Annual Report
Global South Studies Center (GSSC)

CONTACT
Global South Studies Center (GSSC)
Universitätsstraße 22
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GSSC Conference: “The Global South on the Move: Transforming Capitalism, Knowledge and Ecologies”, June 7-9, 2017
2017 was a busy year for the GSSC with 15 workshops, 25 public lectures, 9 Focus events, exhibitions, summer schools and the successful preparation and implementation of the center’s second major conference, “The Global South on the Move: Transforming Capitalism, Knowledge and Ecologies” (June 7-9, 2017).
PIs AND FUNDING

The center welcomed Dr. Sonja Gipper (Department of Linguistics) and Dr. Jöran Wrana (Department of Geography) as new PIs, while Dr. Michael Hoffmann left the UoC and thus also his membership at the GSSC.

Of the center’s strategic funding, the main amount (85%) was spent on events including workshops (c. 40%), public lectures (15%), Focus Global South (10%), as well as the second GSSC conference (15%). The remaining amount was spent on publications (20%) and travel expenses for the center’s PIs.

The center received about 66 individual funding applications of which 85% were granted. Of all applications, 65% were submitted by junior PIs.

RESEARCH FUNDING INITIATIVES

The time-consuming and coordination-intensive finalisation of the GSSC’s application for a Center of Excellence (CoE), together with University Siegen and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, also tied up many of the GSSC’s resources. The pre-proposal “Paradox of Globalization: Localizing Global Entanglements in a Polycentric World” starts from the premise that globalization remains an inherently paradoxical process. While global entanglements along value chains produce steadily increasing flows of people, ideas, goods, standards, and finances, these processes simultaneously entail fragmentation, particularism, as well as social, economic, and cultural heterogeneity at the local level. Although the reviewers considered the application framework as promising for studying the contradictions and ambivalences of globalization, and acknowledged the range of PIs as highly qualified and internationally recognized experts, the proposal was rejected due to a perceived vagueness of the scientific programme and weaknesses in structural integration. The decision letter, however, suggests that with the establishment of the GSSC the University of Cologne has sharpened its profile in the area of Global South Studies and created an excellent research environment.

The failure of this proposal, which constituted the main focus of many of the GSSC’s PIs for many months, however, did not result in paralysis. Thematic components of the programme, such as value chains, approaches to commodification and valorisation, and the making and un-making of the Global South, have been delegated to smaller groups of PIs to develop proposals suitable for other lines of funding.
Toward the end of 2017, the successful evaluation of the collaborative research center, Transregio 228 “Future Rural Africa: Future-making and social-ecological transformation,” resulted in the approval of the programme and a subsequent funding commitment by the DFG. The programme was developed together with the University of Bonn, and takes ongoing largescale land-use changes in rural Africa as a starting point to study newly emerging issues of social-ecological transformation and future-making in rural Africa. The Cologne-based PIs are members of the GSSC, which will not only be the major hub for activities in Cologne, but also be responsible for running Transregio’s office in Nairobi and physically hosting the programme’s PhD students and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Cologne.

Other successful applications for third-party funding in 2017 include a Fritz-Thyssen grant for research on “Chinese Fundamental Rights Jurisprudence: Constitutional Development under One-Party Rule” by Björn Ahl (Modern China Studies), a NRW grant for research on Salafitic discourses by Sabine Damir-Geilsdorf (Oriental Studies), and a DFG grant for research on “Economic enterprises and their critics: Efforts to mitigate the negative impact of large-scale agricultural investments in Africa” by former GSSC-Postdoc Tijo Salverda.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

In the second half of 2017, the GSSC website was relaunched in a new format. The website is now operated through the TYPO-3 Content Management System of the University of Cologne and hosted by the Regional Computing Centre of the UoC. This offers the advantages of no longer being dependent on an external service provider and of ensuring sustainable data maintenance.

Editions 6, 7, and 8 of the Online-Journal Voices from Around the World (http://voices.uni-koeln.de) were also published in 2017. The topics include “Exploring Music in a Globalized World (1/2017), “Garments in Exchange. Exchanging Clothes around the World (2/2017), and “Social Water” (3/2017).

In October 2017, a newspaper supplement of the GSSC appeared in the daily newspaper TAZ, in which various research topics of the center were presented.

A new blog was installed on the GSSC website to invite broader discussion – within Social and Cultural Anthropology and related disciplines – about the Humboldt Forum and the future of ethnographic collections in the German-speaking countries generally.
With 25 public lectures, 15 workshops, 9 Focus Global South events, 1 conference, and 2 exhibitions, the GSSC continued to broaden its public presence. Ties with the University of Cologne’s Competence Area IV (CA IV), “Societies and Cultures in Transition,” also remained strong, as CA IV acted as a partner institution for several events. Joint activities were further organised with Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Heinrich- Barth-Institut e.V., Heinrich Barth Gesellschaft, Allerweltshaus Köln, Stiftung Asienhaus, Infoe, Stadt Köln, Colabor, Agora, FIAN, Friedensbildungswerk, and VHS Köln.

Our Public Lecture Series is generally hosted by the Internationales Kolleg Morphomata. Each lecture is followed by a social gathering in the Morphomata lounge, which serves as an important occasion for meetings and discussions between GSSC PIs and external visitors. Particularly noteworthy was James Ferguson’s public lecture, “Presence and Social Obligation. An Essay on the Share,” on July 3, 2017, which attracted around 100 visitors.

The Focus Global South activities, which have a strong emphasis on public outreach, have once again proven to be a successful interface between the university and the wider public. These events, which are not restricted to lectures or plenary discussions, are preferably organised in locations outside the university. Among these events was a film series on migration, a lecture and concert on the indigenous Latin American concept Buen Vivir, and a book presentation. The round table discussion on “fair trade” was met with great interest, and offered scientific perspectives on a topic that remains insufficiently researched in Germany.

From November 30 to December 18, 2017 the GSSC co-hosted the Exhibition “Black Germany 1880-1945”, which provided insights into the development of
a Black Diaspora in Germany from the 1880s up to 1945. More than 150 visitors participated in the exhibition opening with a panel discussion.

The 15 workshops (co-)organised by the GSSC displayed the broad range of topics represented by the GSSC’s PIs and their thematic working groups, as the workshops brought together numerous scholars from the University of Cologne and abroad. With five workshops throughout the year, China was a thematic focus. The workshop, “Writing up and Dissemination,” held by International Faculty Professor David Anderson on June 13, 2017, offered academic training for young scientists from fields including anthropology, geography, history and area studies. The workshop, “Can I map the way I see the world. An introduction to thematic cartography” (January 10, 2017), was led by Philippe Rekacewicz, former Le Monde Diplomatique cartographer, who taught theoretical and practical basics of thematic cartography, and was met with great interest among students and researchers.

The center’s second major conference, “The Global South on the Move: Transforming Capitalism, Knowledge and Ecologies” took place June 7-9, 2017 and brought together around 100 international scholars. The program featured more than 80 speakers, three roundtables, and two memorable keynotes.
PUBLIC LECTURES
WORKSHOPS
& OTHER EVENTS

PUBLIC LECTURE
25 public lectures with an average audience of 25

WORKSHOPS
15 workshops on a broad range of topics with scholars from the UoC and abroad

GLOBAL SOUTH STUDIES CENTER COLOGNE

FOCUS GLOBAL SOUTH
9 public events related to current affairs outside academia

OTHER EVENTS
Exhibitions
Summer Schools

JOINT ACTIVITIES
with: CA IV (UoC), Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Heinrich-Barth-Institut e.V., der Heinrich Barth Gesellschaft, Stimmen Afrikas, ERC Reading Global, Allerweltshauss Köln, Agora Köln, FIAN Deutschland, INFOE Deutschland, Stadt Köln, Misereor, BMBF, Friedensbildungswerk, VHS Köln, Stiftung Asienhaus, Referat für Gender & Diversity Management (UoC), International Office (UoC), Zentrum für LehrerInnenbildung (ZfL)(UoC), and others.
LIST OF ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC LECTURES

January 11, 2017        Philippe Rekacewicz (Visionscarto.net)
                        Cartography - Between Art, Politics and Manipulation

January 18, 2017        Filip de Boeck (University of Leuven)
                        Exploring the City’s ‘Sutures’: an Urban Anthropology of Congo’s Cityscapes

January 24, 2017        Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll (University of Birmingham)
                        Painting the Political in Oceanian Textile Cultures: Collectivity, Syncretism and Globalization

January 25, 2017        Charlotte Joy, Goldsmiths (University of London)
                        Heritage Justice: Mali, Global Terrorism and the ICC

January 25, 2017        Richard Jankowsky (Tufts University)
                        Minding the Contextual Gap: Sufism, the Stage, and the Ambiguities of Modular Culture

February 1, 2017        Annette Hübschle-Finch (Environmental Security Observatory, University of Cape Town)
                        From the Bush to the Market: Coordinating African-Asian Links in Illegal Wildlife Markets

February 8, 2017        Marcel van der Linden (International Institute of Social History)
                        Percarianization, Household Labour and Slavery: a Global-History Perspective

February 21, 2017       Jens Beckert (Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung, Köln)
                        Kapitalismus als imaginierte Zukunft. Zur Bedeutung fiktionaler Erwartungen für die Dynamik der Wirtschaft

April 19, 2017          Jeff Haynes (London Metropolitan University)
                        Faith-Based Organisations at the United Nations: ‘Religious’ Values and the Sustainable Development Goals

April 26, 2017          Till Förster (University of Basel)
                        Peace in West Africa’s Conflict Zone

May 3, 2017             Matthias Garschagen (United Nations University, Bonn)
                        Urbanization: Driver of Disaster Risk or Opportunity for Climate Resilience?

May 10, 2017            Obert Bernard Mlambo (University of Zimbabwe)
                        Veterans, Masculinity and Expropriation: A Comparative Study of Triumviral Rome and Contemporary Zimbabwe

May 17, 2017            John M. MacKenzie (University of Lancaster)
                        Empires and their Environments: A Comparative Examination of the Relationship between Imperialism and Global Environment in Pre-Modern and Morden Times

May 24, 2017            Hoda Salah (University of Cologne)
                        Secular and Islamic Women’s Movements in the Middle East: Participation between Conservatism and Emancipation
PUBLIC LECTURES

May 31, 2017  Joost Fontein (British Institute in Eastern Africa, Nairobi)
*Hippos, Fishing and Irrigation: Water as an Index of Power in Entangled Regimes of Meaning and Rule Around Lake Mutrikwi, Southern Zimbabwe*

July 19, 2017  Jana Kleibert (Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main)
*Exclusive Development(s): Special Economic Zones and Enclave Urbanism in the Philippines*

June 28, 2017  Roland Wenzlhuemer (Heidelberg University)
*Reconceptualizing Global History: On the Role of Global Connections in History*

July 3, 2017  Llames Ferguson (Stanford University)
*Presence and Social Obligation: An Essay on the Share*

July 12, 2017  Dena Freemann (London School of Economics and Political Science)
*North-South Struggles over Financing for Development: State, Society and Market in the Global Age*

July 19, 2017  Solomon Matete Waliaula (Maasai Mara University)
*The English Premier League and Football - Talk Performance in Eldoret, Kenya*

June 08, 09 & 22, 2017  Julio Ortega (Brown University, Rhode Island, USA)
*Lecture Series Julio Ortega*

November 22, 2017  Raquib Ahmed (University of Rajshahi & University of Cologne)
*An Integrated Approach to Environmental Management in Bangladesh: Success Factors and Challenges*

November 29, 2017  Pushpa Arabindoo (University College London)
*Emerging geographies of hinterland: Chennai as a city, metropolis, region and what else?*

December 7, 2017  Jane Humphries (Oxford University)
*Lessons from the First and most Child Labour Intensive Industrial Revolution: The Case of Britain*

December 20, 2017  Antina von Schnitzler (The New School, New York)
*Lifelines: Infrastructure, Material Politics and Apartheid’s Remains*

WORKSHOPS

January 10, 2017  *Can I Map the Way I see the World? An Introduction to Thematic Cartography*  
GSSC

January 12-13, 2017  *Africa-China: Business and Migration*  
PIs: Michaela Pelican, Peter Dannenberg

January 12-14, 2017  *Shifting Bio-Cultural Frontiers, Reterritorialization and Global Entanglements in Conservation Areas of Southern and Eastern Africa*  
PI: Michael Bollig

January 20-21, 2017  *Postcolonialism in China?*  
PI: Felix Wemheuer
January 24-25, 2017  
*Making and Breaking Chains of Value. Rethinking the Making of ‘Cultural Commodities’*
Pls: Dorothea Schulz & Martin Zillinger

April 20-21, 2017  
*Livelihoods and Food Security in the Global South*
Workshop by International Faculty Professor Bill Pritchard

June 13, 2017  
*PhD workshop by International Faculty Professor David Anderson*

June 22, 2017  
*Traducciones y transiciones entre América Latina y la lectura global*
Pl: Gesine Müller

July 24-26, 2017  
*The Enigma of Change and Continuity in China*

July 27-28, 2017  
*China and Chinas: the many Faces of the Nation State*
Pl: Susanne Brandtstädter

September 25-26, 2017  
*Skill and Scale in Transnational Mediumship*
Pl: Martin Zillinger

September 25, 2017  
*THE SOUTH EXPERIENCE*
Pl: Nina Schneider

October 27-28, 2017  
*Food Systems: Production, Trade, Consumption*
Pls: Amelie Bernzen, Peter Dannenberg & Alexander Follmann

November 10, 2017  
*China’s New Silkroads: Exploring the Emerging Worlds of Chinese Globalization*
Pl: Susanne Brandtstädter

December 7-8, 2017  
*Child Labour and its Opponents in Global and Historical Perspective*
Pl: Nina Schneider

**FOCUS GLOBAL SOUTH**

Januar 26, 2017  
*Podiumsdiskussion: Facetten eines weltoffenen Islams*
in cooperation with: Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museums – Kulturen der Welt, Museumsgesellschaft RJM, Heinrich-Barth- Institut e.V., Heinrich Barth Gesellschaft, Stimmen Afrikas/Allerweltshaus Köln, CA IV

January 30, 2017  
*Podiumsdiskussion und Filmscreening*
*Wie fair kann Handel sein? Branchenspezifische Herausforderungen des fairen Handels und Lösungsansätze*

February 1, 2017  
*Book Presentation and Lecture*
Ottmar Ette, Gesine Müller (Ed.): “New Orleans and the Global South. Caribbean, Creolization, Carnival” (Hildesheim: Olms 2017)
Ottmar Ette (Potsdam): „Carnival - Cologne - New Orleans. Models of Conviviality”

In cooperation with: Reading Global. Constructions of World Literature and Latin America (Consolidator Grant of the European Research Council ERC)
FOCUS GLOBAL SOUTH

April 29, 2017  
*Buen Vivir - Ein Abend des guten Lebens*
*Konzert und Lesung mit Alberto Acosta und Grupo Sal*
in cooperation with: Agora Köln, FIAN Deutschland, INFOE Deutschland, Friedensbildungswerk, Allerweltshaus e. V., VHS Köln

May 11, 2017  
Trump’s Hot Air: Global Climate Change in the New Era
Panel discussion and film screening

June 20, 2017  
*Köln liest Keun - Lesung und Podiumsdiskussion*
*Kind aller Länder – Kind keines Landes? Von Fluchterfahrungen, Fremdsein und Sprachlosigkeit*

November 3, 2017  
*Regenwälder der Zukunft. Das Potential von indigenem Wissen für Wald- und Klimaschutz*
In cooperation with: INFOE - Institut für Ökologie und Aktions-Ethnologie e.V., Stadt Köln, Misereor, BMBF, Stiftung Umwelt und Entwicklung NRW

November 9, 2017  
*Diskussionsabend: Chinas neue Seidenstraßen: Potentiale, Herausforderungen und Risiken*
In cooperation with: Stiftung Asienhaus, Misereor

October 13, November 7 & December 12, 2017  
Film Series «Global Migration»

CONFERENCES

February 31, 2017  
Re-mapping World Literature. Estéticas, mercados y epistemologías entre América Latina y el Sur Global

June 7-31, 2017  
The Global South on the Move: Transforming Capitalism, Knowledge and Ecologies

SUMMERSCHOOLS

October 9-14, 2017  
*Student Protest(s) in the Global South*

July 17-20, 2017  
*La cultura del Sandinismo en Nicaragua - Teorías y testimonios*

EXHIBITIONS

May 2-12, 2017  
*Mehrsprachigkeit in Köln*

November 30-December 18  
*Black Germany 1880-1945*

MEETINGS OF THE GSSC EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017

January 30; April 19; May 30; June 20; September 29; November 06; December 06

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

December 20, 2017
### MEMBERS OF THE GSSC (EFFECTIVE BY DECEMBER 2017)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation / Status</th>
<th>Research Area</th>
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<td>Barbara Potthast</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Ia: Citizenship and Migration</td>
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<td>Björn Ahl</td>
<td>Chinese Studies</td>
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<td>Markus A. Gamper</td>
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<td>Oliver Tappe</td>
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<td>Tijo Salverda</td>
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<td>Kirk Junker</td>
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