

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020

Picture by Nuno Silas

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Cluster intensifies research related cooperation with its international network partners - 27.04.2020

During a visit at Rhodes University in South Africa the Deputy Spokesperson of the Cluster Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler and the Cluster's Vice Dean of Research Prof. Dr. Erdmute Alber discussed the future of the Cluster's research cooperation within its international network in general and among the Cluster and its five African Cluster Centers in particular. [...more](#)



The Cluster and the University of Bayreuth welcome Professor Ndlovu-Gatsheni - 22.04.2020

The Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence and the University of Bayreuth have just announced that a new member will join the research organization this summer: Professor Dr. Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni will occupy the chair for "Epistemologies of the Global South".

[...more](#)



[Art meets Science: „From Plastic to Microplastic” - 26.04.2020](#)

The SFB Microplastics of the University of Bayreuth and the Cluster of Excellence among others invited the renowned South African artist Mbongeni Buthelezi for a visit of a special kind. During a unique “Arts meets Science” collaboration Buthelezi worked while representatives of SFB Microplastics educated the public about plastics and microplastics. ... [more](#)



[“Shakespearean Pasts, African Futurities: Entanglements of Memory, Temporalities and Knowledge\(s\)” - 21.04.2020](#)

The Cluster is promoting working formats for postdoctoral researchers and advanced doctoral candidates by inviting working groups to do research on a specific topic within the Cluster setting. One of them is examining Shakespeare in the African context ... [more](#)



[Workshop "SKAnning Space from Africa: Seeing and Becoming" - 23.04.2020](#)

As the culmination of the multilateral postdoc working group “SKAnning Space from Africa: Seeing and Becoming” focusing on the largest radio telescope on earth, the Square Kilometer Array (SKA), an interdisciplinary workshop titled "SKAnning Space from Africa: Seeing and Becoming" took place in Bayreuth from 10 to 14 February 2020. ... [more](#)



[Reconfiguring African Studies Workshop at Kenyan Moi University - 27.04.2020](#)

The African Cluster Centre (ACC) of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya invited



[Fellow Portrait: Dr. Susanne Mohr- 29.04.2020](#)

Dr. Susanne Mohr started her fellowship right when the Corona crisis was starting to affect the University of Bayreuth the beginning of March.



[“Data and Theoretical Perspectives on Colonial Letters” - 26.04.2020](#)

The inaugural workshop of the research project “Colonial Letters and the Contact of Knowledges” took place the beginning of March 2020. “Data

representatives of other ACCs to discuss questions on the topic of “Reconfiguring African Studies” during a workshop held from 19 to 21 February 2020. [...more](#)

However, the scholar is determined to make the best of her stay benefitting from and contributing to the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence as much as possible for the duration of her fellowship [...more](#)

and Theoretica Perspectives on Colonial Letters” discussed the outlines of the project offering participants a detailed insight into the project’s aims and objects. [...more](#)



[„On Worlds and Artworks” mirrors work of "Arts and Aesthetics" - 27.04.2020](#) From 10 to 14 February 2020, the Research Section “Arts and Aesthetics” organized its first workshop with the title “On Worlds and Artworks”. It took place partly in the Research Institute of Music Theater (FIMT) in Thurnau and partly in Iwalewahaush, mirroring the broad range of arts represented in the Research Section. [...more](#)

[New online lecture series on “African Literature” - 16.04.2020](#) For the upcoming academic semester the Cluster’s PI Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt has developed a new lecture series. “African Literature – Histories, Pillars and Visions” will review an array of various examples of African literature. Due to the rules of social distancing the lectures will be held online via zoom. [...more](#)

[Experience last year's outstanding concert online - 25.03.2020](#) In order to lift everybody's spirits during this challenging time we published last year's fusion concert on YouTube. The Concert was part of the Cluster's inaugural conference in October. Join us on the musical walk down memory lane and enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime concert from the comfort of your home [... more](#)



The items published in this section are articles, interviews, or op-eds by cluster members. The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and reflect individual research priorities and specific disciplinary approaches. They do not purport to represent the opinions or views of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence or its members.



Article in Frankfurter Rundschau - "Genesene Menschen als Ressource?" - 01.05.2020

In their article in the German "Frankfurter Rundschau" the Cluster's Principal Investigators Prof. Dr. Uli Beisel, Prof. Dr. Stefan Ouma and Prof. Dr. Joël Glasman discuss the risks of the government's plans to issue Corona immunity passports, bestowing their owners with certain privileges and putting others at a disadvantage. [... more](#)



Mozambican artist Nuno Silas: "My ideas explore the timeless and different problems of the human condition" - 24.04.2020

Like many others, Mozambican artist Nuno Silas was completely surprised by the pandemic. Nuno Silas, currently attending the University of Bayreuth, explains where the inspiration for his creative process came from, how he is coping with the current situation and what his plans are for the future. [...more](#)



Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt: "Privilegien in Corona-Krise: Das Ende der Überlegenheitsarie" - 21.04.2020

Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt, Principal Investigator with the Cluster of Excellence and Professor at the Faculty of Languages and Literatures of the University of Bayreuth, published an article in the German newspaper taz. In it, Arndt talks about white privilege and its implications in dealing with the Corona pandemic. [... more](#)



Imagine The Scenery - Essay by Nigerian Artist Aderemi Adegbite (Lagos)- 21.04.2020

The Cluster of Excellence has asked African artists associated with the research organization how



Prof. Dr. Uli Beisel: "Society must learn to live with the coronavirus" - 06.04.2020

Protective measures, vaccinations, and a robust health system have enabled coexistence with



Africa-researcher on the current handling of the corona-virus pandemic on the continent - 03.04.2020

Prof. Dr. Andrea Behrends is a Professor for Anthropology in Africa and is member of the Cluster

the current situation was affecting their work and wanted to know about the impact on their respective creative process. In this essay, artist Aderemi Adegbite from Lagos is contemplating the unique situation from his point of view. [... more](#)



[Lagos' size and slums will make stopping the spread of COVID-19 a tough task - 01.04.2020](#)

Taibat Lawanson, Associate Professor of Urban Planning at the University of Lagos - one of the Cluster of Excellence's African Cluster Centres - has published an article on the difficulties of containing the Corona virus in a city like Lagos. However, Lawanson also sees the crisis as an opportunity. [... more](#)

Covid 19, says Prof. Dr. Uli Beisel, drawing on her research on malaria and Ebola epidemics. Beisel is a social anthropologist and member of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth. [...more](#)



[Prof. Dr. David Stadelmann et al.: "Der Weg zurück in die Normalität" - 24.03.2020](#)

In this German article published with "Telepolis", Prof. Dr. David Stadelmann, Prof. Dr. Reiner Eichenberger and Prof. Dr. Rainer Hegselmann explain why in their opinion the only way back to normality from the Corona crisis is comprehensive testing on immunity making people carrying antibodies an ever growing resource. [... more](#)

of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth. Her research looks into the management of so-called crisis situations in African contexts. In an interview, she reports on aspects of the coronavirus crisis in Senegal. [... more](#)



[Reconfiguring Mobility Struggles – reflections on a workshop that was not - 16.03.2020](#)

The workshop "Understanding Africa's Mobility Struggles" was planned to take place at the end of March in Uganda. However, the event was postponed to a later date due to implications of the corona virus. Dr. Jochen Lingelbach, one of the workshop's conveners, reflects on the situation. [...more](#)





Important Dates

[23.04.-06.08.2020: "African Literature - Histories, Pillars and Visions"](#)

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[More Important Dates and Events](#)

Publications

Selected books, anthologies, articles and comments published by the members of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence may be found [here](#).

[Selected Publications](#)



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