Dear Junior Fellows,

Semester break has begun. Students are heading for holidays and while the sun is burning, campus becomes quieter... Same goes for our BIGSAS newsletter, since less has happened during the last month. WE still hope you enjoy the few news we share with you.

Yours Hanna Lena and Sebastian

Welcoming our New JF

Following the decision of the AC of 16 May 2018 to admit candidates beyond the regular dates of the application process Katharina Schramm proposed a candidate for Research Area A. The candidate, Mr. Mihir Sharma, successfully completed the formal application process and was thus interviewed and has been admitted to BIGSAS. We gladly welcome him on board!

Mihir Sharma
“Black Lives Matter: Emerging Forms and Subjectivities of Activism”

8th BIGSAS festival of African & African Diasporic Literature

The 8th BIGSAS festival of African and African Diasporic Literatures was held between June 25th and 27th, 2018 and hosted more than 150 people from Bayreuth and beyond. As a yearly tradition, a team of BIGSAS fellows including juniors, seniors and alumni together with Prof. Susan Arndt organized and participated in a full gamut of readings, keynotes, discussions, vernissage, film screening, street music, performances, spoken words, workshops, and concerts. “Space, Feminism and Resistance” as the theme for this year was discussed by many distinguished scholars, artists and activist from all over the globe; Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria, England, Iraq, Palestine, Zimbabwe and many more. BIGSAS junior fellows particularly took up leading roles such as chairs, panelists, organizers, curators, and so on. Furthermore, during The BIGSAS literature festival junior fellows were able to foster and expand their academic networks with the guests as we come back to BIGSAS festival of African and African Diasporic Literatures every year to meet each other and grow together.

By Shirin Assa
So far, no JF responded for your call for JR-Representatives. Therefore, we repeat – repost–retweet– repeat

Election time

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

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.

Rights 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.

In case you are willing to volunteer in either of the positions get in touch with us via bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de
Meetings of BIGSAS, Unit of Entrepreneurship and AfyaMoto and AFROLYNK

On 18.07.2018 a couple of JFs and representatives of BIGSAS administration and the Unit of Entrepreneurship had a meeting with two German NGOs called AfyaMoto and AFROLYNK. While Afya Moto ([www.afyamoto.com](http://www.afyamoto.com)) is developing a cooking stove to reduce indoor air pollution (IAP), Afrolynk supports Africa-related start-up enterprises and entrepreneurs. BIGSAS and BIGSAS JFs expressed their willingness to support AfyaMoto with critical feedback on their efforts. Furthermore, potential cooperations between Afrolynk and BIGSAS, especially on the side of the JFs were discussed. Given the shown interest and the positive discussion AFROLYNK proposed the following first steps of cooperation:

1. Joining the Afrolynk Conference 2018 (31st of August): Bringing BIGSAS Fellows to the Afrolynk Conference. Afrolynk invites BIGSAS to talk to their Fellows and choose 5 people who then can join our conference for free and get an overview of what Afrolynk does. Given their background and expertise is suitable, we would also give them the possibility to join the working group. If there is interest to join our conference on the part of the Stabsabteilung Entrepreneurship & Innovation, we would also gladly make it possible for you to join.

2. Workshops: BIGSAS and the Stabsabteilung Entrepreneurship & Innovation should further elaborate whether there is demand for a mentoring/workshop program jointly organized with Afrolynk. Afrolynk could provide mentors and trainers, as well as contacts to its network. This could help students and fellows, who are i) interested in founding ii) already founded and need support iii) want to support other startups and share their knowledge and experience. Given that there is a demand, we could then talk in detail on how to structure such workshops.

3. Hosting a conference at the UBT: all parties agreed that there is a need and potential to further promote the discussion between academia and business in order to transfer knowledge and build synergies. Building on this agreement, we could organize a Roadshow or Conference (various sizes are possible) where Afrolynk would provide the manpower and act as the organizing partner, while BIGSAS and the Stabsabteilung Entrepreneurship & Innovation could act as co-organizers giving input, providing a network, and so on. The next step now would be to get the okay on the side of the university. Given that, we would then be able to further discuss, propose a concept and so on. The aim here would be a conference in 2019.

Three JFs so far expressed their interest to join the conference. If you are up to it as well please write us via [bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de)
SAVE THE DATES!

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


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


5.-06.10.2018– Annual Meeting Medical Anthropology Young Scholar (MAYS) Network, “Creative Methods and Participatory Arts Research in Medical Anthropolg, FU Berlin, https://mayseasa.org

2- SAVE THE DATES

10.10.2018 BIGSAS Academic committee meeting*

07.11.2018 BIGSAS Academic committee meeting*

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

05.12.2018 BIGSAS Academic committee meeting*


23.01.2019 BIGSAS Academic committee meeting*

20. 02.2019 BIGSAS Academic committee meeting*

*AC meetings are non-public! In case you want to hand in an application to the AC [see regulations when this is the case] your application must have been submitted to the Admin-Team latest by the Monday morning one week before the meeting, since the Agenda is approved by MB accordingly)
On July 5th we visited the Augustinum Coburg with a group of Junior Fellows, a Guest Professor from our Partner University as well as Members of the Model African Union Bayreuth.

In several workshops we discussed topics such as Digitalization in Kenya, living conditions in urban and rural areas in Nigeria, Childhood in West Africa, Ethnic diversity in Madagascar and insights of a life as a professor in Addis Abeba.

Each of us gave a 90min workshop in two different classes and at the end we had a plenary session together where, with the help of the students, we presented our results and discussed questions which came up during the sessions.

Hanna Lena Reich
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