New staff members at the CSD

A number of new colleagues have joined the CSD in the past year. In October 2014, Marion Reiser has accepted the position as Professor for German Politics and Politics of the European Union. Before coming to the CSD, Prof. Reiser was assistant professor at Goethe University Frankfurt. Her research focuses on political parties, political elites, and local politics.

Moreover, the assistant professorship for Political Didactics was assumed by Tonio Oeftering. His research interests include political theory, political and cultural education as well as human rights education. In the summer term of 2013, Prof. Oeftering held a deputy professorship at Leibniz University Hannover followed by a deputy professorship at the Catholic University Eichstädt-Ingolstadt during the winter session of 2013/2014.

In March 2015, Julia Oppermann has joined the CSD as post-doctoral research assistant. Dr. Oppermann received her doctorate at the University of Rostock where she was visiting lecturer before coming to Lüneburg.

In the summer of 2015, the CSD team was also joined by Maria Ravlik. She is a research assistant in the new research project “The Gender-Governance Link” and is writing her dissertation under the supervision of Prof. Welzel.

Finally, Sarah Bich became project manager for the Public Policy and Good Governance (PPGG) scholarship program which is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and coordinated by Prof. Dawid Friedrich.
Awards & Prices

Prof. Christian Welzel has received the 2014 Stein Rokkan Prize for his book "Freedom Rising: Human Empowerment and the Quest for Emancipation". The prize is awarded by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) in association with the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR). The prize committee consisted of Prof. Ingrid van Biezen (University of Leiden), Prof. Stein Kuhnle (University of Bergen and Hertie School, Berlin), Prof. Manfred G. Schmidt (University of Heidelberg) and Prof. Klaus Goetz (LMU Munich). Furthermore, Prof. Christian Welzel has received the Leuphana Research Prize 2014 for his publishing activity.

Dr. Basil Bornemann, former research fellow and lecturer at the CSD, has received Leuphana’s Young Researchers Prize 2014 for his dissertation on policy-integration and sustainability. His dissertation was supervised by Prof. Thomas Saretzki and was awarded the prize for its innovative analytical approach and its empirical findings which are expected to influence ongoing discussions in the fields of policy analysis, government studies, and sustainability research.

Promoting junior researchers

From September 7 to 13, 2014 the CSD hosted the 24th ECPR PhD Summer School on Political Parties in New Democracies. Leading academics, among others Prof. Paul Webb (University of Sussex), Prof. Anne Pitcher (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), Prof. Zsolt Enyedi (Central European University, Budapest) and Prof. Matthijs Bogaards (Jacobs University Bremen) taught lectures on different aspects of party studies and new democracies. CSD is looking forward to hosting the 25th ECPR PhD Summer School on Political Parties and Democracy in September 2015.

On June 5, 2015, Prof. Thomas Saretzki organized the annual doctoral workshop of the Northern German Network for Democracy Research (NND). After initial inputs on perspectives of democracy research by both Prof. Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Prof. Marion Reiser, the afternoon session was dedicated to the discussion of current PhD projects. Dissertations projects were presented by Tobias Müller (University of Greifswald), Tim Kunkowski (University of Hamburg/Leuphana University Lüneburg) and Nataly Jürges (Leuphana University Lüneburg).

In the summer session of 2015, the CSD celebrated the 10-year anniversary of its weekly research colloquium, the Tuesday Seminar. The Tuesday Seminar serves as a forum for both CSD members as well as invited guests to present and discuss current research projects. The colloquium is valued for its collegial environment in which scholarly work is critically discussed with regard to both theoretical and methodological issues.

Public lectures at the CSD

On June 20, 2014, Prof. Robert Rohrschneider (Sir Robert Worcester Distinguished Professor of Political Science, University of Kansas, USA) held the annual Hans-Dieter Klingemann Lecture titled "Polarization over Integration? The Stances of Political Parties on European Integration, 2008 - 2013." Europe has also been the subject of this year’s Hans-Dieter Klingemann Lecture and was given by Prof. Simon Hix (London School of Economics, Great Britain) who spoke about Britain’s Future in Europe.

In the 2014/2015 winter session, the Global Politics public lecture series which is organized by Prof. Vera van Hüllen and Prof. Dawid Friedrich has continued with a lecture by Prof. Vello Pettai (University of Tartu, Estonia).
Prof. Pettai’s lecture was followed by talks from Prof. Anja Jetschke (Georg-August-University Göttingen/GIGA Hamburg), Prof. Jens Steffek (University of Darmstadt), and Prof. Helle Porsdam (University of Copenhagen, Denmark).

In the summer term, lectures were given by Prof. Annette Jünemann (Helmut-Schmidt University Hamburg), Prof. Jürgen Neyer (European University Viadrina), and Prof. Michael Zürn (Berlin Social Science Center - WZB).

Prof. Sebastian Elischer is leaving the CSD in September 2015 to start an assistant professorship in African Politics at the University of Florida in Gainesville. We thank him for his contribution to the CSD and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Prof. Ferdinand Müller-Rommel has been elected co-chair of the IPSA Research Committee on Political Sociology and – in this function - will initiate an international working group on “Leadership and Personalization under Comparative Perspective” which will organize panels for upcoming IPSA and ISA conferences.

From July to September 2015, Prof. Marion Reiser will be visiting researcher at the University of Oslo where she will be working on her research project on “Local Interest Representation in Multi-Level Systems”. Her research is funded by the Norwegian Research Council and the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft.

Prof. Vera van Hüllen has been accepted as member of the Research Network “External Democracy Promotion” which is funded by Leibniz Association. The Research Network is a collaborative project of six partner institutions including the two Leibniz institutes Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF) and the Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), the German Development Institute (DIE), as well as three universities (Erfurt, Konstanz, Lüneburg).

Activities of CSD members

In July 2014, Prof. Sebastian Elischer participated in a United Nations conference in Mali. The conference was organised by the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The conference examined the lessons of the Malian domestic crisis of 2012 and included contributions by both domestic and international experts.

From 2015 onwards, Prof. Sebastian Elischer will act as co-editor of the Africa Yearbook (Section on West African region). The yearbook offers in-depth analyses of crucial political and economic developments in all Sub-Saharan African countries.

Transfer: Policy Lab Conference

On April 16, 2015 the student initiative Policy Lab has - in cooperation with the CSD – organized a conference on political communication and interest representation. The conference featured speakers from think tanks, NGOs, and companies and registered 80 participants who engaged in lively discussions.
New Research Project

The Gender-Governance Link: Gender Equality and Public Goods Provision

This project combines empirical perspectives in political science, gender studies, and economics to contribute to the emerging literature on the linkages between gender equality and good governance across the globe and over time. This literature has established strong linkages between various aspects of gender equality and good governance. To give just a few examples, nations’ levels of female education have been linked to economic growth, and the higher value citizens attach to gender equality has been linked to nations’ democratic accountability. However, while the literature on links between one aspect of gender equality and one aspect of good governance is growing, there is so far no integrated approach that takes a comprehensive look at the gender equality – good governance link.

For the following reasons this is a serious omission. Gender equality is a varied, multifaceted process that develops through both top-down and bottom-up processes; progress in one aspect of gender equality does not imply progress in others. Good governance is similarly manifold as the process of political rule through which public goods and services are provided and regulated. Thus, limiting investigation to just one type of equality and one type of public good prevents a deeper investigation into global gender-governance patterns. More limited approaches cannot examine how various aspects of gender equality interact to improve governance, or determine the relative weight of the influence of different equality factors on different public goods provisions. This obscures an understanding of the dominant paths of influence between improvements in gender equality and public goods provisions.

The project is also unique in its theory-inspired empirical approach to the question of the gender equality-good governance link. This will be the first collaboration of its kind to conceptualize, measure, and examine the gender-governance nexus from an encompassing, global and longitudinal perspective. More specifically, the project will be the first to comprehensively model the empirical relationship between both top-down and bottom-up approaches to gender equality and public goods provisions across the globe and over time.

As envisaged in the table (below), the project leaders Amy Alexander (University of Gothenburg), Stephan Klasen (University of Göttingen) and Christian Welzel (Leuphana University of Lüneburg) will conceptualize and measure engendered institutions in a top-down approach to gender equality, de-gendered capability in a bottom-up approach to gender equality, and good governance in an approach to public goods provisions. In so doing, the researchers will use the grant from the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony to start a larger research program on the gender equality-good governance link from a global, empirical perspective.

| Table: Division of Work by Subprojects Under the Gender-Governance Link Project |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| **SUB-PROJECTS**              | **PROJECT LEADERS**            |
| Engendered Institutions       | Amy Alexander                 |
| Civic Participation           | Ryan Koenig                   |
| Cultural Values               | Christian Welzel              |
| Good Governance               |                             |
| Historical Drivers            |                             |
|                             |                             |
|                             |                             |

**Project partner:** University of Gothenburg as well as University of Göttingen

**Funding:** Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony

**Project duration:** 2015 to 2016

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Research Area B: Party Government and Institutional Change


Research Area C: Participation and Public Policy


Drazkiewicz, Anna; Challies, Edward; Newig, Jens (2015): Public participation and local environmental planning: Testing factors influencing decision quality and implementation in four case studies from Germany. In: Land Use Policy, 46, pp. 211-222.


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