

**Institute of Advanced Study** 2019/20

**INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY** 

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# **WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Thanks to the dedication and innovation of the IAS team, and the resilience and enthusiasm of our large and growing body of Fellows, it has been another very successful year.

IAS was established to advance new research ideas, unconstrained by disciplinary boundaries, and I invite you to have a look at what we offer. Please consider an application to one of our schemes, come to events, or talk to us about how we can work together.

IAS at Warwick has also been quite unique among its international peers in that early career researchers (ECRs) have been a strong focus for our support. Postdocs are a vital part of Warwick's research community. They bring a wealth of research experience and expertise to their endeavours, and in so doing they underpin Warwick's position as a leading research institution. Whether a postdoc goes on to secure a faculty position at Warwick, moves to an organisation elsewhere, or establishes their own enterprise, their future success is deeply connected with ours; they will form important nodes in our international network. It is thus crucial that their time with us is highly productive and mutually beneficial, and that they are supported in developing their career.

Our activities in this area are a key part of Warwick's commitment to the Vitae Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. Despite COVID-19, this has progressed significantly this year. Our new Programme Manager Dr Sarah Penny has built up an impressive virtual postdoc community and diverse suite of activities, which she describes below in Accolade Online.

The unique and highly popular Early Career Fellowship programme is as strong as ever - a selection of Warwick's best and most ambitious PhD graduates are empowered to advance their research ideas and careers; a springboard to academic careers.

Our Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (WIRL-COFUND) scheme, funded by Warwick and the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions COFUND scheme brings young academics to Warwick from all over the world to undertake ambitious, independent, interdisciplinary research. We welcomed the final cohort of this program in October 2020, and I'm delighted to say that we were funded and have already made a call for applications to the successor. The EUTOPIA-SIF programme will recruit 76 fellows across the EUTOPIA alliance over five years. More details are given below in the section WIRL/EUTOPIA-SIF.

We now have a large community of IAS Associate Fellows – a scheme open to all Warwick postdocs. During the coronavirus crisis the holders of these non-stipendiary Fellowships have been attending and presenting on our Accolade Programme of short research seminars and bespoke workshops on academic leadership and career development. When we can meet in person again, they will once more be able to use facilities in IAS such as the common room, meeting rooms, hot desks, seminar room and perhaps most importantly our excellent coffee machine.

"We have learned a lot of lessons in the last year, and it is clear that despite the difficulties of 2020 our programs continue to undergo innovation and transformation, responding to the needs of our community."

The Fernandes Fellowships scheme continued to help earlier career researchers at European institutions develop long-term research collaborations at Warwick, writing papers and proposals and having direct involvement in research across all faculties.

The journal Exchanges is managed, curated and published by the IAS, and has been transformed in recent years. I encourage you to take a look at the section below by Dr Gareth Johnson (Managing Editor-in-Chief).

Before the coronavirus struck, our International Visiting Fellowships program was progressing apace, and we look forward to getting this back up to speed when it becomes feasible again.

One person who is probably not coming back - to work at least - is Tina Hoare who retired this year. Tina always had a big impact on IAS life. So knowledgeable and helpful, steadfast and patient. I frequently still ask myself, what would Tina think? A hard act to follow.

We have learned a lot of lessons in the last year, and it is clear that despite the difficulties of 2020 our programs continue to undergo innovation and transformation, responding to the needs of our community. That said, I know I am not alone in being eager to see people again. Meantime, I hope you enjoy leafing through this Report, written and compiled by the IAS.



The IAS thus continues in new ways its work to help colleagues build collaborations with individuals here and around the world, helping Warwick build on its reputation as a place of Excellence with Purpose.

#### **Professor Peter Scott**

Director, Institute of Advanced Study

# **POSTDOCTORAL**

# **FELLOWS**

In 2019-20, we supported 81 postdoctoral fellows across our four fellowship programmes.

- ▶ WIRL-COFUND Fellowships bring international scholars to the UK to conduct 24- month independent research projects, supported by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, under the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions COFUND scheme.
- ▶ Early Career Fellowships provide completing Warwick doctoral candidates with three terms of funding to consolidate their work and launch an independent academic career.
- ▶ Early Career Teaching Fellowships provide completing Warwick doctoral candidates with three terms of funding to engage with both IAS and the Institute of Advanced Teaching & Learning on interdisciplinary pedagogies.
- ▶ **Associate Fellowships** give current postdoctoral researchers at Warwick access to IAS training and other events to help develop their independent research careers.

#### **WIRL-COFUND Fellows 2018-20**



**Nina Boy**Department of Politics &
International Studies

Nina has completed the 1st and 2nd phases of her project The changing value of safety in finance (SAFE) on the history and theory of safe assets and the clash between modern finance theory and a positive value of safety. The result of the first phase, benefitting greatly from cross-disciplinary exchange with the Department of Classics and Ancient History, has been publishing a research article and special feature on collateral (co-edited by Nina Boy and Daniela Gabor) in Economy & Society. The result of the second phase were submitted to Review of International Political Economy by October 2019. Nina has also co-organised the workshop PLEDGE - Interdisciplinary workshop on the history and politics of a persistent security device (co-funded by IAS and the SFB Dynamics of Security) which took place at the University of Marburg 21-22 November 2019.



**Aspa Chalkidou**Department of Sociology

During the first year of my WIRL-COFUND fellowship, I undertook 4 months of fieldwork in Greece where I explored the concept of asylum as a contradictory symbol of inclusion within the Nation and Europe, I also established strong collaborations with active groups of civil society, policymakers and research centers. Utilizing those collaborative ties, I'm currently co-organizing an international meeting on Warwick campus in the coming months. Furthermore, I am in the process of analyzing interview transcripts, putting together one article on the politics of asylum in Greece and drafting my first book proposal to be submitted in an academic publisher during the next semester.



**Isabelle Heyerick**Centre for Applied Linguistics

In the first year of my fellowship I have focused on data collection for my research, project dissemination, and writing. I conducted interviews and recorded an authentic signed language interpreting setting and more interviews are scheduled this year. I gave five presentations at international conferences, three lectures, and one workshop. Additionally, I co-organised a conference in Paris and five workshops for Flemish Sign Language interpreters in Belgium. In March 2018 I launched a bilingual b/vlog (English and Flemish Sign Language): https://strategic interpreting.blog. One article has been submitted and accepted for publication and a chapter in a book will be published in February 2021. I have been able to network internationally, which resulted in a meeting with the VICI Research Group at Radboud University and a secondment at the School of Social Sciences of Heriot-Watt University (Scotland).

#### **WIRL-COFUND Fellows 2018-20**







Marije Hristrova School of Modern Languages & Cultures

In the period 2018-2019, I spent several months doing field research for my project Unearthing the Nation, which analyses the cultural memory of mass grave exhumations in Spain. I collected a very versatile archive of cultural products, including novels, theater and dance productions and art installations, which produce a kind of "memory of the grave". I was also one of the coorganizers of the *Third Annual Memory* Studies Association Conference in June 2019. With more than 1300 participants and an important presence in Spanish media outlets, this has been the largest memory studies conference so far.

**Karol Kurnicki**Centre for Interdisciplinary
Methodologies

The first year of my fellowship was devoted primarily to the development of my project. I took part in several international conferences, submitted a journal article and completed fieldwork in two cities. I delivered an open lecture to experts in the field of urban mobility. I also spent some time developing my academic and transferable skills by taking part in numerous workshops and activities at the university. In order to explore innovative ways of promoting science and communicating with the general public I took part in the Research Cabaret organized by the IAS.

Michael Paye
Department of English &
Comparative Literary Studies

In the first year of my fellowship, I published two peer-reviewed articles in journal special issues - one in the Irish University Review, and one in Humanities - both of which represent important contributions to the field of environmental humanities. I also convened two modules in the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies. I created the Blue Humanities Network and secured £1.500 funding for our first meeting, Mapping the Blue Humanities, which was held at the IAS in July 2019, co-organized with Dr Alexandra Campbell. Dr Campbell and I are in the process of editing a special issue of the MDPI journal, Humanities, based on the results of this workshop. I am also a Nominated Fellow at IASH, University of Edinburgh, from February to April 2020.

#### **WIRL-COFUND Fellows 2018-20**





As a solid state chemist, I am interested in creating new advanced materials with superior properties that can be used to improve our daily life. My research as a WIRL-COFUND fellow aims to provide vital proof that materials with physical properties as complex as magnetoelectricity can be designed using a symmetry based approach. During the first year of my fellowship, I have been working in the synthesis of target systems that could show the desired property. I have also performed experiments in big central facilities, like synchrotrons and neutron reactors, in order to determine the crystal and magnetic structure of the synthesised samples. Moreover, I have just finished and submitted my first scientific article with some of these results.



Joseph Sanzo
Department of Classics
& Ancient History

Sanzo completed several scholarly tasks, including the following: (1) he placed his second book under contract; (2) completed one peer-reviewed article; (3) completed four chapters for edited volumes: (4) completed one edited volume (which will appear in early 2020); (5) wrote two book reviews; and (6) delivered five invited talks in three countries. In addition, Dr. Sanzo received three major research grants: (1) European Research Council Starting Grant (worth €1,311,355.00); (2) Australian Research Council, Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (worth \$350,574 AUD [declined]); and (3) Newton International Fellowship, British Academy (worth £63,000 [declined]).



**Amanda Wilson**School of Law

In addition to producing various research outputs, including conference papers and the organisation of a seminar titled: The Problem of Justice: The Restorative Dimension where Amanda spoke alongside two leading international experts on restorative justice (Professor George Pavlich, University of Alberta and Professor Gerry Johnstone, University of Hull), Amanda has been actively engaged with various restorative justice projects in the community. For instance, she worked with a local school and a University on restorative approaches and has taken part in various dissemination activities organised by the Coventry Lord Mayor's Committee for Peace and Reconciliation. She has also been working closely with HM Prison and Probation Service's newly formed Restorative Practice Hub.







**Rémi Dewiere**Department of History

Rémi Dewière is a historian interested in Islamic West Africa in the Early Modern and Modern period. In particular, he focuses on State practices, diplomacy and circulations in Central Sahel, with a special focus on the Borno sultanate from the late medieval to the 19th century. His book, Du lac Tchad à La Mecque. Le sultanat du Borno et son monde (xvie-xviie siècle) (Éditions de la Sorbonne, 2017), provides a new perspective on the functioning of an Islamic Sahelian state in the Early Modern period and its relationship with the world around it through the trans-Saharan routes.

**Alessia Macarro** School of Engineering

Alessia Maccaro graduated in Philosophy in 2010, with a thesis on the hermeneutics of the religious in nineteenth century authors, in 2012 she obtained a master's degree in the history of philosophy. In 2017 she finished her PhD in Philosophical Sciences and Bioethics at the same university, during which she gave a practical curvature to her philosophical interests. The choice of the bioethics curriculum has allowed her to investigate the interconnections between medicine and religion with respect to the African cultural tradition. She is now a Research Fellow in Bioethics and continues her studies on African cultural traditions.

**Stefano Milonia**School of Modern Languages &
Cultures

As a Romance philologist, my main interests are medieval European lyric, manuscript studies, music, and digital humanities. The aim of my research at the University of Warwick is to reveal the translingual and interconnected nature of medieval romance lyric by looking at musical imitations occurring across four different repertoires: Italian, French, Occitan, and Galician-Portuguese lyric. In the Middle Ages melodic imitation was an essential part of artistic creation: old melodies were constantly borrowed by new authors (a practice known as contrafaction). Since poets travelled from court to court, tracing the connections between melodies allows us to walk through their itineraries, creating a map of literary relationships.

#### **WIRL-COFUND Fellows 2019-21**







**Goran Petrović-Lotina** School of Theatre & Performance Studies

Goran Petrović-Lotina is a Visiting Professor at Sciences Po Paris, where he teaches on performance and politics, and a founder and co-curator of Fogo Island Film, an annual project concerned with the diversity of relationships between nature and society, taking place on Fogo Island in Canada. Petrović-Lotina holds a PhD from Ghent University and Master's Degrees from Sciences Po Paris and the University of Belgrade. His research combines performance theory with political philosophy to examine the political dimensions of performances. Petrović-Lotina's main field of inquiry is to explore how various performance practices contribute to contesting dominant politics and invigorating democracy. He finds inspiration in post-Marxist theories of hegemony, antagonism and strategy, and has published on this subject in various journals and books. His postdoctoral research topic is Performance and Populism.

Alexander Stingl
Centre for Interdisciplinary
Methodologies

Affiliate of Global Legal Studies Network (Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme, Paris) and Paris Institute for Critical Thinking. Author of Care Power Information (2020, Routledge) The Digital Coloniality of Power (2016, Lexington/Rowman), Between Discursivity and Sensus Communis (2010, OPUS), and Aufklärung als Flaschenpost (2009, VDM), as well as co-author with S.Weiss and S.Restivo of Worlds of ScienceCraft (1st 2014, Ashgate, 2nd 2016, Routledge). In 2019, he was named the chair of the scientific committee for Juridifying the Anthropocene (directed by G.Lhuilier & B.Parance which is contributing ideas and expertise for the Agence Developpmente Française and the Court de Cassation [French High Court of Appellations]).

**Ioana Vrabiescu** School of Law

My current project *DispoCIT*: Policing and Deporting EU citizens: A Comparative Study of Romanian Police Collaboration in France and in the UK interrogates how transnational police cooperation in targeting Romanian citizens for deportation impacts state sovereignty and citizenship dispossession. Previously, I conducted multi-sited fieldwork alongside the deportation apparatus in France and in Romania (ERC project SOLIDERE: The Social Life of State Deportation Regimes, University of Amsterdam), I studied the implementation of the European Cohesion Policy at the local level (H2020 project RELOCAL: Resituating the Local in Cohesion and Territorial Development), and I conducted research with social services and institutions for migration management in Spain.



**Doro Wiese** School of Modern Languages & Cultures

Doro Wiese's current research project, titled Side by Side: Reading Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Literature, asks which epistemological, formal, and thematic distinctions and connections are present in post-war fiction on Native North America on both sides of the Atlantic. This study helps to develop cross-cultural and cross-epistemological research fields in literary, historical, and cultural studies. Doro Wiese evinces a strong commitment to the study of colonialism, transcultural epistemology, and the relationship between literature and historiography, and is inspired by insights formulated in Indigenous Studies. Facilitated by various grants such as a Marie Skłodowska Curie scholarship of the European Union, she was trained in literature, film, and cultural studies at the University of Hamburg and Utrecht University.





**Eloïse Bertrand**Department of Politics and International Studies

Eloïse Bertrand undertook a PhD Candidate in Politics and International Studies. Her dissertation looked at the role of opposition parties in African hybrid regimes, with a focus on the cases of Uganda and Burkina Faso. Her research addresses a range of issues related to party politics, from party formation processes to the functions of opposition parties within these systems and their contribution to democratisation. She holds an MSc in African Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, and undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Anglophone Studies from the University Lumière Lyon 2. She has produced independent research for development and peacebuilding NGOs and research institutes, including Oxfam International, Freedom House, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, and the Economist Intelligence Unit.



**Somak Biswas**Department of History

Dr Somak Biswas recently completed his PhD in History at Warwick on 'Indian Gurus, Western Disciples and the transnational politics of Indophilia'. It looks at how networks of western discipleship were mobilised for a series of representative projects around India and Indians in the early 20th century. As an IAS Early Career Fellow, he will develop his next project on Transnational Hinduism, that will explore at the making of Hinduism as a global culture discourse in the later half of the 20th century.

He is interested in immigration, race and decolonisation, LGBT issues and South Asian politics. He is a founder of the Queer History group at Warwick and is a member of the Global History and Culture Centre, Warwick.



**Nicholas Brown**Department of Classics and
Ancient History

Nick recently completed his PhD thesis in the Classics and Ancient History Department entitled 'A Body of Writing: Inscribed Human Sculptures in Archaic Greece'. His thesis focused on how ancient Greek writing affected the meaning of sculptures and vice versa in the context of ancient Greek religion, and in turn, how this informs our understanding of media at the very beginning of the Greek alphabet's existence.

Nick has a passion for outreach and widening participation and has taught adults and children in both the UK and Greece. Nick's academic interests include theoretical approaches to the study of written and visual ancient sources, as well as how the ancient world informs modern cultural texts and how modern cultural texts can change our understanding of the ancient world's remnants.





Xuemeng is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Education Studies, the University of Warwick, funded by China Scholarship Council (CSC). Her PhD research focuses on the employability management of Chinese international students. She is an expert on Capabilities Approach and diary research. Xuemeng is also a co-convenor and the blog editor for Academic Mobilities and Immobilities Network (AMIN) at Warwick. Her research interests include global higher education, graduate employability, academic (im)mobilities, sino-foreign cooperation in education, and innovative research methods.



#### **Giulia Champion**

Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies

My thesis considered how the acceleration and exacerbation of climate change on the American and African continents can be traced through the history of colonialism and imperialism, by focusing on extraction as a way to connect slavery, plantation agriculture and neo-liberal practices of extractivism. In my project, I developed a new methodological approach identifying these issues in literature emerging from former colonies. I am now working on further developing ideas that emerged during my doctoral research on trans-disciplinary approaches to climate change communication, material histories and energy humanities.



**Daniel Clayton** 

Centre for Applied Linguistics

Seeking to understand the transitional experiences of individuals who join sports teams my research answers questions pertinent to language, psychology and socialisation in sporting environments. My thesis maps the experiences of three separate intakes of new players joining a university men's football team over a three-year period. I place particular focus on exploring how new players are socialised through team narratives and discourses. Lam a founding member of the Sports Culture and Communication Research Collective (SCCRC) and my current work involves expanding on the findings of the thesis in addition to investigating the perspectives of Premier League football academy coaches.



**Fabiola Creed**Centre for the History of Medicine,
Department of History

My doctoral research explored how the sunbed industry, the media, healthcare providers, medical experts and a diverse range of smaller stakeholders created conflicting representations of tanning and both its providers and consumers in England. This exploration of a tanning technology also added to the historical narratives that address class, gender, race, age and sexuality.

More broadly, I am interested in histories of commercial industries, the media and medical experts, and how these stakeholders influence the representations and understandings of 'consumed' technologies and products - particularly those related to health commerce; 'healthy' bodies; 'excess'; moral panic; stereotyping, and stigma.



**Irene Dal Poz**Department of Philosophy

I hold a BA and MA degree in Philosophy from University of Padova (Italy). During my master, I have studied for one year at the philosophy department of Université Paris-Sorbonne IV (France). I have recently completed a joint PhD in Philosophy between Warwick University and Monash University (Australia). I have been teaching assistant for undergraduate modules in both these institutions. My fields of interest are Political Theory, Political Philosophy and Contemporary Critical Theory. My current research project explores the philosophical critiques of the identification of citizenship with a iuridical status held in a nation-state political design.



**Katie Dingley**Department of Politics and International Studies

Katie is a PhD candidate in International Relations in the Department of Politics and International Studies and an Early Career Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies. She has an MA in International Politics and East Asia from the University of Warwick and a BA in Modern Japanese Studies from the University of Durham. She is a former private secretary to Ozawa Ichiro, member of the House of Representatives in Japan. Her research explores the politics of Japanese conservatives' representation of emotion in their pursuit of ontological security in the gendered international hierarchy. In late 2016 and early 2017, she was a Visiting Researcher at Waseda University, Tokyo.





I was an Early Career Fellow with the Institute of Advanced Study, and a PhD candidate with the English and Comparative Literature Department at the University of Warwick. My doctoral research project, 'Stories of Paradox and Exposure: Second Wave Arab Feminist Writing' identifies and characterises what I call the Second Wave of Arab Feminist Activity, or "SWAFA," focusing on Arab women's writing in translation, as well as online activism and feminist protest activities in the mashreq region. While my PhD project focuses on Arab feminist writing, my research interests vary widely, including feminisms and international feminisms, postcolonial studies, protest, embodiment, place and space theory, gender and queer theory, Gothic literature, and zombie fiction.



**Reem Doukmak** 

Centre for Applied Linguistics

I completed a PhD in English Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics from Warwick University. I am working on two research projects. In my Coventry Creates project, I work with Paul O'Donnell from Shoot Festival on using drama to explore the reintegration experiences of refugees and host community into the social 'normalities' under Covid-19. My Hayat Jamila project, as part of International Changemakers with the British Council and Coventry City of Culture 2021, aims to build cultural connections between Coventry and Gaziantep by exploring who we are and how we want to become through music and cooking initiatives. Lam also a research assistant in the project of Mapping Languages in Coventry. I work in the Integration Project in Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre as a Community Participation Officer where I work with newly arrived and host communities in Coventry through social activities and events.



Jason Dymydiuk

Department of Politics and International Studies and ESRC DTC

I research UK and US Intelligence agencies. My PhD 'Filling the Information Void: Government Communications Headquarter, the National Security Agency, and Investigative journalism 1971-2012' focused on the role of investigative journalism in uncovering and revealing GCHQ and NSA in the public domain. My current research interests revolve around the role of intelligence in creating legacies of Empire in contemporary UK politics. I am part of the Colonial Hangover team in PAIS conducting Widening Participation events on various legacies of Empire that exist today. I currently lecture in Politics of the USA and teach seminars in Vigilant State - The Politics of Intelligence.



**Claire French**Department of Theatre and Performance Studies

I am a performance-maker and ECR interested in applied, autobiographical and multilingual performance. My interdisciplinary PhD research between sociolinguistics and applied performance praxis extrapolated on methodologies for drawing on the dynamic linguistic resources of actors in South African performance-making processes (Warwick 2019). As an IAS Associate Fellow, I will be working on the publication of my first book project Making multilingual performance: Omission, alignment, disruption (Routledge, forthcoming), as well as developing my next body of research that links multilingual methodologies with Indigenous language revitalisation in Australia, South Africa and the Basque Country.



**Demet Gulcicek**Department of Sociology, Centre for the Study of Women and Gender

Research areas: modernisation, nationalism and gender; poststructuralist feminism; feminist movements in Turkey.



Natalie Hanley-Smith Department of History

I have recently submitted my thesis in history at Warwick. My doctoral research analyses controversial relationships between men and women in late Georgian England. It examines a range of different attachments, including adulterous affairs, affinal intimacies, cohabiting relationships, and ménages-à-trois. It uses these relationships as a lens through which to explore class, gender, and political issues in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

I intend to use my early career fellowship to start developing my next project (hopefully on social networks) and to explore the different mediums that I could use to communicate my research to enhance its accessibility and impact. The broader public avidly consume history, in the forms of documentaries, historical novels and period dramas, and I would like to explore the roles available for the academic historian in this process.





I am interested in the visual expertise humans use to effortlessly recognise familiar faces and written words, and how this ability may be disrupted. I have worked with subjects with prosopagnosia, or 'face blindness', and have supported the development of digital rehabilitation programmes to improve the condition. I have a broader interest in digital interventions, particularly in the context of healthcare, which improve cognitive function and behaviour change. Following my publications as a Research Assistant in the Human Vision and Eye Movement Laboratory at the University of British Columbia, I completed my PhD in psychology at the University of Warwick under the supervision of Professor Sotaro Kita. I also work as a learning consultant for industry clients to develop digital training programmes. I am using my ECR Fellowship to boost knowledge sharing between industry and academia, in respect to evidence-based digital design practices.



**Lorraine Johnson** 

Warwick Institute for Employment Research

I research labour market intermediary systems operating in the spaces between job seekers/workers and their work (both paid and unpaid work). My PhD "The Influence of Intermediary Systems on Public Sector Transitions During a Period of Austerity" revealed the complexity of some market based intermediary systems operating in England's public sector organisations. Examples of types of public sector organisations, involved with such systems, had included schools, hospitals, local councils and Government departments. My current ECR fellowship will enable me to continue investigating the nature and influence of market based intermediary systems, and more particularly how they are adapting to the new Covid-19 context.



**Monti Maurizio**Department of Physics

Maurizio is currently an IAS Early Career Fellow at the University of Warwick. His PhD project, undergone at the Warwick Centre for Ultrafast Spectroscopy, consisted in using ultrafast laser spectroscopy techniques to investigate how tuning the composition affects energy loss processes in innovative

materials with applications in the

photovoltaics and beyond.

His current research interests are the development and use of novel ultrafast techniques to study nonlinear processes in innovative materials within the decades-long quest for materials with functionality beyond that of silicon.



**Alevtina Mikhaylina**Department of Chemistry

I graduated from the Department of Chemistry, Lomonosov Moscow State University investigating interactions of microorganisms with a selection of technogenic radionuclides. I worked as a research assistant at the Department of Surgery, University of Birmingham, Alabama, USA. Later I moved to the United Kingdom where I was lucky to be admitted for a PhD program at the department of Chemistry, University of Warwick. My study was funded by the Chancellor international scholarship. And my PhD project was dedicated to investigation of zinc regulation of an open-ocean cyanobacterium under supervision of Dr. Claudia Blindauer and Prof. David Scanlan.



**Delia Moldovan**Department of History of Art

I have completed a PhD in History of Art (Warwick, 2020), on the Renaissance illustrated calendars created in Northern Italy. In 2019 I was awarded an IAS Early Career Fellow to examine the imagery of early-printed agricultural literature. I have gained several short-term fellowships to explore the topic of Renaissance Agriculture, including a post-graduate fellowship at NIKI (Florence) with a project on the representation of olive-oil in sixteenthcentury Tuscany (2021), that I would like to expand into a multifaced global study. Given the interdisciplinary approach of my research, my work integrates well within the vibrant environment of the IAS.



Pablo Adriano Rodriguez-Merino
Department of Politics and International
Studies

Pablo A. Rodríguez-Merino is a doctoral researcher in the Politics and International Studies (PalS) department at Warwick University. His PhD thesis investigates how and with what consequences violent conflict in Xinjiang, as well as the Uyghur identity, religion, and the region more broadly, have become constituted as a terrorism problem for the Chinese state. He is interested in critical perspectives on security and terrorism, and his work has been published in journals like Critical Studies on Terrorism or Central Asian Survey. Previously, Pablo worked in China as a journalist for the news agencies EFE and Xinhua, and as a trade analyst for the Spanish Economic and Trade Office.







**Seb Rumsby**Department of Politics and International Studies

Seb is an interdisciplinary social scientist whose research interests include everyday politics, ethnicity and religion, international development and sociolinguistics. As a Vietnamese speaker, he is often based in South East Asia for fieldwork but also engages with global social phenomena such as rural livelihoods, migration and neoliberalism. He is also the cofounder of Hmongdom, a non-profit organisation utilising visual technology to empower, encourage and equip marginalised farmers to diversify their livelihoods and improve their income. The impact of his collaborations with non-academic partners to date has been recognised by the ESRC's award of a part-time postdoctoral 'Impact Innovation Fellowship'.

#### **Martina Russo**

Department of Classics and Ancient History

My doctoral thesis investigates the discourse of flattery in Seneca's philosophical texts, and analyses the extent to which Seneca developed a theory of adulation which is 'put into practice' in works like the Consolatio ad Polybium. My research has been generously supported by the Wolfson Foundation. As part of my PhD, in 2018, I was a visiting graduate student at the Johns Hopkins University. My second project, which is inherently interdisciplinary, focuses on the dramatic and historiographical representation of Octavia, the first wife of Nero. My publications' record shows an interdisciplinary view on Classics: in my last article, I examine Claudius' speech in the Ad Polybium.

#### **Md Salauddin**

Department of Engineering

Dr. Md Salauddin's PhD study was funded by the Chancellor's International Scholarship awarded by the University of Warwick, focussed on the extreme climatic events at critical coastal infrastructures, e.g. wave-induced overtopping and scouring at sea defences with gravel beaches. He had performed a large number of physical experiments in the wave flume at the University of Warwick, and investigated the wave overtopping and toe scouring characteristics at sea defences e.g. seawalls and sloping dykes with gravel beaches. He holds a first-class MSc in Water Science and Engineering from the IHE-Delft, Netherlands, and a firstclass BSc in Civil Engineering from Chittagong Engineering University and Technology, Bangladesh. He is working to investigate further aspects of extreme climatic events at sea defences. e.g. distribution of extreme wave by wave overtopping volumes which can be hazardous to the people behind the sea defences.





Sophie is an Early Career Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick. She is currently working on celebrity culture in the late Elizabethan and Jacobean periods, exploring what celebrity looked like before the newspaper. She has published in Renaissance Studies, Early Modern Literary Studies, and is currently editing a special issue of the journal Exchanges on metaphorical and literal cannibalisms. Her other research interests include the performance of premodern power, domestic tragedy, and early modern women's writing.



**Leo Steeds** 

Department of Politics and International Studies

My work looks critically at the foundations of modern (political) economic thought in light of the contemporary ecological crisis. For my PhD research, I investigated the concept of land in the history of economic thought, thinking in particular about how land's materiality has been comprehended within economic theory. I maintain a broad interest in issues of contemporary political economy and the environment, as well as the history of political and economic thought.



**Christiano Velasco-Reyes**Department of History

I am an economic historian focused on banking and business history in Africa. My research interests are on the field of business and financial history with a transnational and comparative perspective. My objective for the next years of my research career is to disclose the role of the financial institutions. First, as instruments of imperial domination and, second, as a tool to expand the capitalist and free market values of local populations, influencing the subsequent policies of the newly sovereign states, comparing the experience on diverse geographical areas.





My PhD thesis "(Skin)Aesthetics: A Study of Skin(s) in Spectatorship" combined conceptual modes in the analysis of skin in theatre and performance, from psychoanalytic theories, to philosophical ideas, to dermatological research, and contemporary neuroscience. Wider research interests beyond this project include related enquiries in the field of medical humanities, specifically the intersections between the humanities and dermatology, the olfactory senses (including taste) in relation to the skin in theatre, as well as how science fiction depicts the skin and skin conditions.



Katie Weetman

Warwick Medical School and Centre for Applied Linguistics

My research examines clinical communication with a particular focus on investigating and improving NHS written discharge communications. It is a well-established practice that written discharge communication should take place between the discharging physician and follow-up physician. However, whilst in the UK patients receiving letters is considered to be 'good practice', it is not standardised; the result is that patients may or may not receive these letters. My PhD research centred on processes of patients receiving discharge letters and comprised a mixed methods design which triangulated discharge communication experiences of patients, GPs, and hospital professionals alongside a corresponding discharge letter sample.



**Dee Wu**Department of English and
Comparative Literary Studies

Dee has just submitted her PhD thesis September 2019. Her project, The Cultural Legace of Oscar Wilde in Modern China and Beyond (1909-2019) examines the reception of British queer icon Oscar Wilde's works and the uses of his personas in China, Japan and South Korea, from the early 20th century to the present, which reveals aspects of China's and East Asia's interpretation of modernity. Her research aims to address this gap in Wildean study, arguing that his works and his performance as a dandy have particular relevance to countries like China that are struggling with neoliberal globalization. After her PhD project, she is currently moving towards an area that juxtaposes 19th century Western European literature with contemporary high-end (male) fashion.

# **Early Career Teaching Fellows**



**Rebecca Limb**Department of Law

My doctoral research investigates children's participation in their health care. I conducted an empirical investigation asking, is law and practice successful in enabling and facilitating children's participation in their health care? More broadly, I am interested in consent to and refusals of therapeutic medical treatment.









**Sally Adams**School of Life Sciences

I obtained my Ph.D. in Plant Epigenetics from Bath University. This led to postdoctoral positions studying various aspects of gene expression regulation in plant systems at the Friedrich Miescher Institute (FMI), Université de Genève, the University of Leicester and the University of Warwick. Whilst in Warwick, I was offered the opportunity to jump Kingdoms to start working with a fascinating new 3 sexed nematode species. This evolutionary enigma has been both fascinating and challenging to work with. It pushed me to build a whole new skill set and taught me the importance of interdisciplinary approaches. My fields of expertise include molecular biology (CRISPR/ Cas9 development), bioinformatics, plant genetics, and nematology.

**Amol Bhandare**School of Life Sciences

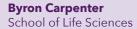
I have a Ph.D. degree in Advanced Medicine from Macquarie University, Sydney. I have three years of postdoctoral experience in in-vivo calcium imaging using head-mounted mini cameras in awake mice at the University of Warwick (School of Life Sciences). Recently, as a Co-PI, I have received the ERUK project funding to investigate the mechanism of sudden unexpected death in epilepsy using in vivo neuronal imaging in freely behaving mice. I want to secure follow-on funding by applying to independent Fellowships to sustain my ongoing research and to become an independent researcher.

**Deborah Brotherton**School of Life Sciences

I did a Biochemistry degree at the University of Bath, then worked in both academic and biotech labs before doing my PhD in Structural Biochemistry at the University of Cambridge. I continued my research in drug development for cancer and inflammation in an industrial setting before returning to academia here at Warwick to do structural studies on membrane channels and secondary transporters, working in Professor Cameron's laboratory here in Life Sciences.

My varied background gives me a range of techniques to tackle the challenges of basic research, and I find sharing these skills with fellow researchers a rewarding experience.





Byron Carpenter is a UKRI Future Leaders Fellow at the Warwick Integrative Synthetic Biology centre in the School of Life Sciences. His expertise is in synthetic biology, a multidisciplinary field that aims to harness biological systems to deliver societal benefit in the areas of healthcare, energy production, food security and the environment. His research is focused on redesigning natural cellular signalling pathways to develop a powerful tool for controlling cell behaviour, and will have applications in areas such as regenerative medicine. Membership of the IAS will enable him to raise awareness of synthetic biology and develop collaborations across different disciplines.



Nadine Didwischus
School of Life Sciences

Dr. Didwischus is an early career neurobiologist focusing on vascular comorbidities in neurodegenerative diseases and their interaction with the immune system. She is experienced in planning and implementation of pre-clinical studies with partners from the pharmaceutical industry and holds editorial commitments in CNS Neuroscience & Therapeutics.



Melina Dobson
Department of Politics and
International Studies

In my research, I examine the idea of a new era of intelligence accountability through whistleblowers, scholars and journalists. My thesis explores the stories of US national security whistleblowers from the Cold-War period to today. I analyse how these stories have been accelerated through the use of the Internet and mass media. I passed my viva in May 2019. Since then, I have been an IAS ECF and started a part-time lectureship in Intelligence Studies at the University of Buckingham. I am currently working on a publication for a special issue that investigates the unexplored SIGINT strengths of Germany.







**Roxanne Douglas**Department of English and
Comparative Literary Studies

I was an Early Career Fellow with the Institute of Advanced Study, and a PhD candidate with the English and Comparative Literature Department at the University of Warwick. My doctoral research project, 'Stories of Paradox and Exposure: Second Wave Arab Feminist Writing' identifies and characterises what I call the Second Wave of Arab Feminist Activity, or "SWAFA," focusing on Arab women's writing in translation, as well as online activism and feminist protest activities in the mashreq region. While my PhD project focuses on Arab feminist writing, my research interests vary widely, including feminisms and international feminisms, postcolonial studies, protest, embodiment, place and space theory, gender and queer theory, Gothic literature, and zombie fiction.

Ahmed Eissa

Department of Chemistry

PhD and postdoctoral training from Durham University in organic polymer chemistry. In 2014, AME undertook a Monash-Warwick Alliance Fellowship in Biomedical Polymer Materials researcher. In 2018, AME was appointed as a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Chemistry. AME works across, Chemistry, Engineering and Life Sciences to develop bioactive and bio-inspired macromolecules and biomaterials. I am keen to explore and develop links with IAS.

#### **Claire French**

Department of Theatre and Performance Studies

I am a performance-maker and ECR interested in applied, autobiographical and multilingual performance. My interdisciplinary PhD research between sociolinguistics and applied performance praxis extrapolated on methodologies for drawing on the dynamic linguistic resources of actors in South African performance-making processes (Warwick 2019). As an IAS Associate Fellow, I will be working on the publication of my first book project Making multilingual performance: Omission, alignment, disruption (Routledge, forthcoming), as well as developing my next body of research that links multilingual methodologies with Indigenous language revitalisation in Australia, South Africa and the Basque Country.



**Angelo Gallo**Department of Chemistry

I am a Research Fellow in chemistry, currently characterising molecular systems for natural products biosynthesis, in particular antibiotics using a combined structural biology approach since 2015. I completed my PhD in 2011 at the University of Florence, where I elucidate mitochondrial proteins using solution state NMR. Subsequently I continued as a PDRA position at the Magnetic Resonance Centre at the University of Florence for five years, designing new NMR pulse sequences and characterising the early stage of Iron-Sulfur cluster biogenesis. My research interests lie in the field of bio-inorganic chemistry, and physical chemistry and more specifically biomolecular NMR.



**Sophie Hardy** Psychology

Dr Sophie Hardy is a postdoctoral research fellow in Psychology Department at the University of Warwick whose research interests and expertise are in understanding sentence processing in speakers of different ages and abilities. She previously completed her PhD at the University of Birmingham in which she investigated the effect of healthy ageing on language production. Her current postdoctoral work, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, examines the processes that support language learning in children and bilingual adults. Sophie plans to use the IAS Associate Fellowship as an opportunity to set up a collaborative network of multidisciplinary researchers interested in language learning.



Marwa Hassan School of Life Sciences

I am a Postdoctoral Researcher at School of Life Sciences, University of Warwick, UK. I work on biofilms of polymicrobial communities and study antimicrobial resistance in cystic fibrosis. I received my PhD from the University of Queensland, Australia, where I worked on developing cultureindependent bacterial detection methods for quick identification of bacterial sepsis and antibiotic persistence. I am passionate about microbes, science communication and teaching. Collaborating with the IAS community will advance my future career and increase the impact of my science onto the community. It will help collaborate with researchers to better understand antimicrobial resistance.







**Cinzia Imberti**Department of Chemistry

Cinzia Imberti obtained a M.Sci degree in Chemistry at the University of Padova (Italy) in 2012, she then moved to the UK, to undertake a PhD at King's College London, working on the development of new radiometalbased radiopharmaceuticals. In 2018 she was awarded a Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship and joined the group of Prof. Peter J. Sadler at the University of Warwick in where her research focuses on the mechanism of action of platinum-based anticancer agents. She is the postdoctoral representative on the RSC Dalton Division Council and a member of the Warwick Postdoctoral Society of Chemistry (PSoC) Committee.

**Rebekah Jones**Warwick Medical School

My doctoral research at the University of Warwick has focused on the ability of bacteria to adapt to environmental stressors through changing the properties of their protective cell membrane. I have found that this adaptive process to survive stressful conditions comes with trade-offs in terms of antimicrobial resistance. Becoming a part of the IAS community will promote collaboration with a wider range of researchers and broaden the impact of my particular research into scientific and general communities through developing communication.

**Jennifer Kitchen**Centre for Education Studies

I am a theatre education scholar and practitioner. My research focuses on social justice, Shakespeare in education and collaborative pedagogies, building on my doctoral study of the social justice implications of theatre-based approaches to teaching Shakespeare (2018, Centre for Education Studies, The University of Warwick). I currently teach on the MA Drama and Theatre in Education at Warwick and am also working with IATL on a range of research and professional projects. As an IAS Associate Fellow I am keen to develop the interdisciplinary elements of my research through research events and peer networking.



**Emma Langley**Centre for Educational Development

Dr Emma Langley is an ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow the Centre for Educational Development, Appraisal and Research (CEDAR) at the University of Warwick. She is currently the lead investigator of an ESRC-funded project which explores the well-being of fathers of children with ID and/or autism and involves consultation and co-production with fathers. Emma's doctoral research, funded by the ESRC and in collaboration with Cerebra (a. charity for families of children with neurological conditions) explored the psychological well-being of family members of children with Intellectual Disability (ID). This involved working on the Cerebra 1000 Families Study, a large-scale quantitative survey of parents of children with a child with ID in the UK and analysing large-scale primary and secondary datasets. Prior to her current role, Emma was a Teaching Fellow in Early Years and Social Studies at the University of Warwick.



Alice Leonard
Department of English and
Comparative Literary Studies

My postdoctoral project is entitled: Richard Hakluyt's The Principal Navigations: Travel, Colonialism, Prose. The project focuses on The Principal Navigations (1598-1600), one of the most important works of English travel literature ever published. I aim to situate The Principal Navigations in the formation of global systems, such as trade, mobility and colonialism. I hypothesise that Hakluyt founded a form of colonial travel discourse which finds its way into the writing of the following century, specifically seventeenth-century prose fiction. I was previously a Postdoctoral Fellow in Early Modern English Literature at the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, and I am finishing a monograph entitled Shakespeare and Error.



**Alexander McCormack**School of Life Sciences

I am an ECR specialising in sustainable agriculture and food production, with a focus on crop protection and soilborne diseases. My PhD utilised DNA based diagnostic tools to examine the presence of soilborne diseases in UK crops of oilseed rape, and how these diseases reduced plant yield. This is a theme which I continue in my role at the Warwick Crop Centre, examining novel chemical and biological crop protection products for use in vegetable crops. I also investigate how different tools/ techniques can be combined to form integrated and sustainable methods for crop protection.







**Delia Moldovan**Department of History of Art

I have completed a PhD in History of Art (Warwick, 2020), on the Renaissance illustrated calendars created in Northern Italy. In 2019 I was awarded an IAS Early Career Fellow to examine the imagery of early-printed agricultural literature. I have gained several short-term fellowships to explore the topic of Renaissance Agriculture, including a post-graduate fellowship at NIKI (Florence) with a project on the representation of olive-oil in sixteenthcentury Tuscany (2021), that I would like to expand into a multifaced global study. Given the interdisciplinary approach of my research, my work integrates well within the vibrant environment of the IAS.

#### **Christopher Nathan**

Politics and International Studies

I am a Research Fellow at the Interdisciplinary Ethics Research Group within the Department of Politics and International Relations at Warwick. I work within political theory, covering two areas of interest: (1) policing, and (2) technological risk.

#### **Julia Peetz**

Theatre and Performance Studies

Julia Peetz is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in Politics and Performance at the University of Warwick. Her work addresses questions of political representation, democracy, and performance, particularly in the context of the US presidency and in Anglo-American relations. Her current project, 'Performing Anglo-Americans Relations: Exceptionalism, Myth, Identity', uses a focus on political speech to develop the first major study of the performative dimension of Anglo-American relations. Motivated by the ambition to develop an international relations perspective for the emerging field of politics and performance scholarship, this research will benefit from interdisciplinary collaborations facilitated by the IAS.



**Mikhail Poluektov**Warwick Manufacturing Group

Mikhail Poluektov graduated with honours from the Faculty of Physics and Mechanics at the Saint Petersburg State Polytechnical University in 2010. He then obtained his PhD at the Eindhoven University of Technology in 2014. His main research interests are in nonlinear mechanics of materials and multiscale modelling methods.



**Lucy Rayfield**Centre for Study of the Renaissance

Lucy is an MHRA Research Fellow at Warwick's Centre for the Study of the Renaissance. She works on comic drama in sixteenth-century France and Italy, and is especially interested in how French playwrights used Italian models to create theatre which could be used as a propagandist weapon against the Italians themselves. Her first book. Poetics, Performance and Politics in French and Italian Renaissance Comedy, is forthcoming with Legenda. She is looking forward to collaborating with the IAS, and hopes to co-organise a symposium on early modern paradise, as well as a research salon on humour and laughter.



**Stefan Roesner**Department of Chemistry

I received my Diploma in chemistry from Philipps-University Marburg, Germany in 2010. Following this I moved to the UK and completed a PhD in synthetic organic chemistry with Prof. Varinder Aggarwal at the University of Bristol in 2014. After postdoctoral studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the supervision of Prof. Stephen Buchwald I returned in 2016 to the UK to become Senior Research Fellow in the Shipman group in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Warwick. Becoming an Associate Fellow with the IAS and using its resources and professional network will help me to develop my academic career.





**Nicola Rogers**Department of Chemistry

I am a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Chemistry, developing molecular systems for applications in medical diagnostics and therapy. I completed my PhD in 2014 at the University of Birmingham, where I designed luminescent nanoparticles for medical imaging, and undertook a short PDRA position at the MRI centre at the University of Nottingham. Subsequently I worked at Durham University as a PDRA for two years, designing new MRI contrast agents. My research interests lie in the field of inorganic chemistry, and how we can use metal ions to form intricate molecular structures for medical applications; drug-like molecules are designed with specific structural shapes and physical properties in order to interact with the biological molecules in our bodies, and induce a response, whereas diagnostic molecules are designed to give some form of information read-out, ideally with no adverse effects and thus minimal interaction with the chemistry of our body.

**Michael Samuel** 

Film and Television Studies

A module leader and visiting lecturer with the department of Film & TV Studies, I am responsible for a sizeable portion of the undergraduate TV studies provision. I have the exciting opportunity to help students realise that TV, like most disciplines, does not exist in a dimension, and is part of a wider culture with links to other disciplines. Connecting with peers from across disciplinary lines through IAS events would allow me to enrich my own knowledge of wider fields and to apply this knowledge to my teaching and my research.

**Huayun Shi**Department of Chemistry

Huayun Shi obtained her BSc degree in Chemistry from Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (China), and was awarded a PhD in 2019 under supervision of Prof. Peter Sadler. Now she is working in Sadler's group as a Research Assistant, and will start an ICURe project in 2020. Her research is focused on the design of novel photoactive platinum complexes with azide ligands for cancer therapy, and elucidation of their mechanism of action.





Barbora is a cognitive scientist interested in joint attention and joint action. She is currently a Research Fellow working on ERC funded Sense of Commitment project in Psychology department conducting behavioral experiments with children to explore what keeps them committed to a task. Barbora's research topics include questions about how young children share attention with others and what they understand about eye contact and commitments. She is especially interested in the distinct ways in which humans coordinate their attention and knowledge states with others, and plans to acquire funding to pursue her next research project.



**Olga Smith** History of Art

My expertise lies in the field of contemporary art. I focus specifically on photography and lens-based media. Entitled Aesthetics and Politics of Landscape Representation in Contemporary Photography in Europe, my postdoctoral research project studies representations of natural and built environments in contemporary photographic practices in Europe, with reference to issues such as national identity, urban expansion and anthropogenic climate change. I previously held a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Humboldt University of Berlin, and positions at the University of St Andrews and Tate Gallery, London. My PhD thesis was prepared at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris Ulm) and University of Cambridge, where I also did my undergraduate studies. I am the co-editor of Anamnesia: Private and Public Memory in Modern French Culture (Peter Lang: 2009) and have published in Art History, History of Photography, Fotogeschichte and Nottingham French Studies.



**Mikhail Sokolov**Warwick Manufacturing Group

Dr Mikhail Sokolov is Research Fellow at Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG), University of Warwick. He obtained his D.Sc. from Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland, 2015 and worked at Luleå University of Technology, Sweden. He has published over 10 research papers. His focus is on laser beam welding, remote laser welding and methods for improving welding efficiency.







**Michael Staniforth**Department of Chemistry

Dr Mick Staniforth is a Senior Research Fellow and facility manager of the Warwick Centre for Ultrafast Spectroscopy, a joint project between the physics and chemistry departments. His research interests are focused on photochemistry and photophysics at ultrafast timescales. He is also the president of the Postdoctoral Society of Chemistry, a group of PDRAs and ECRs in the department of chemistry which work towards greater development, improved well-being and stronger representation of PDRAs and ECRs in the chemistry department and across the university. PSoC hope to work in close conjunction with the IAS in the future.

Patrick Szell
Department of Physics

Patrick obtained his PhD at the University of Ottawa (Canada) in the field of solid-state NMR spectroscopy. During his PhD, Patrick performed research in Italy and France, and is now working as part of a Knowledge Transfer Partnership between the University of Warwick and AstraZeneca.

Esther Van Raamsdonk

Centre for the Study of the Renaissance

I am a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow (2020-23) at the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance. This project examines the politics of seventeenthcentury biblical adaptations in the Dutch Republic and England. Previously, I was an AHRC-funded postdoctoral researcher on the digital humanities project 'Networking Archives' at Queen Mary University, London. The IAS programme will help me to build interdisciplinary networks and collaborations. The facilities of the IAS will also allow the creation of a digital humanities network, encouraged through salons and Accolade Workshops, leading to a potential course on some of the techniques that Digital Humanities has to offer.

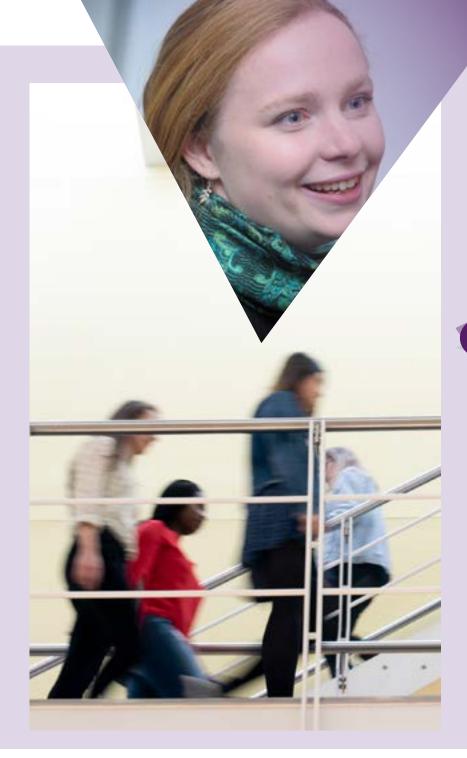


**Vitaly Voloshin**School of Engineering

I have a diverse research experience in applied mathematics, mechanics, data analytics and engineering. Pretty much all of my research career is devoted to interdisciplinary research.

I was working on a wide range of disciplines and topics including applied mathematics (asymptotic analysis of complex vibration problems), biomechanics (human blood vessels modelling), aerospace engineering (airship based transportation system, design methods for civil aircrafts).

Currently, I am working on two major projects: methods for all stages of data analysis for large scale mosquito tracking; and trait and external factors modelling and prediction based on epigenome (combined with other omics data).



# **VISITING** FELLOWS

In 2019-20 the IAS were due to welcome 33 international scholars from our three visiting fellowship schemes.

Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 situation, a number of Visiting Fellowships had to be cancelled or postponed, of which we hope many can be rescheduled to a later time in 2020/21, subject to it being safe to do so.

- ▶ **Fernandes Fellowships** offer colleagues the opportunity to host research or tenure-track academics from European institutions at Warwick for three-months, supported by a generous donation from Warwick alumnis, Rui Fernandes.
- ▶ International Visiting Fellowships offer colleagues the opportunity to host distinguished international academics, policy makers, representatives of the arts, business, government and industry.
- ▶ **Residential Fellowships** offer colleagues the opportunity to bring collaborators to Warwick for short, intensive stays to deliver joint outputs.

### **Fernandes Fellows**

#### **Trisha Meyer**

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium

Nominated by Professor George Christou, Department of Politics and International Studies

Trisha Meyer is an Assistant Professor at Vesalius College and a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute for European Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel). Her research lies in the intersection between political economy of communication, science, technology and society studies (STS), surveillance studies, (global) governance studies, IT law and computer science and explores the role and effects of technology and participatory mechanisms in governing societal problems. Trisha has published and presented widely on the regulatory push for online intermediaries to take proactive measures to tackle public policy problems. She calls for assessments of the impact of technology based solutions on human rights in general, and freedom of expression and media pluralism. She works closely with policymakers, and regularly speaks at multi-stakeholder events in Brussels, organises policy events and writes explanatory briefs to foster cross-pollination between research and policy.

#### Joe Burton

Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium

Nominated by Professor Christopher Moran, Department of Politics and International Studies

Dr Joe Burton is a Marie Curie Fellow (MSCA-IF) at Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) completing a twoyear project on Strategic Cultures of Cyber Warfare (CYBERCULT). This is an interdisciplinary project that draws on computer science, behavioural science, sociology and political science to explain the proliferation of Offensive Cyber Capabilities (OCC) within the international system. He holds a Doctorate in International Relations and a Master of International Studies degree from the University of Otago and an undergraduate degree in International Relations from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. He is a recipient of the US Department of State SUSI Fellowship, the Taiwan Fellowship, and has been a visiting researcher at the interdisciplinary NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE), Estonia. Joe is the author of NATO's Durability in a Post-Cold War World (SUNY Press, 2018) and his work has been published in Asian Security, Defence Studies, and Political Science.

### Mojca M. Plesničar

Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law Ljubljana, Slovenia

Nominated by Professor Jackie Hodgson, School of Law

Dr Mojca M. Plesničar is a research associate at the Institute of Criminology in Ljubljana and teaches at the University of Ljubljana. She mostly researches on sentencing and penal decision-making, but includes various tangential inquiries, such as the role and impact of AI on criminal justice, questions of marginal groups in criminal justice (women, minors, migrants), prisons etc. She has participated in and headed several research projects funded by the Slovenian national research agency and various other stakeholders in Slovenia, she has published in national and international journals and is an active member of the wider European research community.

### **Fernandes Fellows**

#### Dr Marina Klemenčič

Faculty of Chemistry & Chemical Technology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

#### Nominated by Dr Daniela Sueldo, School of Life Sciences

Dr Marina Klemenčič received her PhD in Biochemistry in 2013 at the University of Ljubljana under the supervision of Prof. Dr Brigita Lenarcic. After that, she joined the research group of Prof. Dr Marko Dolinar at the same institution, where she was introduced to a new field of biotechnology algae and cyanobacteria. From 2016 to 2018, she was a Post-doctoral Fellow at Umea University, Sweden, in the laboratory of Prof. Dr Christiane Funk. After returning to University of Ljubljana, she became an Assistant Professor. Her research focuses on structural and functional characterisation of algal and cyanobacterial proteases, enzymes of key importance in maintaining life and executing death in these organisms.

#### **Dr Matija Vidmar**

Department of Mathematics, University of Ljubljana

### Nominated by Dr Jon Warren, Department of Statistics

Nominated by Dr Jon Warren, Statistics, Dr Matija Vidmar is a Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Ljubljana, where he has been ever since he was awarded his PhD in Statistics from the University of Warwick in 2014. Prior to this, he obtained a Master's equivalent degree in Physics, followed by a Bachelor's in Financial Mathematics; both from University of Ljubljana. His research focuses on the theory of fluctuations of stochastic processes (especially those with stationary independent increments) and the ore fundamental measure-theoretic aspects of probability theory (in particular, the theory of stochastic noises).

### **Dr Fabio Faraguna**

Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, University of Zagreb

### Nominated by Prof. Tony McNally, WMG

Dr Fabio Faraguna is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology at the University of Zagreb, Croatia. His field of expertise is in polymer science, organic synthesis, (nano)composite and nano-fluid preparation, fuel analysis and biofuel synthesis. He was a Visiting Scientist at Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Leibniz Institute for Polymer Research, Dresden, Germany. He has published extensively and collaborated with a range of industry partners. He is an assessor for the Croatian Accreditation Agency for laboratory accreditation (ISO/IEC 17025) and inspection body accreditation (ISO/IEC 17020).

### **Fernandes Fellows**

#### **Dr Marjolein Schepers**

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

#### Nominated by Prof. Beat Kümin, Department of History

Marjolein Schepers is a migration historian. Previous research projects include; postcolonial migration and membership regimes in 20th-Century Belgium (Leiden University), civic integration policies and practices in post-war Belgium (KU Leuven), and migrants' access to poor relief in 18th-Century Flanders and France, focusing amongst others on the negotiations of belonging to a place (VUB - Ghent University with a Visiting Fellowship at Leicester University). Her current FWO Post-doctoral research project focuses on mobility and people passing through cities, using spatial methods to analyse the changing urban infrastructures for transit migration in the late 18th and 19th-Century Low Countries.

#### **Dr Mikhail Spektor**

Department of Economics & Business, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain

Nominated by Prof. Neil Stewart, Warwick Business School

Dr Mikhail Spektor holds a PhD in Psychology and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and Business at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. His main line of research focuses on the cognitive processes underlying individual decision making, in particular when choices violate classical notions of economic rationality. He investigates how individuals learn about the properties of choice alternatives and how value is represented and relies on a combination of experimental, computational, and physiological methods. During his fellowship (in collaboration with Neil Stewart and Łukasz Walasek), he wants to apply his insights to investigate how individuals' portfolio returns affect their trading behaviour.



### **International Visiting Fellows**

Due to the Covid-19 situation, a number of Visiting Fellowships had to be cancelled or postponed, of which we hope many can be rescheduled to a later time in 2020/21, subject to it being safe to do so.

### Dr Kathleen Bogart, Oregan State University, USA

1 SEPT - 31 OCT 2019

Nominated by Dr John Michael, Philosophy

### Professor Ursula Renz, Alpen-Adria University, Austria

24 SEPT - 4 NOV 2019

Nominated by Dr Johannes Roessler, Philosophy

### Professor George Pavlich, University of Alberta, USA

14 - 29 OCTOBER 2019

Nominated by Professor Alan Norrie, Law

### Professor Reinaldo Teofilo, Federal University of Vicosa, Brazil

3 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER 2019

Nominated by Professor Richard Walton, Chemistry

### Dr Bin Ibad Umber, Forman Christian College, Pakistan

15 NOV 2019 - 22 JAN 2020

Nominated by Professor Virinder Kalra, Sociology

# Professor Kimberley Kessler Ferzan, University of Virginia, USA

17 - 30 NOVEMBER 2019

Nominated by Professor Victor Tadros, Law

### Dr Li Wei, Chongqing University of Technology, China

6 JAN - 15 MARCH 2020

Nominated by Professor Qing Wang, WBS

### Professor Jan de Vries, University of California, USA

17 - 22 FEB 2020

Nominated by Professor Anne Gerritsen, History

### Dr Carlotta Cossutta, University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy

24 FEB - 6 MARCH 2020

Nominated by Dr Alberica Bazzoni, SMLC

### Dr Daniel McKay, Doshisha University, Japan

1 MARCH - 26 MARCH 2020 (EARLY DEPARTURE DUE TO COVID)

Nominated by Professor Susan Carruthers, History

### Dr Nadeem Malik, Melbourne University, Australia

1 MARCH - 19 MARCH 2020 (EARLY DEPARTURE DUE TO COVID)

Nominated by Professor Virinder Kalra, Sociology

### **Residential Fellows**

Due to the Covid-19 situation, three Residential Fellowships had to be postponed and we hope to reschedule these later in 2020/21, subject to it being safe to do so.

### Professor Rahul Roy, Indian Statistical Institute, India

#### 9 - 17 September 2019

Nominated by Professor Arpan Mukhopadhvav, Computer Studies

### Professor Mario Nuno de Matos Berberan e Santos, Lisbon University, Portugal and

### Professor Manuel Prieto, Lisbon University, Portugal

#### 13 - 20 October 2019

Nominated by Dr Natercia das Neves Rodrigues Lopes, Chemistry

### Dr Michael Gastegger, TU Berlin, Germany

**28 October - 8 November 2019**Nominated by Dr Reinhard Maurer,
Chemistry

### Dr Nicolas Perrone, Andres Bello University, Chile

**30 October - 11 November 2019** *Nominated by Dr Celine Tan, Law* 

### Dr Massimiliano Onorato, University of Bologna, Italy

#### 1 - 12 December 2019

Nominated by Professor Vincenzo Bove, PAIS

### Dr Davi Rodima-Taylor, Boston University, USA

#### 8 - 16 December 2019

Nominated by Dr Nicholas Bernards, Global Sustainable Development

### Dr Agnes Meroka, Nairobi University, Africa

Dr David Ngira, Nairobi University, Africa

Dr Jennifer Lander, De Montfort University, UK

#### 12 - 21 December 2019

Nominated by Professor Ann Stewart, Law

### Dr Christopher Weber, Santa Clara University, USA

#### 20 - 25 January 2020

Nominated by Dr Gavin Bell, Physics

### Professor Pemba Senga, St Francis University College of Health and Allied Sciences, Tanzania

**29 January - 1 February 2020**Nominated by Professor Frances
Griffiths, WMS

### Dr Ari Baris, Durham University, UK and

Dr Luke Abbs, Essex University, UK

### 12 - 14 February 2020

Nominated by Dr Jessica Di Salvatore, PAIS

# **FUNDED**PROJECTS

In 2019-20 we supported 39 projects from academic colleagues at Warwick across our three funding schemes.

- ▶ **GCRF Fellowships** offer funding for outgoing Fellowships aimed at helping Warwick staff to co-develop new research collaborations by making exploratory visits to Institutions in African nations, leading to Global Challenges Research Fund proposals.
- ▶ **IAS Awards** offer the opportunity to develop new research areas that align with the IAS mission and additional research related outputs.
- ➤ **Vacation Schools** support the delivery of research-orientated residential workshops geared toward early career researchers.

While the GCRF Fellowship scheme was primarily aimed at developing relationships with African institutions, the IAS also supported applications to work with any country on the ODA DAC list.

### Dr Abimbola Ayorinde, W-CAHRD

### Collaborating with: Dr Bibilola Oladeji, University of Ibadan; Dr Mary Osuh, University of Ibadan / Warwick University

Nigeria is one of countries with the highest maternal and child mortality and morbidity rates in the world. This funding supported Dr Abimbola Ayorinde and Professor Debra Bick to visit the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in order to establish collaborations. understand local context and undertake some preliminary work for future GCRF proposals relating to perinatal health. The activities included workshops with service users, clinicians and researchers in order to establish areas of research priorities. Professor Bick will also deliver a seminar on the current state of maternity care in the UK. Literature reviews will be conducted to establish research aims and objectives. This funding will, therefore, greatly facilitate the development of the future GCRF funding proposals.

### Dr Sarah Cousins, Centre for Lifelong Learning

### Collaborating with: Edward Mokua, Stadi za Maisha; Dr Rachel Kenyara, Kenyatta University; Peter Ndicliu, Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE)

This project builds on a scoping visit to Nairobi in 2019. The project focus is on inclusion and the early identification of children with special needs. The visits will involve workshops with teachers and parents at a small infant school run in Kangemi slum by Stadi za Maisha Educational Trust. This work will help the team gain a deeper understanding of the context, establish some research questions and strengthen networks. Measures to gauge the impact of the interventions will be established. The team will visit the Department of Special Education, Kenyatta University, and Kenya Institute of Special Education to establish a research team.

### Dr Oyinlola Oyebode, Warwick Medical School

### Collaborating with: Dr Motunrayo Ajisola,

Postnatal Depression (PND) is one of the commonest maternal health issues affecting mothers, their infants and families. Although, several interventions to prevent PND has been developed, their effectiveness in preventing PND among high-risk postnatal women, especially in Low-and-Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) where mental health services are in limited access is currently unknown. This study aims to compare effectiveness of different interventions as well as evaluate impact of interventions on women, their children and families in LMICs.

### Professor Paramjit Gill, Warwick Medical School (Health Sciences)

Collaborating with: Dr Olufunke Fayehun & Motunrayo Ayobola, University of Ibadan

This award is to support the funding of a Photovoice Project to investigate factors influencing infant practices among 0 to 2-year-old children living in an urban slum in Ibadan, Nigeria. The aim of this study is to identify slum-specific factors in infant feeding practices, and to generate community-driven policy recommendations that enhance infant care and feeding practices, which are culturally and context-specific. The study is currently being co-developed by the University of Warwick and the University of Ibadan, and is embedded within the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Improving Health in Slums, exploring the double burden malnutrition in low- and middle-income countries, with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa.

### Professor João Baptista, Warwick Business School

Collaborating with: Flávio Horita, CMCC/UFABC; Tulius Nery, Cemaden; Maria Graciely Marques, Consórcio do ABC; Oliver Thies, Climatempo; Jonas José da Silva, Defesa Civil de Franco da Rocha; Umberto Bittar, Defesa Civil de Santo André

Climate change is increasing the impact of natural disasters, which in turn is disproportionately affecting communities in developing countries. In Brazil, this problem is growing because of an expanding population living in slums; densely populated locations are often affected by catastrophic landslides and floods. In the past 10 years, the central government in Brazil has created a modern early-warning system, consisting of a central national team of highly equipped experts and restructured emergency response teams at local level. At the centre of this new system is a new national network of intelligent sensors, continuously recording local environmental variables through rainfall gauges, hydrological stations and weather radar systems around vulnerable communities. This project aims to investigate the transformational effect of the sensor monitoring network to gain situational awareness of local conditions.

### Dr Murray Grant, School of Life Sciences

Collaborating with: Dr Zerihun Yemataw, SARI; Mr Sadik Muzemil, Warwick / SARI; Prof. Allen Van Deynze, University of California Davies

This funding will be used to support collaboration on the orphan crop Enset in Ethiopia. Ensete Ventricosum (Enset) is a unisexual monocarpic (flowers once then dies) banana-like plant native to Ethiopia that feeds ~20 % of Ethiopia's population, the second most populous African country Named the "most unstudied domesticated crop in Africa" in 1977 (AAAS), little has changed 20 years on. Unlike banana, Enset produces no fruit, but instead develops a massive starch filled underground storage organ (corm) that takes 4-6 years to mature. Enset's remarkable drought tolerance capable of lasting for more than a year without water - is credited with saving hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians during the famines of the 1970's and 1980's. We hope to combine stateof-the-art whole genome sequencing with Enset landrace phenotyping data to identify key agronomic traits and train SARI scientists to screen elite landrace germplasm well before maturity, enabling rapid management decisions. This will also empower them to undertake systematic screening in the field for new landraces.

### Dr Pietari Kääpä, Centre for Cultural & Media Policy Studies

Collaborating with: Luciana Miranda, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN), Brazil

The award focuses on **Building Capacity for Environmental Communications in Brazil** and consists of a range of research excursions and exchanges between the University of Warwick and Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN). The aim of which is to compile primary data on environmental communications in Brazil and consolidate research infrastructure for future collaborative projects. The award facilitates extensive analysis of news coverage of climate change in the Brazilian media, exploration of media production infrastructure, evaluation of diverse environmental value systems in Brazil and the UK, and collaborative academic knowledge exchange on the potential of scholarly research to respond to the climate crisis.

### Dr Olalekan A. Uthman, Warwick Medical School

#### Collaborating with: Dr Muhammed Mubashir B. Uthman; Prof. Omotosho Ibraheem Musa

Despite progress in reducing child mortality, preventable child deaths remain a problem globally. Nigeria still has one of world's highest infant mortality rate. According to the Nigeria Demographic Health Survey (NDHS, 2018), the under-five mortality rate in Nigeria is 132 per 1,000 live births meaning that 1 in 8 Nigerian children never reach the age of 5. However, infant deaths, which account for half of child mortality have declined from 87 per 1000 live births in 1990 to 67 in 2018. Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) is the key child survival thrust being used by the Nigerian Government to address the unacceptably high under-5 morbidity and mortality indices; which is the most widely used clinical guideline and was developed in the mid-nineties by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations International Children Fund (UNICEF) in order to improve the management of common childhood illnesses at the primary health care level by enabling early diagnosis and effective treatment.

# Dr Nicole Beardsworth, Department of Politics and International Studies

### Collaborating with: Dr Dan Paget, University College London; Dr Danielle Resnick, International Food Policy Research Institute (USA)

The IAS fellowship enables Dr Beardsworth to hold a workshop in Lusaka in December 2020 with 25 Zambian and international researchers on the Zambian election process in 2021. At the same time, Nicole will conduct interviews to develop her next research project (on political parties and the urban informal sector in Zambia) which dovetails with the 2021 elections project. This funding will help Nicole to strengthen her expertise on the relationships between political parties and citizens in Zambia, as well as allowing her to deepen existing research collaborations and enabling the creation of a broad network of scholars working in her area.

### Professor Jason Madan, Warwick Medical School

Collaborating with: Mr Peter
Auguste, Research Fellow in Health
Economic, WMS; Dr Malaisamy
Muniyandi, Indian Council of Medical
Research - National Institute for
Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT)

This award will be used to develop a UK-India collaboration to share Warwick expertise in Health Technology Assessment and Tuberculosis (TB) research. Globally, TB is a major public health concern; it is one of the top ten causes of mortality. Prof. Madan and Mr Peter Auguste will present their work on LBTi and discuss how this can be adapted to an Indian setting. NIRT Health Economists will also present their recent work on TB and other HTA work currently being undertaken. Together, they will hold methods workshops and problem clinics to bring together their skills and experience to create immediate impact.



### **IAS Awards**

A number of the awards detailed below will be carried forward to 2020/21 because of the inability to complete the project/event/activity due to Covid-19.

**Dr Anna Ross,** *History of Art,* awarded £3826 for a project German Sovereignty, Territory and Property 1848-1980.

**Dr Olga Smith,** *IAS and English,* awarded £4860 for a research series 'Excavating the Anthropecene'.

**Professor Franklin Lisk**, *PAIS*, awarded £1500 to support the visit of external collaborator Dr Love Idahosa in the project 'Harnessing Africa's digital potential for economic transformation and sustainable development'.

**Professor Franklin Lisk**, *PAIS*, awarded £1900 to support the visit of Professor Evans Osabuohien.

**Dr Guillemette Crouzet,** *History,* awarded £500 for the translation of monograph 'Inventing the Middle East: Britain and the Persian Gulf in the Age of Global Imperialism'.

**Professor Mark Williams,** *WMG,* awarded £1409 to support 'Symposium on 3D Visualisation Technologies in Cultural Heritage'.

**Professor Alison Cooley,** Classics, awarded £4925 towards the project '3-D Scanning and Roman Heritage - A test Case in Public Engagement'.

**Professor Tony Liddicoat,** *CAL,* awarded £458, for the project 'Language policy and planning in UK Universities'.

**Dr Jessica Di Salvatore**, *PAIS*, awarded £4999 for the Interdisciplinary Symposium on Peace and Conflict.

**Professor Alan Chalmers,** *WMG,* awarded £2934 to support finalisation of finalise Marie Curie Initial Training Network proposal.

**Professor Richard Aldrich,** *PAIS*, awarded £1425, for the project 'Ethico-Political approaches to Artificial Intelligence Regulation'.

Professor Richard Aldric, PAIS, awarded £800 towards a podcast series 'The Secret Struggle for the Global South'.

**Dr Katherine Stone**, *SMLC*, awarded £1000, for the project 'The Emotional Politics of Cultural Memory: Remembering Wartime Rape in post-1945 Germany'.

**Dr Nicole Tang,** *Psychology,* awarded £4946 towards 'Warwick Interdisciplinary Sleep Health (WISH) 'Research Network Development.

**Dr Naomi Vogt,** *History of Art*, awarded £2250 towards an interdisciplinary symposium 'Too Far: Extreme Aesthetics and their Endeavours'.

**Dr Michaela Gummerum,** *Psychology,* awarded £870 towards a project 'Robots' Influence on health decision-making'.

**Dr Stefano Milanio**, *IAS*, awarded £5000 for the implementation of the database of the Contrafacta of European Medieval Vernacular Lyric.

**Dr Marco Haenssgen,** Global Sustainable Development, awarded £3150 for pump-priming the project 'Exploring behavioural spill-overs in a nationwide agricultural insurance field experiment in Thailand'.

**Professor Pierre Philippe Fraiture,** *SMLC*, awarded £4363 towards the workshop 'Central Africa and Belgium: Empire and Postcolonial Resonances'.

**Dr Dorothee Wiese**, *IAS/SMLC*, awarded £4587 for a 'Symposium In the wake of Red Power Movements:new perspectives on indigenous intellectual and narrative traditions'.

**Professor Matthew Gibson,** Chemistry, awarded £1000 towards the project 'Warwick- Basilicata Collaboration in Gylosciences'.

**Professor Kate Astbury,** *SMLC,* awarded £5000 towards a summer school for aspiring and practising literary translators. Event has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

### **IAS Awards**

#### Professor Alison Ribeiro de Menezes,

*SMLC*, awarded £5000 towards the collaboration 'Poetry in the Desert Plaza: investigating the relationship between politics and aesthetics at the site of a Chacobuco former prison camp, Atacama Desert'. This has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Professor Michael Hatt,** *History of Art,* awarded £960 towards the project 'Artistic and Literary Salons in Europe c1900'. Event has been cancelled.

**Dr Matthew Broome**, *Physics*, awarded £4850 for the project 'Exploring applications for Semi-conductor Nanowires with Novel cross-section shapes'.

**Dr Timo Schrader**, *History*, awarded £1880 for the project 'From Combat to Commemoration. Veteran Politics and Memory: A Global Perspective'.



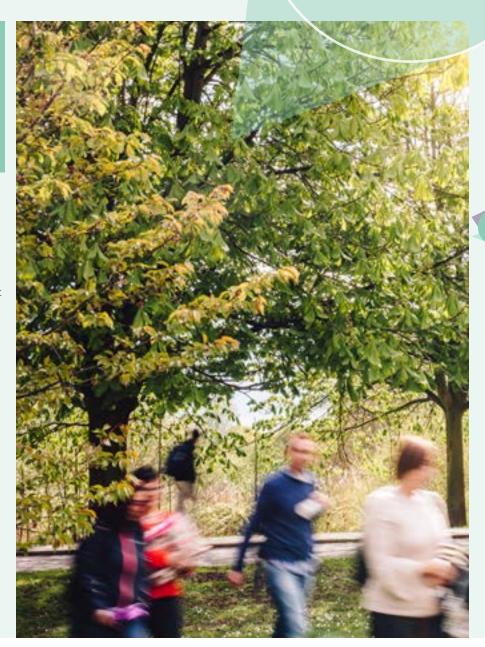
### **Vacation Schools**

3 Vacation School awards were granted in 2019/20 but did not take place due to Covid-19. Each one hopes to run in the summer of 2021. The awards made are:

# **Professor Bishnupriya Gupta,** *Economics/CAGE,* awarded £10000 for the event 'Economic Growth and Development in history'.

**Dr Abdullah Sahin**, *CES*, awarded £9600 for the event 'Empowerment and Cultural, Religious Diversity of 21st century learners'.

**Dr Leandro Pecchia**, *Engineering*, awarded £9920 for the event 'Frugal design of medical devices resilient to low resource settings'.



### IAS ACTIVITIES

### WIRL/EUTOPIA-SIF

#### John Burden

Research, Strategy and Programme Manager

In 2016 we were awarded funding from the European Commission to support our WIRL-COFUND Fellowships programme and in May 2020 we recruited the fourth and final cohort of Fellows who joined us at the IAS in September. Whilst this doesn't mark the end of WIRL-COFUND, our fellows will be with us for another two years, it does feel like a significant moment in the programme and a good time reflect on what has been achieved and what is to come.

The aim of the WIRL-COFUND fellowships was to help exceptional post-doctoral researchers make the transition into a permanent academic position by offering two years of funding for a novel, independent research project coupled with a skills and leadership training programme and the opportunity to undertake secondments to other institutions. Over the four cohorts, thirty one fellows were recruited, from as far afield as Australia, India and Argentina and those passing through the programme have developed their careers significantly, going on to secure permanent academic positions and major research funding such as ERC Starting Grants, Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships, Marie Sklodowksa Curie Individual Fellowships and NUAcT Fellowships.

Warwick's participation in the EUTOPIA European University Alliance gave us an opportunity to work with our partners at the Vrije Universitat Brussels, CY Cergy Paris Université, the University of Gothenburg, the University of Ljubljana, and the University of Pompeu Fabra to build on the success of WIRL-COFUND and deliver a bigger and better successor. In March 2020 we received funding for the EUTOPIA-SIF programme which, over the next five years, will recruit seventy six fellows across the alliance. Like WIRL fellows, they will conduct research and undertake training, but now they will also benefit from being able to work across the EUTOPIA institutions, building interdisciplinary networks and establishing the long-lasting collaborations that are so important in an academic career.

The first cohort of EUTOPIA-SIF fellows will start in the autumn of 2021 and the IAS is proud to be part of this exciting new alliance which will continue our mission to foster international collaboration and support early-career researchers and help to create a new generation of research leaders across Europe.

### **Exchanges:** The Interdisciplinary Research Journal

### **Gareth J Johnson** *Managing Editor-in-Chief, Exhanges Journal*

Managed, curated and published by the IAS, Exchanges is a robustly scholar-led, peer-reviewed, diamond open access journal. The title's core missions are to enrich, enable and inform interdisciplinary discourse from early career researchers, while facilitating researcher publishing experiences. Collaboratively founded in 2013 by IAS' early career fellows programme and supported by the University Library, Exchanges has evolved to embrace an increasingly global dimension. Consequently, the proportion of contributors from outside the UK and Europe continues to increase as the journal's recognition advances globally.

Exchanges' twin missions directly align with the IAS' ideology and goals. Through fostering an interdisciplinary discourse among emerging scholars, the journal serves to enhance the visibility, recognition and propagation of original scholarly thought. Additionally, through providing a developmental platform for contributing authors, editors and reviewers alike, the journal endeavours to enhance the scholarly communication expertise of emerging researchers. Consequently, editors seek to support first-time or inexperienced authors to craft credible manuscripts, improve authorial skills and achieve tangible recognition within the global academy. In return, editors learn from their experiences on the title, significantly deepening their understanding of publishing processes, ethics and policy.

The diversity of Exchanges' reader and contributor community is reflected within the composition of its Editorial Board, which comprises early career and established researchers from around the globe and across the disciplinary spectrum. Board members are now drawn from universities including: Warwick (UK), Monash (Australia), Shanghai Jiao Tong (China), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium) and Cergy-Pontoise (France). Board members, known as editors, provide an essential adjunct to Exchanges' operations and developmental ambitions, endowing the journal with professional insight, conducting promotional and quality assurance activities, alongside supplying editorial



### **Exchanges:** The Interdisciplinary Research Journal

labour. During 2020, associate editors, drawn from within Warwick's postgraduate community, also continued to make valuable contributions to the journal, while gaining valuable editorial and publishing experience, helping to prepare future special issues.

2020, along with representing our eighth year of continuous publication, has been a year of significant milestones for Exchanges. Alongside our regular issues, in January we published to much acclaim our first, bumper sized, special issue: produced in association with the Cannibalism: Bites Here and There conference. A further special issue, on Climate Fiction, produced as an output from the Utopian Studies Society Conference, is expected to see publication early in 2021. Two further special issues are under development with academic publishing partners at Warwick, Oxford, Goldmsiths and SOAS universities, for anticipated publication later next year.

Efforts to continue heightening the title's perception and visibility with potential contributors and readership audiences have remained editorial key ambitions. Regretfully, the UK lockdown precluded various planned outreach appearances at national and international conferences and symposium. Nevertheless, our growing social media presence, alongside personal efforts by editors, have continued to propagate Exchanges within disparate

professional and institutional networks. Most excitingly, though, 2020 saw the launch of The Exchanges Discourse, a companion podcast series to the journal featuring editorial content, contributor interviews and author insights.

Exchanges continues to warmly welcome manuscript submissions from all academic and practitioner disciplinary areas, especially from early career scholars. Additionally, the Editor-in-Chief invites approaches from researchers globally to exchange scholarly publishing experiences, explore potential collaborations, propose special issues or seek contributions to programmes and publications elsewhere.

#### exchanges.warwick.ac.uk



### Accolade Online - Building a virtual postdoctoral community

**Sarah Penny**Programme Manager

In January 2020, I joined the IAS as Programme Manager and inherited leadership of Accolade - the IAS's flagship training and development programme for postdoctoral scholars. This comprised of face-to-face research seminars (usually 2-3 fellows giving 3 or 15 minute presentations), a networking lunch and training sessions; all of which were conducted weekly on a Thursday afternoon.

During these sessions, fellows had the chance to interact with peers, discuss research, feedback on presentations, and pursue other opportunities over a networking lunch. The training sessions were aimed at building upon fellows' skills, HE sector knowledge and leadership experience to support them in taking the next step towards an independent academic career. However, unbeknown to us, external events would soon change Accolade beyond recognition, providing both challenges to its structure and delivery; but also providing opportunities for innovation and to change the programme to better suit the wide range of fellows which were now enrolled.

By March, the COVID-19 pandemic hit the UK, forcing the university to move staff and student interactions online. During this time, the IAS also had to adapt to this new way of working, and within a 4-week window, Accolade was re-designed to meet this challenge. The first step was to establish an online hub and accessible VLE from which to co-ordinate and deliver Accolade. The second step was to structure and define the environment in a way that would allow fellows to navigate the space and easily interact with one another. In April, the 'IAS Postdoctoral Community' Microsoft Team Space was launched and it swiftly prompted us to question why we had not considered establishing an online forum before.

Throughout the summer term, fellows from all departments and from all over the world were connecting with one another

on a daily basis; introducing their work, sharing resources, seeking advice and posting news. Peer to peer support had been a notable strength of the programme and this new Teams community space enabled that to flourish. It provided fellows with something that they had not had before: flexibility. As our lives changed beyond recognition, as home became the office and other commitments became more pressing, fellows had a means of communicating instantly with the whole IAS community at a time of their own choosing.

To provide further scope and opportunity for fellow interaction, we also adapted the structure and delivery of Accolade sessions. Rather than simply transferring 5+ hours of programming on a Thursday afternoon to online delivery via Teams, we chose to offer shorter, more focused, synchronous online sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Research seminars became research webinars comprising of two individual 15-minute presentations via Teams. Fellows were also given the opportunity to create and post 3-minute research films, with feedback provided by their peers and a professional filmmaker as part of the IAS Showreel project. Thursday afternoons were kept as devoted training days, but with 1-2 hours of content delivered online by external trainers, fellows and university staff.

The creation of the IAS space on Teams also improved

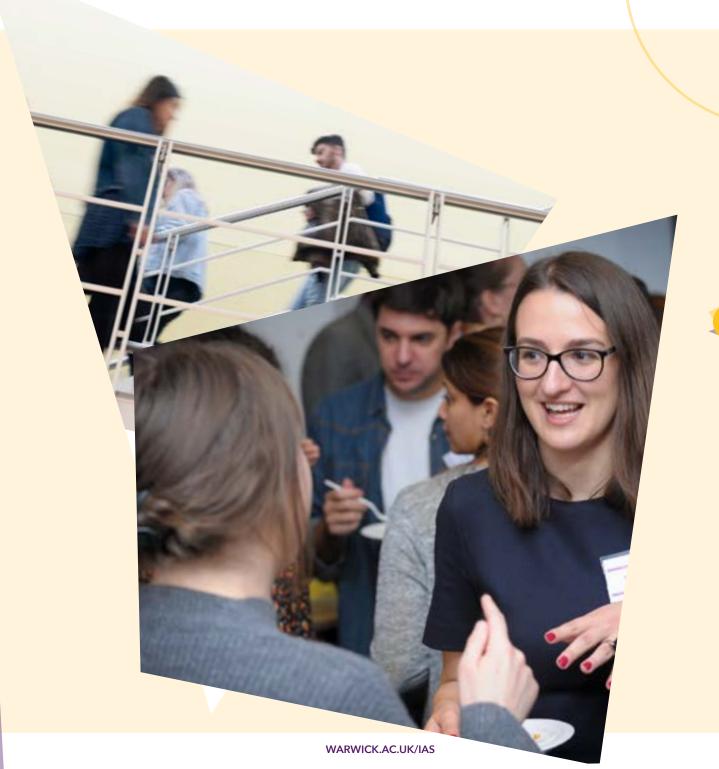


fellow interaction and feedback, which allowed us to create an evolving community space and to facilitate additional training sessions. For example, a 'Jobs, Fellowships and Funding' channel was introduced to promote the sharing of job adverts and funding calls among the community. Similarly, a conversation between fellows on the Accolade channel about book proposals prompted us to facilitate a roundtable discussion on reviewing, writing and editing book proposals. It was this flexible approach and responsiveness to the training or support needs of fellows, which, in my opinion, significantly contributed to the increase in fellow engagement.

Along with improved engagement we also saw a significant increase in attendance, with more than 50 fellows joining the weekly online training on Thursday afternoons – numbers that we had not seen consistently enter the seminar room before. We also saw Associate Fellowship applications triple between March and August with new members swiftly contributing to discussions on Teams. IAS's decision to invest in the asynchronous online Nature Masterclass in Scientific Writing and Publishing undoubtedly contributed to this increase in fellow numbers. Concerted efforts

were also made to improve the Supporting Postdocs at Warwick pages on the IAS website and to communicate with departments about what the IAS had to offer early career scholars in terms of training, research funding and support.

Despite the challenges that this year has brought, it has compelled us to rethink Accolade's purpose, content and how we best support postdocs across the university. As we look forward to the next academic year, we will continue to use these lessons which we have learnt to adapt and respond to the needs of our fellows in an ever changing world and HE sector.



### **IAS Facilities**

Located in the Zeeman
Building, the IAS has offices
for its staff, a seminar room
for 50 people, a meeting
room for 16 people, and
work and social space for
Postdoctoral and Visiting
Fellows. The seminar room
and meeting room can be
booked for events which
align with our mission at
warwick.ac.uk/ias/about/
space.

The IAS also holds five self-catered en-suite rooms to house its Visiting Fellows, in the historic Cryfield Grange and recently refurbished Cryfield Cottage I (the latter is on central campus). Cryfield Grange comprises 3 en-suite rooms, and Cryfield Cottage I comprises two ensuite bedrooms. Each facility has shared self-catered living spaces.













### **IAS Staff**

IAS staff can be contacted regarding any of our schemes or to discuss new ideas.

Our team includes: (Left to right)

**Dr John Burden** Research Strategy and Programme Manager

**Rachel Hitchcox** Programme Coordinator

**Tina Hoare** Administrator

**Dr Gaz J Johnson** Managing Editor-in-Chief, Exchanges Journal

**Dr Sarah Penny** Programme Manager

**Abbie Pritchard** Administrator

**Professor Peter Scott** Director















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