February 2018 Newsletter

Dear Junior Fellows,

February is the shortest month of the year and likewise less happened this past month. Nevertheless we have important information to share with you on future events and communication with your JF-Reps.

Yours Hanna Lena and Sebastian

We got a new e-mail-address and say goodbye to:

bigsas.reps@googlemail.com

From now on, if you want to get in touch with your JF-Reps kindly use:

bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de

We thank Rainer Noack of BIGSAS-IT for his support in moving JF-Reps mailing account and shared-files to a new server.

Doc’s and Dean’s Meeting

The next Doc’s and Dean’s Meeting is approaching. Docs and Deans meetings are the face to face platform of exchange between the JF’s and Deans of BIGSAS. The event will take place:

28.02.2018, from 4pm- 6pm at Glasraum, GSP.

The agenda will be circulated in advance via e-mail. In case you have any issue you would like to add to the agenda kindly write us an e-mail via bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de latest by 26.02.2018.

We warmly welcome you to the meeting and are looking forward to your participation.

Currents:

BIGSAS has 88 JFs at the moment.

In February Interviews for the next intake of April 2018 have taken place. JF-Reps participated in the best interest of the candidates.

In total 12 interviews were conducted. Final decision on the approval of the applications will be made in the AC-Meeting on 28.02.2018.
Election time

Another term of JF-Reps is coming to an end and elections are approaching.
For the upcoming elections:

Candidates for the ‘election committee’

We are looking for JF’s ready to join the election committee. The committee will be constituted of at least three JFs. They are responsible for:

- compiling the list of candidates
- liaise with the University of Bayreuth Graduate School to setup the electronic voting system.

That’s all ;)

Candidates for JF Representatives 2018 wanted

We are looking for interested JFs who will be interested in stepping in as JF-Reps and compete with us in the forthcoming election. Furthermore you can suggest other candidates. Be aware that candidates can only be suggested after asking the person whether she/he is willing to run for office.

Right and responsibilities of the JF-Reps include:

- Attend and represent JFs in respective BIGSAS structures. Liaise between Junior Fellows, and between JF and AC, MB, post-docs and the BIGSAS admin-office;
- Plan or suggest other Junior Fellows to plan social, academic, and any other (where necessary) programmes;
- Receive concerns of JF and consult with them. Addressing the concerns of individual or groups of JFs to the relevant bodies;
- Give periodic feedbacks/update to Junior Fellows on issues raised at meetings with AC, MB or post-docs;
- Attend the interview sessions of applicants to BIGSAS and communicate closely with the research area Representatives attending the interviews;
- Represent BIGSAS JF and collaborate with student bodies and organisations at the University of Bayreuth and other Universities or organisations in Germany;
- Help create a collegial atmosphere among BIGSAS Junior Fellows by organizing different informal forums that enhance such interaction.

Current candidates: Hanna Lena Reich, Sebastian Müller

In case you are willing to volunteer in either of the positions get in touch with us via bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de
HOW TO organize your mock defense?

If you want to practice your presentation, get feedback from your fellow JFs and train yourself to answer tricky questions before your defense, it is a good idea to organize a mock defense. To do so, send an email to the (rooms Bayreuth uni-rausfinden), asking them (kindly) to help you make a reservation for a room, preferably the one you are going to have your defense, to make yourself with the room and the technique. Once you have the time, date and room set, formulate an email and send it out to hand-picked colleagues or to the JF reps (bigsas.reps@gmail.com) asking them to circulate the email via the JF mailing list. It might also be useful to ask a fellow JF to help you moderate the session.

Best Practice to support Junior Fellows during their Defense

One day – if all goes well – everyone of us will have to face this crucial two hours of his JF-career where you will have to defend your thesis. Beside the effort we have spent in writing our work this event will have major influence on the overall grading of our work. One way of establishing the best conditions to perform in an excellent way of cause is a supportive environment. This includes for many of us the presence of colleagues and friends who are giving us moral support during the defense. It is a wonderful sign of support and companionship that often so many of the fellow JF and friends join in.

Nevertheless lately - though with best intention we assume – it occurs more often that the willingness to participate in the defense is rather a challenge then a benefit for the candidate defending. In the best interest of the candidates we would kindly give out the following information on BEST PRACTICE on how to support our fellow JF, colleagues and friends during THEIR defense.

**Once the defense has started you MUST NOT enter the room.** It can so easily happen as part of your stressful days, a sometimes awkward bus-schedule or for whatever reasons that you will not be able to make it in time. If you are late, the best way to support the candidate defending is actually to stay outside, and not to bring in any disturbance. Rather consider to join in later again when the defense is over.

**Once the defense stated you MUST NOT LEAVE before it is over.** A defense takes two hours. If you already know that you have another appointment though the defense will still be ongoing, better decide in favor of not attending the defense at all. Rather write a supportive message beforehand or meet with the candidate before the defense to show your support personally and explain your reasons why not to join. For sure this will be a more supportive way then disturbing the setting when you have to leave early and while making your way out of the room.

We hope the advices of best practice will be of help and in best interest for all of us.
PAST EVENTS AND SAVE THE DATES!

02.02.2018. **Defense** Blaise Muhire, Land, Power and Identity: The politics of scale and violent conflict in Masisi, “D.R.Congo”, Campus GWI, S120, 09:00am

09.02.2018 **Defence** Essoham Solitoke - L’usage des mémoires et discours dans les pratiques de légitimation, Campus, RW, S 52, 9am

09.02.2018 **Defence** Issifou Abou Moumouni - Gouvernance de la sécurité au Bénin, Campus, RW, S 52, 1pm


20-21.02.2018 **BIGSAS Workshop** Keeping Your Motivation Up Throughout the PhD-Project

28.02.2018 **Deadline CfP**: IUAES 18th World Congress, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, Brazil, www.iuaes2018.org

27.02.2018 **BIGSAS@school** Africa Day, Markgräfin-Wilhelmine-Gymnasium, 7:50am-12:00pm

01.03.2018 Deadline **Call for Panels International Conference**: Vienna Anthropology Days, http://vanda.univie.ac.at/home/, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

08.03.2018 **Deadline for Applications Exploratory Workshops** “Mobility –Knowledge – Society”, Forum Transregionale Studien e.V., Berlin, www.forum-transregionale-studien.de

12.03.2018 **Workshop** of Work group African Union - Conference and public Events chairing

10.03.2018. **Deadline CfP** Workshop “Revisiting Dams in Africa”, Point Sud Centre, Maputo, Mozambique, for details contact valerie.haensch@ethnologie.lmu.de

19.03-20.03.2018 **Workshop** of the working group African Union: How to manage a Project from the proposal to the evaluation

26.03.2018 **Deadline – Titelsubmission** - BIGSAS colloquium

02.-03.05.2018 **International Conference**: Didactics of Languages: Challenges of Innovation, Morocco, Marrakech


9.-13.04.2018 Conference UAS Spring Campus "Moving Beyond the Ivory Tower: How do Science and Universities Contribute to the Sustainability Transformation?", Freie Universität Berlin
SAVE THE DATES

27.04.2018 **BIGSAS colloquium**

30.04.2018 **Application deadline Conference** (14.-17.11.2018) Cultural Sustainability, Performance and the Sustainable Development Goals in Time of Crisis, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria, further info: cspcs@unimaid.edu.ng

26.-27.04.2018 **Conference** of the Developmental Sociology/ Social Anthropology Section (ESSA) of the German Sociological Association (DGS) „Resistance and Utopia – alternative visions of development and the future “ University of Bayreuth

06.05.2018 **Application deadline**: Interdisciplinary Conference: Nation and Society; Copernicus Graduate School; University in Toruń; Poland, [www.cgs.umk.pl](http://www.cgs.umk.pl)

12.05.2018 **BIGSAS exchange forum** ‘Young scholars of African literatures’. Iwalewahaus, further Info clarissa.vierke@uni-bayreuth.de/kittadee@yahoo.com

17.06-19.06.2018 **Workshop** “Revisiting Dams in Africa”, Point Sud Centre Maputo, Mozambique, for details contact valerie.haensch@ethnologie.lmu.de

16-20.07.2018 **Congress** IUAES 18th World Congress, Florianopolis, Brazil, [www.iuaes2018.org](http://www.iuaes2018.org)

22.06.2018 **Application deadline** Prague Summer School of Journalism (1 September – 15 September 2018), summer-school@fsv.cuni.cz

29.06. – 30.06.2018 **Interdisciplinary Conference**: Nation and Society; Copernicus Graduate School; University in Toruń; Poland, [www.cgs.umk.pl](http://www.cgs.umk.pl)

01.09.-15.09.2018 Prague **Summer School** of Journalism: CROSS-PLATFORM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE, summer-school@fsv.cuni.cz

19.-22.09.2018 **Conference**: Vienna Anthropology Days, vanda.univie.ac.at, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

11.-13.09.2018 **Conference** Lagos Studies Association Stream - ASAUK, African Studies Association (UK), [https://lagosstudies.wcu.edu](https://lagosstudies.wcu.edu)


18-29.06. 2018 **Summer Seminar** on Nationalism, Religion and Violence 2018, nrvsschool.fsv.cuni.cz, Prague
HOW TO contact the JF reps?
Email: bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de
Phone: Hanna Lena : 0157-75811107
Sebastian: 0175 763 81 17

If you have suggestions or information to add or if you would like to report about a certain activity, feel free to email us at bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de

Yours Hanna Lena & Sebastian