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wipcad

Wicked Problems, Contested Administrations:
Knowledge, Coordination, Strategy



Newsletter No. 2 / 2015

Research Training Group "Wicked Problems, Contested Administrations: Knowledge, Coordination, Strategy" at the University of Potsdam

WIPCAD PhD Workshop - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

WIPCAD warmly invites to its PhD Workshop on ["Research processes in the field of Public Administration and Public Policy – challenges of concepts and methods"](#). The workshop will take place from 8 - 11 November 2015 and is a joint event with its cooperation partner, the Department of Administration and Organization Theory, University of Bergen/Norway.

The PhD Workshop is open to all PhD students of Public Administration and Public Policy and offers a unique opportunity to share and discuss challenges and open questions of individual PhD projects as well as to learn from more experienced researchers.

Please submit your applications to phd-workshop@uni-potsdam.de by 14 August 2015.



Farewell Lecture of WIPCAD member, Prof. Dr. Werner Jann

On 10 July 2015, [Prof. Dr. Werner Jann](#) gave his farewell lecture at the Campus of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences of the University of Potsdam in Griebnitzsee which was very well attended by WIPCAD members, faculty members, friends and guests. After a welcome speech by [Prof. Dr. Maik Heinemann](#), Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, Dr. Göttrik Wewer, former State secretary, and [Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Geert Bouckaert](#), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and President of the International Institut of Administrative Sciences ([IIAS](#)) gave the laudations illustrating the outstanding work of this researcher in the past forty decades. Prof. Jann gave his farewell lecture on the topic „Wozu Verwaltungswissenschaft: praktische Fragen und theoretische Antworten“.

[...\[more\]](#)

WIPCAD wishes all the best for the future to Werner Jann!



WIPCAD presents on "Potsdamer Tag der Wissenschaften"

On 9 May 2015, the 3rd "[Potsdamer Tag der Wissenschaften](#)" (Potsdam Day of Sciences) of the University of Potsdam took place. Laboratories and lecture halls were opened to guests. Potsdam's scientists invited the public, their friends and families to lectures, exhibitions and experiments to give an insight to their working fields. More than 20 research facilities presented themselves on the Campus Neues Palais. WIPCAD exhibited at the "field of research / Science-Camp" with its Spokesperson, doctoral fellows and its Coordination Office. We informed about the research and training program, the doctoral fellows presented their research topics. More impressions can be found [here](#).



Raffael Hanschmann wins Jan Brouwer thesis prize

WIPCAD PhD fellow [Raffael Hanschmann](#) recently won the **Jan Brouwer thesis prize** by the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities (Koninklijke Hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen, [KHMW](#)) in the Netherlands. Beginning in 2015, the Jan Brouwer thesis prize, a 2,000 Euro endowment, is awarded for outstanding theses in the fields of philosophy and theology, linguistics and literary studies, history, jurisprudence, economics, social sciences, and humanities.

Raffael Hanschmann won the prize in the social sciences discipline for his thesis [“The impact of the economic crisis on EU environmental policy-making – insights from discourse network analysis”](#), handed in at the Institute of Public Administration at Leiden University in 2014. ... [\[more\]](#)

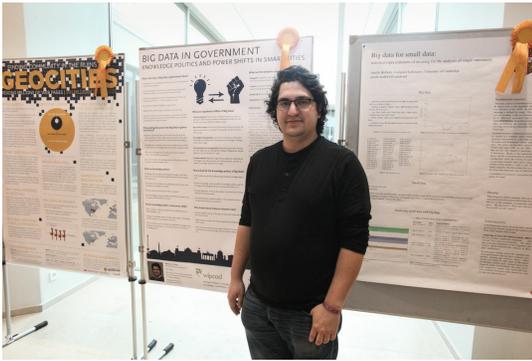


Foto: Stefanie Herbst

Visit of the Department of Administration and Organization Theory of the University of Bergen

From 27 to 28 April 2015, the [Department of Administration and Organization Theory](#) of the University of Bergen, Norway, visited the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Potsdam.

On the first day, six sessions were held with two presentations each, showing current research to explore options for future cooperation. The spokesperson for WIPCAD, [Prof. Dr. Harald Fuhr](#), presented the aims and concepts of the research training group. WIPCAD PhD fellow [Thomas Danken](#) presented a joint paper (with [Anne Lange](#) & [Katrin Dribbisch](#)) on the debate of wicked problems in public administration research. ... [\[more\]](#)



Basanta Thapa wins Best Lightning Talk Award at Herrenhausen conference "Big Data in a Transdisciplinary Perspective"

From 25 to 27 March 2015, WIPCAD doctoral fellow [Basanta Thapa](#) attended the Herrenhausen Conference, "Big Data in a Transdisciplinary Perspective", in Hannover.

The conference, hosted by Volkswagen Foundation, convened more than one hundred scholars from academic disciplines as diverse as computer linguistics, information science, digital humanities, complexity science, law, and social sciences to discuss new research questions, methods, and fields of inquiry brought about by the rise of Big Data. Keynote speeches included topics from Digital Humanities by Andrew Pescott, the role of data in research by Christine L. Borgman, to legal questions of privacy and data use by Nikolaus Forgó and Big Data research infrastructure by Volker Markl (all of which are accessible at the [VolkswagenStiftung homepage](#)) [...\[more\]](#)



WIPCAD Lecture Series Summer 2015

Within the framework of the Lecture Series WIPCAD welcomed a lot of very interesting guests this summer. Among others, we welcomed [Prof. Dr. Peter Hupe](#) from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands, [Prof. Dr. Thomas Hale](#) from the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, Great Britain and in cooperation with the PCPM we welcomed Dr. Kerstin Leitner (retired from United Nations service since 2005). [...\[more\]](#)

Upcoming Lectures in this Series see [here](#).

Research Visits, Conferences

From 5 March to 31 May 2015, [Ina Radtke](#) was awarded a visiting researcher grant from the E.ON program for political science to stay in Norway at the [Uni Rokkan Centre](#) and the [Department of Administration and Organization Theory at the University of Bergen](#). The department's status as a leading institute in administrative research and its strong focus on neo-institutionalism as well as its expertise on administrative and organisational change offered a fruitful environment for theoretical input on her chosen topic. Ina Radtke's PhD project aims to analyse organisational change within coordination in reform processes. [...\[more\]](#)

From 15 April to 24 May 2015, [Anne Lange](#) stayed in Port-au-Prince, Haiti for the purpose of conducting fieldwork; she returned to Haiti after being there for the first time in November/December 2014. Anne Lange researches the complex relationship between peacekeeping missions fielded by the United Nations (UN) to post-conflict countries such as Haiti and the actors in their organizational environment. To learn about the »mechanics« of decision-making in the complex peacekeeping field, she interviewed a plentitude of staff of the UN peacekeeping operation in Haiti (MINUSTAH) as well as UN agencies, the diplomatic corps, and aid and humanitarian workers. More than that, Anne Lange had the opportunity to attend a number of events such as coordination meetings, diplomatic receptions, and a visit on a MINUSTAH military base, which provided her with important observation data.. [...\[more\]](#)

On 20 April 2015, WIPCAD research fellow [Bertolt Wenzel](#) participated in a scoping workshop on the linkage between sustainable land management and coastal and marine environments in Berlin. The workshop was part of the [3rd Global Soil Week 2015](#) and was jointly organized by the [Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies \(IASS\)](#) and the [European Commission - Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) together with the [H2020 INSPIRATION project](#). The aim of the scoping workshop was to provide a platform to (I) discuss trends and status of soils and seas in the nexus, (II) learn from present experiences in addressing the complex interactions between both systems, (III) reflect upon existing opportunities (shared societal challenges), identify knowledge gaps and consider current policy, legal and economic instruments, both within the EU and at an international level, (IV) bring together stakeholders from both fields to brainstorm on possible ways forward. During the workshop, Bertolt Wenzel met with experts on marine governance and received important input for his PhD project on “Organizing Coordination in Marine Governance”.

From 27 to 30 May 2015, the [Digital Government Society](#), one of the leading associations in e-government research, held its [16th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research](#) (d.go 2015) at the Arizona State University in Phoenix, Arizona. This year’s conference topic was “Digital Government and Wicked Problems: Climate Change, Urbanization, and Inequality”. This topic perfectly matches WIPCAD fellow [Basanta Thapa](#)’s PhD project on Big Data in urban governance, which he was invited to discuss in the d.go 2015 PhD Colloquium. This invitation included the Valerie Gregg International Student Scholarship, which covered conference attendance and one-year membership in the Digital Government Society. ...[\[more\]](#)

From 1 to 4 July 2015, the [International Conference on Public Policy \(ICPP\)](#) took place in Milan/Italy. Many WIPCAD members and PhD fellows participated in the conference, including [Ina Radtke](#) who presented the paper “*Coherence of policy fields: The influence of horizontal coordination structures in climate adaption, supply with raw materials and immigration*” together with the co-authors [Dr. Thurid Hustedt](#), post-doctoral researches at WIPCAD, and [Anne Klinnert](#) in the Panel “Comparing Horizontal Coordination of Policy Sectors”.

Guest Researchers

From 12 April to 18 April 2015, WIPCAD welcomed [Prof. Dr. Peter Hupe](#) from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands, as a visiting researcher. His research regards the theoretical-empirical study of public policy processes, particularly implementation and street-level bureaucracy.

From 12 April to 1 May 2015, WIPCAD welcomed [Prof. Dr. Jon Hovi](#) from the University of Oslo, Norway, as a visiting researcher. During his stay at our training group at the University of Potsdam he gave a public lecture on “Why the United States supports international enforcement for some treaties but not for others” as part of the [WIPCAD lecture series](#). ... [\[more\]](#)

From 1 to 21 June 2015, WIPCAD welcomed [Dr. Berit Bliesemann de Guevara](#) from the Aberystwyth University, UK, as a visiting researcher. On 17 June she held a workshop on her research project about the [International Crisis Group](#) (ICG). The ICG, which provides analysis and advocacy for violent conflicts and crises all over the world, has a reputation as an authoritative source of information for international decisionmakers, but has not been studied itself. ...[\[more\]](#)

Upcoming events

- 26 - 28 August 2015: EGPA Annual Conference - PSG V "Regional and Local Government" ...[\[more\]](#)
- October 2015 - WICPAD welcomes the new cohorte
- 26 - 30 October 2015 "Research days for PhDs in Public Management" at the University of Potsdam
- 08 - 11 November 2015 WICPAD PhD Workshop "[Research processes in the field of Public Administration and Public Policy – challenges of concepts and methods](#)"

If you have any questions regarding the newsletter please contact coordinator@wipcad-potsdam.de.

Research Training Group WICPAD at the University of Potsdam
August-Bebels-Straße 89
14482 Potsdam
Deutschland

coordinator@wipcad-potsdam.de

