



# CROSSROADS ASIA



Epifania Amoo-Adare and audience at her [Crossroads Lecture @ZEF](#) on 09.06.2016.

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## Highlights

### “AREA STUDIES’ FUTURES” CONFERENCE IN SEPT. — A PREVIEW

The program for the [5th Intl. Crossroads Asia Conference](#) on 22-23 September 2016 has been finalized and promises to provide a wealth of conceptual and methodological insights into innovative area studies research. Papers by over 30 scholars arriving from Mumbai, Cambridge and dozens of places in between will be presented in eight parallel panels. Topics, including (but not limited to) the Anthropocene, Spatial Bias, the Temporality of Place, ‘Contingent Methodologies’, Urban Assemblages, Development Discourses, In-Between Spaces and the Politics of Belonging, will be grouped into the following sessions:

- » **SESSION 1:** Querying Power Constellations and Destabilizing Epistemic Regimes
- » **SESSION 2:** Mapping the Socio-Spatial Complexity of Human and Non-Human Interactions
- » **SESSION 3:** Critical Conceptual and Methodological Intersections with Area Studies
- » **SESSION 4:** Positionality and the Space(s) of Knowledge Production

On Thursday afternoon (22 Sept.) there will be a keynote by Prof. Shelley Feldman (Cornell University) on “[Decommodifying Knowledge: Recuperating the Interdisciplinarity of Area Studies](#)”. This public lecture will explore how area studies can be re-appropriated as a corrective to the commodification of knowledge in the academy. The presentation will draw on feminist, postcolonial and queer theory as well as border studies to highlight the potential of decommodification to challenge hegemonies and counteract the colonizing of world regions.

*Find the full preliminary program and schedule, as well as information on the conference speakers, [here](#).*

### NEW CROSSROADS ASIA COORDINATION

The network congratulates Nelli Nokkala on a new position at the University of Cologne and extends its heartfelt thanks for her five+ years of commitment to Crossroads Asia. [Dr. Claus Bech Hansen](#) will take over her responsibilities and remain coordinator of the network through December 2016.

### NEW CROSSROADS WORKING PAPER

- » *Issue No. 34: “[Boundaries and Identities: The Case of Gilgit-Baltistan](#)” by A. A. Dad.*

# Activities in the Network

## CROSSROADS ASIA LECTURES - UPCOMING

**FELDMAN, S.:** “Decommodifying Knowledge: Recuperating the Interdisciplinarity of Area Studies”, keynote lecture at the 5th International Crossroads Asia Conference: Area Studies’ Futures, ZEF, University of Bonn, conference rooms, ground floor, 22.09.2016, 3:00 pm.

## ORGANIZATION OF WORKSHOPS UPCOMING

**SCHETTER, C.:** Workshop of the BICC project “Local security-making in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan”, funded by the VW Foundation, Osh/Kyrgyzstan, 17 – 20.08.2016.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### CONTRADICTION STUDIES: MAPPING THE FIELD — INAUGURAL CONFERENCE ON CONCEPTS OF CONTRADICTION IN THE HUMANITIES

This international and interdisciplinary conference seeks to outline the new field of “Contradiction Studies” in the Humanities, focusing on the interactions between seemingly contradictory socio-cultural phenomena and practices. This will allow an understanding of distinct, yet related categories such as antagonism, paradox, antinomy, and their uses within and beyond disciplinary boundaries. Participants will explore material instances and aspects of contradiction, as well as its theories and practice(s).

More information [here](#).

**CONTACT:** [woc@uni-bremen.de](mailto:woc@uni-bremen.de)

**VENUE:** University of Bremen, Germany

**DATES:** 9–11 February 2017

**DEADLINE:** 31 August 2016

## LECTURES, WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS - UPCOMING

**SCHETTER, C.:** “Selected Fields of Development Policy - Peacekeeping”, panel at the [Summer School on Development Policy](#), organized by the University of Bonn and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Bonn, 11.08.2016.

## CROSSROADS ASIA LECTURES - PAST

**AMOO-ADARE, E.:** “Post-disciplinary Science Futures: (Un)thinking Research, Praxes for a Pluriversal World”, ZEF, University of Bonn, 09.06.2016.

Epifania Amoo-Adare has been following a figuration of processes related to knowledge generation (including both learning and *unlearning*), since she joined the research project Crossroads Asia in 2013. In this lecture, Amoo-Adare presented her current project, developing a guide for MA-level students that is aimed at inspiring critical reflection on how we make sense of our complex, chaotic and unpredictable world. She hopes to encourage modes of inquiry that foster connectivity across boundaries and spark the “collaborative creativity and ethical imagination” needed to “face uncertain futures”. Read a full summary by Catherine Reynolds [here](#).

### NEW BMBF FUNDING LINE FOR SMALL DISCIPLINES (GERMAN)

#### „KLEINE FÄCHER – GROSSE POTENZIALE“ RICHTLINIE ZUR FÖRDERUNG VON WISSENSCHAFTLICHEM NACHWUCHS IN DEN GEISTES- UND SOZIALWISSENSCHAFTLICHEN KLEINEN FÄCHERN

**DEADLINES:** 15. September 2016; 15. September 2017; 15. September 2018.

Mehr Informationen [hier](#).

**KONTAKT:** [Alla Nevshupa](#)

## ORGANIZATION OF WORKSHOPS - PAST

**AMOO-ADARE, E.:** “(Un)thinking Research Practice: Decolonizing Theory, Mobilizing Methodologies, and Open-Ended Becoming(s)”, workshop facilitated at the Advanced Performance and Scenography Studies (A.PASS) post-masters and Ph.D. level institute for artists, Brussels, 9-10.05.2016.

**KREUTZMANN, H.:** “Pamirs at the Crossroads - Changing challenges and perspectives”, meeting of minds at ZELF, FU Berlin, 20-23.4.2016.

**SCHETTER, C.:** „Ehemalige militärische Liegenschaften im urbanen Raum - Konversion für die Zukunftsstadt?“, workshop organised by BICC, Bonn, 23.05.2016.

## LECTURES, WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS - PAST

**AMOO-ADARE, E.:** “Hierarchies, Boundaries and the Production of New Knowledge”, workshop facilitated at the “Refugees Welcome? Refugees at German Universities Conference,” organized by Die Junge Akademie, 13.05.2016.

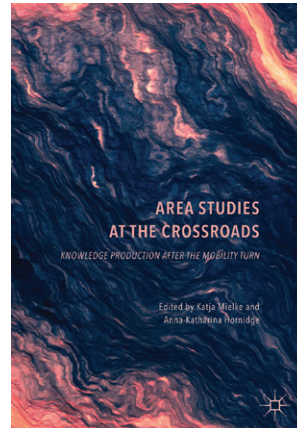
**BENZ, A.:** „Translokale Entwicklung im pakistanischen Karakorum - Migration, translokale Livelihoods und Bildungsexpansion in Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan“, joint meeting of the “Hochgebirge” work group (VGDH) and the ARGE Comparative High Mountain Research, Berchtesgaden, 26.05.2016.

**BENZ, A.:** „Translokale Entwicklung im pakistanischen Karakorum“, colloquium at the Institute of Geography, Universität Augsburg, 12.07.2016.

**HORNIDGE, A.-K.:** “SDG 14 & the Rational Organisation of Dissent. Sustainability Governance in Decentralised Governance Networks”, presentation at the International Conference, Governing by Sustainable Development Goals, Amsterdam, 29.06.2016.

**HORNIDGE, A.-K.:** “Science, Technology & Innovation Governance and the Finiteness of Our Planet”, Keynote at the Director’s Meeting 2016 of the European Association of Development Research Institutes (EADI), Kings College, London, 06.06.2016.

## BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT



Area Studies at the Crossroads. Knowledge Production after the Mobility Turn

by **KATJA MIELKE & ANNA-KATHARINA HORNIDGE** (Eds.)  
2017

**PUBLISHER:** Palgrave Macmillan US

In this pioneering volume, leading scholars from a diversity of backgrounds in the humanities, social sciences, and different area studies argue for a more differentiated and self-reflected role of area-based science in global knowledge production. Considering that the mobility of people, goods, and ideas make the world more complex and geographically fixed categories increasingly obsolete, the authors call for a reflection of this new dynamism in research, teaching, and theorizing.

The book moves beyond the constructed divide between area studies and systematic disciplines and instead proposes methodological and conceptual ways for encouraging the integration of marginalized and often overseen epistemologies. Essays on the ontological, theoretical, and pedagogical dimension of area studies highlight how people’s everyday practices of mobility challenge scholars, students, and practitioners of inter- and transdisciplinary area studies to transcend the cognitive boundaries that scholarly minds currently operate in.

More information is available [here](#).

*The book will be presented at the 5th International Crossroads Asia Conference: Area Studies’ Futures on 22 September 2016 at 4:30 pm, at the Center for Development Studies of the University of Bonn, in the ground floor conference rooms.*

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### TRANSREGIONAL RESEARCH JUNIOR SCHOLAR FELLOWSHIP: INTERASIAN CONTEXTS AND CONNECTIONS & GLOBAL SUMMER SEMESTER RESIDENCY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN

The Social Science Research Council is pleased to invite preliminary applications for its recently expanded and enhanced Transregional Research Junior Scholar Fellowship, funded with generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

In addition, working closely with the CETREN Transregional Research Network at the University of Göttingen in Germany, the SSRC is pleased to offer a new category of fellowship in 2016 – the SSRC Global Summer Semester Residency at the University of Göttingen (residency dates April 15, 2017–July 15, 2017).

More information [here](#).

**DEADLINE:** 19 September 2016

**JONIAK-LÜTHI, A.:** “Roads and non-places at China’s northwestern border: Marc Augé revisited”, paper and “Frontier spaces: the production of place and meaning in China’s borderlands,” panel convenor (with Max Woodworth) and chair at the AAS-in-Asia Conference, Doshisha University, Kyoto, 24-27.06.2016.

**JONIAK-LÜTHI, A.:** “The Han – China’s Diverse Majority,” lecture for the Asian Studies Research Group, Newcastle University, 24.05.2016.

**KREUTZMANN, H.:** “Greening the mountains by reconciling external interests and local responses. Perspectives from Asian and European mountain communities”, Keynote at the Japanese Mountain Day, Tokyo, 23.07.2016.

**KREUTZMANN, H.:** „Pamir or Pamirs?“, lecture at the Internal GeoSymposium, Institute of Geographical Sciences, Freie Universität Berlin, 14.06.2016.

**KREUTZMANN, H.:** Introduction to the symposium for high mountain research in the context of global change at the yearly meeting of the VGDH and ARGE, Berchtesgaden, 14.05.2016.

**MATO BOUZAS, A.:** “La disputa del Kashmir da una prospettiva “borderland”” [The Kashmir dispute from a borderland perspective], lecture at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Milan, 12.05.2016.

**REETZ, D.:** “Incongruous match-making: The US and China caught in the web of the mangled Pakistan-India relationship”, paper at 24th European Conference on South Asian Studies (ECSAS), Warsaw, 27-30.07.2016.

**REETZ, D.:** “Between Knowledge, Activism and the Global Market: International Students at Islamic Madrasas and the International Islamic University in Pakistan”, paper at the International Workshop convened by Prof. Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka, “Student Mobilities and Mobilisations in South Asia. Global Challenges - Local Action,” at ZiF Bielefeld, 16-18.06.2016.

**RZEHAKE, L.:** „Afghanistan: Sprache und Migration“, HU Berlin, 13.07.2016.

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS 2017 AT THE ZENTRUM MODERNER ORIENT AND THE BERLIN GRADUATE SCHOOL MUSLIM CULTURES AND SOCIETIES

ZMO and the BGSMS are inviting applications for Visiting Research Fellowships for the calendar year of 2017. Applicants should send their applications directly to their institution of preference – either BGSMS or ZMO.

The call is open to senior researchers and recent postdocs in the humanities and the social sciences.

More information [here](#).

**CONTACT:** [zmo@zmo.de](mailto:zmo@zmo.de) or [office@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de](mailto:office@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de).

**DEADLINE:** 14 August 2016



**RZEHAK, L.:** Organization of the [Afghanistan Lecture Series](#), HU Berlin, 27.04-13.07.2016.

**SCHETTER, C.:** „Der Syrien-Konflikt und die Neuordnung des Nahen Ostens“, moderation of the podium at Bonner Akademie für Forschung und Lehre praktischer Politik (BAPP), Bonn, 04.07.2016.

**SCHETTER, C.:** „Zwischen Bürgerkrieg und Integration – Die Aufnahme von Flüchtlingen als Herausforderung und Chance für den gesellschaftlichen Wandel in NRW“, panel in the seminar „Flucht, Migration, Integration. Herausforderungen und Chancen aus der Sicht der Forschung“ at Johannes-Rau-Forschungsgemeinschaft (JRF), Düsseldorf, 17.06.2016.

**SÖKEFELD, M.:** “Culture, Space, Movement”, lecture at the Graduate School ‘Distant Worlds’, Methodology Seminar, LMU Munich, 22.06.2016.

**SÖKEFELD, M.:** “Disaster governmentality: IDPs and the politics of lists after the Attabad landslide in Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan”, lecture at the 30th Pakistan Workshop, Rook How, Lake District, 6-8.05.2016.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTER-REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY: SOUTH ASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

The Department of Political Science/Centre of Excellence China Studies, GC University, Lahore, invites submission of research papers for its [ICIRCSACA Conference](#). The conference addresses new trends related to the ‘sisterly regions’ of South and Central Asia. The focus will be to discuss regional dynamics beyond the conventional parameters of regional study and to contribute to the formulation of a theoretical as well as methodological framework synchronized with the Asian milieu.

**CONTACT:** [chairperson.polsc@gcu.edu.pk](mailto:chairperson.polsc@gcu.edu.pk)

**VENUE:** GC University, Lahore, Pakistan

**DEADLINE: 5 AUGUST 2016**

## CALLS FOR PAPERS

### WORKSHOPS AT THE FRIEDRICH SCHILLER UNIVERSITY JENA, GERMANY AS PART OF THE EU-FP7 CASCADE PROJECT

» **MIGRATION, MOBILE GOODS AND TRADE NETWORKS IN THE CAUCASUS**

**CONTACT:** [Tamar Khutsishvili](#)

**DEADLINE: 31 JULY 2016**

**DATE:** 18-19 November 2016

» **MISTRUST, MOBILITIES, INSECURITIES**

**CONTACT:** [Florian Mühlfried](#)

**DEADLINE: 31 JULY 2016**

**DATE:** 16-17 November 2016

Travel to, and accommodation in Jena will be funded for the authors of accepted papers.

More information is available [here](#).

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**ALFF, H. (2016):** [Flowing goods, hardening borders? China's commercial expansion into Kyrgyzstan re-examined](#). In: Eurasian Geography and Economics. E. Ting Yeh (ed.): Special issue “The Geopolitics of Chinese Development in Asia”, DOI: 10.1080/15387216.2016.1200993.

**AMOO-ADARE, E. (2016):** [Renegade Architecture](#). In: J. Hobson (ed.): [Are All Women Still White? Rethinking Race, Expanding Feminisms](#), Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 75-88.

**BAGDASAROVA, N., VON BOEMCKEN, M., BOBOYOROV, H., SCHETTER, C. & J. SULAIMANOV (2016):** [Local Security-Making in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan](#). BICC Working Paper, Bonn.

**BENZ, A. (2016):** [Framing modernisation interventions: re-assessing the role of migration and translocality in sustainable mountain development in Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan](#). In: [Mountain Research and Development](#) 36:2, 141-152.

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### POST-DOC IN DEVELOPMENT AND KNOWLEDGE SOCIOLOGY AT THE LEIBNIZ CENTER FOR TROPICAL MARINE ECOLOGY (ZMT), BREMEN

The Research Group 'Development and Knowledge Sociology' at the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology in Bremen seeks an accomplished social science researcher with grounded expertise in marine/coastal sociology, anthropology, area studies, human geography, gender, development, postcolonial or science and technology studies, working on tropical regions. The envisioned starting date is September 15, 2016.

More information [here](#).

**CONTACT:** [Anna-Katharina Hornidge](#)

**APPLICATIONS:** [Lena Oehlmann](#)

**DEADLINE:** 20 August 2016

**DÖRRE, A., KREUTZMANN, H. & S. SCHÜTTE (EDS., 2016):** [Pamirs at the crossroads – changing challenges and perspectives](#). Berlin Geographical Papers 45, 1-16.

**BORCHARDT, D., BOGARDI, J. & R. IBISCH (EDS.):** "Integrated Water Resources Management: Concept, Research and Implementation". Cham: Springer. Contributions by network member(s):

- » Ibsch, R. B., Leidel, M., Niemann, S., Hornidge, A.-K., & R. Goedert (2016): "Capacity Development for Integrated Water Resources management: Lessons Learned from Applied Research Projects", 335-376.
- » Kim, E. A. & A.-K. Hornidge (2016): "IWRM in Uzbekistan: A global concept with local consequences", 201-220.
- » Hornidge, A.-K. et al. (2016): "Reconceptualising Water Management in Khorezm, Uzbekistan - Recommendations towards IWRM", 569-602.

**MATO BOUZAS, A. (2016):** [The Kashmir space: Bordering and belonging across the line of control](#). In: Revista Electrónica de Estudios Internacionales 31.

**MIELKE, K. (2016):** Book review. Madeleine Reeves: [Border Work. Spatial Lives of the State in Rural Central Asia](#). In: *Inner Asia* 18, 167-169.

**RZEHAQ, L. (2016):** Recent developments in Afghanistan. In: Hock, H. H. & E. Bashir (eds.): [The Languages and Linguistics of South Asia](#). Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 292-299.

**SÖKEFELD, M. (2016):** The Kashmiri Diaspora in Britain and the Limits of Political Mobilisation. In: Wonneberger, A., Gandelsman-Trier, M. & H. Dorsch (eds.): [Migration, Networks, Skills: Anthropological Perspectives on Mobility and Transformation](#), 23-46.

## INTERVIEWS

**SCHETTER, C.:** [„Weltflüchtlingstag“](#), WDR3, 20.06.2016.

## NEW PROJECTS

**WARNKE, I., HORNIDGE, A.-K., SCHATTENBERG, S. (APPLICANTS):** Lecture series [„Macht im Widerspruch“](#), funded by the Foundation of the University of Bremen, the Manfred and Ursula Fluß Foundation and the Nolting Hauff Foundation.

## NEW ON ELL-PSES.NET

### THE POWER OF AREAS: REFLECTIONS FROM POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

BY CATHERINE REYNOLDS

In a recent contribution to *Political Geography (Interventions in the political geographies of 'area')*, ten geographers address questions underpinning the rethinking of area studies. One theme that frequently surfaces is ambivalence toward emphasizing area-based expertise. As pointed out in the introduction by Richard C. Powell and Ian Klinke (University of Oxford), areal knowledges have often been instrumentalized for geopolitical ends. And yet, the article also makes clear that theory production without deep knowledge of specific and contrasting places is insufficient.

**CONTINUE READING** [here](#).

Crossroads Asia derives its name from the geographical area(s) extending from eastern Iran to western China and from the Aral Sea to northern India. The scholars collaborating in the network pursue a novel approach to Area Studies, which aspires to identify concepts of area that take into account key dynamics like the constant mobility of human beings, ideas and commodities across and beyond cultural, social and political borders. Mobility forms an analytical lens for investigating figurations, a concept implying that changes, minor or major, within one element of a constellation (e.g., a familial, religious, or economic network) always affect the whole; figurations can emerge in a given location but stretch to far-flung corners of the world, perhaps then returning to where they began. The research network uses methods from the disciplines geography, political science, sociology, linguistics and social anthropology, among others, to investigate phenomena related to multiple spatial realities, (im-)mobilities and (im-)mobilisation, borders and boundary-making/-weakening, and positionality.

Funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and comprised of half a dozen research institutions, the Crossroads Asia competence network was established in spring of 2011. Integral to its academic undertakings, the network aims to meet the high demand on the part of political decision-makers and the public for information on countries within the scope of its research. Further information on Crossroads Asia is available at [www.crossroads-asia.de](http://www.crossroads-asia.de).

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