, University of Zurich, Switzerland  
 “The geoglyphs of Palpa, Peru: documentation, analysis, and interpretation”

#### 1999 – 2004

PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Philippe Della Casa, University of Zurich, Switzerland

#### 1998

Master's thesis, Department of American Anthropology, University of Bonn  
 “Späte Besiedlung in Xkipché, Yucatán, Mexiko” [“Late Maya settlement at Xkipché, Yucatán, Mexico”]

#### 1992 – 1998

Studies in American anthropology, prehistoric archaeology and Spanish, University of Bonn

### Scientific Career

#### since 2017

Associate Professor of Archaeological Computer Sciences and Chair of the Department of Archaeological Sciences, Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University, the Netherlands

#### 2015 – 2016

Assistant Professor of Archaeological Computer Science, Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University, the Netherlands

#### since 2015

Privatdozent [private lecturer] in Computational Archaeology and Digital Geoarchaeology, Institute of Archaeology, Heritage Sciences and Art History, University of Bamberg

#### 2010 – 2015

Assistant Professor of Digital Geoarchaeology, Institute of Archaeology, Heritage Sciences and Art History, University of Bamberg

#### 2008 – 2010

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, University of Konstanz

#### 2005 – 2007

Postdoctoral researcher, Commission for Archaeology of Non-European Cultures, German Archaeological Institute, Bonn

#### 2004

PhD research assistant, Department of Prehistory and Protohistory, University of Zurich, Switzerland

#### 1999 – 2004

PhD Research Assistant, Institute of Geodesy and Photogrammetry, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

fellowship, their project aims to study natural and anthropogenic impacts on landscape change in the Lower Engadine (Switzerland) in order to develop appropriate strategies for the sustainable use of historical agricultural terraces that are currently threatened. Preservation of these terraces is crucial for maintaining the ecosystem services in the region. Therefore, their project will combine different approaches from archaeology, ecology, geography and anthropology, in order to support an integrated study of past, present and future landscape change and its social and cultural implications.

Karsten is careful about giving advice to young researchers, as no two careers are ever the same, but says that in his career, two things were extremely important: Having his own ideas and teaching skills. “There is a risk of your own research becoming a narrow field, but in a way universities need all-rounders to do the teaching! Teaching experience got me my current job.” Since 2015, he has an appointment at the University of Leiden.

You should only go into an academic career if you absolutely enjoy research.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**since 2016**

Member of the advisory board for the  
Forschungsstelle für Aramäische Studien  
[Research Centre of Aramaean Studies]

**2012 – 2016**

DFG grant for the project  
„Neo-Aramaic morphosyntax in its  
areal-linguistic context“

**2012 – 2015**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2005 – 2006**

Bye Fellow at the Fitzwilliam College, Cam-  
bridge University, UK

## 5 Eleanor Coghill

“Even when I was very young, I was fascinated by languages”, says Eleanor Coghill, now a professor of linguistics at the University of Uppsala, fondly remembering how her career started. She taught herself Egyptian hieroglyphs, started to learn Latin by herself and loved everything about ancient history and old languages.

“Back then, I didn’t know that such a thing as linguistics as a field existed”, she laughs. When deciding what to study, she first thought about ancient civilisations, but felt that “Rome and Greece have been done so much...” So she was intrigued when she found a course in Assyriology and decided to do that, even though “it was quite obscure!”

For her bachelor’s she needed to add a language and chose Arabic, because she had previously done some volunteer work in the Middle East, teaching English to Arab students. Fascinated by it, she added Hebrew and Aramaic as well and by the time she began her master’s, she realized that it was the languages and how they were related to each other, rather than the ancient history of Middle Eastern cultures that most interested her: “The languages really grabbed me.” She studied at Cambridge under Professor Geoffrey Khan, who was researching modern Aramaic dialects, so-called Neo-Aramaic dialects. Eleanor was thrilled by the opportunity to work with a rare spoken language and with real people: “With a living language, when you have a question, you have someone to ask, unlike with a language only known from clay tablets.” He encouraged her to work on Neo-Aramaic in her master’s studies and for her PhD she documented a dialect that had never been described before.

Before her fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg in Konstanz, Eleanor had done most of her research in Cambridge. She spent a semester in Heidelberg to improve her German, because the main resources for Assyriology are written in German. After her PhD, she wanted to go back to Germany, but Cambridge offered brilliant opportunities, so she stayed. But eventually “as you get higher up the academic ladder, the jobs get thinner,” and Eleanor needed a new one. The problem she faced was that a lot of positions were designed for researchers who had just finished their PhD. So after several years as a junior research fellow and research associate in Cambridge, often she was not eligible for such positions. She found an advertisement for the Zukunftskolleg on Linguistlist, an international online linguistic community and was relieved to see that

the Zukunftskolleg was not only open to any subject, but also there were no time restrictions: "I don't know if I could have continued in academia without this opportunity at the Zukunftskolleg." She became a Research Fellow in 2010 and stayed for five years. She remembers the initial phase as quite stressful, as she was applying for a grant, but Eleanor is grateful for all the support that was offered, especially in the peer support application seminars, where fellows received assistance with the whole process of applying for grants. "That made all the difference." In 2012 she invited Yaron Matras from the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures at the University of Manchester as a **Senior Fellow**. She had wanted to work with him previously but the funding had not materialised. She was therefore very happy to be able to invite him to Konstanz and to maintain contact with him. Although she never collaborated with other fellows, she loved to observe how they approached their fields: "As a researcher, you need to communicate with others, see how they solve problems and how they try to make their research as rigorous as possible. You have to challenge each other!"

Today Eleanor is still focused on the North-Eastern Neo-Aramaic dialects, a family of diverse languages. Some of them are in danger of extinction, so documentation is a priority in her research. Due to war, eviction and relocation, some Neo-Aramaic dialects that were widespread in Christian communities in Northern Iraq and neighbouring countries may disappear within two to three generations. Dialects also blend: "It's natural for languages to influence each other." Just like the Anglicisms used now in German, these dialects have been very much influenced by neighbouring languages, especially Kurdish and Arabic.

## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2004

PhD, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, UK "The Neo-Aramaic dialect of Alqosh"

#### 1999 – 2003

PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge, UK

#### 1999

Master's thesis, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, UK "The verbal system of north-eastern Neo-Aramaic"

#### 1997

Studies abroad with the Erasmus programme, studying Akkadian, Sumerian, Ugaritic and Turoyo Neo Aramaic, Heidelberg University

#### 1994 – 1999

BA in Oriental studies (Assyriology, Arabic and Hebrew), University of Cambridge, UK

In August 2016 Eleanor became a professor in the Linguistics and Philology Department at the University of Uppsala. Currently she is happy to be finishing some long overdue papers, because she was busy writing a book about the changes in argument alignment in Aramaic during the last 3000 years. She also wants to go more into the historical development of Aramaic.

When asked about future research and young academics, she thinks it is quite a terrible situation: "At the moment, universities are pumping out PhDs and there simply are not many jobs later on..." Therefore it is no surprise when she stresses that in her opinion, "you should only go into an academic career if you really, really want it. If you absolutely enjoy research."

### Scientific Career

#### since 2016

Professor (Chair) of Semitic Languages, Department of Linguistics and Philology, Uppsala University, Sweden

#### 2015

Substitute Professor of Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, University of Konstanz

#### 2004 – 2009

Research associate, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, UK

#### 2015 – 2016

Postdoctoral researcher, research focus group "Language and space", University of Zurich, Switzerland

#### 2010 – 2015

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Linguistics, University of Konstanz

#### 2002 – 2005

Junior research fellow of the Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge, UK



Eleanor Coghill

# The Zukunfts- kolleg promoted skills that go beyond pure science.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2008 – 2010**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2006**

Young Scientists Award,  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Limnologie e.V.  
[German Limnological Society]

## 6 Karsten Rinke

Karsten Rinke remembers the interdisciplinary approach of the Zukunftskolleg clearly: “Part of the deal was not only to focus on your academic speciality, but also to move out of your comfort zone and actively interact with experts in disciplines far removed from yours.” Today Rinke is head of the Department of Lake Research at the Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) and considers interdisciplinary exchange a foundation of his work.

Karsten became a fellow of the Zukunftskolleg in 2008. At the time, he was already a post-doctoral researcher in the Limnological Institute at the University of Konstanz, and had applied in-house for a fellowship. His research included the management and computer modelling of Lake Constance’s water quality, hydrodynamic processes in lakes in general and the modelling of zooplankton population dynamics. Being a fellow at the Zukunftskolleg was important for the advancement of his research. Allowances provided by the Zukunftskolleg helped him obtain new equipment and were beneficial to the interaction between the Zukunftskolleg and the Department of Biology in which he worked. He greatly enjoyed his time as a fellow and the freedom of doing his research in a secure and supportive environment.

Karsten thinks that every junior researcher should have the experience of attending interdisciplinary meetings like the **Jour Fixe**: “If you put lots of people with different backgrounds into one room, there has to be an initial phase of listening to each other, before you can even think about collaborations.” He admits that it is hard for junior researchers, who have just found their own specialty and are still looking to define their profile, but also thinks that it gives “a different perspective to solving problems in your own field!” Karsten knew long before finishing school that he wanted to study biology. “I come from a family background of agriculture and farming, so nature was always of interest and something I could relate to.” But his main interest was not to use nature; he wanted to understand it. “I was always fascinated by water. I can’t really explain why, but it is definitely much more interesting than terrestrial environments.” Still, at the beginning of his studies, he wanted to focus on molecular biology “just like everybody else. It was quite the thing to do and there was lots of enthusiasm about it.” It took him some time at the

beginning of his study of biology to change direction, but finally “I listened to my heart and not my head.” He focused on limnology – and has ever since. Starting a career in academia was always an option and a desire, but he did not rely on it. The chances are very small and he wanted to be realistic. “After postdoctoral research, you have to decide if it is possible to continue, and that was when I applied to the Zukunftskolleg.”

He received an offer from the UFZ in 2010 and is happy with his permanent position, although it meant he had to shorten his time at the Zukunftskolleg. The UFZ has 37 departments and, within the Department of Limnology, Karsten Rinke organises the work and research of 20 to 30 people, which involves a lot of management and administration: “I don’t do active research that often anymore – and still it’s a job I enjoy tremendously.”

His group conducts applied research of natural lakes as well as constructed dams and water reservoirs. One focus is the management of dams, another their water quality. They also use modelling to predict how lakes develop. Because there are various ways of approaching this subject, they have a team consisting not only of limnologists, but also physicists, chemists and geologists. He also has worked with political scientists, economists and engineers, and thinks it is very important to maintain an interdisciplinary perspective. Also, “to manage research on systems like reservoirs or lakes, you need two parties: The scientific side with expertise and equipment; and someone on site who knows the grounds and people.” It is easy to work within the EU, where guidelines are similar and language barriers non-existent, but to do similar research in China can be complicated. Therefore, it is important to have skills that help build peoples’ trust. Skills that go beyond pure science are, for Karsten, “something the Zukunftskolleg promoted.”



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2006

PhD, Institute of Hydrobiology, Dresden University of Technology  
 “Species-oriented model approaches to *Daphnia* spp.: Linking the individual level to the population level”

#### 2001 – 2006

PhD student under Prof. J. Benndorf, Dresden University of Technology

#### 2001

Diploma thesis, Institute of Hydrobiology, Dresden University of Technology  
 “Individual based simulation of diel vertical migration of *Daphnia*”

#### 1997 – 2001

Study of biology (hydrobiology, microbiology and water engineering), Dresden University of Technology

#### 1995 – 1996

Study of biology, University of Göttingen

### Scientific Career

#### since 2010

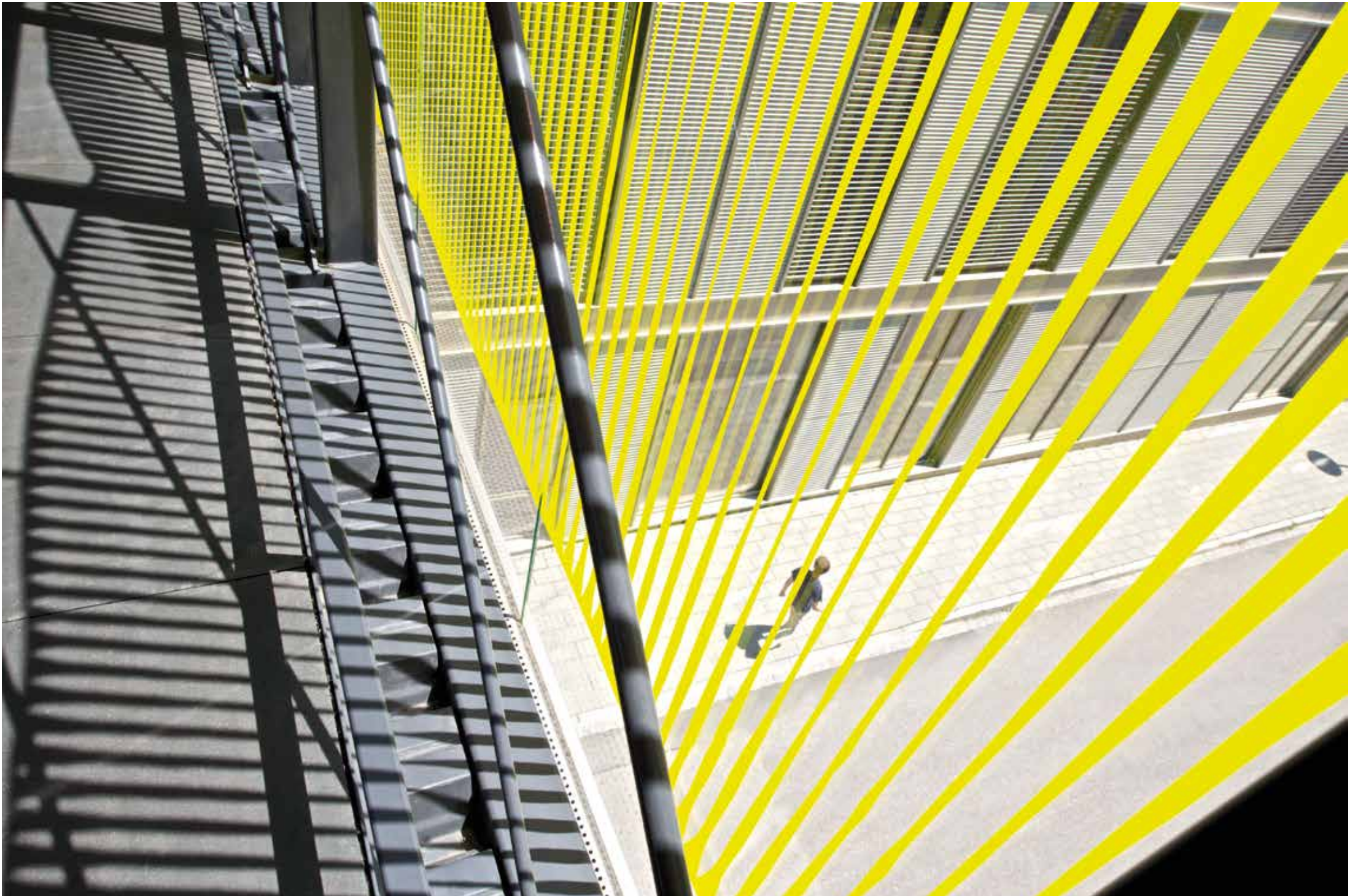
Head of the Department of Lake Research, Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Leipzig

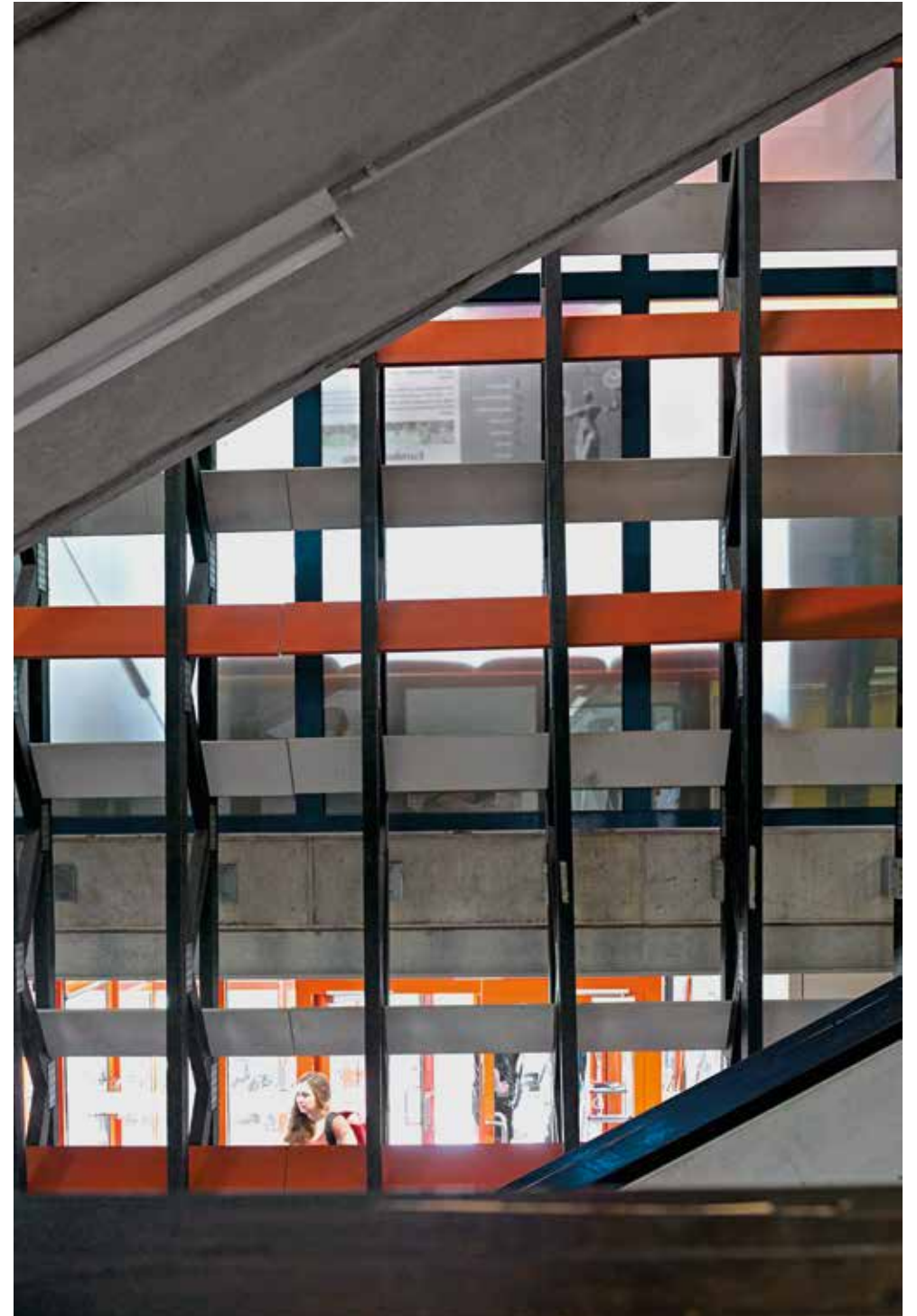
#### 2005 – 2010

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Biology, Limnological Institute, University of Konstanz

#### 2001 – 2005

PhD research assistant, Institute of Hydrobiology, Dresden University of Technology











There are exciting opportunities to combine academic rigour and political impact.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2010 – 2013**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2007 – 2008**

Postdoctoral fellowship, Economic  
and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK

**2005 – 2006**

Doctoral scholarship, Evangelisches Studien-  
werk Villigst

For Martin Bruder, everything pointed towards a career in academic psychology. But he took different turns in his path and has been working for the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval), a non-university research institute, since 2015. He is head of the Department of Civil Society-Level Development Cooperation. At DEval, “academic rigour is important, but it’s not all about publications; our true ‘currency’ is political impact!”

The institute provides strategic evaluations of German development cooperation projects. One evaluation he deals with is about disability-inclusion in development cooperation. In another project, Martin and his team are examining how volunteering works: “Imagine young people who trade their home countries for social projects in countries of the Global South. Does that change the way they look at themselves and others? Does it change their attitude? And does it have an effect on their social environment in Germany? From a scientific point of view, these are challenging questions worth a whole literature of research. Based on what we know from research and extensive own data collection, we create learning opportunities on how to further develop the programme.” His expertise is in planning and managing evaluations using different methods. Work is done in small research teams and Martin, who studied psychology, says his experiences with interdisciplinary exchange at the Zukunftskolleg are very significant for his job: “I work with geographers, economists and social scientists. We all have different ways of thinking, and real acceptance of a person’s specialty is crucial – and not as trivial as it sounds.”

After finishing school, Martin spent some time in Israel. He volunteered at a peace village and was deeply fascinated by its social and psychological structures. This experience inspired him to study psychology. After earning his bachelor’s degree in Freiburg, he went to Cambridge for his master’s, where he greatly enjoyed the international and open environment. He decided to do his PhD work there and even stayed on in the UK as a postdoctoral researcher.

„But eventually, things changed and I became more critical about academic social psychology and had ambivalent feelings towards the career path in science.” Specifically, Martin did not like the trend in social psychology towards sensationalising findings that had little

# Curriculum Vitae

## Education

### 2007

PhD, Department of Social and Developmental Psychology, University of Cambridge, UK  
"How do you feel about it? The social appraisal of others' emotional behaviour."

### 2003 – 2007

PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Antony Manstead, University of Cambridge, UK

### 2004 – 2005

Postgraduate diploma, Social Science Research Methods, Cardiff University, UK

### 2003

Master's thesis, Department of Social and Developmental Psychology, University of Cambridge, UK  
"Looking through someone else's eyes: The role of others in emotional reactions to environmental catastrophes."

### 2002 – 2003

M.Phil. in Social and Developmental Psychology, University of Cambridge, UK

### 1999 – 2002

Psychology studies, University of Freiburg

## Career

### since 2015

Head of Department „Civil Society-Level Development Cooperation“, German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval), Bonn

### 2013 – 2015

Head of Section "Monitoring, Evaluation, Research" German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Bonn

### 2010 – 2013

Junior research group leader, Department of Psychology, University of Konstanz

### 2008 – 2010

Scientific project manager, Evaluation Department, German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat), Köln

### 2007 – 2008

Postdoctoral researcher, School of Psychology, Cardiff University, UK

### 2007

Research associate, School of Psychology, University of Southampton, UK

### 2004 – 2005

Research associate, Department of Psychology, University of Freiburg

### 2003 – 2005

Research associate, Department of Psychology, University of Edinburgh, UK

real-world relevance – and in some prominent cases were based on data fraud or biased analyses. So he left university and started working at the German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat), an organisation that advises the German government, with a focus on higher education and research. One thing he learned during his time there as a scientific project manager was "that there are many brilliant, motivated and fascinating people working outside academia!" But after some time, he felt uneasy with the fact that his specific subject knowledge in psychology was not directly relevant to his work. "I didn't feel like I had reached my final destination as far as the combination between scientific rigour, psychological knowledge, and

political relevance was concerned." He acquired a deeper understanding of structures in science by working for the German government, but he still had some ideas he wanted to explore.

To do so, he applied to the Zukunftskolleg and was a fellow from 2010 to 2013. Martin admits that he had to adjust to being in academia in Germany. The academic career is more structured and predictable in the UK. "But that didn't stop me! I took everything, all support the Zukunftskolleg offered, and dove right in!" He started with a project in which he examined how others can influence one's own emotions and how this in turn influences the tendency to be just and fair (or not). Then he started an intense collaboration with Zukunftskolleg Fellow and philosopher Attila Tanyi on moral intuition. They published several articles together. "It was a very abstract philosophical theme, but extremely exciting to see that there is a place for empirical work in moral philosophy." He says that there are some limitations to the interdisciplinary aspect of the Zukunftskolleg; some fields simply do not overlap enough, but for him it was a very fruitful time. After concluding his projects at the Zukunftskolleg, Martin now thinks that it is important to "keep in mind what you can contribute to a project and see whether it's merely a temporary collaboration or a totally new direction in your career."

His career continued outside university. After his time in Konstanz and before he became part of the DEval team, Martin worked for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), where he was head of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Research unit. Together with Giovanni Galizia, the Director of the Zukunftskolleg, he participated in a book project about recruiting and integrating international faculty at German universities. The focus of their chapter was on Konstanz, which offers unique support for young researchers to find their own way!



# Being a professor in mathematics is the dream of my life!

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2010 – 2013**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

## 8 Laura Iapichino

**“When I’m able to predict physical phenomena through my models, through my equations, I feel like a magician!”**  
**laughs Laura Iapichino, now an assistant professor of mathematics at Eindhoven University of Technology.**  
**For her, mathematics is literally the basis of everything and she loves the feeling her research can give her: “I feel like I can let my brain and thoughts run free. Consequently, at the end of the day, it feels tired and overloaded. But it is a kind of brain training, something that keeps my mind alive and reactive with other aspects of my daily life.”**

It seems that dealing with equations, numbers and calculations has always been the most natural thing for Laura. It started in school, where she always received high marks – “Without any effort!” So it is no wonder she decided to pursue this interest and studied applied mathematics at the University of Catania. It certainly also helped that her father is a mathematician and motivated her to go down her chosen path. Another aspect was the future job situation: Laura felt that good positions were more available with a degree in a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) field. After all, at the beginning of her scientific career, she did not plan to become a professor; she simply took one step at a time. After finishing her studies with a M. Sc. at twenty-three, she started working at APL Italia, a software company. She worked on a computer programming language and the specific software written in it, which is used by insurance companies. Although it was a permanent position, Laura realised that she wanted to continue her academic education. She wanted to learn more and focus on active research in the field of numerical analysis and mathematical modelling. Apart from that, she says, “I was simply too young to work permanently in a company!”

Because she was very interested in working with Professor Alfio Quarteroni, Laura decided to do her PhD at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland, where he holds the chair of Modelling and Scientific Computing. “I really wanted to work with him, since he is simply one of the best professors in my field!” She had to have some patience, because in-

initially there were no openings available. Finally, after eight months, she was able to start. For her PhD thesis, she researched numerical models for cardiovascular flows, focussing on computational fluid dynamics, which she is still investigating. “In my work, I basically mimic physical phenomena with numerical models. In some sense, I predict life and my calculations can be applied to different kinds of fluids and systems. There is no restriction as to where they can be used.” She also developed competitive methods for the rapid-solving of mathematical models with high accuracy, but at drastically lower computational cost than classical already existing methods.

At a conference, she had the great luck of meeting Professor Volkwein from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Konstanz. Not only was he very interested in her research and working with her, he also recommended the Zukunftskolleg as an excellent option for her after her PhD. “Although I didn’t know if my application for the Zukunftskolleg was successful, I went to Konstanz anyway.” In 2013 Laura became a fellow and stayed until 2015. “It was amazing! I had this huge opportunity there; I had freedom in my research”, says Laura about her start at the Zukunftskolleg. She has fond memories of the **Jour Fixe** and the struggle of preparing a talk for that occasion. “It was funny how I had to twist my thoughts into an understandable language. How on earth could I explain what I do to a broad audience!?” She admits that it was great training for other talks. During her time at the Zukunftskolleg, she did lots of travelling and went to many conferences – something that helped in her career. “I was connected to a lot of people and that is important when you do research. Don’t lock yourself away in your office! If you have a problem with your research, go outside and talk with other people.” She also thinks it is crucial to take it further, that you have to get out and see other universities to create a reliable network. After the Zukunftskolleg, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the Technical University of Delft, a position she obtained by visiting and being proactive. She gave a talk and although there were no openings advertised, she was invited to work there. “Don’t be afraid of getting out there. If you don’t move, nothing will come your way!”

Since February 2017, Laura has been an assistant professor. It is not permanent – yet – but it is exactly what she wants and how she wishes to continue: very happy in academia, achieving “the dream of my life!”

## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2012

PhD Degree in Applied Mathematics, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland  
„Reduced basis methods for the solution of parametrized PDEs in repetitive and complex networks with application to CFD“

#### 2009 – 2012

PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Alfio Quarteroni and Prof. Gianluigi Rozza, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

#### 2005 – 2007

M.Sc. in Applied Mathematics, University of Milan, Italy

#### 2002 – 2005

B.Sc. in Applied Mathematics, University of Catania, Italy

### Scientific Career

#### since 2017

Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Scientific Computing Group, Centre for Analysis, Scientific computing and Applications (CASA), Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Eindhoven University of Technology

#### 2015 – 2017

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Precision and Microsystems Engineering, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

#### 2012 – 2015

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Konstanz

#### 2009 – 2012

PhD research assistant, Chair of Modeling and Scientific Computing, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

#### 2008

Software developer at APL Italiana S.p.A, Milano, Italy

#### 2007

Research intern, European Space Agency (ESA), Noordwijk, the Netherlands



Laura Iapichino

Young researchers should be informed about what they can do to improve their future career opportunities.

---

Distinctions, Awards and Honorary Posts

---

**2016**

EURIAS Junior Fellowship  
(offer not accepted)

**2014 – 2016**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**2011 – 2013**

EU Marie-Curie Intra-European  
Fellowship

**2008**

Vice-Chancellor's Award, University of Oxford,  
UK

**2004**

Arts and Humanities Research Council  
Scholarship, UK

**2004**

Daimler-Benz Scholarship, Germany

**1993 – 1994**

Fulbright Scholarship for Parliamentary High  
School Student Exchange with USA

## 9 Monica Class

“When I started at the Zukunftskolleg, I felt that this was probably going to be the best chance I could get to re-enter the German academic system after having studied and worked abroad for a decade.” Now a junior professor of English literature and culture at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Monika Class reflects back on her education and working experience in Germany and England and believes that the means and methods of studying, researching and teaching depend a lot on the country and culture in which one lives.

“Reading literature is something I have done from an early age onwards and it strongly influenced me and my decision to take a university course in the humanities. I had the desire to deepen my understanding of it.” Monika earned her master in English and American literature, as well as modern and medieval German literature, at the University of Bamberg. Originally she had planned to become a teacher. It was a tough decision to leave that career path: “I didn’t know any strategies yet how to go about a career in academia.” The decision came about when she was offered the opportunity to give a talk at an international conference and realised that she was good at literary research and enjoyed it. Monika decided to concentrate on a Master of Arts, and started researching postgraduate programmes at international English departments and funding possibilities. “It was certainly the international atmosphere at the conference that had inspired me to do so.” She applied for, and was accepted into, Balliol College, one of Oxford’s oldest and most renowned colleges, and received her title “Doctor of Philosophy” in 2009. Before she became a fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, Monika worked at King’s College London first as a postdoctoral researcher with an EU-funded fellowship and then as a lecturer.

She remembers the time she spent in Konstanz as extremely valuable – not only in regard to her research, but also in terms of her career development: “I view the Zukunftskolleg as an institution that opened a door for me – and it gave me the chance to return to Germany.” After years abroad, Monika still had a German network, but in order to return and continue her

career, she needed a bit more. “I had high hopes for my Zukunftskolleg application, as there is virtually no other programme like it.” She was awarded the fellowship from 2014 until 2016 and is still impressed by the advantages it gave her. “First, it was a very stimulating time! There was this open and competitive atmosphere among the fellows in the shared offices, lunch meetings at the dining hall, and the **Jour Fixe**, which stimulates interdisciplinary work and, in the best cases, provides lots of collegiality.” This led her to teaching a joint interdisciplinary seminar with the archaeologist Barbara Hausmair. Second, the financial support of the Zukunftskolleg helped Monika to maintain and expand her academic network: the **Mentorship Programme** provided the financial means to continue her collaboration with experts from King’s College London’s Centre for the Humanities and Health, while the research funding allowed her to organise an international conference in the field of “Literature and Medicine” together with leading experts in British studies at the University of Konstanz. And third, Monika learnt more about systematic approaches to research proposals for third-party funding and job applications in German academia. Overall, Monika feels that the impetus both for creating new ideas and career development was strong.

As for her research, Monika has many interests. She has specialized in the 18th and 19th century. One of her special foci are the Anglo-German literary and cultural exchanges. The intercultural aspect of this field and the question of how foreign publications are received into the imagined communities of a nation fascinate her. For her doctorate, she wrote about the early transmission of Immanuel Kant’s work in England. While at King’s, she then moved into a new research field: illness narrative and medical case histories. “I think that this new field makes an important intervention! To study narratives about the subjective experience of illness helps us to raise awareness that being ill has a social, psychological and political dimension. A person’s story means more than a case of disease.” During her time at the Zukunftskolleg, Monika combined



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2009

D. Phil (Doctor of Philosophy), Faculty of English, University of Oxford, UK  
“Coleridge and the early transmission of critical philosophy”

#### 2003

Master’s thesis, Humanities Faculty, University of Bamberg  
“Self-consciousness in William Wordsworth’s *The Prelude*”

#### 1996 – 2003

British/American and German studies with main focus on literature, University of Bamberg

#### 2003 – 2009

Doctoral researcher under the supervision of Professor Fiona Stafford, Balliol College, University of Oxford, UK

#### 1999 – 2000

Studies abroad with the Erasmus programme, studying British and German literature and culture, University of Wales, Swansea, UK

### Scientific Career

#### since 2016

Junior Professor in English Literature and Culture, Department of English and Linguistics, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

#### 2013 – 2014

Lecturer in English and Medical Humanities, English Department, King’s College London, UK

#### 2008 – 2010

Teacher of German and English as a foreign language, German school, Guadalajara, Mexico

#### 2014 – 2016

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Literature, University of Konstanz

#### 2011 – 2013

Postdoctoral Researcher, English Department & Centre for the Humanities and Health, King’s College London, UK

her interest in medical narratives with that in readers’ responses: she examined how men of letters and physicians in 18th century joined forces to teach the raising number of literate people to separate body from mind, as well as fact from fiction, while reading. She investigates not only the history of literature, but also that of philosophy, and medicine.

Asked for her advice to students interested in an academic career, Monika emphasizes the importance of a systematic career path. “As a young researcher, you should be informed about what you can actually do to improve your future career opportunities. For example, if you want to go abroad: what would be the best time, the optimal duration and what would a seamless return, if any, look like?” She emphasizes that there are currently a lot of changes in the paths to become a university professor and that positions become highly competitive from the postdoctoral stage onwards; therefore, researchers should keep up with latest developments regarding their disciplines and university legislation in order to get a realistic sense of their chances to make it in academia. “This will help them to better determine their future path, consider alternatives and raise their independence.”



Science  
is not  
merely  
a job.  
Science  
is a  
calling.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2013**

Outstanding Referee, American Physical Society (APS)

**2012**

Award for excellent teaching „LUKS“, University of Konstanz

**2012**

Students' award for excellent teaching in physics „Löphi 2011“

**2009 – 2014**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz

**2008 – 2014**

Young Investigator Fellowship, Helmholtz Association

**2005 – 2006**

Emmy Noether Fellow,  
German Research Foundation (DFG)

**1993**

Award of the chemical industry for outstanding high-school performance

## 10 Thomas Voigtmann

**“To be an amazing scientist, you really have to have the drive, an urge to solve problems!” Thomas Voigtmann, professor of physics at Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf and group leader at the Institute of Materials Physics in Space within the German Aerospace Center in Cologne, thinks that enthusiasm and a certain playful instinct are vital in being successful. “Science is not merely a job. Science is a calling.”**

Thomas had many interests when he finished school. He considered studying chemistry or computer science. “I definitely wanted to be in the natural sciences.” By chance he then met a physicist and talked things through with him. “He told me that physics combines a lot of the themes that fascinated me, and that it is quite a universal field.” Thomas subsequently entered the physics programme at the Technical University of Munich, but continued to nose around the other departments and fields. He saw the possibilities for broadening his knowledge in other directions, something he highly recommends for starting a career in academia. Becoming a professor was always a dream, but during his education, there was always the question of whether it was going to work out.

Fortunately it did: Thomas finished his PhD in Munich and continued with postdoctoral positions in Edinburgh and Rome. In 2008 he returned to Germany, founded a young investigator group with funds from the Helmholtz Association and started working at the Institute of Materials Physics in Space in Cologne. Because he needed a collaboration project between his research institute and a university in order to comply with the requirements of the Helmholtz Association, he used his contacts at the University of Konstanz and the Department of Physics, where he had spent some time prior to leaving for Edinburgh. He arrived during the transition phase when the **Excellence Initiative** had been concluded and the Zukunftskolleg was evolving. He became a fellow and says about it: “This institution is truly optimized. It is really structured and simply offers so many prospects.” With help from the Zukunftskolleg, he was able to finance a PhD position. But Thomas points out, “I never really saw the Zukunftskolleg as a mere sponsor. It was more about the community, which helped me to get in contact with other young

researchers, especially from other fields like philosophy, so I could explore other perspectives.” In his research, Thomas focuses on the theory of soft matter. Although it is a theoretical approach, the systems he and his group investigate are easy to comprehend: Everyday materials like toothpaste, paint and plastics are all soft matter. These materials are not built from single atoms, rather their structure is composed of agglomerates. Such structures exist in micrometre sizes and have certain properties. “One of my favourite examples is paint! Why is it extremely viscous in the can, but then easy to apply on the wall? And why doesn’t it immediately drip down as soon as it is applied?” The reason is that soft matter is prone to nonlinear response. Minor changes in the system – or material – can have far-reaching consequences. A tremendous amount of empirical knowledge of soft matter exists, but Thomas is interested in the theory behind it. “How do materials act under strong external forces? There are basic principles about it and I want to understand and focus my research on them.”

After five years, his fellowship ended, but Thomas is still at the Institute of Materials Physics in Space. “According to the ‚Jülicher Model‘, group leaders and directors of research institutes have dual appointments, therefore I am also a professor at Heinrich Heine University”, says Thomas. He divides his time between Düsseldorf and Cologne and between lectures and research. “I really like teaching, and yes, it’s a lot of work, but that’s how it’s supposed to be. I really want to enlighten and inspire my students! I think that encouraging enthusiasm for their studies is sometimes more relevant than methods.”



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2003

PhD, Department of Physics, Technical University of Munich

“Mode coupling theory of the glass transition in binary mixtures”

#### 1999 – 2003

PhD student under the supervision of Professor Wolfgang Götze, Technical University of Munich

#### 1998

Diploma thesis, Department of Physics, Technical University of Munich

“Schematic models of mode-coupling theory with hopping-term”

#### 1993 – 1998

Studies in physics, Technical University of Munich

### Scientific Career

#### since 2014

Professor for Theory of Soft Matter, Department of Physics, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (joint appointment with the German Aerospace Center, DLR Köln)

#### 2011 – 2012

Interim Professor of Experimental Physics, Department of Physics, University of Konstanz

#### 2008 – 2014

Head of young investigator group, Institute of Materials Physics in Space, DLR Köln, and Department of Physics, University of Konstanz

#### 2007

Postdoctoral researcher, Institute of Materials Physics in Space, German Aerospace Center (DLR), Köln

#### 2005

Postdoctoral researcher, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

#### 2003 – 2006

Postdoctoral researcher, University of Edinburgh, UK

Don't  
rush your  
education  
—  
take some  
time to  
explore new  
ideas

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2008 – 2011**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

**1996 – 2000**

Undergraduate fellow of Scuola Normale  
Superiore, Pisa, Italy

## 11 Chiara Gianollo

**Chiara Gianollo, senior assistant professor at the Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies in Bologna, says that she always had an international and interdisciplinary aspect in her profile. “Believe me, that wasn’t planned at all!” she laughs, when thinking of all the directions her research career has taken.**

Chiara finished her PhD in linguistics 2005 at the University of Pisa and did not anticipate that she was about to spend so much time abroad thereafter. Pisa has a partner university in Paris, so her first stays followed there. “Over the past 15 years I lived and worked in France, the Netherlands, the USA and Germany. This was very important for my development as a researcher.” It influenced the way she conducted her own research and how she followed different interests – looking at structure and meaning of language theoretically, but also in its use and in the changes it undergoes in time. As a result, her path led her towards interdisciplinarity. In her application for the Zukunftskolleg, she included a project about language families in which she treated them like biological species. The idea was to meld language models into models of biology: “Something very new and exciting!”

Currently Chiara is involved in two projects. On the one hand, she focuses on language acquisition of children with migration background. “From a scientific perspective it is highly interesting how their first language blends with Italian.” She also wants to raise awareness that the children do not lose their first language. For this project she collaborates with schools and says “it brings me right into society and into the real life – I love that!” On the other hand, she still focuses on historical linguistics. “I have these old interests, this fascination with languages that I happily continue to explore! All these questions, like why is Latin so different from French?” She also looks into the structure of languages and how little words like auxiliary verbs, articles and pronouns determine it.

Her fascination with Latin and Ancient Greek in high school led her to study linguistics in the first place. “It felt so natural to learn these dead languages. I tried to figure out the relation between them and discovered my love for grammar!” After her PhD she also completed a postgraduate master course to become a teacher, allowing her to teach Italian, Latin and Ancient Greek. Then various positions in Trieste and Rome followed, before Chiara applied to the Zukunftskolleg.

“Everything about the application process was so open and transparent, I liked that a lot!” She became a fellow in 2008 and stayed until 2011. She arrived at a time when the Zukunftskolleg was being shaped the most. “Fellows had the opportunity to create the atmosphere around the meetings, which developed into the **Jour Fixe** gatherings.” Chiara is sure that understanding other researchers and their research, problems and frustrations is something that she mostly learned at the Zukunftskolleg. “Everything I learned there is still so useful!” She invited Paul Kiparsky from Stanford University as a **Senior Fellow** and thinks there is nothing better to advance a career in academia: “It is essential to have an external advisor, somebody who is not a direct supervisor or boss.” The invitation worked perfectly for both the Zukunftskolleg and the Department of Linguistics at the University of Konstanz – another thing she liked. “The Zukunftskolleg as an institution is quite unique, but without the department something would be missing.”

At the Zukunftskolleg, she also met Senior Fellow and linguist Klaus von Heusinger. Their research interests overlapped, and together, they organised a workshop. When Chiara left the Zukunftskolleg, Klaus von Heusinger offered her a job at the University of Stuttgart. When he accepted an appointment at the University of Cologne, Chiara went along him. In Cologne, she worked as a researcher and lecturer and completed her **Habilitation** dissertation.

Chiara points out that it is very difficult for researchers to search for a new job and trying to be creative and productive at the same time. “This time is literally like poison for all junior researchers, as it is also a time when people want to start a family and have many changes in their personal life. That’s not easy when you have no idea where you might end up. I can only advice to put up with it and keep on pushing forward! There will be better times.” Since 2016, Chiara has a position as a tenure track senior professor in Bologna and despite some obstacles she thinks that junior researchers should enjoy their path. “Don’t rush your education. Don’t be afraid to take some time to explore new ideas, as it will help you in the long turn with your career.”



## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2013

Italian national scientific qualification for associate professor (Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale di Seconda Fascia)

#### 2007

Professional teaching degree (Abilitazione all'insegnamento), University of Trieste, Italy

#### 2006 – 2007

Professional teaching specialization (SSIS), University of Trieste, Italy

#### 2005

Ph.D. (Dottorato di Ricerca), Department of Linguistics, University of Pisa, Italy  
 “Constituent structure and parametric resetting in the Latin DP: a diachronic study”

#### 2002 – 2005

Ph.D. student under the supervision of Giuseppe Longobardi, University of Pisa, Italy

#### 2001

Diploma of Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy  
 “I soggetti accusativi del latino tardo e del medio olandese” [“Accusative subjects in Late Latin and Middle Dutch”]

#### 2000

Master’s thesis, Department of Classics and Linguistics, University of Pisa, Italy  
 “Il medio in latino e il fenomeno dell’intransitività scissa” [“Middle voice in Latin and the phenomenon of split intransitivity”]

#### 1998, 2000

Visiting exchange student, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

#### 1996 – 2000

M. A. in classics and linguistics, University of Pisa, Italy

### Scientific Career

#### since 2016

Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies, University of Bologna, Italy

#### 2012 – 2016

Akademische Rätin auf Zeit (researcher and lecturer), Institute of German Language and Literature I, University of Cologne

#### 2011 – 2012

Postdoctoral researcher, Institute of Linguistics and German, University of Stuttgart

#### 2011 – 2012

Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Research Center for Linguistics and Cognition, University of Stuttgart

#### 2008 – 2011

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Linguistics, University of Konstanz

#### 2006 – 2008

Research associate (assegno di ricerca) in linguistics, Department of Classics, University of Trieste, Italy

#### 2002 – 2004

Research associate (assegno di ricerca) in linguistics, Faculty of Communication Science, University of Trieste, Italy

I consider myself more and more as an artisan than a scholar.

---

Distinctions, Awards and Honorary Posts

---

**2018 – 2021**

Multi-year research grant level 2, Research & Development Administration Office, University of Macau, Macau SAR, China

**2016**

Corresponding member of the sub-committee on education and research, UNESCO Memory of the World Program

**2015 – 2018**

Start-up research grant, Research & Development Administration Office, University of Macau, Macau SAR, China

**2013 – 2015**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz

**2010 – 2012**

Postdoctoral research scholarship, Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, China

**2010**

Prize 'Hernández Morejón' for the best doctoral dissertation in the history of medicine, Spanish Society of History of Medicine

**2009**

Prize for the best doctorate, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

**2009**

Postdoctoral research scholarship, University of Leuven, Belgium

**2009**

Doctoral scholarship for further academic research and training, [DAAD](#), Germany

**2008**

Doctoral scholarship, Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, China

**2006**

Doctoral scholarship, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China

**2005**

Doctoral scholarship, Ministry of Finances of Spain through the I.C.O Foundation, Asia-Pacific Exchange Programme

**12 Beatriz Puente-Ballesteros**

**What did Beatriz Puente-Ballesteros, now an assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of Macau, appreciate the most during her time as a Post-doctoral Fellow? “The Zukunftskolleg provided me with time - for all my massive research, which is now crystallizing into six articles and two books.”**

Beatriz is sure that joining the Zukunftskolleg after a postdoctoral position at the Catholic University of Leuven was the best option for continuing her career. Although she had other offers, she chose to go to the Zukunftskolleg. “I think that the Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship is simply the most prestigious grant in Europe.” Not only was she excited about taking advantage of the general opportunities that the Zukunftskolleg has to offer, but also about the prospect of working with Professor Jürgen Osterhammel from the Department of History and Sociology at the University of Konstanz, “a pioneer in global history and somebody I simply admire.”

Thinking back on her time at the Zukunftskolleg, Beatriz remembers especially her positive experience with Research Fellow Sebastian Schutte, who is affiliated with the Department of Politics and Public Administration: “In structural terms, our topics were similar and therefore we had enough ammunition ready for animated interdisciplinary discussions.” She emphasises that while research provides new chances, new contacts and fresh scenery, it also involves the bitter aspect of often saying farewell.

Beatriz' career within academia is an unusual one. On the one hand, she is a medical doctor, sinologist and historian of science by formation, while on the other hand she considers herself “more and more as an artisan than a scholar.” She comes from a family of doctors and humanists and has always been surrounded by people with great interest in the sciences and arts. “Their knowledge and curiosity moved beyond the medical field itself. This unique context conditioned the beginning of my career.” To enter university was a natural process and she always wanted to become a historian of medicine in China. While she was still working on her PhD in history of science at Universidad Complutense de Madrid, as well as thereafter, Beatriz started to apply for different research and exchange programmes and was able to spend extended periods of time in China, France, the UK, Italy, Belgium and Germany. She learned Chinese in Beijing



and specialised further in reading original Manchu documents in Beijing and Tübingen. After a postdoctoral position in Belgium, she became a fellow of the Zukunftskolleg. Ultimately, she says “After twenty-two years of interdisciplinary and transcultural formation, I was appointed as an assistant professor for East-West interactions and Exchanges in the Department of History at the University of Macau.” Moreover, Beatriz’ contribution to the field has been recognised by her appointment as corresponding member of the Sub-Committee on Education and Research, UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.

Beatriz’ research focuses on intercivilisational encounters between China and Europe in the field of medicine. She highlights three different key aspects in her research: First, the reconstruction of the unsung and fascinating biographies of Jesuit physicians, surgeons and apothecaries who worked at the court of the Kangxi Emperor (1654-1722). Second, there is the totally unknown introduction of chocolate to China during the period of early modern globalization. Finally, she is also captivated by the transmission of Western anatomical thinking to the court of the Manchus, an ethnic minority who had established in China the Qing dynasty in China in 1644. “Anatomy does not exist in other medical traditions and thus can be considered as the crown of Western medicine.” These unique research topics allow her to make contributions to theoretical debates about the Great Divergence – the process in which the Western world progressed and emerged as the most powerful world civilisation and theoretically left Qing China behind.

“Because all these research fields are absolutely new, there was no secondary literature on it, and I therefore had to build into the unknown.” By highly sophisticated research she collects information in archives and libraries all over the world and in eleven different Eastern and Western languages in order to find the bits and pieces relevant to her research questions, with the firm conviction that new theoretical approaches emerge in a quasi-artisanal and empirical fashion from findings of new evidences. Travelling and adapting to archives and communi-

cating with local archivists can be a challenge. Sitting hour upon hour over old documents and trying to revive the spirit of long deceased actors is equally challenging. But Beatriz is convinced that her research will deepen the understanding of what defines modernity in China and in other regions of the world. “Moreover, it intends to contribute to a redefinition of the process of early globalization in a then still imperfectly connected world.”

## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

#### 2009

Ph.D. (with an additional European doctoral degree), Department of History of Science, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 2004 – 2009

Ph.D. student under the supervision of Prof. Luis E. Montiel, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain, and Prof. Catherine Jami, CNRS & Université de Paris-Diderot, Paris, France

#### 2001

Licentiate in medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 2006 – 2009

Licentiate in sinology (specialization in China, Japan and Korea), Open University of Catalonia (UOC), Spain

#### 2001 – 2003

DEA Dissertation (master diploma), Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 2000 – 2003

Master of acupuncture, moxibustion and tuina, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 2006 – 2007

Master of Advanced Studies on History of Medicine, Centre for the History of Medicine, Peking University, China

#### 2001 – 2003

MA in History of Science, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 1995 – 2001

Medical studies, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

### Scientific Career

#### since 2015

Assistant Professor (tenure track) of East-West Interactions and Exchanges, Department of History, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Macau, China

#### 2007 – 2008

Needham Research Institute (Cambridge), Department of History of Science, École Normale Supérieure (Paris), and Department of Chinese and Korean Studies, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen (Germany)

#### 2005 – 2006

Researcher, Institute for the History of Natural Sciences, Academy of Social Sciences, Peking, China

#### 2013 – 2015

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of History and Sociology, University of Konstanz

#### 2006 – 2007

Researcher, Centre for the History of Medicine, Peking University, China

#### 2004 – 2013

Honorary teaching fellow (“Colaboradora honorífica docente”), Unit of History of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

#### 2009 – 2012

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Sinology, University of Leuven, Belgium

I have always  
been a  
philosopher  
in the etymo-  
logic sense of  
the word:  
A lover of  
knowledge  
on the  
pursuit of  
wisdom.

---

Distinctions, Awards  
and Honorary Posts

---

**2013 – 2015**

Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg,  
University of Konstanz

Today, Julien Bernard is a Maître de conférences of philo-  
sophy and he says: “I have always been a philosopher  
in the etymologic sense of the word: A lover of knowledge  
on the pursuit of wisdom.”

He started his academic career in Aix-Marseille by studying physics, intending to become an astrophysicist. But he soon realised that philosophy, as an academic discipline, was more relevant to his fundamental questions about science. Therefore, he changed his focus and studied philosophy and mathematics instead. This took some time, especially as it was not easy to organise two master’s degrees: “In France, we’re usually compelled to choose one discipline!” But this combination permitted him to eventually direct his research towards the philosophy of science, also called epistemology, a branch of philosophy that requires a solid understanding of exact sciences. Philosophy of science questions the implication of science as well as its boundaries. Furthermore, it looks into the relationship between science and the truth: “We cannot have definite and fixed answers for difficult questions, questions at the frontier of human knowledge – and this could be seen as frustrating. But it isn’t! I think it’s very fascinating to deal with the most fundamental element of reality and the foundations of science.” In his research, he aims to achieve results through scientific understanding, philosophical thinking and historical analysis – using an interdisciplinary approach. He wrote his most successful paper when he was a fellow at the Zukunftskolleg, where his method is clearly evident: “I succeeded in articulating historical considerations by starting with a correspondence between two great researchers, and then moving towards a philosophical discussion and mathematical understanding of a specific branch of differential geometry.”

In 2010, Julien finished his PhD in philosophy at the University of Aix-Marseille. He continued with a postdoctoral position there and applied for a Research Fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg in 2013. “I was planning to take my career further. Eventually I got the position in Konstanz and I’m very pleased with that. The whole aspect of interdisciplinarity that the Zukunftskolleg promotes was exactly the context for my research within the philosophy of science. My stay there reinforced this idea and taught me the importance of collaborative work.” Julien Bernard organised a reading group, which permitted him to work with mathematicians, physicists, linguists and philosophers with whom he remembers carrying out “some very interesting discussions that still help me in my work today!” Fellows who worked on related topics in the

## Education

**2010**

Ph.D., Department of Philosophy, Aix-Marseille University, France  
„The philosophical foundations of Weyl's Nahegeometry“

**2006 – 2010**

Ph.D. student under the supervision of Alain Michel

**2005**

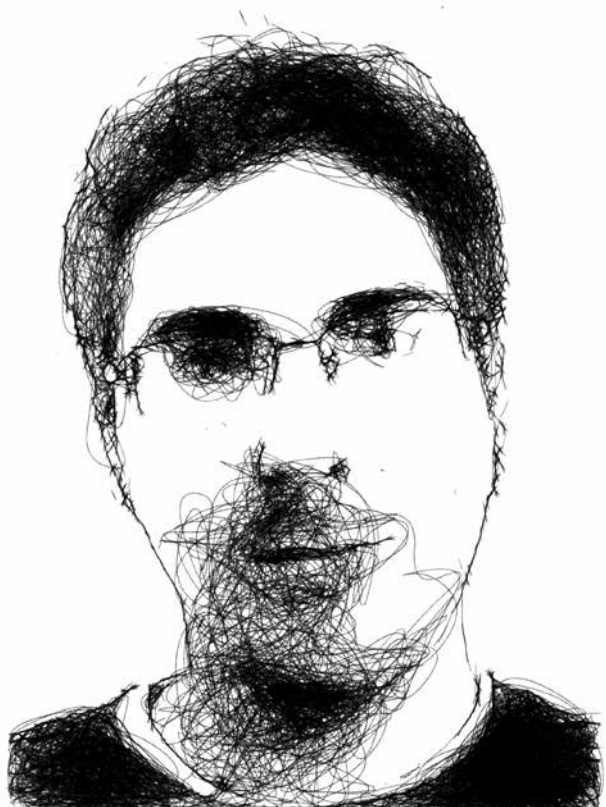
Master's thesis, Department of Philosophy, Aix-Marseille University, France  
„Nature and origins of mathematical entities in Weyl's *Das Kontinuum*“

**2001 – 2005**

Philosophy studies, Aix-Marseille University, France

**1998 – 2004**

Mathematical studies, Aix-Marseille University, France



## Scientific Career

**since 2016**

Maître de Conférence of Philosophy, Aix-Marseille University, France

**2015 – 2016**

Postdoctoral researcher, UFR (Unité de formation et de recherche) Sciences, Aix-Marseille University, France

**2013 – 2015**

Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Philosophy, University of Konstanz

**2010 – 2013**

Postdoctoral researcher and lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Aix-Marseille University and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France

Department of Philosophy helped him in his academic development as well.

Julien emphasises the overall support he received: “Thanks to the **Mentorship Programme**, I had the opportunity to invite Professor Erhard Scholz, a historian of mathematics from the University of Wuppertal, to Konstanz. He is one of the best specialists in the world on Hermann Weyl, who is one of the major authors on which my philosophical work is based.” The opportunity to organise a three-day international workshop and to conduct a contemporary art project also influenced his time in Konstanz. Together with artist Julie Pelletier, he organised *Gedankengeflechte*, an exhibition in which philosophical perspective and visual art formed a dialogue. Julien put his thoughts into words, focusing on “matter and form in three-dimensional biomorphic art”, while Julie Pelletier created plastic art and paintings. Especially matter and different materials were very important for her, as well as the ways flexible materials can be shaped and recycled.

Looking back at his career, Julien also remembers the challenges. He admits that it is sometimes difficult to understand the editorial decisions that lead to rejections of papers, after all, “in experimental sciences or in formal sciences such as mathematics, you have an objective criterion to examine when an attempt is not successful. But in philosophy, there is no impartial judge like nature itself. There are only your peers who decide if your work is good enough to be published.” But then again, pursuing a career in academia consists of meeting challenges. Julien says that it has always been his main focus to become a professor – even at the beginning, when he still concentrated on studying physics. He advises junior researchers to keep in mind that an academic career is long and uncertain. “Perhaps you will have a position, perhaps not. Do exactly the research you like, but also concentrate on research that is seminal within your discipline. This will give you the energy to stay in the academic world.”



**The artworks picturing our alumni were made by Patrick Tresset. Tresset is a London-based artist who develops robots and autonomous computational systems to produce series of drawings, paintings, and animations. He also presents theatrical installations with robotic agents as actors which are evocations of humanness.**

Tresset's installations use computational systems that introduce artistic, expressive, and obsessive aspects to robots' behaviour. These systems are influenced by research into human behaviour, more specifically by how artists make marks that depict, how humans perceive artworks, and how humans relate to robots.

Tresset's work has been exhibited in association with major museums and institutions, such as the Pompidou Center, the Museum of Israel, the Victoria & Albert Museum (London), the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (Seoul), BOZAR (Brussels), and the Prada Foundation (Milan), and at events such as Ars Electronica, Update\_5, WRO2015, and the Merge Festival. He became a Senior Fellow of the Zukunftskolleg in 2013, where he stayed for nine months.

**How did you enter the world of arts computing?**

After thirteen years of being a "traditional painter," I had hit a block and started to explore the use of computational systems in my practice. After two years working on my own, learning from the internet, I got some interesting results, but I also realised that I needed to acquire better research skills and learn more cutting-edge computational technologies. This was why I applied to the Arts Computing MSc at Goldsmiths College at the University of London. At the time this course was one of three master programmes in London in computational arts, but it was the only one run by a computing department, where I could get the skills I was looking to acquire. Furthermore, Goldsmiths had a very good reputation in contemporary arts.

**What did you do during your stay at the Zukunftskolleg as an artist in residence?**

I had met Oliver Deussen from the Department of Computer and Infor-

mation Science at a conference on computational aesthetics where I got the best paper. I got interested in joining the University of Konstanz and the Zukunftskolleg, where I developed algorithms with him to drive the e-David robot, a robot painting machine, to paint a series of portraits. The work produced during my residency in Konstanz has been exhibited multiple times. A research paper was published in the context of the main artificial intelligence conference in the UK. The same paper was included in a book about my work. I came back for a shorter three-month residency to produce a new series of portraits, which have also been exhibited a number of times.

**Please describe the technique you applied to do the drawings of our alumni.**

I used a computational system named RNP-n. It is similar to the one which drives my drawing robots, but in this case it drives a Cartesian drawing machine, a pen plotter.

## About the Zukunftskolleg

The Zukunftskolleg is an Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Konstanz promoting early independence for postdoctoral researchers. With its 2-year and 5-year Fellowships as well as a diverse network of support, scholars in the humanities, social and natural sciences come to Konstanz from across the world to perform first-class research.

### Imprint

© October 2017 – Zukunftskolleg  
of the University of Konstanz

### Zukunftskolleg University of Konstanz

Box 216  
78457 Konstanz, Germany  
Phone: 0049 (0)7531 88-2399  
E-Mail: zukunftskolleg-pr@uni-konstanz.de  
Web: uni.kn/zukunftskolleg

### Editorial Staff

Aylin Öngün (responsible)  
and Astrid Baumgratz

### Artwork

Patrick Tresset

### Pictures

University of Konstanz

### Layout

Dreisatz – Büro für Gestaltung, Stuttgart

### Print

Hartmann Druck & Medien GmbH, Hilzingen