Author Information

Sabine Biedermann is a doctoral candidate at the graduate school »innovation society to-day« at TU Berlin. She holds a diploma in Sociology from the Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago de Chile and a master's degree in European Ethnology from the Humboldt University Berlin. Her PhD deals with the question of how a »healthy« human microbiome is enacted in everyday practices, and how scientific and lay communities work with the microbiota and intervene in it, focusing on human-bacterial collaborations towards health and well being. She follows science and technology studies ethnographic inquiries and directs her attention to non-human agency, relations, and practices.

Casper Bruun Jensen is an anthropologist of science and technology and based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. From there, he is doing independent research on practical ontologies, infrastructures, and speculative futures for a rapidly changing planet. Together with Brit Ross Winthereik, he is the author of Monitoring Movements in Aid Development (MIT, 2012), and he is the editor of Infrastructures and Social Complexity: A Routledge Companion (2016) with Penny Harvey and Atsuro Morita. Casper can be reached at cbruunjensen@gmail.com.

Kathrin Eitel is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology at Goethe-University in Frankfurt, Germany. Following studies in anthropology, history, and politics from universities in Heidelberg and Istanbul, she conducted ethnographic research on recycling infrastructures in Phnom Penh, Cambodia as part of her dissertation project. Kathrin Eitel is particularly interested in environmental issues emerging from human/non-human practices and sociomaterial constellations, with a focus on infrastructures and ontologies in the fields of anthropology and science and technology studies. She has written articles on waste, infrastructure, and urban environments and politics, traversing disciplinary boundaries, searching for the composition of life.

Anna Heitger is pursuing her PhD at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her research is part of the BMBF Project »Food for Future« that aims at generating a new approach to future food and eating. Anna Heitger both conducts laboratory research within the partner projects to facilitate an understanding of the assumptions and implications of anticipatory research practices, and research outside the consortium in a variety of field sites to establish an ethnographic analysis of divergent approaches to food, the future of food, and eating practices of the present. Situating eating as a more-than-human practice at the interface between human and environment, she explores the future(s) emergent from these particular anticipations of food.

Author Information

Desirée Kumpf is Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle (Saale). Following a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Media from Goldmiths University of London and a Master's degree in Cultural History and Theory from Humboldt University of Berlin, she completed a Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Leipzig. Her doctoral thesis examines the intersections of ecology, agriculture, and labour on Indian tea plantations. Her postdoctoral research looks at the political implications of rewilding approaches to nature conservation in Italy and the Polish-German border.

Stefan Laser is a postdoctoral researcher in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Ruhr University Bochum and coordinates a research lab (the RUSTlab4) that focuses on the advancement of approaches in STS. He received his doctorate in sociology at the University of Kassel. The foundation for the PhD was a multi-sited ethnography, which is dedicated to the global containment of electronic waste. He has published extensively on STS methodologies, innovation, valuation studies and waste studies.

Michaela Meurer is a social and cultural anthropologist living in Marburg, Germany. Her research and teaching focuses on human-environmental relations in all their facets and dimensions—and especially on the history of environmental anthropology and the ontological turn, the anthropology of climate change and the anthropology of conservation. For her PhD, she studied ontological multiplicities in a Brazilian conservation area where locals, civil society, and state agencies engaged in co-management of natural resources. Her post-doc project at Marburg University concentrates on climate initiatives and local responses to environmental transformation related to climate change in Mozambique and Brazil.

Jörg Niewöhner heads the Laboratory: Anthropology of Environment Human Relations at the Institute of European Ethnology at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and serves as the director of the Integrative Research Centre: Transformation of Human-Environment Systems (IRI THESys). His ethnographic research deals with ecological analytics in anthropology, particularly in the fields of global environmental change and urban mental health.

Paula Schiefer is an environmental and maritime anthropologist with a focus on conservation, fishing, resource management, and perceptions of water-land boundaries. Her research explores the lived realities of people who depend upon the sea and the ways in which the environment and their social lives are interconnected. In her PhD research (University of Aberdeen, Scotland), she focused on indigenous fishing practices in Southwest Alaska to understand how different relationships with salmon and the ascription of agency and sentience to animals are reflected in conservation strategies. Other interests include coastal infrastructures, especially land reclamation and other projects that shape coastal landscapes, as well as the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) within the Social Sciences.

Estrid Sørensen is professor of cultural psychology and anthropology of knowledge at the Ruhr University Bochum. She has published within a wide area of Science & Technology Studies, including a text book, and studies on digitalisation and knowledge production in educational contexts, on evaluation studies, on knowledge production of and through computer games, on knowledge production in psychology and on scientific data practices. Of core interest in her work are questions concerning materiality of and in knowledge production as well as the re-thinking of ethnographic methods through digital data.