



POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR
CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH

PhD Day 29.5.2024

Agenda

Organised by your PhD representatives David Bantje, Lana Blaschke, Anna Büttner, Nele Gloy, Sarah Lohr, Jarusch Müßel and Jakob Niehues

Time	Program			
9:00 - 9:45	Welcome by Johan Rockström, the PhD reps, Christine von Bloh & Alison Schlums (<i>hybrid, Hasselmann Hall</i>)			
9:45 - 10:00	Icebreaker (<i>hybrid, Hasselmann Hall</i>)			
10:00 - 10:45	“A Scientist’s Primer on Mental Health” by Dragonfly Mental Health (<i>hybrid, Hasselmann Hall</i>)			
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee break			
11:00 - 11:45	“Between Autonomy and Precarity: Academic Labor as Labor” by Markus Kienscherf (<i>hybrid, Hasselmann Hall</i>)			
11:45 - 12:00	Coffee break			
12:00 - 12:30	Parallel interactive sessions 1: “Become active at PIK!”			
	How to identify structural discrimination and become an ally at PIK? <i>(hybrid, Telepresence room)</i>	Act on our science - how PIK can become more climate friendly <i>(Europa meeting room)</i>	Good Scientific Practice <i>(Hasselmann hall)</i>	The integration of MCC into PIK <i>(Asia meeting room)</i>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch and networking			
14:00 - 16:00	Parallel interactive sessions 2: “Working inside and outside of academia”			
	Care-Work in Academia <i>(hybrid, Telepresence room)</i>	What does my doctorate have to do with my background? <i>(Europa meeting room)</i>	Job Café: careers beyond academia <i>(Hasselmann hall)</i>	Epistemic Violence – Countering Neocolonialism in Science <i>(A 31 Westflügel 0.16)</i>
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee break			
16:30 - 18:00	Parallel creative & active sessions			
	Poetry Workshop by Patrick Klösel <i>(Telepresence room)</i>	Hiking with Lana <i>(meeting point in front of A56)</i>	Movement Games with David Bantje <i>(terrasse)</i>	Historical guided tour across the Telegrafenberg <i>(meeting point in front of A56)</i>
18:00	Potluck + Social Drinks			

Program details: morning

Time and location	Program
10:00 - 10:45 Hasselmann hall (hybrid)	“A Scientist’s Primer on Mental Health”
	<p>Olya Vvedenskaya from Dragonfly Mental Health</p> <p>There are many misconceptions about psychiatric disease: What causes it, who is at risk, and how it manifests. Increasingly, we are understanding how common these misconceptions are in academia. “A Scientist’s Primer on Mental Health” is a 45 min seminar and facilitated discussion which delivers the basics of mental health at a level that academics appreciate.</p> <p>The seminar includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prevalence of mental health illness in general and academic populations• An overview of signs and symptoms, highlighting those seen in academic settings• The science underlying the causes and treatments of mental illnesses, with an emphasis on depression and anxiety (most common mental illness)
11:00 - 11:45 Hasselmann hall (hybrid)	“Between Autonomy and Precarity: Academic Labor as Labor”
	<p>Markus Kienscherf from FU</p> <p>In his talk, Markus Kienscherf will, firstly, situate academic labor within the context of capitalism, treating it as social reproductive labor. Secondly, he will discuss the prevalent labor conditions of academic work to draw out its key contradictions. Last but not least, he will discuss what we (and you) need to do to improve the conditions of academic labor both in this country and internationally.</p>

Program details: noon

Time and location	Program	
12:00 - 12:30	Parallel interactive sessions 1: “Become active at PIK!”	
Telepresence room (hybrid)	Diversity Reps	<p>How to identify structural discrimination and become an ally at PIK?</p> <p>Structural discrimination, including but not limited to sexism and racism, unfortunately exist in our society and therefore also in work life – PIK being no exception to this. In combination with existing power relations that are prevalent in scientific institutions (non-permanent contracts, dependency on supervisors etc.), structural discrimination may impede the career and have a negative effect on the mental well-being of young researchers within the institute. To ensure an inclusive and diverse working environment, marginalized groups need allies. Becoming an ally requires self-reflection, openness, and constructive conversations. Throughout our workshop, we will explore the various dimensions and manifestations of structural discrimination at PIK (making your voice heard is more than welcome but not required) as well as discuss strategies to amplify marginalized voices and promote diversity.</p>
Europa meeting room	Greening PIK	<p>Act on our science - how PIK can become more climate friendly</p> <p>The Greening PIK team aims to raise awareness and take action to reduce the institute's environmental footprint. We started as a grassroots initiative about a decade ago as a voluntary and open group that tries to advance green practices at PIK such as bringing green electricity to the hill. We invite you to join us in a brainstorming session to explore the range of possibilities between the tiny, easy-to-achieve steps and the larger, more challenging issues focusing on both individual and institutional perspectives. Additionally, we'll share insights into our ongoing efforts and would love it if this workshop also sparks some fresh green ideas.</p>
Hasselmann hall	Ombudsperson (Julius Eberhard & Franziska Pointek)	<p>Good Scientific Practice</p> <p>Who are the ombudspersons at PIK and what are they doing? Is good scientific practice a no-brainer or can it be complicated? In this session, we will introduce ourselves, play through an exemplary conflict, and leave time for your questions and ideas about good scientific practice at PIK.</p>
Asien meeting room	MCC (Sabine Fuss)	<p>The integration of MCC into PIK</p> <p>Starting in 2025 the PIK will get extra core funding and will use some of this funding to create a new research department. This research department will mostly continue the research work that is currently going on at MCC Berlin. In addition to that, a new "Policy Hub" will be created. Learn about the research that is going on at MCC and possibilities for future collaboration.</p>

Program details: afternoon

Time and location	Program	
14:00 - 16:00	Parallel interactive sessions 2: "Working inside and outside of academia"	
Telepresence room (hybrid)	Nora Molkenthin, Frank Hellmann, Lia Strenge, Kilian Kuhla & Oliver Richters	<p>Care Work in academia</p> <p>Whether you're already juggling care responsibilities alongside your academic pursuits or considering it for the future, this session is for you! Join scientists from PIK at various career stages as we delve into the intersection of care work and academia. This session will feature open discussions with our guests, where we'll explore the joys and challenges of balancing these roles. The floor is of course open for your thoughts and experiences too. Together, we might even brainstorm ideas to enhance support at PIK, which we could share with the employees' council. Our aim is to keep the session around an hour long, giving you the chance to also participate in the "job cafe" afterward. But if the conversation keeps flowing, feel free to stick around!</p>
Europa meeting room (hybrid)	Erste Generation Promotion e.V. (Ann-Kristin Kolwes)	<p>What does my doctorate have to do with my background?</p> <p>Social background plays an important role in the German higher education system and also has an influence on the decision for or against a doctorate. Family expectations and personal socialisation shape our decisions and thus also have an influence on our doctoral studies. Often, however, we are not even aware of these connections and links, but rather they have a hidden and unconscious effect. In this workshop, we want to start reflecting together on how our personal background influences our own doctoral studies - both in a positive sense and perhaps also as a potential obstacle.</p>
Hasselmann hall	Job Café	<p>Job Café: Careers beyond academia</p> <p>We have invited professionals from diverse fields, including consulting, industry, technology, entrepreneurship, and more. You can expect informative conversations, valuable insights, practical advice and networking opportunities.</p>
A 31 Westflügel 0.16 (Meet with Jakob in front of A 56 for transit at 1:50 PM)	Berlin Institute of Health (Sarah Wendt & Sumona Dhakal)	<p>Epistemic Violence - Countering Neocolonialism in Science</p> <p>In the contemporary scientific system, colonialism continues to have an impact on research practices and the structural conditions under which research is conducted. As a result, western institutions dominate the global research landscape and a Eurocentric, monological point of view limits the plurality of knowledges that are validated within academia. Decolonial scholarship addresses both the historical emergence of such structures as well as their continuation in the present and implications for the future of science. In this workshop, we aim to provide scholarly perspectives from decolonial theory and create a space for mutual exchange based on a shared understanding of the concepts of epistemic violence, epistemic justice, coloniality, neocolonialism and decolonization. The workshop will be conducted in an interactive way based on dialogical ways of un_learning, providing awareness around (the sharing of) lived experiences by people affected by oppressive structures, thus re-calibrating the objectivity-subjectivity binary and other forms of exclusionary ways of knowledge production in academic spaces and beyond. We will collectively examine examples of German academic institutions and critically engage with depoliticized and tokenistic forms of diversity-washing.</p> <p><i>Disclaimer: due to time constraints this format will give content-based impulses and tools for further engagement, hence can only provide a rough overview to a complex topic. The workshop will be conducted in English by a white German and a German-Nepalese facilitator (we acknowledge the reductiveness of this positionality indicator and will further elaborate on it during the workshop).</i></p>

Program details: evening

Time and location	Program	
16:30 - 18:00	Parallel creative & active sessions	
Telepresence room	Patrick Klösel	<p>Poetry Workshop</p> <p>“Real snow/ on the stage. Fake blood on the snow. Could this go / on forever in a good way?” (Ben Lerner, The Lichtenberg Figures)</p> <p>In this workshop, we will study some of the most famous avantgarde writing techniques, ranging from automatic writing, visual and concrete poetry, constrained writing, like lipograms and the “n+7” method, to false etymology, defamiliarization, overwriting, and computational poetry. If you have not yet heard of these, be prepared to have your mind blown :wink:</p> <p>The first half of the workshop will consist of us diving into these different avantgarde writing techniques with an example from contemporary poetry. The second half of the workshop will consist of you trying out some of these writing techniques to write about the climate crisis yourself, on paper or using your laptop.</p> <p>Due to the interactive character of the workshop, participation is limited to 15 people. You do not have to be knowledgeable in contemporary poetry, or be prepared in any substantive way. But please bring a pen, a couple of sheets of paper, and (only if you like) a laptop with python installed.</p>
Meeting point in front of A56	Lana	<p>Hiking</p> <p>Just in front of our campus, the European long-distance path E10 connects Finland, Germany, Czechia, Austria, Italy, France, and Spain! Of course, we won't make it that far, but with proper shoes and a bottle of water we will try to reach the highest elevation of the municipal area of Potsdam, the “Kleiner Ravensberg”.</p>
Hasselmann hall	David	<p>Movement Games</p> <p>Come join this workshop to end the day with playful movement, including balancing, trying to catch tennis balls, creative movement, relaxation ... let's continue the PhD community building in an embodied way!</p>
Meeting point in front of A56	Ludwig Grunwaldt	<p>Historical Guided Tour</p> <p>The Telegraphen Berg is a historic site nestled in the serene landscapes of Germany. At its core lies the “Preußischer optischer Telegraf“, an early communication system utilizing optical signals. This hill also hosts the Einstein Turm, a symbol of scientific advancement. Together, they form a testament to human ingenuity and the evolution of technology over the centuries. Don't miss the opportunity to see important spots of science in Potsdam.</p>
18:00 - open end	Potluck & Social Drinks	
Terrasse	Enjoy the food that we all bring (please let us know in advance at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wk4mYqWnwjci7Og_7mcABU1ApcqrDzSYxsDb1yjAFhA/edit#gid=337569295) and the drinks we provide!	