

Dear Junior Fellows,

with some delay though, we are happy to release the last JF-Newsletter of our tenure. How quickly time goes by! During the last weeks some of us attended Summer Schools, others have taken some break to revitalise, whereas many others remained constantly sitting in the library or in their offices to meet important deadlines. This is our life. At least for the moment until we get our projects written and finally submitted.

This edition informs about some few activities undertaken by JFs for JFs while further also drawing your attention on announcements within and beyond our BIGSAS-Community.

As a final note, let us take this opportunity to thank all of you for your trust in us. Your comments, critics and diverse feedbacks have spurred us during our two terms as your elected JF-Reps. This is one more occasion to reiterate our deepest and sincere gratitude for your support. We leave it here!

ATLAS.ti Workshop

On July 2 and 3, 2019, nine Junior Fellows (JFs) successfully participated in an ATLAS.ti workshop to boost their qualitative data analysis skills. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Andreas W. Müller, an ATLAS.ti certified tutor from Müller Mixed Methods and sponsored by BIGSAS. The participants included Andreas Wüst, Dikko Muhammad, Gemechu Adimassu Abeshu, Isaac Osei-Tutu, Lena Naumann, Memunatu Sheini, Najoum Alhassane, Oladapo Opeyemi Ajayi and Shaden Kamel.

The JFs were taken through the introductory and some advanced aspects of the ATLAS.ti software and received individual coaching. The course equipped participants with the ability to analyze assorted research data of diverse formats including texts, PDF, image, audio and audio-visual data with the ATLAS.ti tool. Apart from giving insight to participants on how to utilize the software to better organize their research data to enable a better overview over the data, the course directed the JFs through the creation and usage



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of codes, the formulation of categories and themes, and the visualization of networks among notes and various stages of the data breakdown to assist in writing out as well as presenting results of the whole data analysis. The greatest advantage of the usage of the software over manual data analysis, as was observed by JFs after the two-day workshop, is efficiency in work, i.e. the reduction in time- and energy-investment in analyzing a great quantity of research data for better and in-depth results.

The workshop has, therefore, not only endowed JFs with valuable knowledge regarding how they could efficiently progress in their engagement with research data, but also equipped them with analytical skills in another well-recognized qualitative research instrument for studies and career. We thank BIGSAS for sponsoring the course and the JFs for their interest and active participation.

Isaac Osei-Tutu

"Writing Articles for International Publication in Peer-reviewed Journals"

On 11th and 12th July with the support of BIGSAS administration and JF representatives some junior fellows had the opportunity to have a workshop about the tools for "Writing Articles for International Publication in Peer-reviewed Journals". Around ten people participated in it and they got an interesting overview of history and development of publishing industry and what mistakes one should avoid when writing abstract and presenting scholarly arguments. Also, a lot of useful writing tips were offered. It was an intensive workshop for two days, but it helped one to pay attention to the pitfalls along the way of writing articles for journals. There is a great hope that everyone who participated could have his/her paper published in his/her dream journal.

Alice Mingqing Yuan

Concerning the next edition of BIGSAS Works!

In separate conversations during the last few weeks, we have discussed the possibility of working together on the next edition of **BIGSAS Works!** With this email, I would like to



introduce us as the core team of the project, as well as enabling some informal coordination as a group in the coming months. This edition will be flexible and interdisciplinary, so **each of us and other contributors can feel quite free to work individually and use any theoretical approach we want**. We can write our papers as overviews of our thesis in relation to our methodology, geographic area and the fieldwork experiences; we can write on one city, event, subject or themes which emerged from our fieldwork.

We are especially interested in all practices of fieldwork experiences that challenge our assumed objectives while emphasising intersections and tensions that come positionality as it is the case during the fieldwork. (if it makes sense to think of these things), but if some of you eventually prefer to work on other dimensions and questions, we can easily broaden the focus to accommodate your bias: In other words, **the concern in this announcement is not to impose a strict editorial line on the contributors to the next edition of BIGSAS Works, but to enable us to coordinate and share insights on the topic if and when we wish to do so**. Based on your responses so far and our plan to bring other colleagues on board, we are expecting the following contributions: Adjarakor Nikkita (Fieldwork Experience in Tanzania), Ajayi Oladapo (Fieldwork Experience in cities of Ibadan and Lagos Nigeria), Hanza Diman Hanza (Fieldwork in Togo), and Mingqing Yuan (Fieldwork in Kenya). In case, you would like to contribute, do not hesitate to contact us: Ajayi Oladapo, Adjarakor Nikkita, Mingqing Yuan or Hanza Diman.

Election committee volunteers for the next JF-Reps elections needed

The next JF-Reps elections are approaching. For this purpose, we need as usual three JFs who kindly would like to volunteer for the election committee.

The election committee will be responsible for compiling the list of candidates and liaise with the University of Bayreuth Graduate School to setup the electronic voting system.

Would you like to be part of that electoral process? Just send us an e-mail via:

Events

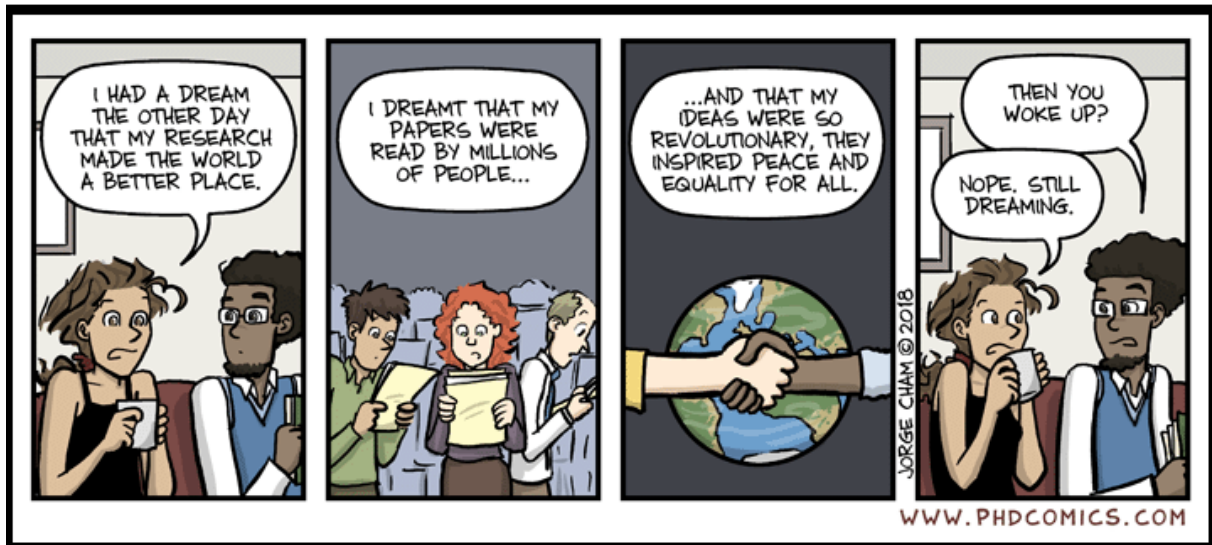
Past...

Thesis Defence:

- “Gender Equality Legislation and Institutions at the Local Level in Kenya: Experiences of the Maasai” by Shilla Sintoyia Memusi (29. Juli 2019)
- “The Making of a Petro-state: Governmentality and Development Practice in Uganda's Albertine Graben” by Paddy Banyan Kinyera (06. August 2019)

Upcoming...

- Call for papers MIASA Conference on Sustainability and the State in Africa: How political rules shape conflicts and their resolution. Point Sud, Bamako, 23rd to 27th November 2019. *All travel and accommodation expenses will be taken in charge for invited papers.* Deadline for submissions: *15 September 2019.* Contact person: Dr. Stefan Schmid (Coordinator of Centre for Interdisciplinary African Studies)
- Call for experts application: “African Studies in Tunisia: Methodologies and Current Issues” Summer School in Sousse, Tunisia, 30th September to 4th October 2019. *All travel costs (visa, train, flight, board and lodging) will be fully covered by the DAAD/the University of Bayreuth.* Contact person: Mirjam Strasser (Project coordinator)
- Call for participation: AEGIS Summer School on **African Futures: Promises, Projections and Reflections on a Continent in Transition.** Cagliari from 9 until 13 June 2020. Deadline for submissions: 30 September 2019. 3 For more details, please write to: Local Organizing Committee: CagliariSummerSchool@gmail.com



**PhD comics*

Do you have any suggestions, enquiries or information to add or would you like to report about a certain activity, just send us an e-mail via bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de