



AARHUS
UNIVERSITY

AARHUS INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES



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AIAS ANNUAL REPORT

2016/17





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Published by Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies

AIAS Editor: Lena Bering, AIAS

Graphic Design: Hreinn Gudlaugsson, AU

Photo: AU Events and External Relations

Print: vahl+ nikolaisen

ISBN: 978-87-92829-27-6

ISSN: 2246-6533



DIRECTOR'S ACCOUNT OF 2016-2017

In the academic year of 2016-17, AIAS has once again been filled to capacity at 34 fellows of 17 different nationalities. The research areas include disciplines within all main academic areas of Aarhus University (AU). Even though the individual AIAS researchers primarily work with their own research projects, they are, at the same time, all connected with one or more of the academic environments at AU – either directly through connections to laboratories, or e.g. by way of continuous cooperation on lectures, workshops and conferences. The ties between the large University and its small Institute for Advanced Studies continue to grow in numbers. But the ties all rest on the inherent difference of AIAS as an independent unit outside the ordinary university system, and with the task of serving as a common asset to the entire University, for internal as well as for external purposes.

FUNDING: AGAIN A MAJOR EU GRANT

The funding of AIAS made headlines this year, as an extensive application, which we prepared and submitted in the autumn of 2016, resulted in yet another considerable grant from the EU Marie Curie COFUND programme, in the spring of 2017. This grant amounts to approx. €5m (DKK 38m) and will secure the co-funding of the AIAS Fellowship programme for the years 2018-2022. It is by far the largest grant that AU has achieved under the Horizon 2020 Programme, thus representing an honorable recognition of AIAS, not least because it was granted within the so-called Excellent Science pillar. With this grant, AIAS – and thereby AU – has secured EU funding of more than €11 m (DKK 84m), within a 3-year period.

The Aarhus University Research Foundation also still generously contributes to the funding of the fellowship programme, and AU likewise contributes by paying the basic costs for buildings and administration. However, the massive external grants have made it possible even to reduce the basic contribution needed by AU. Even though AIAS, all in all, represents an expense to the University, the Institute has proven the ability, despite its short time of existence, to collect a very considerable, external amount for the funding of

research at AU – financial means that would not have existed without AIAS. The award of these grants is an expression of international recognition of AU's courageous initiative to create a genuine Institute for Advanced Study.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION: COORDINATOR OF GLOBAL NETWORK

In the summer of 2016, the global network of University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study, UBIAS, held its biennial Directors' Meeting in Birmingham. At this meeting, the participants encouraged – and accordingly unanimously elected – AIAS to take on the task of “coordinating institute” for the coming 2-year period. This task entails that the executive director of AIAS acts as “coordinator” and chairs the UBIAS Steering Committee. At the time of writing, the UBIAS network consists of 37 institutes from all over the world and about 10 other institutes, which are currently applying for membership or enjoying associated guest members status. The network requires that institutes fulfill certain qualitative criteria as a condition of gaining membership. The tasks of the new leadership of the UBIAS network are mostly related to the updating, modernization and formalization of business procedures through the implementation of clear statutes, among other things. The election of AIAS as the leading member of the network is an honorable recognition of our work at AIAS. The chairmanship, of course, contributes to the visibility of AIAS to the rest of the world – thus strengthening the international profile of AU in addition.

Again this year, the international collaboration sparked a great deal of activity – also in connection with another formalized international network, NetIAS (the European network, which also includes the independent institutes). Activities included visits to and from Freiburg, Delmenhorst, Paris, Munich, Uppsala, Birmingham, Konstanz, among others.

LIFE AT AIAS

First and foremost, daily life at AIAS provides the setting for the research work of the individual fellows. However, they are of course also part of a community. We have



Photo: Morten Kyndrup by Maria Randino

mandatory, joint Monday lunches, during which Fellows give small presentations – the so-called “5 minutes” – on various subjects, and to which we welcome guests and Associates of the Institute. The series of “Fellows’ Seminars” also still take place according to a fixed schedule, on Monday afternoons, during the semester months. This is where Fellows individually present their research to the rest of the Fellows (and to the audience), in a more expanded way. Add to this, the large amount of one-off events, such as workshops and conferences that Fellows organize – most often in collaboration with other researchers at AU. The symposium *Machineries of Persuasion* (January 2016) or the workshop *Ruler Visibility and the Ethnonational Mindset* (May 2017) are examples of such events, just to single out a few.

In March 2017, AIAS organized another special event; a two-day workshop with the topic of research management, at Sandbjerg Estate. Another special initiative is related to the UBIAS network, the so-called “Topic of the Year”, which is “Fear”, in 2017. A group of AIAS Fellows has planned a series of events to take place during 2017, including various presentations, discussions and panel debates with inputs from all disciplines. It all culminates in a large international conference entitled *FEAR: Brain, Behaviour, Society* in December 2017, with both invited speakers from abroad and from AU, and from all academic disciplines.

Again in 2016-2017, AIAS has hosted a number of academic events, organized by other AU units and departments (please see the ‘Hosted Events’ list below). We have indeed social activities at AIAS too: joint Friday Breakfasts, joint afternoon coffee breaks every day at 3pm, an annual Christmas party and Summer Gathering. In addition to this, we see a growing number of Fellow-generated and Fellow-organized activities ranging from Friday bars, movie nights, pub quizzes downtown,

and to a number of different invitations to excursions to private homes, etc. All of this adds to creating a welcoming setting for Fellows, who often come here from a foreign country, and with little or no social context. Among many other things, life at AIAS is characterized by a continuing series of ‘goodbyes’. Fellowships expire, and sometimes Fellows leave prematurely, if they are offered a new, attractive position somewhere else in the world or at AU. Saying goodbye is always sad, but on the other hand, being fortunate enough to say ‘welcome’ to new Fellows equally often is inspiring. This helps to ensure that AIAS undergoes constant change and development. In 2017, we are extraordinarily challenged as a large group of the first Fellows to finally fill the Institute back in 2014 will be leaving us. This means that on 1 October 2017 and 1 February 2018 we will be employing up to 20 new Fellows, including the new EURIAS Fellows and the internal Jens Christian Skou Fellows. We are planning to take advantage of the opportunity to rethink and to further develop the ways in which we organize the exchange happening between Fellows. For instance, we plan to have a closer look at how to involve our increasing group of Former Fellows, and the new “AIAS Associates”. All of this will mean a need for more space. Fortunately, this need meets understanding at AU internally.

The coming academic year will also be marked by the international evaluation, which, from the beginning on, has been scheduled to take place in 2017-2018. An international panel appointed by the University Rector will be handling the evaluation. We look forward to receiving this external evaluation of the quality of our work, hopefully showing us perspectives for development possibilities and improvements. ■

August 2017, Morten Kyndrup

WHAT I HAVE LEARNT ABOUT BEING AN AIAS FELLOW: EIGHT DO'S AND DON'TS

By: Dorothee Birke
AIAS Fellow

Dorothee Birke came to AIAS almost two years ago from a position at the English department at the University of Freiburg, Germany. Here she shares some of her personal insights into the art of being an AIAS fellow.

DO THINK BIG ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

Whether you need to go to Kenya to collect people's saliva in order to assess their stress levels, interview Greek politicians about corruption, or dig around in theatre archives, AIAS provides the time and freedom to develop your research project into the most promising directions. At the beginning of each semester, in a speech that has become a ritual, our director tells us to think of the time here as a gift – given with no strings attached other than the expectation of doing one's best. He is kind enough not to mention the anthropologist Marcel Mauss' insight that failure to reciprocate a gift entails a loss of honour and status, but seeing the level of activity around us every day, we hardly need to be reminded of this.

DON'T SHOW UP LATE FOR THE INTRODUCTION

The only 'no' I've ever heard from the AIAS administration was the polite but firm reply to my request to postpone the start of my fellowship for a few weeks until after the exam period at my home university. This seemed a little rigid – until I saw the plan for the extensive introduction package, including hands-on help with confounding tasks like getting the all-important civil registration number and setting up a bank account, introductions to the library system and administrative databases, a lunch with brief introductions of all the fellows' projects and a welcome dinner. AIAS helps with all aspects of getting settled in, and it offers not just a working environment, but a community.

DO REACH OUT

Our disciplines and projects are very different in terms of the cooperation they require. Some of us spend a lot of time at their desks, others need working groups. Although there are no formal rules or requirements about this – and although sometimes our privileged existence as full-time researchers means that we are left out of the loop of things going on in the faculties – most fellows engage with the rest of the university intensely, be it through regular teaching, special workshops with students, joint projects with AU faculty or special events such as the university's annual Festival of Research, where four fellows presented their projects this year.

DON'T MISS THE FELLOWS' SEMINARS

The fortnightly Fellows' Seminars, where the individual research projects are introduced, are at the heart of the semester programme. It is a great challenge to find the best way of explaining your research to colleagues from fields as far apart as molecular biology and classical archeology. And it is fascinating to see the different ways of tackling this task and explaining how the project fits into the bigger picture, be it developing renewable fuels, explaining how our sense of touch works, or developing a critical understanding of the ways in which digital self-tracking devices impact on our sense of identity.

DO FIND WAYS OF CONNECTING ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Interdisciplinarity has many faces at AIAS: from casual conversations about our projects to discussions about how we 'do' science in our different disciplines to different kinds of small and large collaborations. This year, for example, fellows are organizing a series of events around the topic "fear", including a panel discussion and a multidisciplinary conference on "Fear: Brain, Behaviour, Society", 4-5 December 2017.



Photo: Fellows in conversation during the weekly Monday Lunch. By Maria Randima.

DO JOIN THE PUB QUIZ

Social life at AIAS is well-developed. On most days, there is a group of people having lunch together in the big hall (and conversing about the big topics, from politics to candy bars). We get together for movie nights, the venerable Danish institution of the Friday bar, and for pub quizzes, where we usually do pretty well (unless the questions concern contemporary pop music). The annual Christmas and Summer Gathering are special highlights (dancing encouraged, Danish snaps optional).

DO TRY TO LEARN DANISH

It is easy to get by without Danish at AIAS – not only is it an international environment, but the Danes also tend to speak perfect English. Depending on how long they stay, many fellows decide that there are better uses of their time than learning a language that to the untrained ear sounds like a drunk person speaking with a hot potato in their mouth. But there are also good reasons to take advantage of the state-funded system of language teaching for foreigners, such as connecting with the place, experiencing the challenge of being in the student's role again for a change, and of course impressing friends and family with the famous Danish 'soft d'.



Photo: AIAS Fellow Jessica Barker engaging fellows Julieta Goenaga and Bjørn Panyella Pedersen during her Fellows' Seminar 'Nice Guys Finish First: The Evolution, Ecology and Economics of Cooperation'. By Maria Randima.

DON'T GET TOO ATTACHED

AIAS is a place in flux. None of the fellows are here for more than three years, many for shorter periods. There is always someone to say good bye to, and always new faces to look forward to. Don't get too attached - in fact, I am not too sure I have really learnt this one. Luckily I have another year before I find out. ■

CIRCULAR BIO-ECONOMY: FROM BIO-WASTE TO BIO-FUEL

By: Patrick Biller,
AIAS-COFUND Fellow and Dept. of Engineering,
Aarhus University

Patrick Biller's research at AIAS falls within the strategic area of the circular economy and within this, more specifically, the circular bio-economy. The idea of a circular economy is to re-use and recycle, avoiding any waste in contrast to the common "take, make and dispose" practice. Aarhus University has identified this as a strategic area with the formation and inauguration of the Centre for Circular Bioeconomy (CBIO) in May 2017, a centre that Patrick will be a part of in June 2017 after his AIAS Fellowship.

The concept involves using sustainable biomass and waste resources to replace finite resources in the production of chemicals, food, feed and fuel. In this area, the conversion of biomass to useful products such as fuels and chemicals is one of my research priorities as a chemical engineer. I am using a process known as hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL), which can convert any biogenic material to a crude oil-resembling substance, known as bio-crude. This bio-crude can subsequently be refined into common fuels such as gasoline, diesel and kerosene. During my AIAS Fellowship, I have been able to show that bio-crude can be produced from a variety of feedstocks and subsequently upgraded to fuels, which are compatible with existing infrastructure. My focus has been to demonstrate the feasibility of producing renewable jet fuels from different feedstocks, which I have successfully shown, and I am now expanding, particularly to waste feedstocks. These include digestate, a by-product, from biogas production and sewage sludge. I have presented my results on renewable jet fuel production via HTL at three international conferences in the US, UK and Sweden during my time at AIAS.

NEXT GENERATION: CONVERTING SEWAGE SLUDGE TO VALUABLE FUEL

Our HTL reactors are even able to convert sewage sludge into bio-crude oil while destroying pathogens and recovering valuable carbon much more efficiently than traditional wastewater treatment practices. Over the last year, I have performed the necessary baseline experiments to prove the conceptual feasibility of a next-gen-

eration wastewater treatment plant, which could clean our wastewater resources with lower energy consumption while also generating valuable transportation fuels. I am now working with industrial partners such as Aarhus Vand A/S and Haldor Topsøe on further developing the technology with the aim of commercialisation.

OPTIMAL FREEDOM, OPTIMAL FACILITIES, OPTIMAL RESULTS

I am still constantly trying to optimise the process at both the laboratory scale in the Department of Chemistry and the pilot scale facilities at the Department of Engineering. At the Foulum Campus, Aarhus University has one of the world's largest HTL pilot scale facilities operational which is ideal for the demonstration of the technology for further development.

While working at AIAS over the last year, I was lucky to be able to pursue any research avenue I felt like and that looked most promising at the time, without being tied down by deadlines or deliverables as often encountered when funded by traditional research grants. The flexibility of the fellowship let me choose how I wanted to spend my time and allowed me to collaborate with different research groups and use different laboratories at the University. This flexibility and freedom of the fellowship has allowed me to advance my research faster than I would normally have been able to do – and has now resulted in a position at the Department of Engineering at Aarhus University. ■



Photo: ALAS Fellow Patrick Biller at the Hydrothermal Liquefaction pilot plant at Foulum Campus, Aarhus University. By Maria Rondina

THE WINDING PATH TO EXCELLENCE

By: AIAS-COFUND Fellows Filip Meysman, Universiteit Antwerpen, Belgium and Magnus Kjærsgaard, AIAS and DANDRITE, Aarhus University

AIAS-COFUND Fellows Prof. Filip Meysman and Dr. Magnus Kjærsgaard are part of two new Centres of Excellence at Aarhus University. Time and freedom to focus on innovative and basic research has paid off.

The Center of Excellence (CoE) program is the flagship program of the Danish National Research Foundation. The objective is to strengthen Danish research by providing the best possible working conditions and an attractive long-term funding program for top researchers. Only top research teams with the most ambitious ideas are awarded these prestigious grants, which can provide funding for up to 10 years. Needless to say that applicants are exposed to fierce competition during the application process.

In April 2017, the Danish National Research Foundation announced the establishment of 10 new Centers of Excellence across all Danish Universities. Two AIAS Fellows, Prof. Filip Meysman and Dr. Magnus Kjærsgaard, were directly and successfully involved in attracting such a Center of Excellence towards Aarhus University. This calls for an interview!

Centers of Excellence typically reward new, innovative ideas in science. Which type of research will be performed in the Center that you are part of?

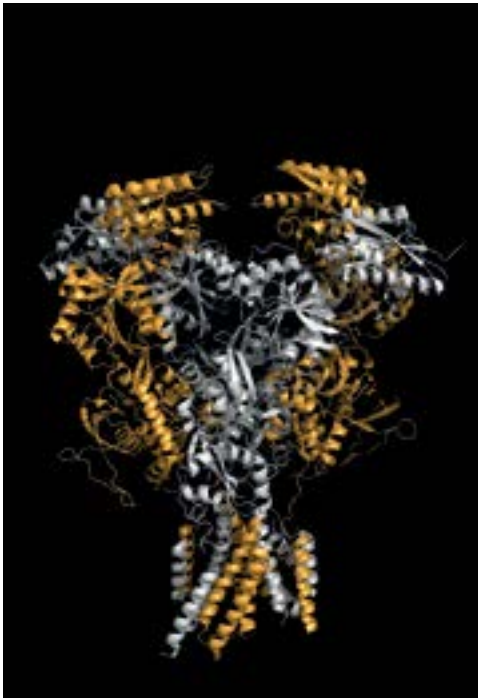
Filip Meysman: I'm involved in the Center for Electro-Microbiology (CEM), which will be hosted here at Aarhus University, and involves research from the Microbiology and iNano research teams. We will be focusing on microbial electricity, which is a really new and exciting topic in biology. Just a few years ago, a wholly new type of long bacteria was discovered that can generate and guide electrical currents over centimeter distances. The discovery of these so-called cable bacteria calls into question some long-held dogmas in biology about how

cells cooperate and how organisms get their energy. Right now, we really don't know a lot about these intriguing processes of microbial electricity, and so the goal of the CEM is to decipher how it really works. At present, we are still in an early stage, but in the long run, our research could lead to wholly new types of materials and applications in bio-electronics.

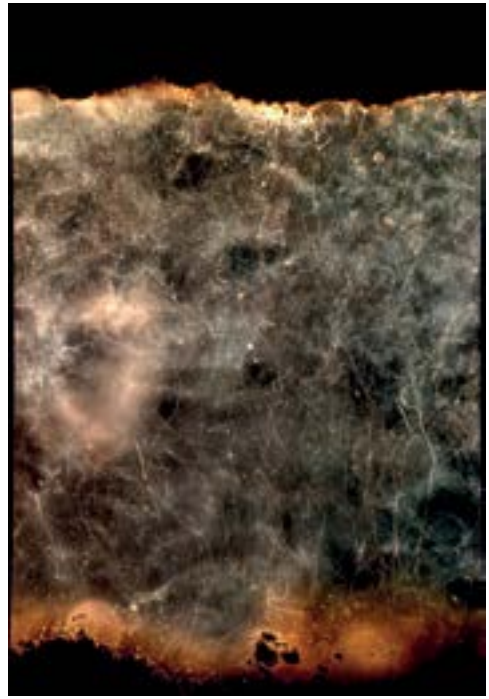
Magnus Kjærsgaard: In our case, the topic of our centre is not new, but a question that people have considered for millennia: How are memories formed, and how is it determined which experiences we should hold on to and which we should forget? For example, I still have lucid memories of being hit by a car 25 years ago, but I have practically no memory of my uneventful cycle to work this morning. In the Center for PROteins in MEMOry (PROMEMO), we will try to answer these questions at a molecular level. The center is made up of researchers from the Departments of Biomedicine and Molecular Biology. Experimentally we span from animal behavior to atomic resolution studies of biomolecules. I am at the atomic end of this spectrum. While the question in itself is not new, we believe we have a unique edge. One of the partners, Sadegh Nabavi, who is in fact also an AIAS Associate, has developed a method for implanting and erasing false memories in rats. This provides us with a controlled type of memory with a known location in the brain. This will hopefully allow us to shed more light on the molecular processes involved in memory formation in general.

How did you get involved in the application for a Center of Excellence during your AIAS fellowship?

Filip Meysman: The Center of excellence for Electro-Microbiology (CEM) is headed by Prof. Lars Peter Nielsen at the Department of Bioscience with whom I have already collaborated with for many years. This strong collabora-



Atomic details of the NMDA receptor, a key protein in memory and central topic of the PROMEMO center.
By: Magnus Kjærgaard, AIAS



Cable bacteria (white threads in the image) develop elaborate filament networks in marine sediments across which electrical currents are transported over centimeter-scale distances.
By: Lars Damgaard, Dept. Bioscience, Aarhus University

tion was also the reason why I applied for an AIAS fellowship. The fellowship lasts for 12 months and thus enables me to work closely on new projects with the Microbiology group here at Aarhus University. The Center of Excellence was one of these new projects, and I'm really happy that we succeeded. It means that we now can sustain and intensify our ongoing research cooperation.

Magnus Kjærgaard: My AIAS project is also on molecular mechanisms of memory and in this connection, I got affiliated with the neuroscience center DANDRITE. The partners in PROMEMO, including center leader Professor Anders Nykjær, are all associated with DANDRITE in some form, and it was in this context we hatched the idea of doing something that was larger than either of us could do alone.

How will the newly established Center of Excellence influence your research career?

Filip Meysman: In September 2017 my AIAS fellowship will end, and I will move back to my home country Belgium to take up a new faculty position. This means I will participate in the newly established Center of Electro-Microbiology as an external researcher. We will embark on joint research projects, and there will be many exchanges of students and researchers between my research group in Belgium and the Center here at Aarhus University. This is clearly a win-win situation, as we solidify

our ongoing cooperation and tap into a wide range of expertise. But also, and certainly not the least important, I have now the happy prospect of frequent visits to Aarhus over the next years. This is a magnificent prospect, as I've really started to appreciate the city during my AIAS fellowship.

Magnus Kjærgaard: My research group is still very young, as it effectively got started as a fully independent group when I began my fellowship at AIAS. The center of excellence will first of all help in the consolidation of the group as it will allow us to retain key members over longer time. Secondly, it will allow us to broaden our ambitions, because we strengthen our connections with international collaborators. Our core expertise is centered in protein biophysics, but through collaborations we can gradually move towards more physiological conditions, testing hypotheses first in cells, then in tissue preparations and finally in live animals. Finally, the time frame of the center is really attractive. A center runs from six to ten years. This is longer than any other type of grant available. Since my PhD I have always had short-term funding, which forces you to focus your research on goals that are achievable fairly quickly. The long duration of the center thus enables me to think longer term, which means you can tackle more ambitious research questions. ■

FROM AIAS TO THE ALBAN HILLS. THE SO-CALLED VILLA OF CLODIUS AT THE VIA APPIA

By: Consuelo Manetta,
AIAS Fellow and Birte Poulsen, Associate Professor,
Dept. of History and Classical Studies, Aarhus University

AIAS Fellow Consuelo Manetta and Associate Professor Birte Poulsen from the Dept. of History and Classical Studies, Aarhus University embarked on a joint collaborative project: Contextualising the past in the Alban Hills (Colli Albani). Villa, tomb and sacred space from the 12th to the 18th milestones of the ancient Via Appia.

Combining common archaeological research interests in the area south of Rome, we decided to start a collaborative project. The idea was first developed in May 2016 during an international workshop hosted by AIAS. The joint project investigates the relationship between villa, tomb, and sanctuary along the Via Appia, and especially in the area from the modern Frattocchie to Genzano, in the period between 100 BC to 500 AD. The project involves several international scholars and partner institutions and includes fieldwork combined with various types of geophysical investigations as well as workshops and conferences.

THE VILLA OF CLODIUS?

As a case study, we decided to conduct a short field campaign combined with geophysical surveys in the so-called Villa of Clodius at the Via Appia in May 2017. This site is exceptional in many respects. According to the literary tradition, the eccentric Roman senator Clodius (93 BC – 52 BC) is first and foremost known for his scandalous intrusion in the religious festival of Bona Dea – a cult reserved exclusively for women. Later Clodius was murdered at the 13th milestone, just in front of a temple, the Bona Dea at the Via Appia. If the identity of the owner has been much debated among scholars throughout the centuries, nobody has ever doubted that the structures at the 13th milestone



Photo: AIAS Fellow Consuelo Manetta and AU collaborator Birthe Poulsen with the excavation crew at Colle Albani.

belonged originally to a villa. Nevertheless, since 1914 no one has had access to the site. However, our recent investigations of the site prove that the remains should not be interpreted as a villa, but rather as exactly the temple of Bona Dea mentioned by the literary sources. This is a significant breakthrough, not only for our completely new understanding of the structures, but also for our interpretation of the site and the ancient landscape in this area more generally.

FURTHER PERSPECTIVES

The extraordinary discoveries have recently been presented at an international conference organized by the Dutch Institute in Rome, and our results will be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals in 2017/2018. Additional fieldwork is foreseen in upcoming years.

Since the project will imply fieldwork, including excavations, diagnostic analysis of ancient materials, and archival work, it will also offer important educational opportunities to Aarhus University students, PhD students as well as post-doctoral positions. ■



COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS BETWEEN AIAS FELLOWS AND RESEARCHERS AT AARHUS UNIVERSITY 2016-2018

Most AIAS Fellows have established or are establishing collaborative projects with AU researchers during their AIAS fellowship. These collaborations are important to both AIAS Fellows and to the research environments at Aarhus University. To support such collaborations between AIAS Fellows and AU researchers it is possible to apply for funding of a concrete collaborative project with a maximum limit of DKK 100,000. 11 projects have already been funded since the scheme was announced in June 2016. The projects span a wide range of different research areas and AU departments.

One example is a Collaborative project between AIAS Fellow Anja Kamp and Professor Sebastian Schlafer, Dept. of Dentistry and Oral Health entitled: "New insights in fungal infections though real-time PH landscaping in biofilms". Another is the project "Letters to Soviet and Nazi leaders in the history of totalitarian societies: New ways of collection and analysis in the light of modern technologies and methodologies" between AIAS Fellow Kirill Postoutenko and Associate Prof. Rosa Magnusdottir, Dept. of History and Classical Studies.

HIGH IMPACT RESEARCH FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

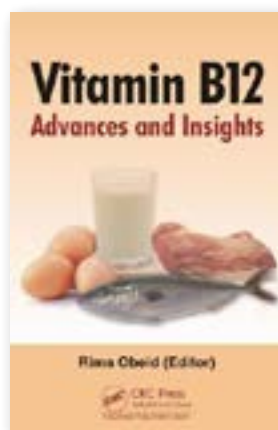
By: Rima Obeid,
AIAS Fellow, Associate Professor,
Saarland University Hospital, Germany

Metabolic changes in biological fluids induced by nutrients, drugs and clinical conditions are the research focus of AIAS Fellow Rima Obeid. Metabolic intermediate products are either causally related to diseases or can be used as surrogate markers for disturbances in biological processes or gut bacteria. Quantitative metabolomics is a powerful tool that helps us understanding the physiology of diseases and identifying potential targets for interventions.

The overall goal of my research is to aid nutritional recommendations of certain nutrients for specific age groups and critical life periods as e.g. pregnancy and early life to identify potential modifiable risk factors and ways of intervention to prevent lifestyle diseases. One of the main results of my research at AIAS is the development of mathematical models for a personalized folate supplementation for women in pregnancy age. This approach can aid young women planning for a pregnancy in reaching a protective folate range against neural tube defects.

IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATION OF METABOLISM

Another result of my AIAS projects is a pilot study on metabolic changes following oral glucose and fat tolerance tests. Metabolites that are differentially changed after eating fat or sugar could potentially be early predictors of pre-diabetes or hyperlipidemia. A third project at AIAS has shown that gut bacteria play a significant role in changing C1-metabolism, a central pathway involved in DNA-synthesis, the central nervous system, lipid metabolism, and anti-oxidant capacity of the host. In addition, I have studied how drugs and physiological and nutritional factors can influence gut-bacteria-driven metabolites in the blood. This research will help understanding and eventually modifying blood metabolites that are linked to atherosclerosis.



EPIGENETIC AGING – AND VITAMINS

Furthermore, I have studied the effect of supplementation with vitamins (D or D+B) on epigenetic aging in elderly people. This study has shown that adding vitamin B to D in subjects without deficiency can cause accelerated epigenetic aging, while when people are deficient, they are likely to show an anti-aging effect in terms of epigenetic modifications.



“

I had the unique opportunity to work with scientists from different disciplines and from all over the world. This offered me an opportunity to think about my own research from a different angle, gaining new aspects of conducting research and methodologies from other scientists. ”

AIAS fellow Rima Obeid

MULTIPLE PROJECTS, MULTIPLE COLLABORATIONS

Several of the projects that I have conducted during my AIAS fellowship have been published in high impact international journals, while some parts are being prepared for publication. I have published 22 original articles during my 2.5 years fellowship at AIAS. In addition, I have edited a book *Vitamin B12: advances and insights*, that was published just before the end of my fellowship. The great environment at AIAS and the fruitful collaborations with scientists at Aarhus University have greatly contributed to this success.

I had the unique opportunity to work with scientists from different disciplines and from all over the world. This offered me an opportunity to think about my own research from a different angle, gaining new aspects of conducting research and methodologies from other scientists. The collaborations that have been started during my AIAS fellowship will continue over the upcoming years, thus having a long-term impact on my research and career. ■

FELLOWS 2016-2017





In the academic year of 2016/17, **38 fellows** from **32 different research institutions** from around the globe have been undertaking their excellent research at AIAS. Fellows come from **all academic research areas** and bring **17 different nationalities** together in one house to **inspire and challenge** each other's project and **breed novel ideas**.

**ALEXANDER PANAYOTOV**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Area of research: Jewish Studies

Project title: 'Minority status and identity: A case study of the Jewish minority in Byzantium'

My project aims to investigate the social and economic relations in the Byzantine empire that influenced the communal and everyday life of the Jewish communities between the fourth and the seventh century. It will recover a neglected area of history, and contribute to the study of minorities within larger political structures. Geographically, the project will include the areas of the Balkans, the Aegean, Asia Minor and Cyprus. In order to establish the place Jews occupied in the stratigraphy of Byzantine society, I will focus my research on the communal organisation and leadership of the Jewish community, the social status, occupation and cultural concerns of its members.

**ALFONSO BLÁZQUEZ-CASTRO**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Department of Biology, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain

Area of research: Biophotonics

Project title: 'Cell modulation and stimulation through laser photodynamic treatments at the single cell level'

This research project aims at inducing controlled physiological responses in human cells using lasers to produce small amounts of reactive oxygen species (ROS). This ROS generation allows for modulation of the cellular signalling network that controls cell fate (proliferation and cell death). As a direct consequence of my AIAS COFUND project a novel procedure to excite molecular oxygen by infrared laser light within a targeted cell has been developed. Making use of this approach I have found evidence of an increased proliferation rate in those cells exposed to the laser beam.

**ANJA KAMP**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Molecular Life Science Research Center, Jacobs University Bremen, Germany

Area of research: Marine Ecology

Project title: 'Diatoms in Darkness and Anoxia'

During my AIAS fellowship I have found the freedom to deepen and broaden my research on diatoms – photosynthetic protists that can be found in our oceans, lakes and rivers. The diatoms produce more than 20-40% of the oxygen we breathe – but in darkness, if no photosynthesis is possible and no oxygen available, they can 'breathe' themselves with nitrate. The excellent working conditions at AIAS and collaborations with colleagues at Aarhus University has allowed me to make more and more statements about the ecological significance of 'nitrate breathing' by diatoms.

**ARMIN W. GEERTZ**

Jens Christian Skou Senior Fellow

Professor, Department of the Study of Religion, Aarhus University

Area of research: Religion

Project title: 'A Biocultural Approach to Embodiment, Ritual and Mysticism'

I study religious behavior from the perspective of neuropsychology, cognition and social sciences. Much of my work concerns the role that religious behavior might have had in the evolution of our species. Furthermore, I use digital approaches to historical sources identifying such matters as embodiment, mysticism and ritual practices in the past. My project is an attempt to bring the history of religions into dialogue with the natural and social sciences. A coming book on the evolution of religion and various publications on ecstatic ritual behavior are in the offing.

**BJØRN PANYELLA PEDERSEN**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Assistant Professor, previously Dept. of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, USA

Area of research: Molecular Biology

Project title: 'Molecular Mechanism of Sugar Uptake in Humans'

The project supported by my AIAS fellowship addresses fundamental scientific questions pertaining to an essential membrane transport system in humans; namely facilitated sugar transport. We address this system using a set of methods founded in macromolecular crystallography to elucidate structural information. Our work will help to uncover general principles of facilitated diffusion systems. Furthermore an improved understanding of sugar homeostasis has tremendous potential for improving the general public health, and our work will stimulate pharmacological efforts to identify and develop compounds of therapeutic value for e.g. obesity, diabetes and cancer.

**BTIHAI AJANA**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, King's College London, United Kingdom

Area of research: Digital Culture

Project title: 'The Over-examined Life: Body Governance and the rise of the Quantified Self'

My research project is concerned with the rising practices of self-tracking and fitness monitoring through digital devices and apps. In recent years, there has been an abundance in the techniques and technologies that enable the collection and computation of data regarding one's biological functions and habits. While at AIAS, I focus on some of these practices in order to provide deep insights into these emerging trends, and a critical assessment of their socio-ethical implications. I combine empirical studies with philosophical analysis to address the questions raised throughout this research project.



CONSUELO MANETTA

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Department of History, Culture and Society, University of Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy

Area of research: Classical Archeology

Project title: 'The Different Faces of the Sky – decorative culture, floral, astral and mythological representations within figural coffered ceilings'

My research focuses on the analysis of sculptured and/or painted figural coffered ceilings in Greek and Roman areas between the Late Archaic (500 BC) and the Late Antique periods (Fourth – Fifth century AD). Though sunken panels have been frequently used as a decoration for ceilings or vaults in ancient times, the partial state of our knowledge of the motifs, which decorated these architectural features reflects the happenstance and fragmentary nature of the discoveries themselves. My study aims to offer an iconographic and iconological reading of the figurative repertoire within the lacunars in a diachronic perspective. I am particularly interested in verifying how effective the use of astral themes within ceiling decoration was. Currently, I am working on a forthcoming book publication and on writing articles on topics related to my project and within my fields of expertise.



DARIN STEPHANOV

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously University of Jyväskylä, Finland

Area of Research: Comparative Imperial History

Project title: 'Monarchic Visibility, Public Space, and Collective Identities in the Romanov and Ottoman Empires (1825-1908). A Comparative Study of the Finnish and Bulgarian Trajectories of Communal-cum-National Consciousness'

My project traces the origins, nature and evolution of the cycles of symbolic interaction between a cross-section of Finns and Bulgarians (the ruled) and their respective Romanov and Ottoman monarchs (the rulers). The new imperial policies of royal image making, along with the discourses and practices spun around them, unlocked a complex process of extension of long-standing localized micro forms of belonging and their linkage to the center for a new imperial macro form of belonging at the popular level. In short, this signaled the advent of modernity.



DJUKE VELDHIJS

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Area of research: Biology and Anthropology

Project title: 'Stress in modern human populations: a biocultural approach to assessing the costs and limits of adaptation'

My research encompasses biological and social sciences to answer questions about evolution, using biocultural stress measures in human populations. Additional projects include one examining the effects of temperature stress on mate choice in fruit flies (collaboration with AIAS Alumnus, Machteld Verzijden). A second is part of a wider study assessing inter-group cooperation and involves ethnographic fieldwork among the Tlingit Indians in Alaska (collaboration with AIAS Fellow Jessie Barker). Together with US colleagues I am also developing a series of citizen science projects and actively contributing to a range of popular publications, including 30 Second Anthropology (Ivy Press, 2017).

**DOROTHEE BIRKE**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, Previously, English Department, University of Freiburg, Germany

Area of research: English Studies**Project title:** 'Situating Homelessness on the Contemporary British Stage'

My project examines how contemporary dramatic texts engage with debates on homelessness in an era of mass migration and austerity measures. I argue that as a spatial art with a long political tradition, the genre of drama is especially well disposed to invite audiences to consider questions of social responsibility, but also to confront their own anxieties about economic instability. Considering a corpus of plays from the 1990s to the today, this will be the first book-length study on how theatre reflects the highly precarious and contested character of 'home' in Britain today.

**FEDERICA BERTOLOTTI**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Dept. of Science and High Technology, University of Insubria, Italy

Area of research: Solid State (Nano-)Chemistry**Project Title:** 'From the atomic structure to the nanocrystal morphology: a novel Unified X-ray Scattering approach for the characterization of nanomaterials'

My project at AIAS addresses important issues related to the implementation and development of robust methods for characterizing nanomaterials. Since the beginning of my AIAS fellowship, together with my collaborators, I have finalized the publication of two articles in ACSnano (IF 13.3), very important in clarifying the structure of an emerging class of nanomaterials, all-inorganic lead halide perovskites, very promising for the development of QLED (Quantum Dots LED) devices and new generation solar-cells. I have also finalized the structural and morphological characterization of bio-mimetic nano-apatites that allow the clarification of the mechanism of early stages bones formation and growth in vertebrates, results that will be published soon.

**FILIP MEYSMAN**

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Associate Professor, Royal Netherlands Institute of Sea Research, Netherlands

Area of research: Marine Biogeochemistry and Microbiology**Project title:** 'Unlocking the mechanism of microbial long-distance electron transport'

Recently, long bacteria have been discovered, which can generate electrical currents over centimeter distances. These "cable bacteria" consist of thousands of cells that pass electrons onto each other. The idea that living cells can interact via electrical currents implies an entirely new way of biological cooperation. There is also a promising technological aspect to this discovery. If the conductive structures could be harnessed in an engineered way, this could lead to new applications in bio-electronics. Our work will help to uncover how cable bacteria can transport electrons over long distances.



FRANTS H. JENSEN

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, USA

Area of research: Biology

Project title: 'Movement coordination, leadership and collective foraging in matrilineal toothed whales'

Social animals rely on collective actions to solve ecological problems ranging from finding and catching food to avoiding predation. At AIAS, I investigate how highly social animals reach consensus decisions and coordinate movement and activity with other group members. I use sound and movement recording tags attached to small groups of matrilineal pilot whales to quantify coordination and underlying acoustic interactions in situ. This allows me to test how different individuals influence collective decisions and to ultimately understand the behavioral interaction rules shaping collective movement in social animals..



IRYNA MAZHAK

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously National University 'Kyiv Mohyla Academy' Kyiv, Ukraine

Areas of Research: Public Health and Social Sciences

Project title: 'The Social Determinants of Health and Health Inequities among Working-age Population in Ukraine'

During my interdisciplinary project at AIAS, I apply an explanatory sequential mixed methods design to reveal and analyze the social determinants of health/health inequalities among working-age Ukrainian population. The theoretical framework of the study is intersectionality. The quantitative phase includes a nationwide survey and secondary analysis of the European Social Survey data. The qualitative phase involves in-depth interviews with people experiencing vulnerability in health and case studies of good policy practices to tackle health inequalities. Also, I address the comparative analysis of health inequalities in Ukraine vis-à-vis EU countries.



ISABEL KUSCHE

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, University of Osnabrück, Germany

Area of Research: Political Sociology

Project Title: 'Non-programmatic Politics in Times of Fiscal Crisis'

Against the backdrop of the European financial and sovereign debt crisis, my project asks how political parties attempt to secure voters' support, when public spending is severely restricted. I enquire how parties in Spain, Greece, Ireland and Great Britain have reconciled harsh austerity measures with the aim to do well in elections. Initial results indicate that non-programmatic politics plays an important role in this regard, although its forms differ between the countries and suggest considerable continuity with patterns of party competition that were already established before the crisis.



ISABELLE TORRANCE

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously Department of Classics, University of Notre Dame, USA

Area of Research: Classical Reception and Irish Studies

Project Title: 'Greek Tragedy and Irish Politics'

My research at AIAS charts the significance of Irish adaptations of Greek tragedies in political discourse with a main focus on 20th and 21st century texts. The project takes a holistic approach to Ireland, studying trends both north and south of the border, and acknowledging the similar political and (post)colonial forces shaping nationalist theatre across the island. Visits to archives and special collections in Ireland this spring have yielded exciting new material. Presentations of my research at universities in Aarhus, Berkeley, Oxford, and Stanford have generated positive and constructive feedback.



JAN ALBER

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Dr., Associate Professor, previously University of Freiburg, Germany

Area of research: English studies

Project title: 'Ideology and Form: The Experimentalism of Recent Australian and Indian-English Prose Narratives'

At AIAS, I am working on the negotiation of Aboriginal identities in contemporary Australian prose narratives. More specifically, I compare self-representations by indigenous authors (such as Kim Scott, Sam Watson, and Alexis Wright) to the ways in which non-indigenous writers (such as Kate Grenville, Andrew McGahan, and David Malouf) address Aboriginality. While indigenous narratives display a movement towards more resilience and playful experimentation, the non-Aboriginal prose texts critically deal with the psychology of the white community in the past and today. I am interested in the ideological ramifications of these negotiations.



JESSICA L. BARKER

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, USA

Area of research: Evolutionary biology

Project title: 'Inter-group environmental dilemmas: can we scale up from local to global cooperation?'

I study the evolution of cooperative behavior: when and why individuals are willing to benefit others, often at a cost to themselves. There is evidence that people have evolved to favor members of their own group at the expense of people in other groups, but the factors that affect cooperation among multiple groups remain largely unknown. While at AIAS, I have written a review on inter-group cooperation (Robinson & Barker 2017) which is intended to stimulate research in this new area. I have collected data for two projects related to inter-group cooperation: a survey of cooperative interactions and group behavior in Southeast Alaska, and an economic experiment on group responses to climate change decisions in the Cognition and Behavior Lab at Aarhus University.



JESSICA WISKUS

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Professor, Department of Musicianship, Duquesne University, USA

Area of research: Music and Philosophy

Project title: 'Rhythmical Ethics (On Music and the Performance of Philosophy)'

My work examines the rhythmical relation between consciousness and world. I use "rhythm" to describe the way that a present, expressing a whole, coheres with a transcendent past and future. My claim is that our lives as subjects are constituted rhythmically; we are of rhythm (through the unified character of the body and its intentions) and we are oriented through rhythm (insofar as perception, memory and knowledge depend upon temporal cohesion). My project at AIAS draws upon texts of classic phenomenology to explore how rhythm structures our comportment toward others and the world.



JULIETA GOENAGA

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Evolutionary Biology Center/Animal Ecology Department, Uppsala University, Sweden

Area of research: Biology

Project title: 'Sexual selection and the evolution of male and female reproductive proteins'

Seminal proteins (SFPs), transferred to female at mating, tend to evolve rapidly and divergently and this rapid evolution may be primarily driven by natural selection. Giving their role in modulating male and female reproductive phenotypes, the evolution of SFPs could play a key role in speciation. My project at AIAS combines the study of macro evolutionary patterns of SFPs with the study of micro evolutionary processes in SFPs. Here, I use a novel experimental strategy to shed light into the evolutionary forces driving SFPs divergence and its role as an engine in speciation.



KIRILL POSTOUTENKO

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Professor, previously Comparative literature, University of Helsinki, Finland

Area of Research: History of Concepts

Project title: "'Beasts" vs. "Supermen": Asymmetrical Mapping of Conceptual Landscapes in Bolshevik Russia, Nazi Germany and 'New Deal'-United States'

Asymmetrical concepts are non-consensual attributions of identities, states and evaluations based on political and communicative supremacy: calling someone 'Untermensch' is only possible if the adversary (in this case – a Jew in Nazi Germany) is deprived of a chance to respond. I am interested in the specific roles and functions of such attributions in two "totalitarian" (Soviet Union, Nazi Germany) and one "democratic" ('New Deal'-United States) countries in 1933-1939. The special attention is paid to the correlation between asymmetrical concepts and socio-political asymmetries and the interplays between mainstream conceptual asymmetries and other forms of semantic manipulation such as deictic references to time and space.

**LUÍS PEDRO VIEGAS**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Assistant Professor, previously Department of Chemistry, University of Coimbra, Portugal

Area of research: Theoretical and Computational Atmospheric Chemistry**Project title:** 'Green design of CFC alternatives: an interdisciplinary approach'

The adverse environmental impact stemming from the release of certain chemical compounds into the atmosphere has led to an international effort (e.g. the United Nations and European Commission) to implement policies tackling this problem. At AIAS, my research focuses on studying degradation pathways of a new and promising class of hydrofluoropolyethers through the use of molecular modelling techniques. I will try to unveil fundamental aspects of their unestablished atmospheric chemistry, hoping to discover new alternatives for the production of new greener compounds through eco-friendly industrial processes.

**MACHTELD VERZIJDEN**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Lund University, Sweden

Area of research: Biology**Project title:** 'The evolution of the ability to learn in choosing a mate'

I am interested in what shapes mating preferences of animals, and the effect of these preferences on evolution. Mate choice is key to a number of evolutionary processes, including sexual selection, speciation and life history, because it directly influences which genes make it to the next generation. During my AIAS fellowship, I have focussed on the genetic mechanisms that allow individuals (of fruit flies) to learn, and the ability of populations to evolve an increased ability to learn. This allows me to experimentally study the effects of learning on evolution in general and sexual selection specifically.

**MADS VAARBY SØRENSEN**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously Institute of Anatomy, University of Zürich, Switzerland

Area of research: Renal Physiology**Project title:** 'The renal natriuretic response following an acute potassium intake'

Potassium (K⁺) rich diets are known to protect against hypertension, but high K⁺ intake also exerts a homeostatic challenge for the organism. The amount of K⁺ in our bodies is the major determinant of cellular volume and resting membrane voltages. The latter is of crucial importance for vital function of the heart, nerves and muscles. K⁺ must therefore be eliminated rapidly following ingestion of a K⁺ rich meal. The kidneys are the most important organs for elimination of K⁺. My research relates to the renal response to high K⁺ intake in relation to the protective effects against hypertension.



MAGNUS KJÆRGAARD

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Assistant Professor, previously Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, UK

Area of research: Molecular Biology

Project title: 'Can a cooked noodle store information? The mechanisms of disordered proteins in synaptic plasticity'

My AIAS project studies the mechanisms of proteins that contribute to memory formation and consolidation in the brain. Memories are stored in the physical structure of the brain, and particularly in the way neurons communicate with each other in the synapse. My work centers on the receptors that detect signals sent between neurons in the synapse, which we investigate using biophysical tools. The long-term goal is to understand why some experiences are forgotten after five minutes, while others are stored for a life-time.



MICHAEL VOLDSGAARD CLAUSEN

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Assistant Professor, previously University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Area of research: Biophysics

Project title: 'How do we sense touch, sound, balance and force?'

Many forms of sensory perception in higher organisms depend upon the rapid conversion of mechanical and physical stimuli into the electrochemical language of nerve and muscle cells. These transduction mechanisms often involve mechanosensitive ion channels that are able to convert physico-mechanical responses into the electrical signals required for the control of complex physiological responses e.g. touch, pain, hearing and proprioception. The goal of my project is to decipher the exact molecular mechanisms that underlie this translation of physical force into ion-channel gating.



MICHAEL G. FLAHERTY

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Professor, Eckerd College, USA

Area of research: Sociology

Project title: 'The Cage of Days: Time and Temporal Experience in Prison'

I am writing a book about how prison inmates perceive the passage of time and how they attempt to control or manipulate their own temporal experience. My co-author and primary informant (Carceral, a pseudonym) was paroled two years ago after serving more than thirty years in various prisons around the USA. In addition to his personal journals, our data consist of his observations of, and interviews with, fellow inmates as well as our readings of prison autobiographies. Only one chapter remains to be written. The first draft of the book should be finished this year.

**NAICHENG WU**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Kiel University, Germany

Area of research: Hydroecology

Project title: 'Developing a risk assessment system to evaluate the impacts of future land use and climate scenarios on aquatic ecosystems – an interdisciplinary model-based synthesis'

Global change caused by societal, economic and technical developments poses significant threats to freshwater ecosystems. My research at AIAS is using an interdisciplinary model-based synthesis to explore the human mediated impacts on river ecosystems and develop sustainable strategies for aquatic ecosystems under rapid global change. The study will address three major topics: risk assessment, management scenarios and integrated ecohydrological modelling. Currently I am working with the first approach to assess the impacts of hydrological variables of riverine benthic algae community.

**ÓSCAR JOSÉ MARTÍN GARCÍA**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Department of History, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain

Area of Research: History

Project title: 'United States public diplomacy in 1960-1970s Spain and Portugal. My AIAS research project analyses the US public diplomacy intended to disseminate the ideas of modernization in the university education systems of Spain and Portugal. I combine a number of aspects of transnational history, intellectual history, and democratization studies to examine the American soft power used to familiarize Spanish and Portuguese students with the principles of modernization as a tool for bringing about their ideological reorientation. In this way, I seek to understand the role of modernization in the subtle exercise of American hegemony through transnational mechanisms of ideological alignment.

**PATRICK BILLER**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Postdoc, previously Energy Research Institute, University of Leeds, UK

Area of research: Chemical Engineering

Project title: 'Interdisciplinary production of biofuels via hydrothermal treatment'

My research deals with the development of sustainable and renewable transportation fuels using a technology known as Hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL) which applies high temperature and pressure to biogenic feedstocks in water, creating a fuel similar to petroleum crude. The produced bio-crude is upgraded to fuels suitable for existing infrastructure. Currently I am working on optimising the process in terms of economics, efficiency and final fuel quality. We are currently working on converting sewage sludge to fuel using the HTL technology at the pilot scale facilities at the Aarhus University Foulum campus.

**REBECCA SIMMONS**

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Associate Professor, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Area of research: Epidemiology**Project title:** 'Screening and early treatment for type 2 diabetes'

My research this year has examined the intriguing possibility that general practitioners might use the education and training they receive from taking part in diabetes treatment trials to change how they treat other high-risk patients (answer – yes they do!). I have also investigated how much earlier we find people in the disease trajectory when we screen for diabetes (answer – 2.1 years). These data can help policy makers design the most effective screening and treatment programmes for type 2 diabetes.

**RIKKE SCHMIDT KJÆRGAARD**

Jens Christian Skou Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, Interdisciplinary Nanoscience Center (iNANO), Aarhus University, Denmark

Area of research: Scientific Data Visualization**Project title:** 'Interdisciplinary visual approaches to molecular and nanoscale data analysis'

My research focuses on how to represent scientific data visually. I am particularly interested in advancing and developing integrated methods and tools for visualising clinical and biological data, and am currently working on a co-authored book for Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press on graphic design for scientists; and, together with AIAS Former Fellow Lotte Philipsen, an edited book for Routledge on aesthetics and scientific data representation. After my fellowship I have founded a company with two colleagues developing software solutions to advance data visualization for clinicians and patients. As a member of the Young Academy under the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters I am the co-founder of a Danish Science Club for children from 4th grade to high-school founded on mentorship: www.videnskabsklubben

**RIMA OBEID**

AIAS COFUND Senior Fellow

Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Chemistry, University Hospital of the Saarland, Germany

Area of research: Clinical pharmacology**Project title:** 'Hidden milestones in the roadmap of shipping cobalamin from food into the cell'

My research at AIAS is concerned with 1) metabolic pathways that are affected by nutritional components such as methyl donors, choline and cholesterol; 2) how modifications in nutrition can affect chronic and severe diseases such as neural tube defects and atherosclerosis. One of the ongoing projects is on the effects of the anti-diabetes drug, metformin, on cobalamin status and cellular protein expression. My research aims at guiding nutritional recommendations in chronically ill people and during critical life phases such as pregnancy, early life and aging. I have also worked as editor of the book *Vitamin B12: advances and insights* (CRC Press 2017).

**SVEND-ERIK SKAANING**

Jens Christian Skou Senior Fellow

Professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University, Denmark

Area of research: Political science**Project title:** 'The Rise of Modern Democracy'

In my project, I pursue the following research question: What were the dominant patterns of democratic sequencing during the first wave of democratization? In my attempt to answer this question, I have an explicit focus on de facto respect for democratic rights, i.e. free, inclusive elections and freedoms of expression and association, between 1789 and 1920. The project has a broad comparative perspective, covering all countries in Europe and the Americas interest. It makes use of a historical extension of the so-called Varieties of Democracy dataset.

**TOMASZ K. WOJDACZ**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously Institute of Environmental Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

Area of research: Translational Epigenetics**Project title:** 'Novel methylation biomarkers for breast cancer clinical management'

Breast carcinoma is the most common cancer in women. Despite of significant progress in breast cancer treatment, breast cancer patients with similar clinical and pathological features still display a widely varying disease course. This emphasizes urgent need to develop novel biomarkers that can be used to stratify patients for personalized treatment. In my project supported by AIAS, I aim at investigating the involvement of the epigenetic changes in breast cancer development and identify and clinically validate biomarkers that can potentially be used in personalization of breast cancer treatment.

**ÜMIT AKBEY**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Assistant Professor, Leibniz Institute für Molekulare Pharmakologie Berlin, Germany

Area of research: Structural Biology**Project title:** 'Fighting Bacterial Infections by Targeting Key Proteins'

Most bacteria form biofilms to survive under stress-inducing conditions and resistant to antimicrobial agents and host immune system. Insoluble proteins in the form of fibrils and molecular assemblies are the most crucial components supplying the structural integrity, so the antimicrobial resistance-infection. However, very little structural information is known on biofilms and their amyloid proteins. We aim to understanding the structural features as an important step towards development of successful therapeutics for infectious bacteria protected in robust biofilms. The primary goal of my project is to determine the first atomic-resolution structures by using advanced Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectroscopy. The results obtained from my research will be of great importance for understanding and treating functional amyloid related diseases caused by bacterial biofilms. As a result, clever design and optimization of anti-biofilm drugs targeting fibrils can be achieved.

**XUHUI DONG**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing Institute of Geography and Limnology, China

Area of research: Environmental change and geography

Project title: 'Quantitative assessment on ecological changes and the contribution from climate in remote Greenland lakes: a multidisciplinary study'

My research is using multidisciplinary methods (biological and isotope signals) to quantitatively track environmental change across various spatiotemporal scales based on Greenland lake sediments. For a global implication, the research findings in this project will serve for comparison purpose with other aquatic ecosystems (i.e. strong human impacted Yangtze shallow lakes in China) to understand different ecological trajectories and mechanism of environmental changes. Currently some data on ^{18}O isotope and taxonomy has been produced, along with wider application of paleolimnology in understanding complex systems (i.e. ecosystem service and resilience). Several papers based on existing data are in preparing or have been published.

**YONGHUI ZENG**

AIAS COFUND Junior Fellow

Associate Professor, previously Institute of Microbiology, Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic

Area of Research: Environmental Microbiology

Project title: 'Ecological Genomics of Phototrophic Gemmatimonadetes Bacteria in Diverse Environments'

Photosynthesis was recently found on a new branch of the tree of bacterial lives – Gemmatimonadetes. However, very little is known about phototrophic Gemmatimonadetes bacteria (PGB) and what kind of insights it can provide regarding how and why bacteria in nature share the function of photosynthesis. With the AIAS project, I have assembled a sensitive infrared imaging system, which can easily identify bacteria containing the photosynthetic pigment – bacteriochlorophyll. A home-made cultivation system for growing bacteria under micro-oxic environment was also set up. I am entering the second phase of this project – isolating novel PGB isolates from environment.



PROGRAMME

- Welcome by Morten Kyndrup, AIAS
- Introduction by Djoke Veldhuis, AIAS-COFUND Fellow
- Lecture by Jessica Barker, AIAS-COFUND Fellow:
"How girls finish first: the gendered economics of cooperation"
- Question and discussion session
- Further discussion in the AIAS Hall



AIAS
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FELLOWS' PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES





FELLOWS' PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS, BOOK CHAPTERS

Isabel Kusche is author of the book chapter 'Social Movements and Sociological Systems Theory' in: *Social Theory and Social Movements. Mutual Inspirations* edited by Jochen Roose and Hella Dietz Wiesbaden: Springer VS, 2016.

Darin Stephanov is author of the book chapter 'Public Celebrations of Emperor Nicholas I (1825-1855) in the Grand Duchy of Finland: Typology, Dynamics, Impact' in: *400th Anniversary of the Romanov Dynasty, 1613-2013. The Politics of Memory and the Monarchic Idea* [in Russian] edited by Vladimir Lapin and Yulia Safronova. Saint Petersburg: European University Press, 2016.

Svend-Erik Skaaning is co-author of the book *Alexis de Tocqueville*. Copenhagen: Jurist- og Økonomforbundets Forlag, 2016.

Isabelle Torrance is author of the book chapter 'Iphigenia at Aulis' in: *A Companion to Euripides (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World)* edited by L. McClure. Chichester, West Sussex: John Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Rima Obeid is editor and co-author of the book *Vitamin B12: Advances and Insights* CRP Press, 13 January 2017.

Isabelle Torrance is editor of the book *Aeschylus and War: Comparative Perspectives on Seven Against Thebes*. Routledge Monographs in Classical Studies, Routledge, 2017.

Isabelle Torrance is author of the book chapters 'Aeschylus and War' and 'Aeschylus, Gangland Naples, and the Siege of Sarajevo: Mario Martone's *Teatro di Guerra*' in: *Aeschylus and War: Comparative Perspectives on Seven Against Thebes* edited by Isabelle Torrance, Routledge, 2017.

Isabelle Torrance is co-author of the book chapter 'Aeschylus and War: A Conversation with Lieutenant Colonel Kristen Janowsky' in: *Aeschylus and War: Comparative Perspectives on Seven Against Thebes* edited by Isabelle Torrance, Routledge, 2017.

Svend-Erik Skaaning is author of the book *Demokrati. Tænkepauser 48* ('Democracy'). Aarhus Universitetsforlag, April 2017.

Dorothee Birke is author of the book chapter 'Authorial Narration Reconsidered: Eliza Haywood's Betsy Thoughtless, Anonymous' Charlotte Summers, and the Problem of Authority in the Mid-Eighteenth-Century Novel' in: *Narrative Concepts in the Study of Eighteenth-Century Literature*, edited by Liisa Steinby and Aino Makikalli, Amsterdam University Press, 2017.

PUBLICATIONS – JOURNAL ARTICLES

Dorothee Birke is author of the article 'The World Is Not Enough: Lists as Encounters with the "Real" in the Eighteenth-Century Novel' in: *Style*, Vol. 50, No. 3 (2016).

Magnus Kjaergaard is co-author of the article 'Engineering a Prototypic P-type ATPase *Listeria monocytogenes* Ca²⁺ – ATPase 1 for Single-Molecule FRET Studies'.

Sonia Coriani is co-author of the article 'A study of the valence shell electronic states of s-triazine by photoabsorption spectroscopy and ab initio calculations' in: *Chemical Physics* 477 (2016) 96–104, 30 September 2016.

Paul Denton is co-author of the paper 'Broad activation of latent HIV-1 in vivo' in: *Nature Communications* 7, 8 September 2016.

Jan Alber is the author of the article 'Absurd Catalogues: The Functions of Lists in Postmodernist Fiction' and a 'Review of Liesbeth Korthals Altes's *Ethos and Narrative Interpretation*'; both in: *Style* 50.4, 2016.

Xuhui Dong's paper 'Using sedimentary diatoms to identify reference conditions and historical variability in shallow lake ecosystems in the Yangtze floodplain' was chosen for a virtual issue of journal *Marine and Freshwater Research* September 2016. This virtual issue contains a selection of 9 articles previously published by the journal that showcase the range of research being undertaken within China.

Karin Lykke-Hartmann is co-author of the article 'TRPM7-like channels are functionally expressed in oocytes and modulate post-fertilization embryo development in mouse' in: *Scientific Reports*, article number: 34236, 29 September 2016.

Rima Obeid is co-author of the article 'First trimester serum levels of the soluble transcobalamin receptor, holo-transcobalamin, and total transcobalamin in relation to preeclampsia risk' in: *Scandinavian Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation*, 4 October 2016.

David Petrosyan is co-author of the article 'Quantum spin transistor with a Heisenberg spin chain', *Nature Communications* 7, 13070, 2016.

Rima Obeid is co-author of the article 'Determination of trimethylamine, trimethylamine N-oxide, and taurine in human plasma and urine by UH-PLC-MS/MS technique' in: *Journal of Chromatography B*, 15 October 2016.

Alfonso Blazquez is co-author of the articles 'Switching on a transient endogenous ROS production in mammalian cells and tissues' in: *Methods*, 15 October 2016.

Alfonso Blazquez is co-author of the article 'Exerting better control and specificity with singlet oxygen experiments in live mammalian cells' in: *Methods*, 15 October 2016.

Alfonso Blazquez is co-author of the article 'Establishing the subcellular localization of photodynamically-induced ROS using 3,3'-diaminobenzidine: A methodological proposal with a proof-of-concept demonstration' in: *Methods*, 15 October 2016.

Julieta Goenaga is co-author of the article 'Novel seminal fluid proteins in the seed beetle *Callosobruchus maculatus* identified by a proteomic and transcriptomic approach' in: *Insect Molecular Biology*, 22 October 2016.

Michael G. Flaherty is author of the article 'An S-shaped pattern in the perceived passage of time: how social interaction governs temporal experience' in: *Language and Cognition*, October 2016.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz is co-author of the article 'Identification and validation of candidate epigenetic biomarkers in lung adenocarcinoma' in: *Scientific Reports*, 26 October 2016.

Anja Kamp is first author of the article 'Intracellular nitrate of marine diatoms as a driver of anaerobic nitrogen cycling in sinking aggregates' in: *Frontiers in Microbiology* 7:1669.

Xuhui Dong is co-author of the paper 'Early warning of critical transitions in biodiversity from compositional disorder' in: *Ecology*, 2016, 97(11): 3079-3090.

Dorothee Birke is the author of a book review (on Wong/Yildiz: Kazuo Ishiguro in a Global Context), published in: *Anglistik* 27.2, 2016.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz is co-author of the paper 'Transcriptomics and methylomics of CD4-positive T cells in arsenic-exposed women' in: *Arch Toxicology*, 12 November 2016.

Naicheng Wu is first author of the article 'Importance of sampling frequency when collecting diatoms' in: *Scientific Reports* 6:36950, 14 November 2016.

Morten Kyndrup published the review 'Triste historier: Strittende tekstsamling af Niels Frank' in: *Standart*, Vol. 30, No 2/3, 10.2016.

Morten Kyndrup published the review 'At lave verden om til Norge: Jan Kjærstad er tilbage med voluminøs mesterroman' in: *Standart*, Vol. 30, No 2/3, 10.2016.

Svend-Erik Skaaning is co-author of the article 'Measuring high level democratic principles using the V-Dem data' in: *International Political Science Review*, Vol. 37, No. 5.

Svend-Erik Skaaning is co-author of the article 'Going Historical: Measuring Democraticness before the Age of Mass Democracy' in: *International Political Science Review*, Vol. 37, No. 5.

Isabel Kusche is author of the article 'Rationalising localism and brokerage: the deputy's role in Irish democracy' in: *European Journal of Cultural and Political Sociology*, 21 November 2016.

Kirill Postoutenko is author of the article 'Towards conceptual history of canonization in totalitarian societies' in: *Ariadna histórica. Lenguajes, conceptos, metáforas*, Núm. 5, 2016.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz is co-author of the article 'Gene silencing of Nox4 by CpG island methylation during hepatocarcinogenesis in rats' in: *Biol Open*, 28 November 2016.

Morten Kyndrup published the article 'Modernism and "Aesthetic Experience": Art, Aesthetics – and the Role of Modernism' in: *The Nordic Journal of Aesthetics*, no 51, 2016.

Amy M. Iler and Toke T. Høye are co-authors of the article 'Detrending phenological time series improves climate-phenology analyses and reveals evidence of plasticity' in: *Ecology*, 16 December 2016.

Dorothee Birke published the article 'Un/Making Homes in Anglophone Cultures' in: *Anglistentag 2015 Paderborn Proceedings*, eds. Christoph Ehland, Ilka Mindt and Merle Toennies, Trier: WVT, 2016, 31-35.

Consuelo Manetta is co-author of the article 'НОВИ НАБЛЮДЕНИЯ ВЪРХУ АРХИТЕКТУРАТА И ЖИВОПИСТА НА САРКОФАГОВИДНАТА КАМЕРА В МОГИЛА ОСТРУША, ГР. ШИПКА' ('Architecture and Painting of the Sarcophagus-like Burial Chamber of the Ostrusha Burial mound, Shipka: New Remarks'), in: *Проблеми на тракийската култура*, 8, Велико Търново, 2016, pp. 31-88.

Morten Kyndrup published the review 'Ingen steder hen. Gnistrende poesi fra Per Aage Brandt' in: *Standart* Issue 4, 2016.

Patrick Biller is first author of the article 'Assessment of agricultural crops and natural vegetation in Scotland for energy production by anaerobic digestion and hydrothermal liquefaction' in: *Biomass Conversion and Biorefinery*, 13 December 2016.

Xuhui Dong is co-author of the paper 'Deciphering long-term records of natural variability and human impact as recorded in lake sediments: a palaeolimnological puzzle' in: *WIREs: water*, 2017.

Rima Obeid is co-author of the article 'Vitamin B-12-fortified toothpaste improves vitamin status in vegans: a 12-wk randomized placebo-controlled study' in: *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 4 January 2017.

Rima Obeid is co-author of the article 'Effect of two different multimicro-nutrient supplements on vitamin D status in women of childbearing age: a randomized trial' in: *Nutrient*, Vol. 9, Issue 1, 4 January 2017.

Btihad Ajana is author of the article 'Curating Public Art 2.0: The Case of Autopoiesis' in: *Journal of Arts and International Affairs*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 57-83.

Martin Holmstrup is first-author of the article 'Long-term and realistic global change manipulations had low impact on diversity of soil biota in temperate heathland' in: *Nature Scientific Reports*, 25 January 2017.

Btihad Ajana is author of the article 'Digital Health and the Biopolitics of the Quantified Self' in: *Digital Health*, vol. 3, no.1, pp. 1-18.

Jessica L. Barker is first-author of the article 'Synthesizing perspectives on the evolution of cooperation within and between species' in: *Evolution*, 8 February 2017.

Federica Bertolotti is co-author of the article 'Dismantling the "Red Wall" of Colloidal Perovskites: Highly Luminescent Formamidinium and Formamidinium-Cesium Lead Iodide Nanocrystals' in *ACS Nano*, 23 February 2017.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz is co-author of the article 'DNA methylation profiles of elderly individuals subjected to indentured childhood labor and trauma' in: *BMC Medical Genetics*, 27 February 2017.

Jessica L. Barker is co-author of the paper 'Inter-group cooperation in humans and other animals' in: *Biology Letters*, 13: 20160793, 1 March 2017.

Xuhui Dong is the corresponding author of the article 'Using palaeolimnological data and historical records to assess long-term dynamics of ecosystem services in typical Yangtze shallow lakes (China)' in: *Science of the Total Environment* 2017, 584-585: 791-802.

Patrick Biller is co-author of the article 'Characterizing Semi-volatile Organic Compounds of Bio-crude from Hydrothermal Liquefaction of Biomass' in: *Energy&Fuels*, 7 March 2017.

Patrick Biller is co-author of the article 'Catalytic hydrotreatment of bio-crude produced from hydrothermal liquefaction of aspen wood: A catalyst screening and parameter optimization study' in: *Sustainable Energy & Fuels*, 7 March 2017.

Rebecca K. Simmons is first author of the paper 'Does training of general practitioners for intensive treatment of people with screen-detected diabetes have a spillover effect on mortality and cardiovascular morbidity in 'at risk' individuals with normoglycaemia? Results from the ADDITION-Denmark cluster-randomised controlled trial' in: *Diabetologia*, 9 March 2017.

Mads Vaarby Sørensen is co-author of the article 'Intact colonic KCa1.1 channel activity in KCNMB2 knockout mice' in: *Physiological Reports*, Vol. 5, 13 March 2017.

Luís Pedro Viegas is author of the article 'Assessment of model chemistries for hydrofluoropolyethers: A DFT/M08-HX benchmark study' in: *International Journal of Quantum Chemistry*, 17 March 2017.

Patrick Biller is co-author of the article 'The seasonal variation of fucoidan within three species of brown macroalgae' in: *Algal Research*, Volume 22, March 2017.

Morten Kyndrup is author of the reviews 'At tage gruelig fejl: Finurlig finsk roman til eftertanke' and 'Frihedens pris: Disparate digte med prægnavns' in: *Standart*, Vol. 31, Nr. 1, 03, 2017.

Armin W. Geertz is co-author of Betænkning 1564. *En samlet lovregulering om andre trossamfund end folkekirken. Betænkning fra Trossamfundsudvalget* ('Recommendation 1564. A Comprehensive Judicial Regulation Concerning Other Religious Denominations than the Danish Lutheran Church. A Recommendation by the Committee on Religious Denominations'), published by the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Copenhagen 2017.

Michael Voldsgaard Clausen is co-author of the article 'Bilayer-Mediated Structural Transitions Control Mechanosensitivity of the TREK-2 K2P Channel' in: *Structure*, 6 April 2017.

Federica Bertolotti is first-author of the article 'Coherent Nanotwins and Dynamic Disorder in Cesium Lead Halide Perovskite Nanocrystals' in *s* 10 April 2017.

Bjørn Panyella Pedersen is co-author of the article 'Improved Model of Proton Pump Crystal Structure Obtained by Interactive Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting Expands the Mechanistic Model for Proton Translocation in P-Type ATPases in: *Frontiers in Physiology*, 11 April 2017.

Patrick Biller is co-author of the article 'Hydrothermal Co-liquefaction of Biomasses – Quantitative Analysis of Bio-crude and Aqueous Phase Composition' in: *Sustainable Energy & Fuels*, 12 April 2017.

Filip Meysman is first-author of the article 'Negative CO2 emissions via enhanced silicate weathering in coastal environments' in: *Biology Letters*, Vol. 13, Issue 4, 13 April 2017.

Rima Obeid is first-author of the paper 'The effectiveness of daily supplementation with 400 or 800 µg/day folate in reaching protective red blood folate concentrations in non-pregnant women: a randomized trial' in: *European Journal of Nutrition*, 26 April 2017.

Isabel Kusche is author of the article 'Constituency orientation in Irish politics: video statements of the candidates in the Irish general election 2016' in: *Irish Political Studies*, 13 May 2017.

Federica Bertolotti is co-author of the article 'Thermal properties of iopamidol Crystalline anhydrous, hydrated and amorphous forms' in: *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry*, 26 May 2017.

Xuhui Dong is co-author of the article 'Using river microalgae as indicators for freshwater biomonitoring: review of published research and future directions' in: *Ecological Indicators*, Vol. 81, 124-131.

Naicheng Wu is first-author of the article 'Using river microalgae as indicators for freshwater biomonitoring: review of published research and future directions' in: *Ecological Indicators*, Vol. 81, 124-131.

Michael Voldsgaard Clausen is first author of the review 'The structure and Function of the Na,K-ATPase Isoforms in Health and Disease' in: *Frontiers in Physiology*, 6 June 2017.

Magnus Kjaergaard is first-author of the article 'Functions of intrinsic disorder in transmembrane proteins' in: *Cell. Mol. Life Sci.*, 10 June 2017.

Bjørn Panyella Pedersen is co-author of the article 'Crystal structure of the potassium-importing KdpFABC membrane complex' in: *Nature*, 22 June 2017.

Rima Obeid is co-author of the article 'Selenium increases hepatic DNA methylation and modulates one-carbon metabolism in the liver of mice' in: *The Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry*, 9 July 2017.

Dorothee Birke is author of the article 'Julian Barnes: The Sense of an Ending' in: *Kindlers Literatur Lexikon Online*, ed. Heinz Ludwig Arnold, www.kll-online.de.

Frants H. Jensen is co-author of the paper 'Amazon river dolphins (*Inia geoffrensis*) modify biosonar output level and directivity during prey interception in the wild' in: *Journal of Experimental Biology*, 19 July 2017.

Yonghui Zeng is co-author of the paper 'Genomic Analysis of the Evolution of Phototrophy among Haloalkaliphilic Rhodobacterales' in: *Genome Biology and Evolution*, Volume 9, Issue 7, 27 July 2017.

Xuhui Dong is corresponding author of the paper 'Recent Sedimentation Rates of Shallow Lakes in the Middle and Lower Reaches of the Yangtze River: Patterns, Controlling Factors and Implications for Lake Management' in: *Water* 2017, 9, 617, 17 August 2017.

Federica Bertolotti is co-author of the report 'Report on the To.Sca.Lake 2.0 Workshop, Total Scattering for Nanotechnology on the Como Lake' in: *Powder Diffraction*, Volume 32, Issue 3, August 2017.

EXTERNAL ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Xuhui Dong visited Prof. Matthew Wooller at Alaska Stable Isotope Facility, University of Alaska Fairbanks, for research cooperation on oxygen isotope analysis on head capsules of fossil chironomids from 3-11 September 2016.

Btihad Ajana gave the talk 'Ontologies of the Quantified Self' at the TaPRA Conference 2016: Performing the Quantified Self Workshop, 5-8 September 2016, University of Bristol, UK.

Djuke Veldhuis gave the talk 'The importance of subsistence in maintaining and perpetuating cultural identity among Haida and Tlingit in Alaska' at a workshop on 'Arctic extractive industries', 6 September 2016, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Naicheng Wu visited Guilin University of Technology and gave the talk 'Sustainable water resource management', 9-14 September 2016, Guilin, China.

Consuelo Manetta presented the poster 'Under The Same Sky? Figural Painted Coffered Ceilings in the Ancient Mediterranean' at the 13th Conference of the International Association for Ancient Wall Painting, 12-16 September 2016, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Xuhui Dong gave the talk 'Ecological regime shifts and changes of lake ecosystem service in a shallow Yangtze lake (Taibai Lake, China) over the past 150 years' at 10th International Wetlands Conference, 18-24 September 2016, Changshu China.

Oscar J. Martin Garcia acted as paper discussant of the session 'The International Factor in the Educational and Scientific Modernization of Spain, 1953-1976', 20-23 September 2016, at the XIII Conference of the Association of Contemporary History, Albacete, Spain.

Darin Stephanov gave the paper 'Images of the Own Group and the 'Other' in Bulgarian Popular Songs from the Mid-Nineteenth Century to the Balkan Wars (1912-13)' at the Politics of Enmity: Can Nation Ever Be Emancipatory? 5th International Conference of the Group for Social Engagement Studies, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade, Serbia, 26-28 September 2016.

Xuhui Dong gave the invited talk 'Paleolimnology: a key to understanding historical environmental changes', 29 September 2016, Jiangxi Normal University, China.

Dorothee Birke gave the keynote lecture 'Home as a Contested Narrative' at the workshop 'The Ideological Force of Narrative', 29-30 September 2016, University of Tampere, Finland.

Xuhui Dong gave the invited talk 'Paleolimnology: a key to understanding historical environmental changes', 30 September 2016, Nanchang Institute of Technology, China.

Iryna Mazhak gave an invited talk 'Social Inequalities in Health in Developing Countries: a Comparison Perspective', 30 September 2016, Caucasus International University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Jessica Barker gave the invited talk 'Careers in biology: a behavioural ecologist's perspective', 4 October 2016, Queenswood School, Hertfordshire, UK.

Jessica Barker gave the invited talk 'Cooperation and competition within and among groups in humans', 6 October 2016, York Centre for Complex Systems Analysis, University of York, UK.

Consuelo Manetta gave the paper 'The Decor of Death: the Funerary Art of Bulgaria between the Late Classical and Early Hellenistic period' at the International Academic Conference Graves, Tombs, Necropoleis in their Settlement Environment in the Eastern Mediterranean – Classical to Hellenistic Period, 9-14 October 2016, Kazanlak, Ispirih, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Xuhui Dong went on a research visit to Department of Biology, Hamburg University, Germany, to work on a paper on biodiversity and ecology of floodplain wetlands, 10-12 October 2016.

Darin Stephanov undertook a field trip between to collect rare ceremonial reports from mid-nineteenth-century Russian imperial newspapers on microfilm, 12 October- 2 November 2016, at the National Library of Finland, Helsinki.

Btihad Ajana was a panel organizer, chair and gave the talk 'Life Gamified: Practices of the Quantified Self' at the Arts & Humanities Festival 2016 – Play, 13 October 2016, King's College London, UK.

Xuhui Dong gave the talk 'An introduction on Chinese National 973 Project: Long term ecosystem dynamics and ecological safety assessment of typical lakes from the East and Southwest China', 13 October 2016, Dept. of Bioscience, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Isabel Kusche presented the invited paper 'The Governance Paradigm and Its Blind Spots in the Western European Periphery', at the conference The 'Turn to Governance' and its Consequences. The Recalibration of Statehood in Europe from the 1970s until Today, 20-21 October 2016, at the Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.

Yonghui Zeng presented the poster 'Genomic Insights into Phototrophic Gemmatimonadetes Bacteria and Their Presence in Diverse Environments' at the 13th Nordic Photosynthesis Congress – Improving Photosynthesis, 25-28 October 2016, GEUS, Copenhagen.

Rima Obeid gave the presentation 'Preventable neural tube defects in Europe and the predicted effect of folic acid' at the 27th International Conference on Spina bifida and Hydrocephalus, 28 October 2016, University Hospital Ghent, Belgium.

Isabelle Torrance gave the lecture 'Sophocles' Antigone: Ancient and Modern Contexts', 31 October 2016, Dept. of History and Classical Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Patrick Biller gave the presentation 'Drop in potential of upgraded fuels produced at pilot scale via hydrothermal liquefaction of different biomass feedstocks' at the TCS 2016—Symposium on Thermal and Catalytic Sciences for Biofuels and Biobased Products, 1-4 November 2016, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA.

Naicheng Wu gave the talk 'Approaches to model shifts in community structure' at the workshop 'Community shift as reaction on restoration measures in Lake Durowsky', 8-10 November 2016, Kiel, Germany.

Btihad Ajana gave the talk 'Politics and Ethics of Self-Tracking Culture' at the International Journal of Arts and Sciences Conference, 8-11 November 2016, University of London Union, UK.

Consuelo Manetta gave the invited lecture 'In the Shadow of the "Old Mountain": Funerary Painting of Bulgaria Between the Late-Classical and Early Hellenistic', 14 November 2016, School of Archaeology, Oxford University, UK.

Xuhui Dong gave the presentation 'Climatically controlled chemical and biological development in a Greenland lake over the past 2000 years' at the 1st Network for Arthropods of the Tundra (NeAT) meeting, 15-16 November 2016, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Consuelo Manetta gave the invited lecture 'The painted tombs of Bulgaria between the Late-Classical and Early Hellenistic period. Figurative programs, local models, and external influences', 16 November 2016, Department of Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology, Birmingham University, UK.

Dorothee Birke gave the invited talk 'Memory Narratives in Fiction' at the Narrative Research Lab, 24 November 2016, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Consuelo Manetta gave the talk 'Il contributo della decorazione architettonica alla conoscenza dell'Albanum di epoca romana' at a workshop organized by the German Archaeological Institute in Rome and the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz at the Seminario Vescovile di Albano, Albano, Rome, 10 December 2016.

Xuhui Dong gave the invited talk 'Global change and lake ecosystem response: evidence from lake sediments', 12 December 2016, at the Dept. of Biology, Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China.

Naicheng Wu gave the invited talk 'Integrated ecohydrological modelling for river basin management', 15 December 2016, Nanjing Institute of Geography and Limnology Chinese Academy of Sciences (NIGLAS), China.

Naicheng Wu visited Institute of Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Research, Dali University, China and gave the invited talk 'Integrated ecohydrological modelling for river basin management', 16-18 December 2016.

Naicheng Wu participated in the 1st International Forum for Academic Youths and Elites and gave the talk 'Sustainable river basin management', 19-20 December 2016, Guangzhou University, China.

Xuhui Dong gave the invited talk 'Ecosystem change and lake management: a sediment-based perspective', 21 December 2016, at the Dept. of Biology, Jinan University, Guangzhou, China.

Naicheng Wu gave the invited talk 'Sustainable water resource management', 21-22 December 2016, Pearl River Fisheries Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Science, Guangzhou, China.

Btihaj Ajana gave the talk 'Rethinking Health through Self-tracking Practices' at the Medical Humanities Conference, 9-11 January 2017, Warsaw, Poland.

Btihaj Ajana gave the talk 'Freedom or abandonment? Reflections on the politics of digital self-tracking', MeCCSA 2017, 11-13 January 2017, Leeds University, UK.

Btihaj Ajana gave the talk 'The Biopolitics of the Quantified Self' at the 2017 International Symposium on Economics and Social Science, 19-22 January 2017, Kuta, Indonesia.

Consuelo Manetta gave the invited lecture entitled 'Uno sguardo alla pittura romana "provinciale". Per un'analisi contestuale delle tombe dipinte della Bulgaria', 30 January 2017, University of Padova, Italy.

Xuhui Dong presented the paper 'Subfossil Cladoceras as ecological indicators in large shallow lakes along the Yangtze River, China' at the OIKOS Conference for Ecologists and Evolutionary Biologists, 30 January- 1 February 2017, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Consuelo Manetta gave the paper 'Contextualising the Past in the Alban Hills: Places for Life and Death, for Production and Otium' at the workshop 'Tra Appia e Latina: dinamiche insediative e sviluppo del territorio alle pendici dei Colli Albani', 9 February 2017, at the Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut in Rome, Italy.

Jessica L. Barker gave the talk 'Cooperation: A behavioural ecologist's perspective' at the UN's International Women in Science Day, Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, 11 February 2017.

Consuelo Manetta gave the invited lecture entitled 'La pittura funeraria bulgara nell'ambito della cultura tracia dell'eta' classica e delle prima eta' ellenistica', 14 February 2017, at the Archeoclub d'Italia, Ragusa, Sicily, Italy.

Alexander Panayotov gave the invited talk 'Jewish Communities in the Early Byzantine Balkans and the Aegean. Everyday Life and Communal Structure', 23 February 2017, the American Research Center in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Armin W. Geertz gave a lecture on 'Religion and Evolution' for 235 secondary school children from Viborg Katedralskole/ High School on 28 February 2017.

Isabelle Torrance gave the invited talk 'Euripides and the Gods' at the Department of Classics, 2 March 2017, University of California, Davis, USA.

Michael Flaherty taught the PhD course 'Time work: What people do with time', 9-10 March 2017, Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Isabelle Torrance gave the invited talk 'Greek Tragedy and (Post)Colonialism: The Case of Ireland' at the Department of Classics, 10 March 2017, Stanford University, USA.

Armin W. Geertz gave a public lecture at Folkeuniversitet's series 'Tag en pause' ("Take a break") entitled 'Pausens religiøse dimensioner' ('The religious dimensions of taking a pause'), 15 March 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Federica Bertolotti was approved by an international panel of experts to perform experiments in a large scale facility at the Material Science Beamline of the Swiss Light Source, Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen, Switzerland, as part of the project 'Wide Angle X-ray Total Scattering study of highly defective-bright luminescent lead halide perovskites nanocrystals', 15-19 March 2017, Switzerland.

Isabelle Torrance gave the invited talk 'Heracles and Hercules: Ancient Models for PTSD in Euripides and Seneca' at the Department of Classics, 22 March 2017, Berkeley, California, USA.

Jessica Dean Wiskus gave the presentation 'From the Visual to the Musical: 'Relearning' the Experience of Temporality in the Later Merleau-Ponty' at the conference Issues in Contemporary Phenomenology, 23-26 March 2017, University of Warsaw, Poland.

Darin Stephanov presented the paper 'From Medals to Mugs: Ruler Visibility, 'Ruler Objects', and Sociability in the Late Russian and Ottoman Empires' at the History of Consumer Culture: Objects, Desire and Sociability International Conference, 23-25 March 2017, Gakushuin University, Tokyo, Japan.

Dorothee Birke gave the presentation 'Discomfort and agency: representations of the homeless in contemporary British drama' at the 13th SIEF Congress "Ways of Dwelling", 26-30 March 2017, University of Göttingen, Germany.

Xuhui Dong gave the talk 'Ecological resistance, recovery and resilience of shallow lakes from the middle and lower reaches of Yangtze River' and presented a poster 'Resilience and Transformation Center in China' at the 1st International EcoRe3 Workshop, 27-31 March 2017, Finse Alpine Research Station, Norway.

Armin W. Geertz gave an invited talk at the conference 'Trossamfundenes retsforhold' ('The Judicial Situation of Religious Denominations [other than the Danish Lutheran Church]') entitled 'Arbejdet i Det Rådgivende Udvalg vedrørende Trossamfund (DRU)' ('The Work of the Advisory Committee on Religious Denominations') and participated in the panel debate on 'Krav om demokrati og ligestilling mv.?' ('The Requirements of Democracy and Gender Equality, etc.?'), 28 March 2017, Folkekirken Uddannelses- og Videnscenter, Løgumkloster, Denmark.

Consuelo Manetta gave the paper 'Soffitti, volte e cupole cassettonate di epoca romana e tardoantica. Contributo alla ricostruzione del repertorio figurativo e decorativo e delle sue dinamiche evolutive' at the conference 'Tra terra e cielo. Gli edifici a cupola tra la tarda Antichità e l'altomedioevo: struttura, funzione e decorazione', 29 March 2017, Lausanne University, Switzerland.

Consuelo Manetta gave the paper 'La morte dipinge la vita'. Aspetti della cultura odrisia alla luce della pittura funeraria tra tarda classicità e primo ellenismo, dans le cadre des C/TP Traitement de la peinture murale du Prof. Michel Fuchs' at Section d'archéologie et des sciences de l'antiquité, 30 March 2017, Lausanne University, Switzerland.

Iryna Mazhak presented the paper 'Social Inequalities in Self-Reported Health in Eastern European Countries: Findings from the ESS' at the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies annual conference, 1 April 2017, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Armin W. Geertz gave the lecture 'Textmining the Minds of Historical Persons: The Mystic Teresa of Ávila as a Case' at the Digital Text Lab Workshop, 4 April 2017, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Iryna Mazhak presented the paper 'Health Inequity and Gender Gap in Self-Reported Health Among the Ukrainian Working-age Population: Evidence for Policymakers' at the World Congress on Public Health 2017, 5 April 2017, Melbourne, Australia.

Djuke Veldhuis presented the poster 'Influences of Alaska native identity on cooperative behaviour' at The European Human Behaviour and Evolution (EHBE) conference 6-8 April 2017, Paris, France.

Naicheng Wu gave the presentation 'Contribution of Hydrological Variables on Algae Based Bioassessment and Biodiversity Conservation' at the workshop 'Integrated Water Resource Management: from Modeling to Adaptation', 9-13 April 2017, Shanghai, China

Naicheng Wu gave the presentation 'Integrated Ecohydrological Modelling for River Basin Management' at China West Normal University, 13-14 April 2017, Nanchong, China

Darin Stephanov gave an invited talk 'From Court Rituals to the Common Wo/man: Ruler Visibility and Popular Belonging in the Nineteenth-Century Russian and Ottoman Empires' at the International Symposium 'Recent Perspectives on Ceremonies, Rituals, and Festivals in the Ottoman World' 13-15 April 2017, Yale University, New Haven, USA.

Armin W. Geertz gave the lecture 'Evolutionary Approaches to the Study of Religion' at an interdisciplinary research workshop on "Evolution, Aesthetics, Media", 18 April 2017, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Consuelo Manetta and Darin Stephanov went on a field trip from 19-27 April 2017 to the Archives of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Bulgarian Central State Archive in Sofia on the subject of popular reactions to local nineteenth-century archeological excavations before and after the formation of the modern Bulgarian state in 1878.

Armin W. Geertz gave the lecture 'Textmining, Psychology and History of Religions: the Case of Teresa of Ávila' at a workshop on 'Digital Humanities' hosted by the eScience HUM, 19 April 2017, University of Southern Denmark, Odense.

Armin W. Geertz attended a workshop on 'Mosques in Denmark' hosted by the Islamic Cultures and Societies Research Unit (ICSRU), 25 April 2017, Aarhus University.

Btihad Ajana was invited speaker and session leader for the event, 'The Quantified Self: for a Worse or Better You?', organized by the think tank Plural, 2 May 2017, London, UK.

Darin Stephanov gave the presentation 'Military Journeys and Trans-Imperiality: The Russian-Ottoman Encounters of the Late 1820s and the Early 1830s' at the 41st Annual Conference ("Journeys") of the Irish Association for Russian, Central and East European Studies (IARCEES), 4-6 May 2017, National University of Ireland (NUI), Galway, Ireland.

Morten Kyndrup gave the presentation 'Aesthetics and Judgment' at the international conference On Taste Aesthetics Unlimited, 4 May 2017, Roskilde University, Denmark.

Btihad Ajana gave the invited talk 'Biopolitics of self-tracking', 5 May 2017, London South Bank University, UK.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz attended the Danish IP Fair, which presents inventions from the Danish Research Institutions, with his company MethylDetect, 9 May 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Dorothee Birke gave the talk 'Alien Religion: Michel Faber's Book of Strange New Things' at the conference Spiritual Networks: Religion in Literature and the Arts, 1700 to the Present, 17-19 May 2017, University of Halle-Wittenberg, Germany.

Darin Stephanov was organizer of and gave the talk 'Ruler Visibility, Modernity, and the Ethnonational Mindset in the Late Russian and Ottoman Empires. A New Conceptual Framework' at the workshop Ruler Visibility, Modernity, and the Ethnonational Mindset, 18-19 May 2017, AIAS, Denmark.

Anja Kamp gave the research seminar 'The hidden nitrate in sediments of the Bornholm Basin, Baltic Sea', 22 May 2017, Institute for Bioscience, Microbiology, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Armin W. Geertz gave the invited keynote lecture 'Religious Bodies, Minds and Places: a Cognitive Science of Religion Perspective' at the conference Spazi e luoghi sacri. Espressioni ed esperienze di vissuto religioso/Sacred Space and Sacred Places. Expressions and Experiences of Lived Religion, 23-25 May 2017, Italy.

Federica Bertolotti is co-organizer of the 2nd Summer School entitled To.Sca.Lake2.0: Total Scattering for Nanotechnology on the Como Lake, 29 May-2 June 2017, Italy.

Naicheng Wu gave the talk 'Hydrological, environmental and spatial variables interact to determine species, trait composition and beta diversity of pelagic algae' at the conference Society for Freshwater Science, 4-8 June 2017, Raleigh, USA.

Federica Bertolotti taught the course 'The Debye Scattering Equation: a Total Scattering Approach for Characterizing Nanomaterials at the summer school on Crystallographic Methods, 12-13 June 2017, University of Torino, Italy.

Jessica D. Wiskus gave the paper 'Between the Body and the Idea: Husserl's Early Phenomenology Applied to Contemporary Concerns in Music' at the Nordic Society for Phenomenology 15th Annual Conference, 15-17 June 2017, NTNU, Trondheim, Norway.

Alexander Panayotov went on a field trip to Bulgaria and Greece to collect epigraphic and archaeological data for my project at AIAS, 17 June-30 July 2017, Bulgaria and Greece.

Xuhui Dong gave the talk 'Ecological threshold of aquatic organisms in Yangtze Lakes' at the three day Shallow Lake Symposium, 20-22 June 2017, Silkeborg, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Isabelle Torrance gave the invited lecture '(Im)mobility in Tom Paulin's Seize the Fire' at the conference 'Movement and its limits in the theory and practice of ancient drama', 26 June 2017, Oxford University, UK.

Armin W. Geertz gave the guest lecture 'How the Sociology and History of Religion Can Meet the Cognitive and Psychological Sciences: What We Need from Them and They Need from Us' for the Käte Hamburger Kolleg Research Project 'Dynamiken der Religionsgeschichte zwischen Asien und Europa', 26 June 2017, at the Centrum für Religionswissenschaftliche Studien (CERES), Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Deutschland.

Federica Bertolotti gave the talk 'Wide Angle X-ray Total Scattering Techniques for Characterizing Nanomaterials' at the Annual Italian Crystallographic meeting and presented a demo session entitled 'DebuSy 2.0', 26-29 June 2017, Perugia, Italy.

Jessica Dean Wiskus gave the talk 'Classical Phenomenology and the Epistemological Clarification of Music Analysis' at the 9th European Music Analysis Conference / IXe Congrès européen d'Analyse musicale, 28 June-1 July 2017, Strasbourg, France.

Iryna Mazhak gave the presentation 'Social and behavioural determinants of health among the Ukrainian working-age population' at the 2017 International Health Conference, 29 June-1 July 2017, St Hugh's College Oxford, UK.

Dorothee Birke gave the talk 'Is Factuality in the Eye of the Beholder?' at the international conference Handbook Narrative Factuality, 6-8 July 2017, University of Freiburg, Germany.

Xuhui Dong gave the talk "Hierarchical response to nutrient enrichment among different biological communities in shallow Yangtze lakes" and chaired a session during the 1st International workshop on Social-Ecological Resilience of Freshwater Systems in the Anthropocene, 8-10 July 2017, Nanjing China.

Jessica Dean Wiskus presented the paper 'Classical Phenomenology on the Correlation between Cognitive Act and Formal Meaning' at the 6th Conference of the Royal Musical Association Music and Philosophy Study Group, 12-15 July 2017, King's College, London, UK.

Alexander Panayotov presented the paper 'Jewish Communities in the Early Byzantine Balkans and the Aegean: Communal Structure and Identity' at the 17th World Congress of Jewish Studies, 6-11 August 2017, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS AND GRANTS

Ümit Akbey and Professor Jørgen Kjems, iNANO, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 96,000.00 for the project 'Biochemical and structural characterization of proteins', 2016.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz and Associate Professor Lise Lotte Hansen, Dept. of Biomedicine, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 99,000.00 for the project 'Development of new patient stratification models using CLL specific methylation changes', 2016.

Naicheng Wu and Dr. Tenna Riis and Dr. Annette Baattrup-Pedersen, Dept. of Bioscience, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 92,000.00 for the project 'Linking benthic algae community composition to stream hydrological regime and ecosystem functions', 2016.

Rima Obeid and Professor Johan Palmfeldt, Research Unit for Molecular Medicine, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 90,000.00 for the project 'The effect of metformin on cellular transporters and B12-dependent pathways', 2016.

Tomasz K. Wojdacz, Associate Professor Lise Lotte Hansen, Dept. of Biomedicine, Aarhus University and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne Australia, formed the company Methyl Detect to work with bringing Methylation Sensitive High Resolution Melting (MS-HRM) assays to the life science research markets. The company has received an investment from BOREAN Innovation, January 2017.

Iryna Mazhak and Associate Professor Antoinette Fage-Butler, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 97,000.00 for the project 'Cultural understandings of health and ill health: A comparative study of Ukrainian and Danish females', 7 April 2017.

Magnus Kjærgaard is part of the new Centre of Excellence at Aarhus University entitled Center for Proteins in Memory (PROMEMO) that has received DKK 62 million from the Danish National Research Foundation. Centre leader: Anders Nykjær, Aarhus University, 19 April 2017.

Filip Meysman is part of the new Centre of Excellence at Aarhus University entitled Center for Electromicrobiology (CEM) that has received DKK 56 million from the Danish National Research Foundation. Centre leader: Lars Peter Nielsen, Aarhus University, 19 April 2017.

Kirill Postoutenko and Associate Professor Rosa Magnúsdóttir, Dept. of History, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 94,000.00 for the project 'Letters to Soviet and Nazi Leaders in the history of totalitarian societies: New Ways of collection and Analysis in the light of Modern Technologies and Methodologies', 2017.

Mads V. Sørensen and Professor Jens Leipziger and Professor Helle Prætorius Øhrwald, Dept. of Biomedicine Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 95,000.00 for the project 'The kidneys make sense: Puinergic Signaling in Acute Regulation of Renewal of Water and Electrolyte Handling', 2017.

Btihad Ajana and Associate Professor Anders Albrechtslund, Dept. of Digital design and Information Studies, Aarhus University received a Collaborative Project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 100,000.00 for the project 'Surveillance Culture', 2017.

Anja Kamp and Associate Professor Sebastian Schlafer, Dept. of Dentistry and Oral Health, Aarhus University received a Collaborative Project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 96,800.00 for the project 'New insight in fungal infections through real-time pH landscaping in biofilms', 2017.

Consuelo Manetta and Associate Professor Birte Poulsen, Dept. of History and Classical Studies, Aarhus University received a collaborative project grant from the Aarhus University Research Foundation of DKK 106,000.00 for the project 'Contextualising the past in the Alban Hills (Colli Albani)', 3 May 2017.

Magnus Kjærgaard received a grant of DKK 2.6 million to advance outstanding research by the Danish Council for Independent Research for his project on 'Antibody engineering facilitated by avidity', 4 May 2017.

Yonghui Zeng was awarded a Villum Experiment grant of DKK 2 million for his project 'Searching for Photosynthetic Archaea in Arctic Permafrost' by the Velux Foundation in support of unorthodox research ideas, 14 June 2017.

Xuhui Dong has received a grant of RMB 980,000 from the Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) to work on a lake ecosystem service of shallow Yangtze lakes with the project entitled 'Spatiotemporal patterns of ecosystem services and their tradeoff/synergy mechanism of typical lakes in the middle and lower reaches of Yangtze River'. The project commences in January 2018 and will last for four years. 17 August 2017.

IN THE MEDIA

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: online article at *altinget.dk*: 'AU-professor ny formand for globalt forskningsnetværk' on Kyndrup's role as chair of the global UBIAS network, 1 September 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: announcement in the newspaper *Børsen* of Kyndrup's role as chair of the global UBIAS network, 8 September 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: announcement in the newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* of Kyndrup's role as chair of the global UBIAS network, 9 September 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: article in the newspaper *Kristeligt Dagblad*: 'Vidensudvekslingsnetværk får ny chef' on Kyndrup's role as chair of the global UBIAS network, 19 September 2017.

Rima Obeid gave the web interview on 'Folates Controversies with Prof Rima Obeid' to *Metagenics Clinical Podcasts*, Health World Ltd, Australia, 18 November 2016.

Jessica Barker and Machteld Verzijden are co-authors of the newspaper debate article 'Evolutionbiologer: Der er en lang række fejl i Nyborgs viden om og fortolkning af evolutionsbio­logisk forskning' in the Danish newspaper: *Jyllands-Posten*, 2 December 2016.

Michael G. Flaherty is author of the article 'Why time seems to fly – or trickle – by' on *The Conversation* (<https://theconversation.com/why-time-seems-to-fly-or-trickle-by-70515>), 19 January 2017.

Michael Flaherty gave a half-hour live radio interview entitled 'Why Time Flies by' about his research on time to *BYU Radio*, 8 March 2017, USA.

Bjørn Panyella Pedersen was interviewed by *dr.dk* for the article 'En fjer – fem høns: Medicinske gennembrud bliver ofte oversolgt', online at: www.dr.dk/nyheder/viden/naturvidenskab/en-fjer-fem-hoens-medicinske-gennembrud-bliver-ofte-oversolgt, 21 March 2017.

Btihaj Ajana gave the podcast interview on biometrics, tracking and surveillance, hosted by Chris Till (Leeds Beckett University): <https://thisis-notasociology.blog/2017/03/24/podcast-episode-7-btihaj-ajana-biometrics-state-and-self-surveillance/>, 24 March 2017.

Armin W. Geertz was interviewed in the Danish radio program *24syv Morgen* on the topic 'Should We Force Religious Denominations to Have Democratic Organizations with Gender Equality?' ('Skal vi tvinge trossamfund til ligestilling og demokrati?') on 6 April 2017.

Michael G. Flaherty gave a podcast interview entitled 'Why Time Flies or Trickles By' to *The Academic Minute: A WAMC National Production* in which he discusses time and how we measure it, 6 April 2017.

Morten Kyndrup gave an interview to *Science Report* for the article '38 EU millioner til Aarhus Universitet' on the EU Horizon 2020 Cofund grant that AIAS received: <http://sciencereport.dk/navne/38-eu-millioner-aarhus-universitet/>, 17 May 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: newspaper article in the newspaper *Jyllands-Posten*: 'Rekordbevilling til fri forskning' on the EU Horizon 2020 Cofund grant that AIAS received: <http://jyllands-posten.dk/aarhus/uddannelse/ECE9582109/rekordbevilling-til-fri-forskning/>, 17 May 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: online article at *videnskab.dk* 'Universitet henter EU-bevilling på 38 millioner kroner' on the EU Horizon 2020 Cofund grant that AIAS received: <http://videnskab.dk/teknologi-innovation/aarhus-universitet-henter-eu-bevilling-paa-38-millioner-kroner>, 17 May 2017.

Morten Kyndrup and AIAS: newspaper article 'Rekordstor EU-bevilling' in the newspaper *Aarhus Stiftstidende* on the EU Horizon 2020 Cofund grant that AIAS received: <http://stiften.dk/navne/Rekordstor-EU-bevilling/artikel/454377>, 19 May 2017.

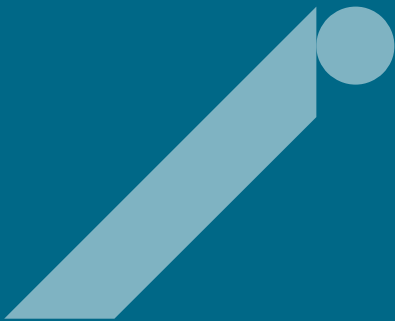
Morten Kyndrup gave a live interview to the Danish radio channel *DR P4* (Morgen) about the EU Horizon 2020 Cofund grant that AIAS received, 6 June 2017.

Armin W. Geertz is co-author of the debate article 'Efter 168 år får vi en lov om trossamfund uden for folkekirken: Folketinget bør kræve, at anerkendte trossamfund lever op til demokratiske principper' in the newspaper *Politiken*, 9 June 2017.

Michael G. Flaherty gave an interview about his research in time for the article 'Why Donald Trump's presidency already feels like an eternity A psychological theory helps explain why endless news slows down our perception of time', on: *Vox* (www.vox.com), 16 June 2017.

Btihaj Ajana directed the portrait documentary film 'Quantified Life' focusing on the self-tracking practices and habits of a dedicated self-quantifier from Denmark' at <https://youtu.be/ql75kMqctik>. 28 June 2017.

AIAS EVENTS





Dig in to the **multitude of events**, conferences, symposia, workshops, guest lectures, disciplinary as well as multi-disciplinary, that the AIAS Fellows have organized in 2016/17, and see the **diversity of topics** of the recurrent Fellows' Seminar Series. At AIAS, we bring fellows, Aarhus University researchers and international collaborators together...



AIAS EVENTS

AIAS Guest Lecture: 'Fear of Threat, Security Policies and Passportization in the Late Ottoman Empire' by Dr. Ilkay Yilmaz, Faculty of Political Science, Istanbul University, Turkey. Invited by AIAS Fellow Ümit Akbey, 2 September 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'Social Inequalities in Self-Reported Health in Working-age Population: Evidence from the European Social Survey' by AIAS Fellow Iryna Mazhak, 12 September 2016

AIAS Guest Lecture: 'Crucial Times: Crisis as a Solution of Continuity' by Prof. Javier Fernandez Sebastian, University of the Basque Country, Bilbao, Spain. Invited by AIAS Fellow Kirill Postoutenko, 16 September 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'Nice guys finish first: the evolution, ecology and economics of cooperation' by AIAS Fellow Jessica L. Barker, 3 October 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'How can a cooked noodle store memories? The role of disordered proteins in synaptic plasticity' by AIAS Fellow Magnus Kjærgaard, 10 October 2016

AIAS Guest Lecture: 'New method for Epigenetic Biomarker Assessment - From idea to commercialization' by Associate Prof. Lise Lotte Hansen, Dept. of Biomedicine, Aarhus University. Invited by AIAS Fellow Tomasz K. Wojdacz, 12 October 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'Totalitarian Routines: On Everyday Grounds of Undemocratic Activities' by AIAS Fellow Kirill Postoutenko, 24 October 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'Water resource management. Developing sustainable strategies under global change' by AIAS Fellow Naicheng Wu, 7 November 2016

AIAS Guest Lecture: 'The evolution of reciprocity & cooperation - classic examples and modern-day case studies' hosted by AIAS Fellow Djuke Veldhuis, 11 November 2016

AIAS & NEAT Conference: 'Network for Arthropods of the Tundra': international network initiated and organized by AIAS Former Fellow Toke T. Høye, Dept. of Bioscience and Arctic Research Centre, Aarhus University, 15 November 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'Pod thinking: Collective foraging in social toothed whales' by AIAS Fellow Frants H. Jensen, 21 November 2016

AIAS Symposium: *Human Biology of Migration - SSHB 2016 Annual Meeting*. The symposium brought together international experts of the field: 6 keynote talks and 10 papers were given. Organized by AIAS Fellow Djuke Veldhuis in collaboration with the Society for the Study of Human Biology (SSHB), UK, 30 November-2 December 2016

AIAS Fellows' Seminar: 'What should we do about the diabetes epidemic? Insights from epidemiology' by AIAS Fellow Kate Simmons, 5 December 2016

AIAS Guest Lecture: 'Extracellular K⁺ controls NCC phosphorylation in native DCTs by Cl⁻ dependent and independent mechanisms' by PhD David Penton Ribas, Institute of Anatomy, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Invited by AIAS Fellow Mads V. Sørensen, 7 December 2016

AIAS Workshop: *Cultural heritage of European coastal and maritime regions* organized by AIAS Former Fellow, Prof. Jürgen Elvert, 8 December 2016

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'The Cage of Days: Time and Temporal Experience in Prison' by AIAS Fellow Michael Flaherty, 12 December 2016

AIAS Funding Seminar: 'Research Funding Seminar' with presentations on the Danish funding landscape, EU funding and funding strategy for AIAS Fellows given by the Aarhus University Research Support Office and organized by AIAS in collaboration with the RSO, 14 December 2016

AIAS & Center for Sociological Studies Event: Research Group Meeting on Systems Theory with talk by AIAS Fellow Kirill Postoutenko on 'Communicative Differentiation in Totalitarian Societies (Revisiting Luhmann in the Light of Soviet and Nazi Public Interaction)'. Organized by AIAS Fellow Isabel Kusche, 15 December 2016

AIAS Symposium: *Machineries of Persuasion – European Soft Power and Public Diplomacy during the Cold War*. The two-day symposium brought together international experts of the field: 1 keynote talk and 16 papers were given. Organized by AIAS Fellow Óscar J. Martín García in collaboration with Rosa Magnúsdóttir, Dept. of History, Aarhus University, 19 January 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Electrical life: How microbes harnessed electricity way before Alessandro Volta' by AIAS Fellow Filip Meysman, 11 February 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Metabolic Flexibility: Lessons learnt from deficiency and supplementation of targeted nutrients' by AIAS Fellow Rima Obeid, 20 February 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'The Art of Measuring Democracy: The Varieties of Democracy Project in Comparative Perspective' by AIAS Fellow Svend-Erik Skaaning, 27 February 2017

AIAS Sandbjerg Career Development Seminar: two-day offsite seminar for all AIAS Fellows and the AIAS administration. Presentations by Søren Barlebo Rasmussen, Management consultant, PhD: 'Research management – which type of management discipline is it?'; Lise Degn, Aarhus University: 'Challenges of building, maintaining and managing successful research groups'; and Maja Horst, Copenhagen University: 'Science in Society: What's your responsibility?', 15-16 March 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Plug-and-Play Photosynthesis. Resolving the Building Blocks of Bacterial Photosynthetic Reaction Centers through Evolutionary Genomics' by AIAS Fellow Yonghui Zeng, 20 March 2017

AIAS at Academic Hour at Moesgaard: 'Marking Time in Prison: Impositions and Adaptations': talk by AIAS Fellow Prof. Michael G. Flaherty given at Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University, 19 April 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Hydrothermal liquefaction: Accelerating nature by conversion of biomass to bio-petroleum' by AIAS Fellow Patrick Biller, 24 April 2017

AIAS at the Festival of Research: Jessica L. Barker organized the exhibition 'That Thing You do' to engage the public audience at the Festival of Research. Three AIAS Fellows presented their research to a public and academic audience: Michael Flaherty gave the talk 'A Cage of Days: A Cage of Days: Time and Temporal Experience in Prison'; Isabel Kusche gave the talk 'You Help Me and I Help You. Shades of Grey in Democratic Politics'; and Isabelle Torrance gave the talk 'The Riddle of the Sphinx' at the annual Festival of Research, Aarhus University, Denmark, 27 April 2017

AIAS talks on UBIAS Topic of the Year FEAR: 'FEAR and the Dionysiac'; two talks given and organized by AIAS Fellows Isabelle Torrance and Jessica D. Wiskus, 28 April 2017

AIAS & Study of Religion seminar: 'Grave Symbolism', an interdisciplinary seminar, organized by AIAS Fellow Armin W. Geertz and hosted by the Research Program for the Study of Religion in cooperation with Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, Aarhus University, 1 May 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Why Mysticism? On why this strange phenomenon should be of interest to everyone' by AIAS Fellow Armin W. Geertz, 8 May 2017

AIAS Symposium: *2nd Symposium on Genes, Reproduction and Development* organized by AIAS Former Fellow Karin Lykke-Hartmann, Dept. of Biomedicine and Dept. of Clinical Medicine, 9 May 2017

AIAS at Centre for Irish Studies Seminar Series (CISA): AIAS Fellow Isabelle Torrance gave the invited talk 'Greek Tragedy and The Troubles in Northern Ireland'; AIAS Fellow Isabel Kusche an invited talk on 'Non-Programmatic Politics in Times of Crisis: The Case of Ireland' at the Centre for Irish Studies Seminar Series, Aarhus University, Denmark, 10 May 2017

AIAS Panel debate on UBIAS Topic of the Year FEAR: 'Fear in a Post-Factual World'. Five talks on the topic 'Fear in a Post-Factual World' followed by a panel discussion. Michael Bang Petersen, Prof., Dept. of Political Science, Aarhus University: 'When Conflict Trumps Truth'; Djuke Veldhuis, AIAS Fellow: 'An Evolutionary Perspective on Fear: Why Emotions Have a Trump Card over Reason'; Jessica L. Barker, AIAS Fellow: 'Evolution, Facts and Beliefs'; Jakob Linde Jensen, Danish School of Media and Journalism: 'Fake news – old wine on new bottles?'; Stefan Iversen, Associate Prof. Dept. of Scandinavian Studies and Experience Economy, Aarhus



University: 'Fear, Fictionality and the Rhetoric of Post-Humanitarianism'. Organized by AIAS Fellow Armin W. Geertz, 15 May 2017

AIAS Workshop: *Ruler Visibility, Modernity, and the Ethnonational Mindset*: two-day workshop with 14 international speakers with a goal to draw up a new research agenda, including a re-orientation regarding sources and a re-constitution of methods in late imperial, modernity, and nationalism studies. Organized by AIAS Fellow Darin Stephanov in collaboration with Associate Prof. Peter Bugge from the Dept. of History and Eastern European Studies, Aarhus University, 18-19 May 2017.

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Channels of Perception: How do we sense touch, sound, balance and force?' by AIAS Fellow Michael Voldsgaard Clausen, 22 May 2017

AIAS Workshop: *Ruler Personality Cults from Empires to Nation-States and Beyond: Symbolic Patterns and Interactional Dynamics*: two-day workshop with 12 speakers aiming at developing a more integrated approach leading to a better understanding of symbolic patterns and interactional chains linking rulers and the ruled. Organized by AIAS Fellows Kirill Postoutenko and Darin Stephanov, 1-2 June 2017

AIAS Conference: *Metric Culture: The Quantified Self and Beyond*: international multidisciplinary conference that featured 2 keynote speakers, 21 panels and brought together more than 60 speakers, both international and Aarhus University faculty speakers from all four faculties to present research on self-tracking practices and the Quantified Self phenomenon. The conference also provided a platform for critical discussions on the various implications of the rising 'metric culture'. Organized by AIAS Fellow Btihaj Ajana 7-9 June 2017

AIAS Fellow's Seminar: 'Tragedy and Politics. Oedipus on the Irish Stage 1926-2015' by AIAS Fellow Isabelle Torrance, 12 June 2017

AIAS Summer Gathering & UBIAS Topic of the Year 'FEAR': Academic and social reunion for current AIAS Fellows, AIAS Former Fellows, AIAS Associates, the Board of Directors and the AIAS Administration. The academic part was within the UBIAS Topic of the Year 'FEAR' with two talks: AIAS Fellow Isabel Kusche: 'Fear, Crisis and Democratic Politics'; and Tine Bennedsen Gehrt, Center for Autobiographical Memory Research, Aarhus University on 'Examining the fear of disease and illness: The case of hypochondriasis', 14 June 2017

AIAS Workshop: *Belonging and Heritage – An Exploration of the Parallel Formative Processes of Modern Consciousness and Archeological Patrimony*: one-day workshop with 3 international speakers organized by AIAS Fellows Darin Stephanov and Consuelo Manetta, 16 June 2017

AIAS Workshop: *Time Work: New Research on Temporal Agency*: two-day workshop with 16 talks by international speakers and Aarhus University researchers. Organized by AIAS Fellow Prof. Michael G. Flaherty in collaboration with Prof. Lotte Meinert and Associate Prof. Anne Line Dalsgård from the Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University, 24-25 August 2017



HOSTED EVENTS



AIAS' **facilities are open** to Aarhus University faculty members and external institutions, and we will **continue** to welcome academic events in the year to come. In the academic year of 2016-17 AIAS has hosted a still growing number of events for all four Aarhus University faculties. See a selection of these and **get inspired** how you can **utilize AIAS** in the forthcoming year...

HOSTED EVENTS

Conference: *Hitchin 70: Differential Geometry and Quantization* organized by Dept. of Mathematics, Aarhus University, Denmark, 5-8 September 2016

DANDRITE guest lecture: 'Emotional Arousal and Lasting Memories' by James McGaugh, Research Professor of Neurobiology and Behavior at the University of California, Irvine, US, organized by DANDRITE, 14 September 2016

Joint DANDRITE & MEMBRANES Lecture: 'Mutations of the alpha3 subunit of Na,K-ATPase (ATP1A3) gene and neurological disease in mice and man' lecture by Prof. Kathleen Sweadner, Laboratory of Molecular Neurophysiology Massachusetts General Hospital & Harvard Medical School, US, organized by DANDRITE, 15 September 2016

Kjeldgaard Lecture: 'Insights into diversity and function of microbial dark matter using metagenomics' by Per Halkjær Nielsen, Center for Microbial Communities, Dept. of Chemistry and Bioscience, Aalborg University, Denmark, organized by Dept. of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Aarhus University, 15 September 2016

PhD defence: 'The association between environmental factors early in life and Attention - Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Childhood – epidemiological studies to improve preventive efforts' by Susanne Hvolgaard Mikkelsen, Dept. of Public Health, Aarhus University, 22 September 2016

Arctic ITN Meeting: hosted by Tage Dalsgaard, Dept. of Bioscience and Arctic Research Centre, Aarhus University, 27-28 September 2017

Doctoral defence: 'The Empty Seashell. Witchcraft and Doubt on an Indonesian Island' by Nils Bubandt, PhD, organized by Faculty of Arts, Aarhus University, 30 September 2017

Lundbeckfond Lecture: 'Kroppen – det bakteriefyldte tempel' organized by Folkeuniversitet, 25 October 2016

Conference: *Praxis and Practice in Theology* organized by Aarhus University, 26 October 2016

Kjeldgaard Lecture: 'Fun with cell maps' by Kathryn Lilley, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, UK, organized by Dept. of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Aarhus University, 27 October 2016

Lecture: 'Transcultural Nursing' by Marilyn Ray, organized by Aarhus University Section of Nursing, 3 November 2016

PhD defence: 'Arctic insects and spiders in a changing climate' by Rikke Reisner Hansen, Dept. of Bioscience, Aarhus University, 14 November 2016

Conference: *International recruitment – Between a dynamic workforce and retaining excellent researchers* organized by Danish Think Tank DEA in collaboration with the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation, 22 November 2016

PhD Course: 'How to get published' organized by the four Graduate Schools, Aarhus University, 23 November 2016

Workshop: 'Tid og temporalitet i kunst og kultur' organized by the Dept. of Art History, Aesthetics & Culture and Museology, Aarhus University, 25 November 2016

Education day: Education day, organized by the AU Faculty of Health, 13 December 2016

Meeting: On 'Animism' hosted by AIAS Former Fellow, Prof. Rane Willerslev, Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University, 6 January 2017

Lundbeckfond Lecture: 'Kropsvægt – fakta, evolution og idealer' organized by Folkeuniversitet, 10 January 2017

Seminar: 'Thesis-writing seminar' organized by DPU, Aarhus University, 17 January 2017.

Workshop: *Mental health of the elderly*, organized by Centre for Collaborative Health, Aarhus University, 24 January 2017

Lundbeckfond Lecture: 'Stamcelleterapi og nyretransplantationer' organized by Folkeuniversitet, 31 January 2017

Women in Science day: Organized by Ashley Percy, Dept. of Bioscience, Aarhus University, 11 February 2017

Workshop: *International workshop: Perceptual Consciousness and Cognitive Access* organized by CNRU/CFin, Aarhus University, 18 February 2017

DANDRITE Encounters 2017: Group Leaders at DANDRITE presented their research groups and activities in neuroscience. Organized by DANDRITE, 27 February 2017

Lundbeckfond Lecture: 'Dit indre liv- hvad betyder billioner af tarmbakterier for dig og din personlighed?' organized by Folkeuniversitet, 2 March 2017

Conference: *Bring forskningsdata i spil* organized by Centre for Collaborative Health, Aarhus University, 14 March 2017



Lundbeckfond Lecture: 'Den aldrende hjerne' organized by Folkeuniversitetet, 21 March 2017

Symposium: *August II – Symposium and Workshop in Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses* organized by the Faculty of Health, Aarhus University, 6 April 2017

Visit: by the Mayor of Kiel and the Kiel City Council, invited and organized by the International Centre, Aarhus University, 24 April 2017

Joint KJELDGAARD & DANDRITE Lecture: 'The first steps in vision: cell types, circuits and repair' organized by Dept. of Molecular Biology and Genetics and Danish Research Institute of Translational Neuroscience, 25 April 2017

Workshop: 'Get to know the Novo Nordisk Foundation' organized by the Research Support Unit, Aarhus University, 2 May 2017

GEUS symposium: Organized by Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS), Copenhagen, Denmark, 4 May 2017

Lecture: 'Improving diagnosis in the era of electronic health records' Mr. Hardeep Singh, Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, US. Organized Prof. Peter Vedsted, Research Unit for General Practice, Aarhus University, 17 May 2017

Marie Curie Master Class: Organized by International Academic Staff Services (IAS), 17 May 2017

Meeting: on 'Chemical Ecology'. Organized by AIAS Former Fellows, Martin Holmstrup, Professor of Soil Zoology, Dept. of Bioscience, Aarhus University, 16 June 2017

Meeting: The Deans Office, Faculty of Arts, Aarhus University, 8 August 2017

Conference: on Talent development and collaboration with the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Organized by Faculty of Health, Aarhus University, 17-18 August 2017

Symposium: *Brainstem Symposium 2017* hosted by DANDRITE, Aarhus University, 28-29 August 2017

Conference: *Konference om unge, uddannelse, trivsel og præstation*, organized by the Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research, Aarhus University, 30 August 2017

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AIAS AWARDED ANOTHER LARGE EU COFUND GRANT

In May 2017, AIAS has received the largest grant given so far to Aarhus University from the European funding programme Horizon 2020 within Excellent Science. The grant will enrich 77 talented researchers with a fellowship at the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies over the next 5 years.

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND programme will support the AIAS fellowship programme with a total of EUR 5 million (DKK 38 million) from 2018-22. The new grant comes on top of another grant of DKK 46 million given in 2014 from the EU FP7 programme, amounting to a total EU contribution of DKK 84 million since the opening of AIAS in 2013.

The first call for the new AIAS-COFUND fellowship programme will open early November 2017, with an application deadline in early 2018. Fellowships are open for application by high-level researchers from across the world, but also for talented Danish researchers who wish to return to Denmark from a longer research stay abroad.

Read more about the AIAS COFUND fellowship programme at: <http://aias.au.dk/aias-fellowships>

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FUNDING



AIAS thanks the following for their support to the Institute:

- Aarhus University Research Foundation
- The European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration.



AARHUS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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