

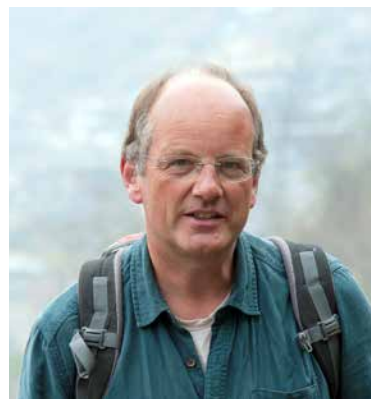
## Editorial

It was just a few months ago that we received the GO! for our Cluster of Excellence ROOTS. Since then, the process of institutionalisation, the advertisement of about 40 new positions, including the opening of new professorships, and the establishment of new infrastructural units are fully under way. The ROOTS community is now completely committed to the realization of our ambitious plans. While our science-near management structures and international standardisation enabled ROOTS the stamp of excellence, some difficulties have to be surmounted nonetheless, including severe budget cuts. Unfortunately, despite its excellence in research, Kiel University finally missed out on the chance of being awarded the label as an “Exzellenzuniversität” in the most recent competition. A confirmation would have further pushed the development of university research priorities. All the more incentive for us to proceed with our models of research and cope with the disappointment of ongoing funding shortages through excellent research, outreach and efficient project management.

Therefore, in spite of the mentioned challenges, ROOTS is gaining momentum: the

arrival and integration of new young scholars and scientists is currently generating an atmosphere of departure, first laboratory studies and field campaigns have started and exciting workshops, lectures and presentations

are continuously being organized, entwining ROOTS’ topics and bringing together experts dealing with urban, hazard, diet, knowledge, inequality, and conflict challenges. The perception of the public concerning ROOTS is also visibly increasing. Even in the local paper, “the two [clusters] in medicine and archaeology” were described as an astonishing success of engaged scientists. Thus, our new homepage ([www.cluster-roots.org](http://www.cluster-roots.org)) and the newsletters – of which you hold the first in your hands – also inform about manifold joint activities of ROOTS.



Johannes Müller, Speaker of ROOTS

Newsletter  
01 / 2019

**\* Roots proudly presents the  
Cluster's first newsletter! \***

Here ROOTS will report regularly  
on news and offer insights on current  
and forthcoming activities.

## **ROOTS International Symposium**

The first International Symposium organized by ROOTS took place from 17-18 June in the Audimax of Kiel University. Invited speakers from across Europe and even South America gathered in Kiel to share ideas and open new research perspectives on the study of social, cultural and environmental connectivity in past societies. Talks included samples of the reconstruction of the dynamics of social inequality in prehistoric societies, the production and transfer of knowledge, the understanding of agency and perception in ancient and medieval urban contexts, the investigation of the emergence of conflicts and their

resolution in the Baltic Region during the Late Iron Age and Early Medieval period. Moreover, presenters discussed methodological advances for the study of human-environmental-interdependencies in the area of dendro-archaeology, as well as for the computational biological analysis of various organic materials from prehistorical and historical contexts. Johannes Müller was impressed by the wide range of topics covered at the symposium, which brought innovative perspectives to existing research initiatives and were of great value to advance the interdisciplinary emphasis of the cluster. The event was an important part of the initial phase of the seven-year cluster.



## **2018 JMA Plenary Meeting and first ROOTS PIs Meeting**



Group photo of the JMA Members

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, the 2018 Johanna-Mestorf-Academy (JMA) Plenary Meeting took place with about 70 members in attendance.

The meeting included updates from the speakers and the representatives on the numerous projects and initiatives that took place over the past year in the frame of the JMA. Several new members introduced themselves and their research. Above all, this meeting was an opportunity to celebrate the success of the



Group photo of the ROOTS principal investigators

**Cluster of Excellence ROOTS!**

Following the JMA Plenary Meeting, the first ROOTS principal investigators (PI) Meeting kicked-off seven years of interdisciplinary advanced research on how social, environmental, and cultural processes have substantially shaped past human development: the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS is now starting its activities!

## **Cluster of Excellence ROOTS in Moscow, Russia**

Future perspectives of archaeology were discussed at the international conference “Archaeology of the 21st Century”, which took place from 26–28 June 2019 in Moscow, Russia. The ROOTS cooperation partners of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Eurasia Department of the German Archaeological Institute jointly organized this exchange of views that attracted participants from China, Russia and other regions of Europe. Although key actors from Latin America, Africa, Oceania and further Asian countries were certainly missing, intense and productive discussions took

place on the future development of archaeology, especially regarding its political role in recent discourses. Johannes Müller, speaker of the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS, presented ‘Social, Environmental and Cultural Connectivities in Past Societies’ as a transdisciplinary initiative for innovative research perspectives and Claus von Carnap Bornheim, speaker of the Subcluster ROOTS of Conflict, illustrated research outlooks for the Baltic regions in connection with the world cultural heritage site of Hedeby.



Sabine Reinhold (DAI-Referent for Russian Archaeology), Johannes Müller (ROOTS speaker), Svend Hansen (Director of the DAI Eurasia department), Nikolaj Andreevich Makarov (President of the Institute of Archaeology, Russian Academy of Sciences) and Felipe Criado-Boado (President of the European Association of Archaeologists) happily gathered during a conference break.



Nikolaj Andreevich Makarov, president of the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, guides the participants through an archaeological excavation conducted in the Grand Kremlin Public Garden, Moscow. The important role of archaeology in the creation of historical narratives became clearer during this conference excursion.

### **“Who were the first farmers?” BBC CrowdScience with contribution by Cheryl Makarewicz**

Cheryl Makarewicz, professor for archaeozoology and stable isotope science at Kiel University and principal investigator of the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS, contributed to the latest BBC World Service CrowdScience series broadcast on the world's first farmers.

**LINK TO BBC BROADCAST:**

[www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3csz1t5](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3csz1t5)





## TV interview with Henny Piezonka

A recent interview of the German TV station NDR centres around Henny Piezonka, junior professor of Anthropological Archaeology at Kiel University and principal investigator (PI) of the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS. Apart from her research in Kiel, the NDR report focusses on her fieldwork in secluded parts of the Siberian taiga in Russia, where she investigates the life ways of the local hunter-fisher and herding communities in the past and today.

**LINK:** [www.ndr.de/nachrichten/schleswig-holstein/Henny-Piezonka-Die-Indiana-Jones-von-der-Foerde,hennypiezonka100.html](http://www.ndr.de/nachrichten/schleswig-holstein/Henny-Piezonka-Die-Indiana-Jones-von-der-Foerde,hennypiezonka100.html)

# People

## People in ROOTS: Professor Patric-Alexander Kreuz

### *The Reconstruction of Ancient Cultures*

„All activities of today's as well as earlier humans leave behind material remains. Archaeology provides a unique opportunity to approach this aspect of the historical realities of ancient cultures and thus daily life, various lifestyles and traditions of past societies – and indeed the world they created and interpreted. To reconstruct the latter by means of only fragmentary remains constitutes the special appeal of archaeological work. In this context, the focus of my teaching and research is the ancient city with its diverse material expressions.”

In the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS (Subcluster Urban ROOTS), this research focus is provided with an excellent framework, which introduces a variety of starting points and offers a stimulating interdisciplinary horizon.

**FIRST PUBLISHED (IN GERMAN):** unizeit No. 98, author: Kerstin Nees.  
**TRANSLATION:** Dr. Eileen Küçükkaraca

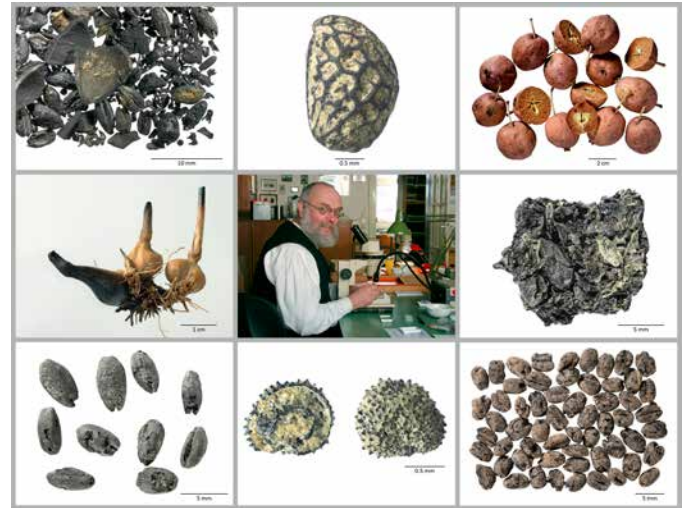


### VITA

Patric-Alexander Kreuz, born in Singen at Hohentwiel, is a professor for Classical Archaeology / Urban Archaeology at Kiel University. Previously, he held a position as an Akademischer Rat in Classical Archaeology at Ruhr University in Bochum and was a DAAD long-term lecturer for Classical Archaeology at the University of Jordan in Amman. In 2004, he completed his PhD at the University of Cologne and in 2018 his habilitation at Ruhr University in Bochum.

## **ArchbotLit – The New Search Engine for Literature on Archaeological Remains of Cultivated Plants**

In the area of Environmental Archaeology/Archaeobotany at the Institute of Pre- and Protohistoric Archaeology of Kiel University, an important tool has recently been established: with the literature database ArchbotLit on the wiki portal of Kiel University, a tool is now provided for specialists, students and interested members of the public in order to inform them about the history of cultivated plants. The database makes archaeobotanical literature on ancient crops accessible, which is otherwise scattered over a large number of international journals and excavation reports, but also in grey literature. The new wiki platform ArchbotLit is a sustainable continuation of the literature-based online database on archaeological remains of cultivated plants, which was developed by Helmut Kroll, Rainer Pasternak (both from Kiel) and Aleksandar Medović (Novi Sad), and includes literature from the years 1981-2004. ArchbotLit enables access to previous entries via online access at Kiel University and is currently successively expanded with new entries from international experts, including members of the Cluster



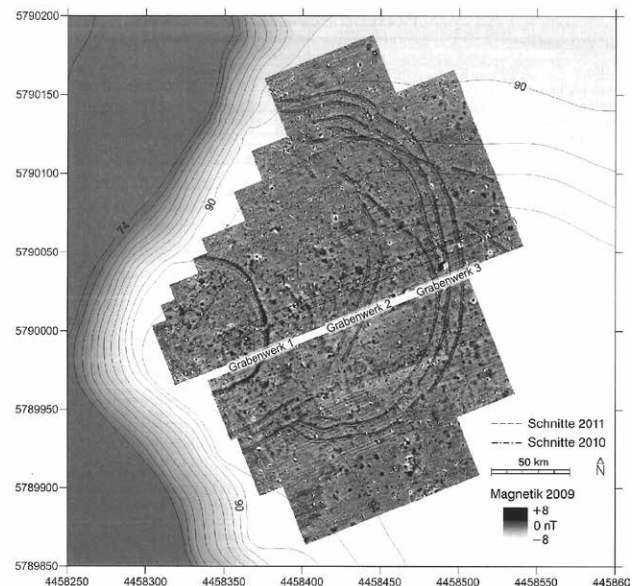
Dr. Helmut Kroll, co-founder of the ArchbotLit. (Charred) plant remains are the basis of our knowledge about the (pre-) history of crop plants.

of Excellence ROOTS and of the CRC 1266. This makes the ArchbotLit an important hub in which archaeobotanical literature from the worldwide community is bundled and kept up to date. The database makes it possible, for example, to find the earliest records of spelt for the transition from the Late Neolithic to the Bronze Age.

**ARCHBOTLIT-LINK:** [www.wikis.uni-kiel.de/archbotlit](http://www.wikis.uni-kiel.de/archbotlit)

## **Excavations at the fortified Bronze Age settlement Hundisburg-Olbetal**

In August 2019, excavations will take place as part of the subcluster “ROOTS of Conflicts: Competition and Conciliation” at the fortified Bronze Age settlement Hundisburg-Olbetal (1500–1200 BCE) in Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. In cooperation with the State Office for Heritage Management and Archaeology Saxony-Anhalt, Maria Wunderlich will conduct excavations in the inner area of the site. Previous geomagnetical prospection documented that this inner area is surrounded by a complex system of concentric deep ditches and is characterized by the presence of cultural layers and settlement pits that hint to intense settlement activities. The excavations will target these contexts in detail. It is expected that the results of these investigations will provide information to reconstruct the relationship between the enclosure and the inner area. Moreover, these investigations will support the contextualization of Hundisburg-Olbetal at a regional level.



Hundisburg-Olbetal. Map of the results of the geomagnetic investigations. The system of concentric ditches is clearly visible.

**CONTACT:** Dr. Maria Wunderlich / [m.wunderlich@ufg.uni-kiel.de](mailto:m.wunderlich@ufg.uni-kiel.de)

# Projects and Activities

forthcoming events

## **Ancient Cities – MOOC “Discovering Greek & Roman Cities”**

The world of ancient Greece and Rome was a world of cities. City-states dominated Greece in the first millennium BCE. In the Roman Empire, urban societies thrived from Britain and Spain in the West to Syria and Jordan in the East. Most of the major developments in the political, social, intellectual, and religious history of these periods started in cities. Accordingly, cities are the ideal point of departure for the study of life in antiquity. Furthermore, the legacy of ancient Greek and Roman cities is still keenly felt in how we physically organize, build and live in our cities today, as well as how we think about and define cities.

The Strategic Partnership “Ancient Cities” is a cooperation of six European universities (i.e. Kiel University, Aarhus University, University of Athens, University of Bergen, University Paris I, Open University of the Netherlands) that brings together specialists from the fields of classical archaeology and e-learning to explore the many facets of Greek and Roman cities.

Within ROOTS, this MOOC fits well with the research and approach of the sub-cluster Urban ROOTS: Urban Agency and Perception and the ROOTS Communication Platform.

### **Online MOOC:**

Under the coordination of ROOTS’ co-PI, Stefan Feuser, this initiative is now launching the trilingual Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) “Discovering Greek & Roman Cities”. Starting 12 September 2019, this course will provide basic knowledge on ancient cities to a broad audience through videos, texts, quizzes, and various assignments within 8 weeks. The course will explore the connections between ancient cities and their impact on urban life in later periods across the globe.

Apart from a basic interest in archaeology, architecture, history or historical heritage, no specific knowledge is required. Participation in the course is free of charge.

### **THE MOOC IS NOW READY FOR REGISTRATION AT:**

[https://ou.edia.nl/courses/course-v1:Ancient-Cities\\_project+DGRC+DGRC\\_2019/about](https://ou.edia.nl/courses/course-v1:Ancient-Cities_project+DGRC+DGRC_2019/about)

**CONTACT:** Prof. Dr. Stefan Feuser /  
[feuser@klassarch.uni-kiel.de](mailto:feuser@klassarch.uni-kiel.de)

### **VIDEO TEASERS FOR THIS MOOC**

#### **COURSE MAY BE FOUND AT:**

<https://youtu.be/bGgRPbCL31c>  
(English version)

<https://youtu.be/6NSHUUpCi9s>  
(German version)



## forthcoming events

### ROOTS Workshop

#### **Quantifying Social Inequalities – New Proxies, New Methods? Possibilities and Limitations to Determine Social Inequalities in Archaeological Contexts**

Social inequality is a subject of contemporary concern. Studying past forms and dynamics of inequality enhances our understanding of present social inequality and its consequences. The integration of empirical data from past archives is an enduring challenge in determining social inequality. Methods derived from economics and paleoanthropology, for example, are increasingly used to quantify social inequality in archaeological contexts.

Organised by Ralph Grossmann in the framework of the activities conducted by the subcluster ROOTS of Inequalities, this workshop will address the current state of research and will gain new insights on the study of past social inequality. Young researchers from different disciplines will gather in Kiel in order to discuss the diverse socio-cultural processes involved

in the creation of social inequality as well as multiple methods in quantifying social inequality in past societies. Furthermore, it is expected that the workshop will reflect on the relationship between gained data and models of social inequalities.

#### **CONFIRMED SPEAKERS ARE:**

- / Vesa Arponen (Kiel University, Germany)
- / Penny Bickle (University of York, UK)
- / Marta Cintas Peña (Seville University, Spain)
- / Adrian Chase (Arizona State University, USA)
- / Timothy J. Dennehy (Arizona State University, USA)
- / Julian Laab (Bern University, Switzerland)
- / Nils Müller-Scheeßel (Kiel University, Germany)
- / Arne Windler (Bonn University, Germany)

**Date:** 7–8 October 2019

**Place:** Kiel University, Leibnizstraße 1, R. 105

Everyone who is interested in this topic is warmly welcomed to join the presentations of the workshop.

**CONTACT:** Dr. Ralph Grossmann / [rgrossmann@gshdl.uni-kiel.de](mailto:rgrossmann@gshdl.uni-kiel.de)

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** <https://tinyurl.com/y2wdt5sc>

### Call for Papers:

#### **» Mentale Konzepte der Stadt in Bild- und Textmedien der Vormoderne «**

Interdisciplinary Conference of the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS (Subcluster Urban ROOTS)

**11.-13.06.2020 CAU Kiel**

Deadline for paper submission: **15 October 2019**

**CONTACT:** Dr. Margit Dahm-Kruse, [dahm@germsem.uni-kiel.de](mailto:dahm@germsem.uni-kiel.de)  
Prof. Dr. Timo Felber, [felber@germsem.uni-kiel.de](mailto:felber@germsem.uni-kiel.de)

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION (IN GERMAN):**

<https://tinyurl.com/y26rxdqf>

[www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en](http://www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en)



### **ROOTS Reflective Turn Forum "Inequality" Workshop**

Modern market economies are characterized by substantial wealth inequality. This is subject to contemporary concerns: the exploitation of work forces, violent conflicts, and mass migration, to provide a few examples. Studying past forms and dynamics of inequality enhances our understanding of present social inequality and its consequences.

Inequality is a firm topic in contemporary research agendas. On the one hand, with the increase of globalization and political populism, more attention has been drawn to the analysis of inequality by economic sciences. On the other hand, discussion has been raised concerning established concepts and methods in the study of inequality. Deep philosophical questions are associated with a perceptive understanding and analysis of inequality.

Where does archaeology and, more broadly, anthropological social theory stand with regard to the concept of inequality? In archaeology, we find both established theories and approaches as well as attempts to rethink inequality and its conceptual neighborhood. In the study of past societies, inequality is intimately linked to concepts of social complexity, power, competition and co-operation, and is consequently subject to broader questions of archaeological interpretation.

This workshop invites an interdisciplinary cast of specialists to Kiel to discuss the topic of inequality. In a productive environment, this event offers contributors ample opportunity to present and discuss their thoughts.

The workshop is for the entire team of ROOTS and is organized by Konrad Ott, philosopher



and principal investigator of ROOTS, and Vesa Arponen, Gido Lukas, and René Ohlrau from the ROOTS Reflective Turn Forum.

#### **CONFIRMED SPEAKERS ARE:**

- / Bill Angelbeck (Douglas College, Canada)
- / Vesa Arponen (Kiel University, Germany)
- / Reinhard Bernbeck (FU Berlin, Germany)
- / Timothy Cheval (University at Buffalo, USA)
- / Elizabeth DeMarrais (University of Cambridge, UK)
- / Martin Furholt (University of Oslo, Norway)
- / John Robb (University of Cambridge, UK)
- / Bernd Simon (Kiel University, Germany)
- / Orri Vésteinsson (University of Iceland)

**Date:** 18-19 October 2019

**Place:** Kiel University, room: t.b.a.

**For information regarding participation please contact Gido Lukas or visit the following link :**  
[www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/projects-and-activities/roots-reflective-turn-inequality-workshop](http://www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/projects-and-activities/roots-reflective-turn-inequality-workshop)

#### **CONTACT:**

Prof. Dr. Konrad Ott / [ott@philsem.uni-kiel.de](mailto:ott@philsem.uni-kiel.de)  
Gido Lukas / [glukas@roots.uni-kiel.de](mailto:glukas@roots.uni-kiel.de)

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

[www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/calendar-events/roots-events/roots-workshop-on-inequality](http://www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/calendar-events/roots-events/roots-workshop-on-inequality)



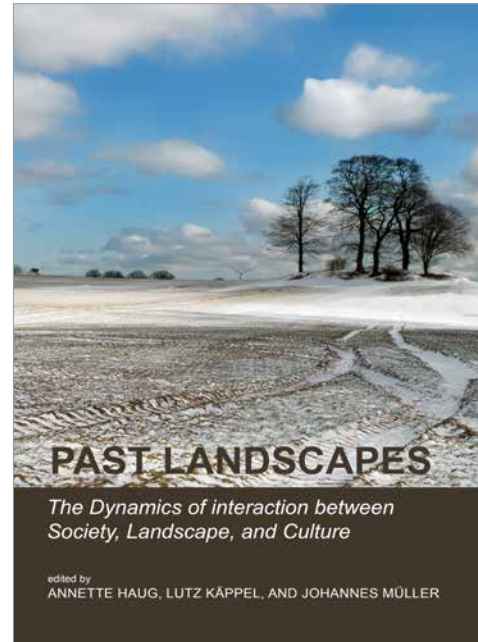
## **'Past Landscapes': New edited volume by the Graduate School 'Human Development in Landscapes'**

The edited volume 'Past Landscapes: The Dynamics of Interaction between Society, Landscape, and Culture' presents theoretical and practical attempts of scholars and scientists, who were and are active within the Kiel Graduate School 'Human Development in Landscapes' (GSHDL) at Kiel University. It includes 18 papers dealing with central issues of interdisciplinary research on past landscapes, inhabiting societies and the development of socio-environmental interaction, with special focus on the definition and application of the term 'landscape':

Landscapes are understood as products of human-environmental interaction. At the same time, they are arenas, in which societal and cultural activities as well as receptions of environments and human developments take place. Thus, environmental processes are interwoven into human constraints and advances.

This book presents theories, concepts, approaches and case studies dealing with human development in landscapes. On the one hand, it becomes evident that only an interdisciplinary approach can cover the manifold aspects of the topic. On the other hand, this also implies that the very different approaches cannot be reduced to a simplistic uniform definition of landscape. This shortcoming proves nevertheless to be an important strength. The umbrella term 'landscape' proves to be highly stimulating for a large variety of different approaches.

The GSDHL constitutes the major pioneering institution of this interdisciplinary research focus at Kiel University, from which the CRC 1266, the Johanna Mestorf Academy and the Cluster of Excellence ROOTS – Social, Environmental, and Cultural Connectivity in Past Societies emerged. Hence, several members of the CRC 1266 and ROOTS contributed to different papers of this volume.



Haug, A., Käppel, L., Müller, J., 2018. *Past Landscapes. The Dynamics of Interaction between Society, Landscape, and Culture*. Sidestone Press, Leiden. ISBN: 9789088907319.

**THE PUBLICATION IS FREELY ACCESSIBLE ONLINE VIA  
THE PUBLISHING HOUSE SIDESTONE PRESS:**  
[www.sidestone.com/books/past-landscapes](http://www.sidestone.com/books/past-landscapes)

## Online MOOC "Discovering Greek & Roman Cities"

starting 12 September 2019

**The MOOC is now ready for registration at:** [https://ou.edia.nl/courses/course-v1:AncientCities\\_project+DGRC+DGRC\\_2019/about](https://ou.edia.nl/courses/course-v1:AncientCities_project+DGRC+DGRC_2019/about)

## ROOTS Workshop – Quantifying Social Inequalities - New proxies, new methods? Possibilities and limitations to determine social inequalities in archaeological contexts

07 October 2019 01:00 PM  
to 08 October 2019 02:00 PM

Room 105, Leibnizstr. 1, Kiel

*The conference brings together young researchers from different disciplines to discuss diverse socio-cultural processes involved in the creation of social inequality as well as multiple methods in quantifying social inequality in past societies.*

## ROOTS Workshop on Inequality

18-19 October 2019

t.b.a.

*Workshop on "Inequality" organised by the ROOTS Reflective Forum.*

## Conference: "Mentale Konzepte der Stadt in Bild- und Text- medien der Vormoderne"

11-13 June 2020

tbd

**Mentale Konzepte der Stadt in Bild- und Textmedien der Vormoderne**  
*Interdisziplinäre Tagung des Exzellenzclusters  
ROOTS – Konnektivität von Gesellschaft,  
Umwelt und Kultur in vergangenen Welten*

### CONTACT

**Speaker:** Prof. Dr. Johannes Müller  
[Johannes.mueller@ufg.uni-kiel.de](mailto:Johannes.mueller@ufg.uni-kiel.de)

**Scientific Coordinators:**  
PD Dr. Mara Weinelt, Dr. Andrea Ricci  
[office@roots.uni-kiel.de](mailto:office@roots.uni-kiel.de)

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**Editor:** M. Weinelt, A. Ricci, A. Hoffmann  
**English Translation:** E. Kückkaraca  
**Layout:** T. Pape  
**Published** August 2019