

G|RC

FELLOWS

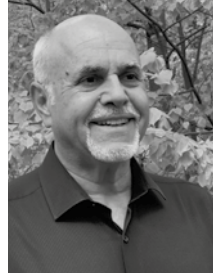
FELL OWS

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GUTENBERG RESEARCH COLLEGE

<https://www.grc.uni-mainz.de/>

The Gutenberg Research College (GRC) of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz pursues the goal of supporting excellent research by granting fellowships to out-standing scholars. We exempt the GRC fellows from most of their administrative and teaching obligations to provide them with time to focus on their research projects under excellent research conditions. Since the founding of the GRC in 2007, we have supported 75 fellows from all academic fields.



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PROF. PANAGIOTIS AGAPITOS

History Department
Byzantine Studies
JGU

Panagiotis Agapitos is professor of Byzantine Literature and Culture at the University of Cyprus. As a GRC fellow, he will pursue his research at the History Department at JGU and collaborate with his colleagues in the department of Byzantine Studies, at the Leibniz ScienceCampus “Byzantium between Orient and Occident” and at the Research Training Group “Byzantium and the Euro-Mediterranean Cultures of War”. Agapitos will build upon his recent research on periodization and methodology of writing a postmodern literary history, and prepare the publication of “A Narrative History of Byzantine Literature, AD 1050-1500”.

PROF. PETER BAUMANN

Institute of Developmental Biology
and Neurobiology, JGU;
Institute of Molecular Biology Mainz (IMB)

The cell biologist and chromosome researcher Peter Baumann has been appointed Alexander von Humboldt Professor and GRC fellow in Mainz. As professor of molecular biology at JGU and as adjunct director at the Institute of Molecular Biology, he will continue his research on the architecture and dynamics of chromosome ends and the inheritance of genetic information as professor of molecular biology. His prior appointments were with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Stowers Institute for Medical Research and Kansas University Medical Center, where he made fundamental contributions in the fields of aging, cancer and evolutionary biology.



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PROF. RALF BUSSE

Department of Philosophy
JGU

Since 2011, Ralf Busse has been professor of philosophy at JGU. In his research, he focuses on metaphysics and ontology, philosophy of language, logics, epistemology and philosophy of science.

As GRC fellow, he intends to finish his monography on “categorical metaphysics” in which he brings together logics and semantics, philosophy of science and metaphysics. By using so called metametaphysics to answer essential methodical questions he gains critical insights that can be useful for metaphysics.

PROF. DONALD DINGWELL

Department for Earth and Environmental Sciences, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
GRC fellow at the Institute of Geosciences

Donald Bruce Dingwell is regarded as one of the leading volcanologists worldwide. He has become internationally renowned for the experimental investigation of physical properties of volcanic systems, in particular his research on silicate melts and glasses. In the past years he focused on the kinetic processes of volcanic systems and eruptions. Dingwell will – as a GRC fellow in cooperation with the Institute of Geosciences – investigate the release of halogens during and after volcanic eruptions.





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PROF. DOROTHEE DORMANN

Institute of Molecular Physiology
JGU

Since April 2021, Dorothee Dormann is a professor of molecular cell biology at JGU and adjunct director at the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB) at Mainz. She is an internationally leading researcher in the field of molecular neurodegeneration. Recently she has received funding by the DFG for a Heisenberg professorship.

With her research, she will further enhance research in the life sciences at Mainz, especially in the research area “Resilience, Adaptation and Longevity” (ReALity), and she will cooperate with researchers in Mainz and the Rhine-Main area, in particular in the areas of gene regulation, genome stability, neurobiology, stress resilience and longevity/aging.

PROF. JAN ESPER

Department of Geography
JGU

Jan Esper is a professor for climatology at JGU since 2010. He currently aims to solve the important problem of divergence in the tree ring record. He has been at the forefront of modern dendroclimatology for much of the last two decades, with a focus on the development of long tree ring based climate reconstructions that preserve low frequency variability.

He has been awarded an ERC Advanced Grant to study climate-induced tree growth changes in Northern Hemisphere forests and will establish quantitative wood anatomy as a new research direction.



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PROF. VICTOR FLAMBAUM

School of Physics,
University of New South Wales
*GRC fellow at the Institute of Physics
and the Helmholtz Institute Mainz*

The well-known physicist Victor Flambaum is professor at the School of Physics at the University of New South Wales in Australia. His research encompasses different areas of theoretical physics – from particle and nuclear physics to cosmology. He is known for his successful collaboration with experimental groups and initiatives which led to many groundbreaking results. As a GRC fellow, he regularly comes to Mainz and cooperates with his colleagues at Helmholtz Institute Mainz (HIM) and the Institute of Physics of JGU. Together with his colleagues, he will analyze temporal and spatial variations of fundamental constants as well as continue the search for dark matter.

PROF. PARASTOU FOROUHAR

Mainz Academy of Fine Arts
JGU

Parastou Forouhar, one of the most prominent voices in Iranian contemporary art, joins the Mainz Academy of Fine Arts as a GRC fellow. The internationally acclaimed artist is also known for her political commitment against repression and violence and as a mediator between cultures. The life and work of the artist are exemplary for the transcultural handling of oriental and occidental traditional languages of form. During the five-year funding phase, Forouhar will establish and lead an extraordinary artistic class at the Mainz Academy of Fine Arts, where she will make use of a wide variety of artistic media and introduce her specific transcultural view on the international contemporary art discourse to the students and audiences in Mainz.



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PROF. SABINE GAUDZINSKI-WINDHEUSER

Monrepos - Archaeological Research Centre
and Museum of Human Behavioural Evolution
Neuwied

Sabine Gaudzinski-Windheuser is professor of prehistoric and protohistoric archaeology at JGU and director of the Archeological Research Centre and Museum of Human Behavioural Evolution MONREPOS at Monrepos Castle in Neuwied. Her research focuses on Pleistocene and Early Holocene archaeology and archaeozoology. As a GRC fellow, she will summarize the results of many years of excavations in Neumark-Nord (Saxony-Anhalt). She will analyze, among other things, how prehistoric hunters have permanently altered the ecosystems surrounding them. Her research aims at answering fundamental questions about the understanding of the Anthropocene and the role of humans at the beginning of this age.

PROF. STEFAN HIRSCHAUER

Institute of Sociology
JGU

Stefan Hirschauer is professor for sociological theory and gender studies at JGU. He is an expert in sociological theory, qualitative social research, sociology of the body, science studies and gender studies. From 2013 to 2019, Stefan Hirschauer initiated and led the interdisciplinary DFG research unit "Un/doing Differences. Practices in Human Differentiation" at JGU. As a GRC fellow, he will further develop his empirically grounded theory of human differentiation and thus make various phenomena of the cultural classification of people comparable and translatable into each other.



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PROF. BORIS KAUS

Institute of Geosciences
JGU

Boris Kaus has been professor of geophysics and geodynamics at JGU since 2011. He investigates the formation of geological systems and works on the identification of the physical processes that dominate the development of the systems. He translates geological phenomena into mathematical equations and is able to simulate millions of years in only a few days by numerical modelling. He has received awards from the European Geosciences Union and the German Geophysical Society, as well as won several renowned ERC Grants. As a GRC fellow, he will deepen his research on physics of magmatic processes and develop new research areas at the interface of geophysics and seismology.

PROF. PETER KIEFER

Mainz School of Music
JGU

Peter Kiefer is professor at the Mainz School of Music where he leads the unique master's course Sound Art Composition since 2009. His artistic presentations in renowned houses, at festivals, and in public spaces have won him national and international recognition as a sound artist. He has consistently searched for new fields of activity and application beyond the subject area of sound art and thereby was a major contributor to its further development. Kiefer's groundbreaking exhibition of sound art and the resultant anthology *Klangräume der Kunst* presented a historical abstract and a systematization of his subject which have become a widely adopted milestone.



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MARTINA KRÄMER, PH.D.

Institute of Energy and Climate Research,
Forschungszentrum Jülich
GRC fellow at the Institute for Atmospheric Physics

Martina Krämer is an internationally renowned expert in the field of cloud physics, especially with regard to the influence of ice clouds on the climate through radiation effects. She works both experimentally and with numerical models and has recently made a groundbreaking contribution to ice cloud research with a new classification of the formation of ice clouds. She performs in situ measurements of ice crystals and water vapor with the help of airplanes as well as computer-based modelling of ice clouds. As a GRC fellow she will investigate the influence of ice clouds on the earth's energy budget and thus enable a more precise assessment of their climate effect.

PROF. GERHARD LAUER

Gutenberg Institute for World Literature and
Written Media
JGU

Gerhard Lauer successfully combines philological research questions with a book studies approach. He conducted high profile research in literary history and endorsed a thorough rethinking of important concepts used in literary studies in the late 1990s, which led to a noticeable gain in clarity in terminology and methods in literary studies. Furthermore, he is considered one of the pioneers of the introduction of questions and methods of digital humanities into German studies. After professorships in Göttingen and Basel, Gerhard Lauer will continue his research as professor of book studies at JGU and focus on empirical reading studies and digital humanities.



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PROF. EDWARD A. LEMKE

Institute of Molecular Physiology
JGU;

Institute of Molecular Biology Mainz (IMB)

After several years as group leader of an Emmy Noether and ERC consolidator research group at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), the biophysical chemist Edward A. Lemke has taken up a professorship for synthetic biophysics at JGU. He has also become adjunct director at the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB) at Mainz. Combining new research methods and expertise in chemistry, biophysics and cell biology, he has established himself as one of the most innovative researchers in the field of intrinsically disordered proteins. He will continue his research on the “dark proteome” with his colleagues in Mainz.

PROF. JOHANNES LIPPS

Department of Ancient Studies
Classical Archaeology

JGU

In 2019, Johannes Lipps has come to JGU as professor of classical archaeology with special focus on Roman architecture and urbanism. He has become well-known with his dissertation about the Basilica Aemilia. He has explored the architecture of cities in the Roman provinces and thus introduced new aspects into Roman archaeology. This more interdisciplinary perspective incorporates both different corpora of monuments and different methodological approaches. In Mainz and the Rhine Main universities, he will collaborate with his colleagues in the research area “40.000 Years of Human Challenges: Perception, Conceptualization and Coping in Premodern Societies”.



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PROF. MÁRIA LUKÁČOVÁ-MEDVIDOVÁ

Institute of Mathematics
JGU

Mária Lukáčová is a well-known expert in numerics and analysis of partial differential equations, in mathematical modelling and scientific computing. Her interests concern the development of structure preserving schemes for complex multiscale problems and study of non-Newtonian fluids. Lukáčová is a member of the steering committee of the Mainz Institute M³odel, vice speaker of the collaborative research center „Multiscale Simulation Methods for Soft Matter Systems“, and researcher at the collaborative research center „Waves to Weather“.

PROF. DAMARIS NÜBLING

German Department
JGU



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Since 2000, Damaris Nübling has been professor of historical linguistics of German at JGU. She is an expert in historical and contrastive linguistics, language change, gender linguistics and name research (onomastics). In her research, she systematically develops the linguistic properties of names and always takes the cultural and socio-historical significance of the observations into account. Her book “Namen” has become a standard work in research and teaching. Within the course of her GRC fellowship she will build on the the recently completed long-term project “Atlas of German Family Names (DFA)” and discuss the most important results of the previous seven volumes in a final volume “Kleiner Deutscher Familiennamenatlas - Entstehung, Bedeutung und Verbreitung der Familiennamen”.



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PROF. KLAUS PIETSCHMANN

Department of Art History and Musicology
JGU

Klaus Pietschmann is known as one of the leading German musicologists whose research ranges chronologically from the Middle Ages to the 20th century and who combines musicological with transdisciplinary cultural-historical approaches. He has significantly contributed to the implementation of Digital Humanities in the field of musicology by developing innovative database solutions as well as one of the first hybrid editions in musicology. As a GRC fellow, he will focus in particular on the reciprocal relationship between music and sacral architecture in the early modern period and the further development of authority file-based source and repertoire research in the context of digital musicology.

JUNIORPROF. CHRISTOPH REINHARDT

Center for Thrombosis and Hemostasis (CTH)
JGU

Christoph Reinhardt's research focuses on the pathomechanisms of immunothrombosis, a central function of the innate immune system in microcirculation, which prevents the systemic spread of invasive microorganisms in the event of infection by activating plasmatic coagulation. In order to decipher vascular microbiota-host interactions, Christoph Reinhardt established germ-free mouse isolator technology (gnotobiotics) at the University Medical Center Mainz. His research group was able to show for the first time that the microbiome promotes arterial thrombus formation. As a GRC fellow, he will continue to develop this research area, an innovative conceptual link between immunology and vascular biology, at JGU.



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PROF. MATTHIAS SCHOTT

Institute of Physics
JGU

The particle physicist Matthias Schott chaired the ATLAS W/Z Boson Physics group at CERN in Geneva. He is now working on high precision measurements of the mass of W bosons as part of the Large Hadron Collider particle accelerator project. Moreover, he is involved in the development of a new type of micro-structure gas detector that is to be used in the ATLAS detector. In 2012, he received an Emmy Noether Grant to build up his own independent research group. Later in the same year, the Volkswagen Foundation granted him a prestigious Lichtenberg Professorship for outstanding young researchers.

PROF. MARION SILIES

Institute for Developmental Biology
and Neurobiology
JGU

Following her doctorate in Münster, Marion Silies conducted her postdoctoral research at Stanford University and headed the Emmy Noether- and ERC-funded junior research group “Visual Processing” at the European Neuroscience Institute in Göttingen before coming to Mainz in 2019 as professor of neurobiology. In Mainz, she will combine her experience in the fields of neuronal development and functional neurobiology and continue her research on the cellular mechanisms and neuronal networks of information processing in the brain, in particular the processing of visual information in drosophila.



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PROF. SEBASTIAN STERNAL

Mainz School of Music
JGU

Sebastian Sternal, professor for jazz piano and jazz ensemble at the Mainz School of Music, studied in Cologne and Paris and has worked with jazz greats like Dee Dee Bridgewater, David Binney and John Riley. His project Sternal Symphonic Society combines young musicians from jazz and classical music. In 2017, his trio album 'Home' with Larry Grenadier and Jonas Burgwinkel was released and celebrated by the audience and professionals alike. As part of his GRC fellowship, Sternal plans the development of the Jazz Campus Mainz, which will include the implementation of a European ensemble as well as the establishment of a Jazz Summer School and a university big band.

PROF. CARSTEN STREB

Department of Chemistry
JGU

Carsten Streb has been appointed professor of inorganic chemistry and will start at JGU in spring 2022. His research spans a bridge between molecular chemistry and solid-state/materials chemistry. Recently, he has been awarded an ERC Consolidator Grant with the aim to explore the polymerization of metal oxides and gain control over the structure and reactivity of such materials. At JGU, he will contribute to the field of sustainable chemistry, where his innovative materials concepts for resource-efficient catalysis and upcycling of bio-feedstocks will become cornerstones of this new research field.



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PROF. ANDREAS WALTHER

Department of Chemistry
JGU

Since October 2020, Andreas Walther has been professor for macromolecular materials and systems at JGU. He develops hierarchical self-assembly concepts inside and outside equilibrium, and connects those to (bio)macromolecular materials research. The long-term efforts are directed towards energy-driven and feedback-controlled non-equilibrium systems to realize next-generation, adaptive, active and autonomously dynamic soft materials with life-like properties. He will collaborate with his colleagues in Mainz to expand the research areas of macromolecular systems engineering and sustainable materials at JGU and the Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research.

PROF. ERIC WATKINS

Philosophy Department,
University of California, San Diego
GRC fellow at the Department of Philosophy

The philosopher Eric Watkins is among the most prominent Kant experts worldwide. He has published a groundbreaking monograph on Kant and the Metaphysics of Causality and his research also includes the reception of Kant in the academic discussions of his time and in succeeding periods. His expertise and also his excellent international network will advance Kant research in Mainz and the whole Rhine-Main area. Watkins will be visiting Mainz on a regular basis and be part of major conferences as well as workshops on the philosophy of modern times with a focus on Kant.



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2021**PROF. AMPARO ACKER-PALMER**Institute for Cell Biology and Neuroscience
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