March 2016
Dear GIGA Doctoral Students,

We are in the middle of the selection process of new fellows to join the programme on 1 October 2016. Almost 100 (!) applications for the self-funded positions have reached us and we are looking forward to the interviews at the beginning of April.

Furthermore, Tabea Lakemann has joined the Doctoral Programme as an Associate. She is working in the research project “Risk, Investment and Poverty: Dynamics of Micro and Small Firms in Developing Countries” and will introduce herself in one of the following newsletters. We also welcome Robert Pijpers who will stay as a visiting doctoral student at the GIGA until the end of August.

Registration is now open for our summer term programme on “Research Design and Methods” as well as a Soft Skills Seminar on Presentation and Moderation Skills. Please have a look at the offer in this newsletter and register for the courses you would like to attend.

Best wishes,
Maren

P.S. Are you going on a conference trip or research stay? Did you come across an interesting job announcement or summer school? This newsletter lives on your input – just send an email to maren.wagner@giga.hamburg.

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News

Goodbye to Nina!

The contract of our student assistant Nina Sökefeld ends at the end of this month. We would like to thank her for her great support of the DP coordination team and wish her all the best with her studies!

Summer Term Programme

Registration is now open for our summer term programme on “Research Design and Methods” as well as a Soft Skills Seminar on Presentation and Moderation Skills. Please have a look at the offer in this newsletter and register online for the courses you would like to attend.

First Interview online

Our first interview on the DP website is online! Our Alumna Ina Peters tells us more about her doctoral project. Enjoy reading!

New Publication!


Graduation and Farewell Reception

You are cordially invited to the Graduation and Farewell Reception on Wednesday, 13 April 2016, starting at 1pm. This year the GIGA will not only honour and say farewell to our graduates, but we will also say farewell to Günter Schucher. There will be sparkling wine, soft drinks, and some small snacks. We look forward to celebrate with all of you!

Course Programme and external Summer Schools

GIGA Summer Term Programme 2016

Seminars are open to doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers at the GIGA and its partner institutions.

- 2-3 May 2016: Case Study Methods
  (Dr. Sebastian Dellepiane Avellaneda, University of Strathclyde)

- 31 May-1 June 2016: Research Methods for Media and Online Data
  (Dr. Giuseppe A. Veltri, University of Leicester)

Deadline: 11 April 2016
Information and registration online.

GIGA DP Soft Skills Seminars

Seminars are open to doctoral students, postdoctoral and senior researchers at the GIGA.

- 14-15 June 2016: Presentation and Moderation Skills
  (Dr. Pamela Luckau)

Deadline: 11 April 2016
Information and registration online.
Summer Schools

**ECPR 2016 Summer School in Methods and Techniques, Budapest**
Dates: 28 July-13 August 2016
Deadline: 30 June 2016

**Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies 2016**
Dates: 25-29 July and 1-5 August 2016

**Summer School “Re-Ordering Diversity: Humanitarian Assistance in the Context of Forced Migration and Displacement”, Tübingen**
Dates: 4-8 July 2016
Deadline: 30 April 2016

**International Politics Summer School 2016, Oxford**
Dates: 31 July-13 August 2016
Deadline: 15 April 2016

**Oslo Summer School in International Relations, Geneva**
Dates: 4-8 July 2016
Deadline: 1 June 2016

**Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM), St. Gallen**
Dates: 2-24 June 2016
Deadline: 30 April 2016

Who is where?

Several doctoral students – Lisa Bunselmeyer, Jorge Garzón, Markus Kirchschlager, Medha, Vita Thomann, and Eduardo Velosa – are participating in the ISA Annual Convention 2016 in Atlanta from 16 to 19 March.

Martin Ostermeier is participating in the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington D.C. from 14 to 18 March 2016. The conference theme is: Scaling up responsible land governance.

I am currently working on … Jessica Wilczak

Hello!
My name is Jessica Wilczak and I’m working at the distant but charming Institute for Asian Studies on Rothenbaumchaussee. I’m currently finishing my doctoral dissertation in Human Geography at the University of Toronto, and am also working as a Research Fellow at the GIGA on the DFG-funded project, “West African Traders as Translators Between Chinese and African Urban Modernities”. Prior to my doctoral degree, I studied Urban Planning, Economics, and Chinese Language & Literature, all of which are being put to good use in this project. “Africa” is notably absent from my background, and I am happy to be working with a team that includes both Africa and China scholars.

As part of my contribution to the project, I am carrying out two rounds of qualitative fieldwork in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou, a popular stop for many African traders. The presence of these traders has had a visible impact on the city, and a number of distinctively African neighbourhoods have emerged with shops and services catering to African businesspeople. My colleagues have already conducted interviews with African traders in Guangzhou, so I am focusing on the Chinese shopkeepers who interact with these traders. Many of them are young female migrants from other areas of China. I
am interested in how their perceptions and experiences of Guangzhou affect the notions of “urban modernity” that African traders are carrying back to their home countries. I am also curious about what role Guangzhou’s African markets play in the lives of these young women. For both groups—the shopkeepers and the traders—Guangzhou is providing access to a certain cosmopolitanism and a springboard for their broader ambitions.

My doctoral work also examines contemporary Chinese experiences of the urban. My dissertation examines reconstruction efforts around Chengdu (the capital of Sichuan province) after the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake. I argue that the local government used reconstruction as a means of further entrenching its territorial control over its rural hinterlands (“territorializing”, as we say in Geography) and experimenting with new forms of urbanization. This involved classic forms of modernist statecraft a la James C. Scott, including bringing rural areas under a single regional plan, moving rural residents into concentrated communities, and creating property markets for rural land. Much of this occurred under the aegis of improving rural living standards, in an age when urbanization is seen as a “metonym” for development. In order to understand both the developmental rationales driving reconstruction and their impact on rural lives, I spent two years conducting fieldwork in Sichuan, interviewing residents, local officials, NGO workers and planners.

I am delighted to be in Hamburg now, exploring a very different urban landscape. If you see me at the Jungfernstieg building, please stop to chat with me in very slow, simple German. I will be happy to tell you what my favorite sports are and where the nearest cinema is. Just don’t ask me how my dissertation writing is going, in any language.

I am currently working on … Tim Glawion

Hi!
My name is Tim Glawion. I am a research fellow at the IAA, working in the research project “Governing People’s Safety in Areas of Extremely Limited Statehood: South Sudan and the Central African Republic” at the FU Berlin. We seek to identify the success factors of effective security provision on the local level (in situations of extreme state weakness). Andreas Mehler, Lotje de Vries and I are currently travelling the Central African Republic together. After a devastating Civil War, elections have just taken place and hopes for a return to peace are running high. I’m writing these lines from Paoua, where yesterday we talked to the rebel leader ‘Colonel Gaddafi’ (see Photo). During our two months field work, we speak both to conventional and unconventional armed and civilian actors to figure out what creates and what undermines security and stability in this country.

Tim, Mme Esther, and ‘Colonel Gaddafi’ (from left to right)
Jobs and Career Opportunities

**Postdoctoral Researcher**
University of Helsinki
Deadline: 25 March 2016

**Assistant Professor in Conflict Studies**
Utrecht University
Deadline: 18 March 2016

**Tenure track academic staff “International Development, Globalisation and Poverty”**
University of Antwerp
Deadline: 1 April 2016

**Associate Professor in South Asian Studies Programme**
National University of Singapore
Deadline: 1 May 2016

**Tenure track academic staff “State, Economy and Society in Africa”**
University of Antwerp
Deadline: 1 April 2016

**Assistant Professor in Political Science (Comparative Politics)**
Trinity College Dublin
Deadline: 7 April 2016

**Project Team Member, African Studies**
Goethe University Frankfurt
Deadline: 21 March 2016

**Assistant Professor in Political Science**
National University of Singapore
Deadline: 1 May 2016

**Lecturer in Diplomacy & Public Policy**
SOAS, Centre of International Studies and Diplomacy, London
Deadline: 31 March 2016

Upcoming Events

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<td>24 March 2016</td>
<td><strong>Soft-Skills Seminar:</strong> Prepare for the Doctoral Defense! (Dunja Mohr)</td>
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<td>30 March 2016</td>
<td><strong>Colloquium:</strong> Janina Pawelz, Eduardo Velosa</td>
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<td>13 April 2016</td>
<td><strong>Graduation and Farewell Reception</strong></td>
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<td>27 April 2016</td>
<td><strong>Colloquium:</strong> Carolina Guerrero, Markus Kirchschlager</td>
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<td>2 – 3 May 2016</td>
<td><strong>Summer Term Seminar:</strong> Case Study Methods (Dr. Sebastian Dellepiane Avellaneda)</td>
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<td>25 May 2016</td>
<td><strong>Colloquium:</strong> Ana Karen Negrete Garcia, Ximena Zapata Mafla</td>
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