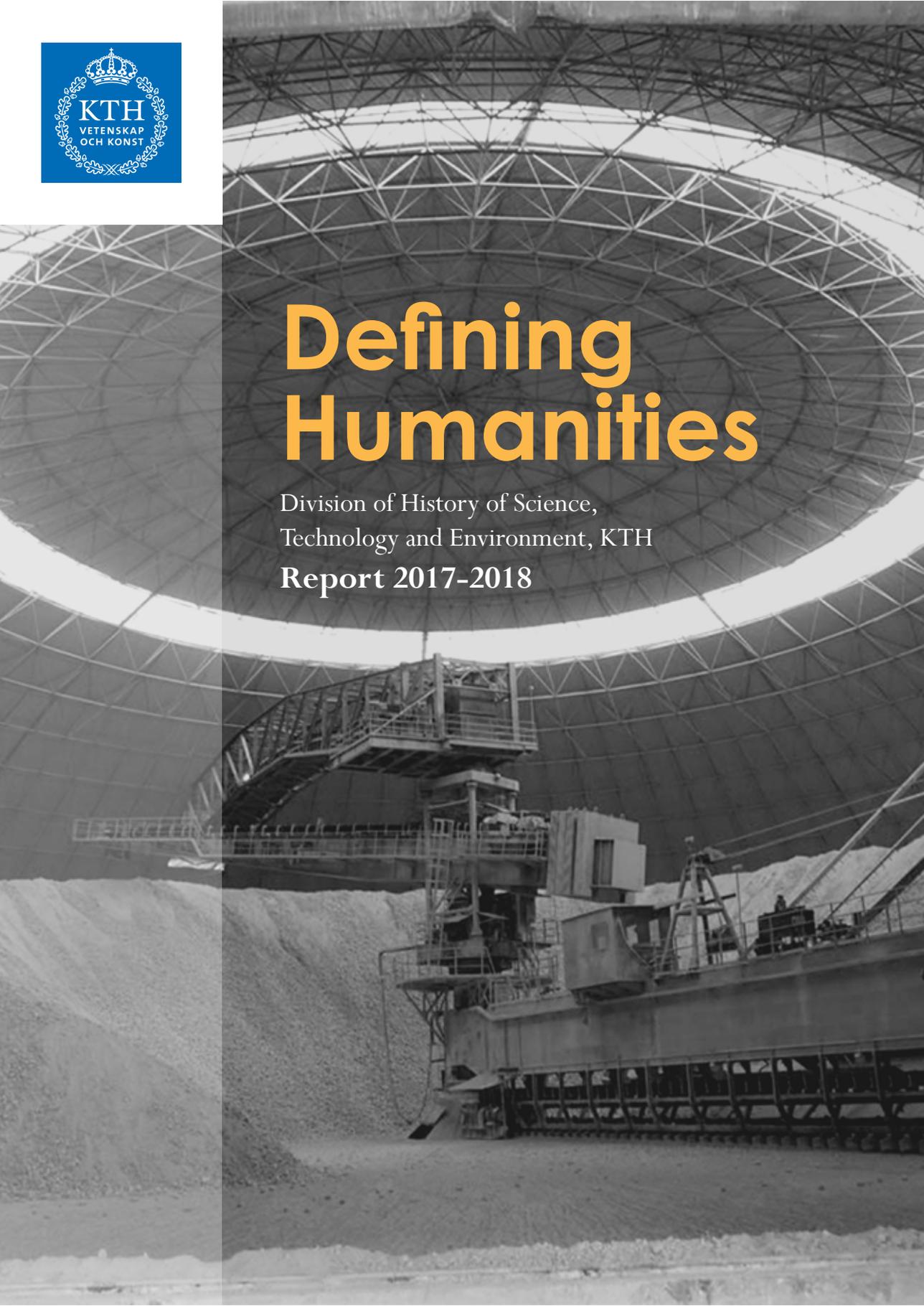




# Defining Humanities

Division of History of Science,  
Technology and Environment, KTH  
**Report 2017-2018**



**Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment**  
with  
**KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory**

**Postal address**  
KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
SE-100 44 Stockholm, Sweden

**Visiting address**  
Teknikringen 74 D, 5th floor, Stockholm

**Internet address**  
<https://www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/philhist/historia>

**E-mail address**  
[history@abe.kth.se](mailto:history@abe.kth.se)

**Editing**  
Sverker Sörlin

**Design**  
Carlos Carmonamedina, Sarah Milton

**Cover Photo**  
Cement factory in Luanda. The photo is from field work on “petro-urbanism,” studying how the extraction of oil off the coast of Angola is turned into large-scale urban infrastructure provided by Chinese State-Owned Enterprises. The project builds on Ricardo Cardoso’s PhD studies and the AXA GROWL Research project lead by Henrik Ernstson, including Jia Ching Chen, Wangui Kimari, Tiffany Liu and Ricardo Cardoso. Photo: Jia-Ching Chen and Henrik Ernstson, 2017.

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# Foreword



The Division's home on the KTH campus: Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor. Welcome to visit us!

The Division has published reports since its early years in the beginning of the 1990s, then as the Division of History of Science and Technology. These reports are always good to have. They serve as anchoring points for institutional memory and inspiration for comparison and reflection. There is also always a certain friction in producing them... As our activities broadened and diversified considerably in the early years of the present decade – when we changed our name, adding “environment” to it, started the KTH Environmental Humanities Lab and also started to grow considerably – it proved increasingly challenging to also keep track and report on all the things we did.

We realized that in order to motivate the reporting we needed to present our work in ways that invited our own reflexivity on what we were doing and where we were headed. We also thought we should use the report to communicate what we did better. The first report according to this new format covered the years 2012 to 2014. We then did a biennial report 2015-2016. This is the third of this new line of reports. It covers 2017 and 2018, years that have been just as active and busy as the preceding ones.

There are a few dimensions of our work that we have gone a little bit deeper into this time. One is *publishing*. This is perhaps where we have changed most, going from a largely Swedish language publishing culture to one that is predominantly in the English language and where publications appear in peer reviewed journals and books. Still we are very active in Swedish media and in the national policy arena. We try to reflect on this seemingly paradoxical appearance.

We also try to reflect on what it might mean to do really good work. Common words for this are “quality” and “impact”. They both have their advantages and disadvantages. For a good number of years we have tried to use the word *defining* as a concept for what it means to not only do your work well but do it in ways that also has the capacity to influence others and contribute to the opening up of genuinely novel areas of research, innovative ways of teaching or communicating, or launching interesting concepts or institutions. A special section of the report is devoted to a discussion of how processes of defining happen and how they can be used proactively, in this case in our Division. It is about defining who we are and want to become, but also if we actually serve any defining role and how we could improve our chances to do so in the future.

We connect to ongoing discussions about the role of humanities in today’s society and in higher education and research in particular. They offer a mixed message. In many countries, humanities are subject to severe budget cuts. Sweden has fared better, and interestingly there are many initiatives that signal a growing interest in liberal education and in arts and humanities as important elements in higher education programs. The most recent KTH Development Plan for the period 2018-2023 has some clear language about the need to strengthen humanities and social sciences in KTH in order to make the university more relevant and enhance its quality to students and society. Members of the Division have contributed to the first round of efforts to find useful implementations of the Development Plan and we expect to see operational changes in the next few years.

When we have chosen “Defining Humanities” as the title of this report it is actually not because the Division represents the largest concentration of humanities at KTH – but rather because we wish to signal that the humanities that students and society deserve should have this capacity to define the issues and the problems, and also define directions for the innovations and transformations that undoubtedly lie ahead. To just call on a presence of humanities, as if it were an ornament, is pointless. The whole point is to see it as contributing, indeed *defining* – directions of research and education, and the qualities of societies whose humanity and openness we share a responsibility to defend.

Most, probably all co-workers in the Division have contributed in one way or the other to this report – with information, images, texts of various length and character. Some have been a bit closer to the editorial process and contributed both ideas and lots of legwork: Sofia Jonsson, Linus Salö, Katarina Larsen, Erik Isberg. Carlos Carmonamedina and Sarah Milton did the overall design: typesetting, layout, illustrations, visual art. Åsa Smedberg, Frösön, compiled and edited the backlists at the end: events, projects, visiting scholars, publications. Gloria Samosír, PhD student in the Division, organized the projects section thematically. Thanks to everyone!

*Sverker Sörlin*  
Co-head of Division  
Editor of the report

# Contours Visions Transformations

Changed huma

Change, if it comes, will originate not  
changing our minds, changing from  
wanting more of everything to want  
with those suffering the brunt of climate  
development, it is tougher to dematerialize our own minds  
Perhaps the best beginning would be to imagine how pla  
development could be – without pollution, weather extremes, spr  
Stewart Brand of Whole Earth Co. ... he has argued that West Coast A... cars  
take the environment more seriously not because... they are more serious than most, but  
because they are hedonists. Cycling is more fun than riding in a car. Being out in nature is  
pleasant so it is worth protecting that nature. Etc!

It is hard to change, but people who have done it – e  
those who have tried – have found it liberating, exhilarating  
and a lot of fun.



From a workshop with Polly Higgins at the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, “Ecocide and Humanitarian Catastrophe in the Anthropocene”. To the left: EHL Director Marco Armiero. Polly Higgins passed away on April 21st, 2019.

## THE DIVISION 2017-2018

> Sabine Höhler

Compiling a report offers a singular moment to look back and reflect on how the Division changed in the past two years. Most strikingly and somewhat unexpectedly we grew to an unprecedented size both regarding the amount of external funding we received and the number of new employees. Among the many new initiatives were three ERC grants on environmental, energy and polar research starting in 2017 and 2018, substantial climate change related funding, projects on water management linked to the newly established KTH Water Center, a PhD training collaboration on higher education organization studies, and the affiliation of the Posthumanities Hub to the Division through a new guest professorship. Thanks to these developments, at the turn to 2019 we counted some 50 co-workers. Our Division became more multinational and multilingual. We have gained wide visibility and continue to attract a growing number of guests and visiting scholars from all over the world. Today we also house multiple disciplines beyond our core field of history.

These partly unanticipated developments entailed some immediate reactions. Most importantly we entered an intensified period of strategic thinking and implemented some structural changes. In 2017 we revised our Division strategy for the five-year period of 2018 to 2022, highlighting growth management and thematic coherence. We drafted a publication strategy for more conscious and deliberate publishing. We reinforced our administrative capacity, the backbone of our academic work. In 2018 we expanded also physically into an entire new corridor. It granted us more work space and social space and provided our Environmental Humanities Laboratory with long-awaited experimental space. Last but not least, we continue to meet and toy with old and new ideas in our common kitchen, which is really the hearth of sociality that makes our place glow.



Days in the life of the Lab: Dan Fagin gives the 2017 Archipelago Lecture (upper left); a manifestation in connection with the Standing Rock manifestations in the United States as part of the Stories of the Anthropocene at KTH (upper right); a teaching session during the EU Marie Curie ENHANCE PhD program workshop at KTH, October 2017 (middle left); a meeting with local residents during field work in southern Italy (lower left); "Undisciplined Environments" conference (2016) (large image).

Growth also comes with challenges that reach beyond a two-year reporting period. At first glance we seem to flourish like a prosperous company thriving on our social capital, on external recognition, intrinsic resourcefulness and sheer promise. Next to the many opportunities this 'business model' also harbors pitfalls. Academic productivity is contingent on external grant acquisition and on research funding decisions nationally and internationally. Extensive co-funding demands infringe on our limited core funding. Sustainability is not only a societal goal we subscribe to, it is also vital to our own economic future and the future of an enjoyable work environment. To remain programmatic and to stay true to our core values requires us to perpetually reinvent ourselves. We have turned into jacks of all trades cutting across academic disciplines and borders. That we can do this successfully we have demonstrated with our film festival Crosscuts in 2018. It is about to become an established event in Stockholm's public visual culture.

A report is itself an exercise in reaching out. Our report's title "defining humanities" denotes our efforts to effect academic and societal transitions. We will continue working towards developing the humanities in new and experimental ways to invoke their potential and integrative power in making a difference in this world.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES LABORATORY

>Marco Armiero

Since 2011 the Environmental Humanities Laboratory has been a space for knowledge experiments, academic production and international networking along the lines of interdisciplinarity, problem-oriented approach, and public engagement. Over the last seven years, the Lab has collaborated with fellow academics, research institutions, students within and outside the KTH, policymakers, civil society organizations, and activists around the globe. **The Stockholm Archipelago Lecture** opens the Lab's yearly activities, while weekly meetings run all over the academic year in the newly inaugurated Lab's venue.

The mission of the Lab relies on the practices of partnership and circulation aiming at creating mutual support among research, training, outreach, policy advice, and cooperation. To date, we have trained **two cohorts of Ph.D. students** and we regularly host visiting scholars thanks to specific fellowship programmes. Researchers from the Lab have contributed to relevant publications in the field of the environmental humanities and we are one of five host institutions of **the open-access journal Environmental Humanities**, including serving on its editorial board.

Since 2018, the **EHL has begun its own film festival, Crosscuts**, which pioneers a radically inno-

vative practice of **peer review of research-based movies**. In order to explore new narratives for social transformations, at the EHL we have developed a series of events and research projects based on what we have called guerrilla narrative. Our guerrilla narrative portfolio includes the event **Stories of the Anthropocene Festival** and the public environmental humanities and storytelling project Toxic Bios, both aiming at co-producing with activists and communities counter-hegemonic narratives. The EHL works also with policy-makers, as for instance in the case of CLISEL, an **EU Coordination and Support Action** project funded by the European Commission, aiming to help local authorities in understanding the nexus between climate change and migration and managing its effects in the communities.

The Lab features innovative digital tools designed to reach a wide audience, such as the **Videodictionary** (10 minute video-definitions of key concepts in the environmental humanities), the **EHL Podcast series** (serving as a megaphone for ongoing discussions and research in the environmental humanities field), and, recently, the **CLISEL Geoarchive** (a collection of historical cases of climate and environment-induced migration).

Our major current project is **Occupy Climate Change!** It analyses two themes which are understudied in the literature on climate change: the issue of loss and damage and the impact of climate change on cities. In particular, OCC! addresses those themes focusing on the practices and experiments of

grassroots organizations in **Malmö, New York, Rio de Janeiro, Istanbul, and Naples**. OCC!'s key objective is to test which grassroots responses to loss and damage have been successful, why, and on what scale. Among other things, the project will produce the **Atlas of the other world**, an open access repository on community-based initiatives to tackle climate change, which will also include a collection of short cli-fiction stories produced by youth from all over the world.

## OUR WORK ENVIRONMENT

>Sabine Höhler + Sofia Jonsson

Over the past two years the number of people working at the Division grew to around 50. We hosted several new research projects, hired people with an increasing range of disciplinary backgrounds and countries of origin and made space for visiting scholars from abroad, squeezing if need be. This growth comes with academic impact and visibility, but it also challenges social and economic coherence.

To maintain a work place that is welcoming and inclusive, routine and flexibility need to come together institutionally and individually. We have doubled the Division's administrative power, decentralized tasks like event organization and research communication and hired administrative assistants to our larger research clusters. We divide responsibilities, sometimes

on an ad-hoc basis, from seminar leading to Division leadership. Individual wishes must be balanced against collective needs and constraints. Everyone working at the Division has a say. Everyone should have a task, from the professor to take over a research coordinator function to the PhD student helping with conference organization. Everyone is welcomed as a colleague, regardless of position, and our short-time guests are treated like long-time employees. Yes, we do have hierarchies, but over the common lunch they are nothing we think about. Most importantly, we help carry each other's loads, small or heavy, from translating an abstract or vetting a research idea to actually packing books for a conference exhibition or fetching a lunch. In a competitive academic economy this culture of collegiality is not self-understood and one of the hardest things to preserve while growing fast.

In 2018 we increased our work space by expanding into an additional corridor. To make people meet we established a weekly fika hour, a joint cake and coffee break. We try not to keep to ourselves. The monthly work place meetings are held to welcome new co-workers and to inform about and discuss work-related issues. The annual meeting in August kicks off the fall term and gives an opportunity to jointly brainstorm and strategize. All co-workers are invited to our research planning meetings, strategy workshops and undergraduate teaching meetings. Our Division's steering group represents all professional positions from PhD students to administration to researchers and faculty. We also collectively organize

an annual summer picnic, including the extended Division family, and an annual Christmas dinner, to which we invite our former colleagues who left over the year. And although new colloquia series emerged in our various larger research activities we retain a common seminar series. Our Higher Seminar is the button hole that all needles need to pass. It commits everyone to participate, regardless of whether a topic ties to their own project.

We believe that these features contribute to making our workplace quite special. Certainly, things remain we struggle with, like experiencing stress from working in fast-forward mode to meet the expectations of academic production, self-administration and evaluation, not to mention the conference jet-set most of us have checked into. To work towards a balance of playfully joining and actively resisting cartoon-motion academia is our aim for the next two years.

## WEB PRESENCE

>Jesse Don Peterson

Our website issues a strategic look into the contemporary and historical character and activities related to the Division. It intends to provide a general overview of our mission, expertise, and personnel. In addition, the website also publicizes research projects and publications by our staff, outlines the educational mission and requirements for students, and connects

the public as well as scholars from around the world through scheduled events and outreach.

These efforts take place not only on our website but also our blog, “Transformative Humanities,” launched in 2017 by Sofia Jonsson and intended as a continuous report of ongoing activities, as well as through various other online platforms. The Environmental Humanities Laboratory and Posthumanities Hub both maintain an active Facebook presence with multiple posts per week and with approximately 2,300 and 2,500 followers respectively. Additionally, our larger collaborative projects often operate their own websites, including the KTH Environmental Humanities Lab, REXSAC, Toxic Bios, NUCLEARWATERS, the Posthumanities Hub, and ENHANCE, all searchable and linked through our main site. As for our scholars, many are active online through professional organizations and their own social media accounts.

During 2017 and 2018, and continuing into 2019 the website has undergone several changes in order for its continued use as an internal resource as well as information portal for others. The biggest change perhaps has been behind the scenes through a reorganization of tasks and newly delegated responsibilities. Moreover, with the addition of several research projects and new hires to the Division, much of the website content has been either archived or updated. Please visit us at: [www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/philhist/historia!](http://www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/philhist/historia!)



Admin team 2017-2018 Sofia Jonsson and Emilia Rolander doing fieldwork in the underground.  
Photo: Lize-Marié van der Watt.

## LIFE AS AN ADMINISTRATOR

>Sofia Jonsson

Being an administrator in the Division means you are the link between researchers and the bureaucratic realities of a public agency. As that link you often work with a plan, but before even starting you find yourself rushing off to get an urgent signature, or going down to the downtown Grand Hotel to get a document for delivery to some Research Council. Back at the office you are the comfort of a new employee in the process of getting the magic Swedish ‘personal number’ while the economy department chases you to verify an invoice, just as a hungry postdoc knocks your door asking for the fruit basket. You may get a phone call precisely in the same moment from visitors at the airport asking why they will not let her on the plane. This is the curse and the joy of joining space with scholars: always hectic, never boring.

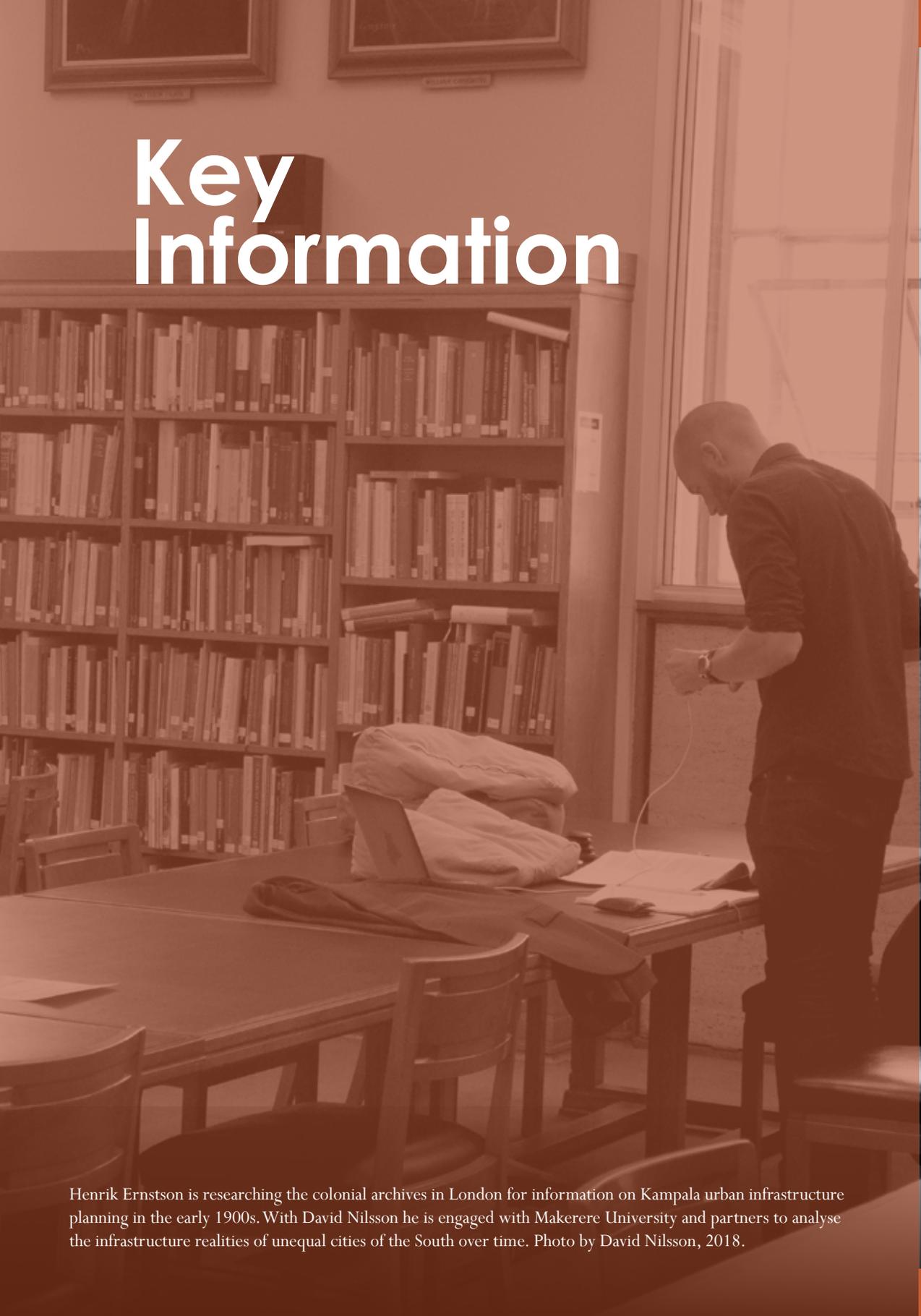
The trend at KTH is to centralize a lot of administration, still there is a lot of administrative tasks left to be handled at the Division level. During 2017 and 2018 the administrative support consisted of one coordinator and one administrator, who together with the research engineers tried to meet the needs of almost fifty researchers and PhD students. We do homepage, contracts, archiving, comfort, everyday support, student administration, catering orders, book orders, reimbursements, invoices, school contacts, introductions, dinners, meeting notes, and one of us is also doing a good share of the work on the

Crosscuts film festival. To only mention the time slot before lunch...

Still, I dare to say that this is probably one of the best units to work at and with as administrator. We might not always agree how and when to respond to emails, but we are respected in our roles and are looked upon as colleges in a team, rather than the necessary evil of bureaucracy. And despite the struggle of trying to communicate the importance of doing a correct procurement that sometimes makes you want to bang your head into a wall, this job is fun.

These were years of big changes in our group. Emilia Rolander left for parental leave in 2017 and came back to a completely new division in 2018. During her absence, we employed almost 20 new people, a new corridor (fully furnished with left over furniture from the rest of KTH) was in use not the mention all central administrative routines that had changed, leaving an even higher pressure on us. Two substitute administrators came and left during this period, leading to the decision of getting a third administrator. From 2019 the administrative group will consist of one coordinator, one educational admin and one personnel administrator, together with a handful of research engineers. The show goes on!

# Key Information



Henrik Ernstson is researching the colonial archives in London for information on Kampala urban infrastructure planning in the early 1900s. With David Nilsson he is engaged with Makerere University and partners to analyse the infrastructure realities of unequal cities of the South over time. Photo by David Nilsson, 2018.

## PEOPLE



Irma Allen, PhD Student.



Marco Armiero, PhD Economic History, University of Bari, Italy, 1996. Director of KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, Associated Professor in Environmental History.



Erik Arnold, PhD Science Policy and Micro-economics, University of Sussex, 1983. Adjunct Professor of Research Policy.



Dmitry Arzyutov, PhD Student. From 2017.



Dag Avango, PhD History of Technology, KTH, 2005. Researcher in History of Technology.



Mats Benner, PhD Sociology, Lund University, 1997. Guest Professor in Research Policy.



Fredrik Bertilsson, PhD History of Ideas, Södertörn University College, 2017. Researcher. From 2018.



Roberta Biasillo, PhD Early Modern and Modern European History, University of Bari, Italy, 2015. Research Engineer. From 2018.



Ulrika Bjare, PhD Student.



Martin Emanuel, PhD History of Technology, KTH 2012. Researcher. During 2017.



Henrik Ernstson, PhD Systems Ecology, Stockholm University, 2008. Researcher in Urban Political Ecology.



Siegfried Evens. PhD Student. From 2018.



Jean-Sébastien Boutet, PhD Student. From 2017.



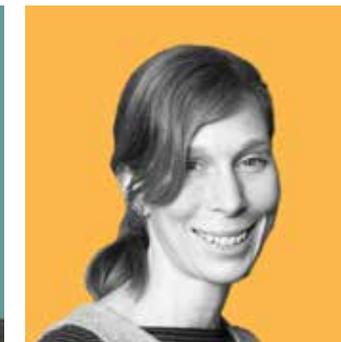
Karl Bruno, PhD Agrarian History, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, 2016. Postdoctoral Researcher in History of Science, Technology and Environment.



Johan Cederqvist, Research Engineer. From 2018.



Maja Fjæstad, PhD History of Technology, KTH 2010. Assistant Professor in History of Science and Technology. Until 2017.



Christina Goldhar. Research Engineer. From 2018.



Anne Gough, PhD Student.



Miyase Christensen, PhD Media and Communication, University of Texas, Austin, 2003. Guest Professor in Media and Communication Studies. Until 2017.



Justina Dahl, PhD Social and Political Science, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, 2016. Postdoc. Until 2018



Araujo Domingos, PhD Student. From 2018. Also enrolled at Universidad Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique.



Alicia Gutting, PhD Student. From 2018.



Johan Gärdebo, PhD Student.



Jacob von Heland, PhD Natural Resource Management Stockholm University, 2012. Visual Environmental Humanities.



Per Högselius, PhD Innovation Studies, Lund University, 2005. Professor in History of Technology and International Relations from 2018. Head of Undergraduate Studies.



Sabine Höhler, PhD History of Science, Braunschweig University of Technology, Germany, 1999. Associate Professor in STS. Head of Division; Head of Department from 2018.



Erik Isberg, PhD Student. From 2018.



Suyash Jolly, PhD History of Technology, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands. Postdoctoral Researcher in Energy History. Until 2017.



Domingos Langa, PhD Student. From 2018. Also enrolled at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique.



Katarina Larsen, PhD Urban Planning, KTH 2005. Researcher in Innovation and Sustainability Studies.



Ilena Iengo, Research engineer within Environmental humanities. During 2018.



Sofia Jonsson, Administrative Coordinator.



Arne Kaijser, PhD History of Technology, Linköping University, 1986. Professor in History of Technology. Until 2018.



Susanna Lidström, PhD Comparative Literature, King's College, London, 2013. Researcher Historical Studies in Science, Technology and Environment. Visiting scholar at Scripps Institution for Oceanography, UC San Diego during 2017-2018.



Kati Lindström, PhD Semiotics, University of Tartu, Estonia, 2011. Researcher in Environmental Humanities. From 2017.



Urban Lundberg PhD History, Stockholm University, 2003. Researcher. From 2018.



Timos Karpouzoglou, PhD Research Policy, SPRU at University of Sussex, UK, 2014. Researcher in Resource/Water Management. From 2018.



Tae Hoon Kim, PhD History, Cambridge University, UK, 2016. Postdoc in Energy History. From 2018.



Achim Klüppelberg, PhD Student. From 2018



Jesper Meijling, PhD Student.



Annika Nilsson, PhD Environmental Science, Linköping University, 2007. Affiliated Researcher in Environmental politics.



David Nilsson, PhD History of Technology, KTH, 2011. Researcher in History of Technology and Development Studies.



Eric Paglia, PhD History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH, 2016. Postdoc. From 2018.



María Isabel Pérez Ramos, PhD Student. Defended June 2017.



Jesse Don Peterson, PhD Student.



Thomas Harböll Schröder, PhD student. From 2018.



Anna Storm, Researcher in Environmental History and Industrial Heritage. PhD History of Technology, KTH, 2008. From 2018.



Anna Svensson, PhD Student. Defended in December 2017.



Peder Roberts, PhD History of Science, Stanford University, 2010. Researcher in History of Science.



Libby Robin, PhD History of Science, University of Melbourne, 1994. Affiliated Professor in Environmental History. Until 2017.



Emilia Rolander, Administrator.



Daniel Svensson, PhD History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH, 2016. Researcher. During 2017.



Sverker Sörlin, PhD History of Ideas, Umeå University, 1988. Professor in Environmental History.



Ethemcan Turhan, PhD Environmental Studies, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Spain, 2014. Researcher in Environmental Humanities



Corinna Röver, PhD Student.



Linus Salö, PhD Bilingualism, Stockholm University, 2016. Postdoctoral Researcher in History of Science, impact studies.



Gloria Samosir, PhD student. From 2018.



Daniele Valisena, PhD Student.



Lize-Marié van der Walt, PhD History, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 2012. Researcher.



Adam Wickberg, PhD Literature, Stockholm University, 2016. Postdoc in Media History. From 2018.



Eugenia Pérez Vico, PhD Innovation and Research Policy, Chalmers University of Technology, Göteborg, 2013. Postdoc in Research Policy.



Hanna Vikström, PhD Student. Defended in January 2018.



Camilla Winqvist, PhD Student.



Nina Wormbs, PhD History of Technology, KTH, 2003. Head of Graduate Studies. Associate Professor in History of Technology.



Cecilia Åsberg, PhD Gender Studies, Linköping University, 2005. Guest Professor in Science and Technology Studies. From 2018.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF WE WORKED WITH DURING 2017-2018

**Sara Borgvall**, HR Officer, the School's Office. *Until 2018.*

**Marina Botros-Metry**, Financial Officer, the School's Office. *From 2018.*

**Emma Conradsson**. Administrator. *Substitute from 2018.*

**Sanna Dafteke**, HR Officer, Dean's Office. *From 2018.*

**Charlotte Persson**, Financial Officer, the School's Office. *2017-2018.*

**Martin Skoglund**, Administrator. *Substitute during 2018.*

## VISITING SCHOLARS

**Sanne Aagaard Jensen** is PhD student at the Department of History, University of Copenhagen, and ENIGMA, the Danish Museum of Communication. Her research looks into the history of telecommunications, security and preparedness planning in NATO and in Denmark during the Cold War. Drawing on the concepts of critical infrastructure and technopolitics, her dissertation examines the role of telecommunications in NATO's war preparations and the consequences hereof for the Danish telecom sector. *March to April 2018.*

**Bill Adams** is Moran Professor of Conservation and Development in the Department of Geography at the University of Cambridge. He is currently working on a new edition of his book on sustainable development (*Green Development*, Routledge 2003), and a new project on Future Natures, focusing on ideas of naturalness, authenticity and artificiality in nature conservation. In particular, he is interested in the implications of novel technologies in conservation theory and practice, and the importance of ideas of place in conservation territorialization. *January to April 2017.*

**Giacomo Bonan** has just presented his PhD thesis in history at the University of Bologna. His interests concern the management of environmental resources in the Italian Alps during the nineteenth century and, in particular, the conflicts between state authorities and local communities over the use of woods. Thanks to a “C.M. Lerici” scholarship, he is now working at the Environmental Humanities Laboratory (KTH) Stockholm. *August to December 2017.*

**Vasiliy Borovoy** is a PhD-student from Saint-Petersburg with a research focus on the Soviet coal mining on Spitsbergen in the 20th century. Vasiliy’s research projects concerns issues about Soviet policy towards Spitsbergen in the making of European Arctic (“New governance for sustainable development in the European Arctic”, MISTRA 2014-2017) and Spitsbergen coal as a resource for the Soviet planned economy (“Natural Resources in Russian History: economic institutions, expert communities and infrastructures”, RSF 2016-2018). *February to December 2017.*

**Baki Cakici** is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London. He is currently part of the European Research Council funded research project “Peopling Europe: How data make a people” (ARITHMUS). He holds a PhD in Computer and Systems Sciences from Stockholm University. His research interests include surveillance, classification, and the politics of computation. In his research, he draws on theories from science and technology studies, and surveillance studies. *February to July 2017.*

**Fiona Cameron** is a visiting professor at Linköping University, a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University, Australia, as well as a member of the Rachel Carson Center, Munich. Her research and writing focuses on the idea of the museum and interrelationships between institutions and contemporary societies. She is a pioneer in the academic field of museums and climate change engagement and a museum practitioner (as director, social history curator and curatorial consultant). *June to July 2018.*

**Jonathan Curruthers-Jones** is a Marie Skłodowska Curie Doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Leeds as part of the ENHANCE ITN. His

research interests explore the complex issues which surround human-nature interactions and how they relate to the long-term success of nature conservation. Jonathan’s fieldwork takes place in the Scottish Highlands and the French Pyrenees and uses mixed-methods organized around participatory mapping activities to explore different ways of measuring wildness including human perceptions, GIS and sound. *June to August 2018.*

**Stephanie Eifert** is a PhD student in Medieval History in a project on Critical Infrastructures: Construction, Functional Crises and Protection in Cities at TU Darmstadt. Her research interests are regional history of the southwest area of Germany, historical culture studies, history of early infrastructure systems, history of medicine, history of northern Europe and auxiliary sciences of history. *May to September 2018.*

**Anna Fava** is a C.M Lerici fellow and a historian of Italian language. She is a PhD candidate in philology and is currently working on a lexicon of Italian environmentalism. *March to June 2018.*

**Sebastian V. Grevsmühl** is a CNRS researcher at the Centre de recherches historiques (CRH) in Paris. Sebastian’s research interests focus on Outer Space, Antarctica and the global environment. Most of his work concerns environmental history, visual studies and the history of the Earth and environmental sciences. His research project on Global Environmental Images explores the rich and complex environmental iconography associated with an increasingly global conception of the alarming consequences of our own actions on the environment. *June to August 2018.*

**Ole Kallelid** is a doctoral candidate in history, University of Stavanger, Norway. Ole is spending much of his time in the Stockholm archives to work on Swedish and Norwegian politics in the 1960s and 1970s in a comparative perspective. *June 2017.*

**Arn Keeling** is Professor at the Department of Geography, Memorial University of Newfoundland. His research and publications focus on the environmental-historical geography of Western and Northern Canada. Arn is also interested in historical-geographical approaches to environmental science,

political ecology and environmental justice. In recent years, his research has explored the historical and contemporary encounters of northern Indigenous communities with large-scale resource developments. Arn is also co-supervising KTH PhD student Camilla Winqvist in the REXSAC project. *February to March 2018.*

**Claire Lagier** is a PhD student at The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC), Munich. Claire is an early career researcher within the ITN Marie Curie programme ENHANCE and she works on the Brazil's Landless Workers Movement (MST), researching the connections between the use and discourse of agroecology and climate risk perception. Claire is also one of the editors of *Uneven Earth*. *March to May 2018.*

**Stefano Morosini** has worked on the history of mountain climbing in the Alps and has an interest in doing comparative studies during his stay in Sweden. Stefano is on a C.M Lerici visiting scholarship and working at the Environmental Humanities Laboratory (KTH) Stockholm. *September to December 2017.*

**Hanne Nielsen** is a PhD student at the University of Tasmania and a SCAR Fellow working as part of the project "Greening the Poles: Science, the Environment, and the Creation of the Modern Arctic and Antarctic", with the sub-project "Framing Antarctica as Fragile: Tracing the evolution of media narratives about the far south (1945 – 2015)". Hanne has considerable experience with public outreach (including on Antarctic tour ships) and serves as President of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS). *March to July 2018.*

**Jeroen Oomen** is a PhD student at The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC), Munich. Jeroen is an early stage researcher of the ENHANCE ITN trained in philosophy, sociology and political science, with a particular interest in questions of equality and justice, environment and climate change. His research entails a sociohistorical study of the sociotechnical development of climate engineering, focusing on case studies of the SPP-1689 in Germany and the David Keith Group at Harvard University. *March to June 2018.*

**Sergio Ruiz** is Master's student at the Environmental Humanities Laboratory and research assistant at the Stories and Seeds project about environmental literacy for technical students. *January 2017 to April 2018.*

**Yunwei Song** is associate professor at the School of History at Renmin University of China in Beijing. Her doctoral dissertation and first book (*The Period of Dual Federalism in the United States*) dealt with the relationship between federal and state governments before the American Civil War. Her second book (*The History of Nature Resources Policy in the United States*) was published in 2011. Her current academic interests are on the history of natural resources policy. *June 2018 to June 2019.*

**Esther Zamboni Rossi** is a PhD student at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Florianopolis, Brazil. Esther works with Eunice Nodari and her team of environmental historians. She is working on the environmental history of waste management in the city of Porto Alegre since 1970. She received a prestigious scholarship from the Brazilian agency Capes in order to spend a semester at the KTH Environmental Humanities Lab. *September 2018 to March 2019.*

**Fabian Zimmer** is a PhD candidate at The Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC), Munich. His research focuses on the cultural history of modernity in Europe. Fabian graduated from Heidelberg University in 2016 with a master's thesis on narratives of water power in early twentieth century Sweden, for which he was awarded the Georg Agricola Society's Early Career Researchers Award. In his PhD project he continues his exploration of the cultural and visual history of water power in twentieth century Europe. *May to June 2018.*

## CIRCULAR CHOREOGRAPHY collaboration, communication, diversity

>Marco Armiero

When we are asked to describe the kind of activities we develop, we often recur to the image of a circle comprising the four main pillars of our action: research, training, societal engagement, and outreach. The circle implies a few fundamental shifts in the usual order of academic geographies. First, it rejects a linear understanding of academia/society relationships that proposes a one-way transmission path from university as knowledge producer to society as knowledge consumer. Second, the circle challenges the hierarchical organization of those activities, which often privileges research and places any other activities in a subordinate position. Our circular approach, instead, stresses the idea and practice of co-production of knowledge and connects all the four pillars in a web of equal relationships.

A few examples may help to illustrate the circular choreography through which our Division implements its mission. The ITN Marie Curie network Enhance (a Ph.D. programme funded by the EU) is built on a collaboration between three universities, a museum, a major newspaper, and several NGOs. CLISEL (a Horizon 2020 on climate change and migrations) includes four universities and an association of municipalities. Occupy Climate Change! (a project funded by the Swedish agency Formas) has created a hybrid research collective of scholars and activists in each of the five cities, in four countries, where it is based.

The practice of co-design of research and co-production of knowledge also results in a rich array of ways to communicate the research results. While we are still focused on top-tier academic publications, both in terms of journals and publishers, we also experiment with diverse formats, genres, and venues. Multilingualism is the norm in our Division and we have embraced it as an amazing resource to communicate in multiple cultural contexts.

Digital tools for communication included the construction of the ToxicBios platform, an open-access library gathering “toxic autobiographies” from contaminated communities, and the CLISEL Atlas of migration and environment, which tells stories of migrations related to environmental issues.

We are nurturing diversity in our environment. We have been quite successful in terms of gender balance both for our leadership and in the hiring. We are working on how to practice diversity in our teaching curricula, reflecting on the type of syllabi we have been proposing to our students and implementing the changes needed. Culturally and linguistically we have a diverse faculty and an equally diverse body of PhD students. To avoid the too familiar academic endogamy, we have decided to demand our PhD students to find a position after graduation outside the Division. In 2017, we established an exchange programme with the university Eduardo Mondlane in Maputo which has allowed us to bring to our Division a total of seven Ph.D. students from Mozambique, two of whom will get their degrees from our Division.

We understand diversity as a permanent key objective

for our Division rather than as a coefficient which must be reached.

In this sense, we must continuously strive to nurture, promote, and search diversity and never stay satisfied with what we have achieved. Because diversity is in the very process of looking for it...

## FUNDING PATTERNS

>Sverker Sörlin

The Division has a funding pattern that resembles that of a research centre or institute rather than an academic division or department. Total income during 2017 and 2018 was respectively 42 and 44 MSEK (approximately 4.2 and 4.4 MEuro). Income from First and Second Cycle teaching (undergraduate and Master) is fairly stable at 3 to 4 MSEK per year (3.3 MSEK in 2018), which is less than 10% of total income. Core funding from KTH for research and PhD training has been shrinking in recent years and is around 5 to 6 MSEK per year. From KTH we also get performance based funding for PhD degrees and published articles, which adds another 1 to 2 MSEK to that sum. Grants and other external income for research make up the large majority of our income to which must be added matching funds from KTH for our EU grants. During 2017 and 2018 such competitive research funding comprised more than 30 MSEK annually, or approximately 75% of our total income.

The long term pattern has been consistent growth, with an accelerated upward trend in the last five years when turnover has almost doubled from 27 MSEK in

2014 to more than 50 MSEK estimated for 2019. This growth has been in research only, and is based largely on grants from the EU, notably three ERC grants awarded in 2016, 2017, and 2018 respectively. Major new external research funding to the Division also came from several grants by the Swedish research council Formas (environmental research) and Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (humanities and social sciences), and from Nordforsk (Oslo) for a Center of Excellence started in 2016.

Total contracted income from competitive research funding in 2017-2018 was 70 MSEK (including some 10% of these funds that will be transferred to project partners). These numbers are remarkable by any standard for a Division with a core research funding of 7 MSEK per year. They are also exceptional; the average contracted income for the years 2012 to 2014 was 18 MSEK. On the other hand, they were even higher in 2015 and 2016 when they stood at 150 MSEK, bringing the annual average over the seven year period 2012 to 2018 to about 40 MSEK.

While this is probably not a sustainable level of external research income, there are some strategic and structural factors that can explain the strong upward trend. The first is the increasing number of research staff, which has brought new research constellations and a growing number of applications, especially larger ones. The second is a structured approach to grant writing with long term thinking about potential research themes, frequent planning workshops, early formation of collaborative groups and support throughout the application process. Thirdly, the Division strategy, to form broad integrative clusters of activity around key topics, has resulted in innovative cross-cutting pro-

posals and a wider variety of potential funding sources.

The increase in the number of projects has meant a wider distribution of funding to a larger share of our faculty and researchers, which is essential for career building. Almost every researcher is now Principal Investigator of one or several grants. The gender balance continues to improve rapidly. In 2015-2016 less than 25% of Division-led projects had women leaders, compared to 40% in 2017-2018, which reflects the general gender distribution of our research staff.

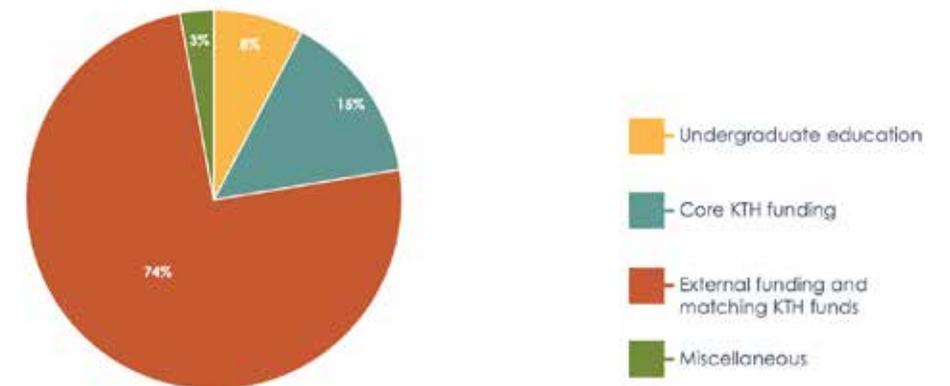
A concern is the declining ratio between core funding and external/performance based funding. In 2018 only some 15% of our research spending came from directly allocated KTH funds. A particular facet of this is that a large share of the core funding must be used for co-funding of external projects. We deal with this financial challenge in practice by applying a solidarity principle: all faculty are expected to be active partners in externally funded research projects which makes internal core funding distributable across our activities and to any researcher.

This principle is probably a decisive factor behind the high external income since it provides a strong incentive for all, not least the most senior members of the Division to engage in grant acquisition. Nonetheless, the low level of core funding and our small teaching income will remain a major strategic concern in coming years. A related strategic challenge is to balance the uneven growth that follows from external funding with allocations of core funding. Reallocations of funds that we can dispose of freely are necessary, for example to maintain essential research lines and to build links between established and emerging research areas.

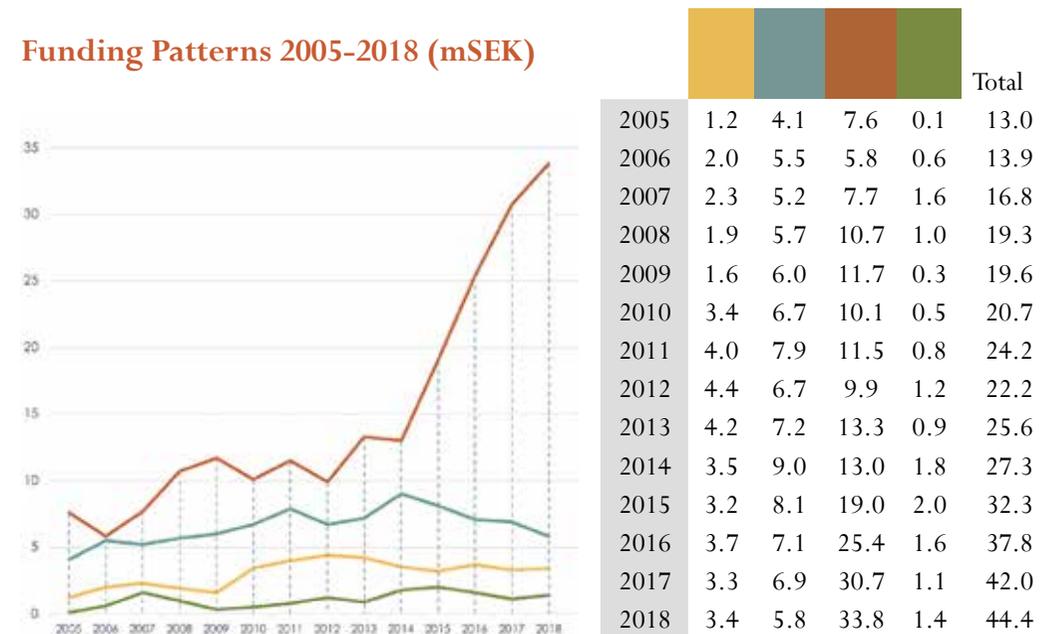
### Major research funders 2017-2018

- Carl Bennet Donation
- European Research Council (ERC)
- EU Marie Curie PhD training network
- EU Horizon 2020
- Formas (formerly: Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning)
- Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra)
- Nordforsk (Oslo)
- The Osher Pro Suecia Foundation (US)
- Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (a Swedish foundation funding research in the social sciences and humanities)
- Social Science and Humanities Research Council Canada (SSHRC)
- Swedish Energy Agency (Energimyndigheten)
- Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket)
- Swedish Innovation Agency (Vinnova)
- Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
- Swedish National Heritage Board (RAÄ)
- Swedish Research Council (VR)
- Swedish Space Agency (Rymdstyrelsen)
- The Wallenberg Foundations (KAW, MMW, MAW)

### Funding 2017-2018 (mSEK)



### Funding Patterns 2005-2018 (mSEK)



## UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

>Per Högselius

Undergraduate teaching at the Division comprises a broad palette, from basic courses – in e.g. Environmental History, and History of Science and Technology – to advanced, thematic courses, such as Gender & Technology, and Energy & Geopolitics.

During 2017 and 2018 the Division offered five first-cycle (basic) and five second-cycle (advanced) courses. Six of the courses were taught in English and four in Swedish. Most of our staff – senior scholars and PhD students alike – were involved in teaching and course-work in one way or the other. Since 2014 Per Högselius serves as the Division's director of undergraduate studies.

By far our largest course, in terms of revenue and student numbers, was AK1213 Swedish Society, Culture and Industry in Historical Perspective, a thematically broad course that plays an important KTH-wide role in introducing foreign students to Sweden and Swedish history. Our second-largest course was AK2207 Energy Systems in Society, which is mandatory in KTH's Energy and Environment programme.

Two new courses were successfully offered during 2017 and 2018: AK2210 Political Ecology, and AK2211 Ways of Walking.

The Division does not run any educational programme of its own. Yet our courses attract students from a variety of programmes offered not only by the School of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE), but

by other schools as well. Our courses are disproportionately popular with exchange students, which relates directly to the greater degree of freedom for these students when it comes to course selection. This freedom of choice is currently increasing for students enrolled in regular KTH programmes, too, and we expect that this will allow us to recruit significantly larger student numbers in the years to come. More problematic, in view of our courses' appeal to non-KTH students, is the KTH-wide trend towards fewer places for external students.

## PHD TRAINING

>Nina Wormbs

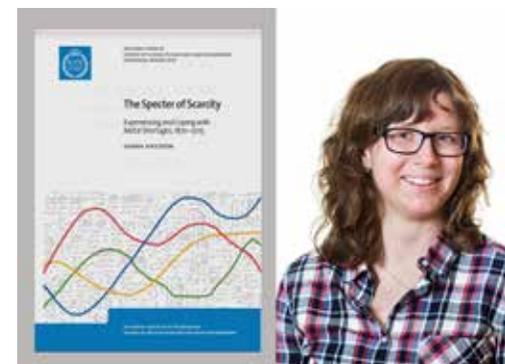
The subject of the PhD training programme at the Division is History of Science, Technology and Environment. The four-year programme contains one and a half years of course work of which half are compulsory courses. Dissertation topics vary and relate strongly to the overarching theme of the research projects the PhD students participate in. We have accepted 11 new students during 2017 and 2018 who are all externally funded through three separate ERC-grants and a SI-DA-funded collaboration with Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo, Mozambique. With four students from the Marie Curie ITN programme on environmental humanities still enrolled, and a few more also remain from previous years the total number of active students during the two years has been twenty, which is higher than ever. The student group is also more international with candidates currently from four continents. During 2017 and 2018 the first three students accepted as part of the KTH Environmental Humanities Lab have defended their theses.



**Anna Svensson** defended *A Utopian Quest for Universal Knowledge: Diachronic Histories of Botanical Collections Between the Sixteenth Century and the Present* on **8 December 2017**



**Maria Isabel Perez Ramos** defended *A Quest for Environmental Sovereignty: Chicana/o Literary Experiences of Water (Mis)Management and Environmental Degradation in the US Southwest* on **2 June 2017**.



**Hanna Vikström** defended her thesis *The Specter of Scarcity: Experiencing and Coping with Metal Shortages, 1870-2015* on **19 January 2018**.

## PUBLICATIONS 2017–2018: DIVERSITY, REACH, AND IMPACT

>Linus Salö

Some overall trends: peer review and English on the rise

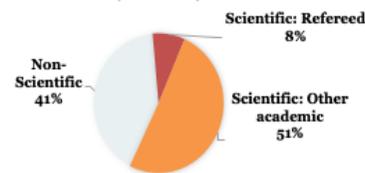
Based on information from the Swedish university DiVA database, this section deals with the Division’s output of scientific texts, defined here as publications tagged either as “refereed” or as “other academic”. By and large, publications accordingly defined as “scientific” increase in the Division’s output over time, both in absolute terms and as share of the total volume of publications.

In 2005, 59% of the Division’s total production was scientific in this sense; in 2018, the share had gone up to 80%. A closer look at the production reveals that the increase of the share of refereed publications has been even more pronounced. This share amounted to just over 8% in 2005 and to 53% in 2018. Correspondingly, in 2018 the shares of non-scientific publications (general media, op-ed, articles, popular books, etcetera) and “other” academic scientific publications are significantly lower. These changes can be seen by comparing the figures 2005, *publication output* and 2018, *publication output*.

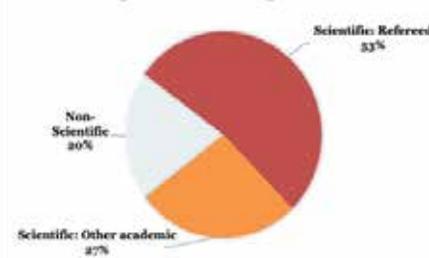
As noted, however, the time period 2005–2018 has also seen an increase in the Division’s output of scientific publications in absolute numbers (see figure *Scientific publications 2005–2018*). In 2005, a total of 44 scientific publications were produced; in 2018, the scientific pub-

lications amounted to 104. A noteworthy trend within this period is the increase of refereed journal articles and book chapters. In 2005, the lion’s share of the scientific publications consisted of publication types such as conference papers, reports, book reviews, and theses, whereas a mere total two refereed journal articles and one refereed book chapter were reported. In 2018, the numbers were 33 refereed journal articles and 25 refereed book chapters. When the output of 2005 is compared with that of 2018, we see that the number of items grouped as “other academic publication types” remains fairly constant (39 and 42, respectively). Details on the underlying data in the DiVA database are presented in the figure, table and notes of *Scientific publications 2005–2018*.

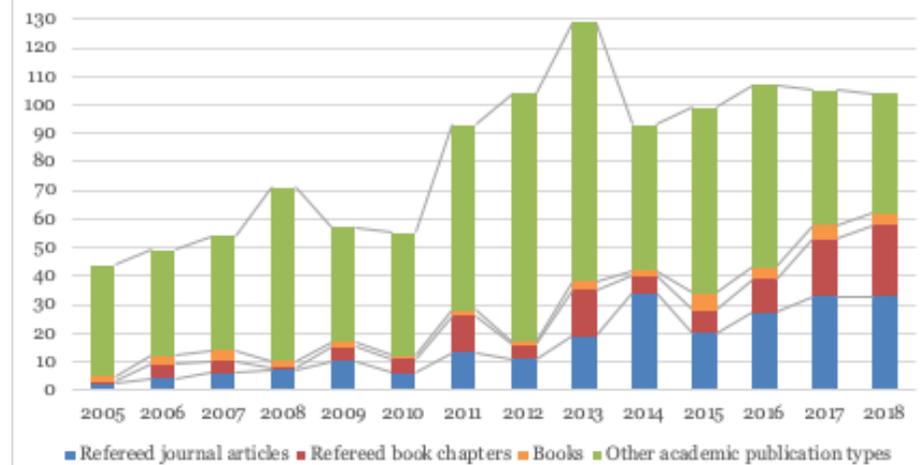
2005, publication output (shares)



2018, publication output (shares)



Scientific publications 2005–2018, total number



	Refereed journal articles	Refereed book chapters	Books*	Other academic publication types**	Total Scientific ***
2005	2	1	2	39	44
2006	4	5	3	37	49
2007	6	4	4	40	54
2008	7	1	2	61	71
2009	10	5	2	40	57
2010	6	5	1	43	55
2011	13	13	2	65	93
2012	11	5	1	87	104
2013	19	16	3	91	129
2014	34	6	2	51	93
2015	20	8	6	65	99
2016	27	12	4	64	107
2017	33	20	5	47	105
2018	33	25	4	42	104

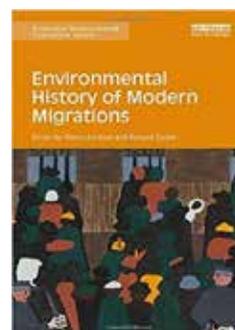
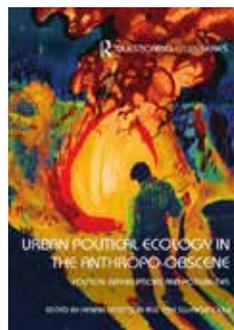
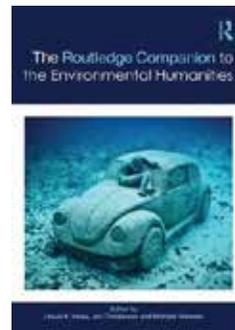
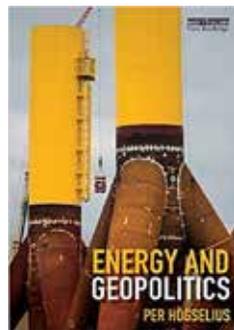
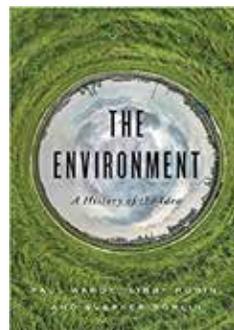
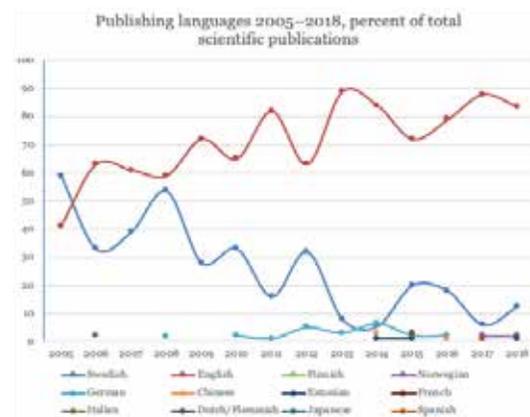
\* Works tagged as books, i.e. not including those tagged as monograph theses/ dissertations, reports, edited collections, etc.

\*\*Scientific publication types other than refereed journal articles, refereed book chapters and books. The category thus includes theses, reports, book reviews, etc. and, most prominently, conference papers which were reported in large numbers in previous years with peaks in 2012 and 2013. In 2017 and 2018 the number of conference papers was 9 for each year.

\*\*\* Tagged as “refereed” and/or “other academic” in DiVA.

The trend towards more refereed publications is accompanied by a changing pattern in publication languages. In 2005, 59% of the scientific publications were published in Swedish and 41% in English. In 2018, the situation has shifted but also become more complex. Firstly, 5 publication languages are represented: English, Swedish, Norwegian, Estonian and German, although the last three only occasionally. The big trend, secondly, is that the share of publications in English has gone up to 83,5%, whereas the share in Swedish has dropped to 12,5%. This trend is visualized in the figure *Publishing languages 2005–2018*.

A general appraisal of these trends, thus, is that the Division's over-all production has increasingly oriented towards a scientific pole and, in so doing, has become more anglophone. In line with a general global trend, this development is reflected across many humanities research environments in Sweden, but perhaps in the KTH Division of History in a particularly pronounced version.



## JOURNAL OUTLETS 2017-2018

### Journals with multiple articles by Division co-workers since 2012 (no of articles 2017-2018 in parenthesis)

The Anthropocene Review (2)  
 Capitalism, Nature, Socialism (2)  
 Environment and History  
 Journal for the History of Environment and Society (2)  
 Research Evaluation (2)  
 Urban Studies

### Journals with 2 or more Division articles in 2017-2018

Climatic Change (2)  
 Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture (3)  
 Journal of political ecology (2)  
 New Perspectives on Turkey (2)  
 Resilience: A Journal of the Environmental Humanities (2)  
 Scandinavian Journal of History (2)  
 Theory, Culture and Society: Explorations in Critical Social Science (2)  
 Sibirica: Interdisciplinary Journal of Siberian Studies (2)  
 Slavonica (2)

### New outlets

Ab Imperio: Theory and History of Nationalities and Nationalism in the post-Soviet Realm  
 Anthropology & Archeology of Eurasia  
 Applied Energy  
 Aslib Journal of Information Management  
 Ecology & society  
 Ecosphere  
 Energy Research & Social Science  
 Entreprises et Histoire  
 Environmental Evidence  
 Environmental Philosophy  
 Foresight and STI Governance  
 GEO Geography and Environment  
 Geopolitics  
 Global Environmental Change  
 Historisk Tidskrift  
 History & Technology  
 International Communication Gazette  
 International Journal of Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace  
 Journal of Posthuman Studies: Philosophy, Technology, Media  
 Land Use Policy  
 Landscape and Urban Planning

Language and Education  
 Language Policy  
 Nature Ecology & Evolution  
 NECSUS: European Journal of Media Studies  
 Nordic Journal of Educational History  
 Polar Record  
 Progress in Planning  
 REDES: Revista Hispana para el Análisis de Redes Sociales  
 Ricerche di Storia Politica  
 Scandinavian Economic History Review  
 Sociolinguistic Studies  
 Southeastern Europe  
 Sport in Society: Cultures, Media, Politics, Commerce  
 Sustainability Science  
 The Extractive Industries and Society  
 The Polar Journal  
 The South Atlantic Quarterly  
 Turkish Studies  
 VOLUNTAS - International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations  
 Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews

## Scientific production 2017–2018: A closer look

During the period 2017–2018, 209 out of 278 publications produced – 75% – are scientific as defined above. Within this category, 128 publications (61%) have undergone peer review. Among the scientific publications, a range of academic genres are represented. The two most common genres are journal articles, amounting to 74 items, and book chapters, amounting to 67. Several other academic genres also feature recurrently: reports (16), reviews (10), books (9), and conference proceedings (18, a category which is under-reported). In what follows, additional information is presented on the two most common genres: journal articles and book chapters.

## Scientific journal articles

Among the scientific journal articles, 9 out of 10 have undergone peer review. The output 2017–2018 contains 66 refereed article items, distributed across 54 journals. Some of the journals can be said to be “regulars” in the sense that they reappear as publishing outlets over the years, often featuring several articles from different Division staff members each year. Such journals are listed in the table *Journal outlets 2017–2018* (when relevant, numbers of articles 2017–2018 are given in parenthesis). There are also a number of journals which have not previously been regularly used but in which several (i.e. >1) articles appeared in 2017–2018 (with number of articles 2017–2018 in parenthesis). The largest journal category, accordingly, consists of non-regulars in which only one article was published in 2017–2018. This category is represented by 41 journals and are listed as “new outlets” in the table.

## A note on impact from journal publishing

What is the scientific impact of our publishing? Do we publish in ways that make our research circulate effectively and reach out to readers beyond our closest colleagues? These are questions that are hard to answer. We have not been able to follow citations of individual articles over time; articles from 2017 and 2018 are also too recent to use, we would need much wider time windows. What we have done instead is to investigate the impact factors of journals we publish in. The impact factor is an indicator of how much articles in a journal are cited on average. It is calculated very simply: the number of articles published in a journal in

## Publishing Houses 2017-2018

Routledge (15)  
Palgrave Macmillan (9)  
Edward Elgar Publishing (5)  
Berghahn Books (4)  
Makadam Förlag (5)  
Aalborg Universitetsforlag (2)  
Cambridge University Press (2)  
Science History Publications (2)  
Taylor and Francis Inc (2)  
University of Chicago Press (2)  
Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP)  
Bensei shuppan  
Bloomsbury Academic  
Cappelen Damm Akademisk  
CRC Press  
Edizioni Franco Angeli  
Historiska Media  
Institutet för mediastudier  
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
Liber  
Palgrave Pivot  
Riksarkivet  
Springer International Publishing  
Stiftelsen för strategisk forskning  
Studentlitteratur  
Tartu University Press  
Trafik-Nostalgiska Förlaget  
University of Virginia Press

two consecutive years divided by the number of citations of these articles the two following years. Nature, one of the most cited journals, has an impact factor of 46. This means that an average article in Nature is cited 46 times two years after publication.

Recent impact factors of some leading journals in our main research areas are: *Isis* (History of Science) 1.07; *Environmental History* 0.53; *Technology and Culture* 0.49. These numbers vary somewhat from year to year. *American Historical Review* has an impact factor of 1.456 (2018). AHR ranks no 2 among all history journals, where impact factors below 1.0 is typical and the majority rank well below 0.5, just like in most fields of the humanities where journals are comparatively few and citation frequencies low.

The average impact factor of 42 journals for which recent (mostly 2018) impact factors could be found and in which articles by Division scholars were published in 2017-2018 was 1.51. This is an unexpectedly high number for a history division. It can be explained by the fact that we publish widely in several moderate to high impact journals in fields such as environmental studies, energy studies, urban studies, geography, and interdisciplinary studies. The high average impact factor of our publication channels makes it likely that our research circulates comparatively widely, especially among scholarly communities that typically don't read history journals.

This should be all good – but, could it be that the wide dispersion of our publications across fields makes us less visible in our core communities of historians? Should we target certain history journals more? These

are questions to take seriously. We should remember though that historians are eclectic and read widely, so many of them will likely find their way to journals in other fields. In addition, we do publish in history journals as well, ten of them in 2017-2018. We also reach historians with our books and book chapters and they are as numerous as our articles.

## Scientific book chapters

In 2017–2018, the scientific production published in book chapters amounts to 67 items, of which 45 are marked as peer reviewed and 22 as other academic. The list of publishing houses (n=23) is dominated by Routledge and Palgrave Macmillan, followed by Edward Elgar Publishing and Berghahn Books (see table Publishing houses 2017–2018, where occasional Swedish publishers are also included; when >1, number of chapters/books in parenthesis).

## Commentary: diversity or not?

A qualified discussion of the Division's specific characteristics in the area of scientific production would optimally require a comparative approach where the output of some other comparable research unit could serve as an analytical contrast. In lack of such information, only a tentative account can be attempted. Having expressed this reservation, however, a number of features can nevertheless be highlighted. The total output in the biennial years of 2017–2018 exhibits ample diversity in certain ways. Collectively, the Division publishes in many different scientific genres; hence, the share of journal articles is not as dominant here as it is in many other academic departments. Notably, publish-

ing books and book chapters remains a viable option, as is often the case in the humanities and certainly in history. It may additionally be noted that a relatively high number of different publishing houses and journals are represented.

A careful assessment could be that the Division withstands the general (global) trend of mainstreaming publication practices. Yet, in the light of such an appraisal it is worthwhile pointing out that the Division's publication practices have indeed been changing rapidly. Language use in publishing can serve as a lens through which such change, including matters of diversity, can be pondered. A general trend is that the publishing practices of the Division have become more international over time, reflecting both changing priorities in publishing but also corresponding change in staff composition. However, the general trend is not first and foremost an increasing wealth of publishing languages but a general increase of English. Among the 209 scientific publications in 2017–2018, 180 – or 86% – are in English. Swedish-language scientific publications amount to 19 (9%), followed by 4 in Norwegian and one each in Dutch, Spanish, Italian, German, Estonian, and Japanese. Hence, while 8 publication languages are represented, the force of English as lingua franca remains salient. While there are certainly many pros linked to this situation, it also points to a number of issues worthy of critical interrogation, some of which pertain to the quest of maintaining communication with diverse actors in wider society. Is there a place for Swedish a language for scientific publishing, and should there be one? This Division thinks there should, a theme that is developed in other parts of this report.

## PUBLISHING FOR OTHER AUDIENCES

>Katarina Larsen + Sverker Sörlin

To get a better understanding of how the Division's publishing activities engage with society, a review was made of certain categories of academic output registered in the publication data base, DiVA. Among categories for scientific publications the data base has a category called "Other (popular science, discussion, etc.)" with 53 entries for the period 2017-2018. Of these 53 items 35 (66%) are in Swedish. So, by and large, whereas scientific publishing in the Division has become predominantly international and published mostly in English language journals or books, popular science, news items and policy interventions have remained predominantly domestic.

A sub category is "news items", such as op-ed. and culture section articles in the daily Swedish press. This category included 13 articles published in national or regional newspapers including, Dagens Nyheter, Svenska Dagbladet, Västerbottens-Kuriren, the television news site SVT Article, the magazine ETC and one article published by the Finnish daily Suomen Kuvalehti. Themes covered a broad range of topics, such as climate change policy, Arctic geopolitics, threats to democracy, Katalonian politics, the Sputnik semi-centennial, to mention a few.

In reality the popular, policy, and news contributions appear in more genres than "news". Some of these are captured by the DiVA data base. But most of these micro-interactions are not. The reason is largely that

they are considered too small to report. For example, the data base typically doesn't cover short appearances in broadcast media (radio, television) and it also doesn't capture shorter interviews and comments in printed media. From social media only very significant blog posts may be occasionally reported. Most talks and presentations that members of the Division do for different audiences are not reported. The same goes for contributions to exhibitions, shows, or policy advice, memberships on boards or committees, advice to organizations, and much else. We know however from other sources, such as reports to funders and agencies that members of the Division do interact frequently with media, policy, and stakeholders although these interactions are not quantified or specified. The micro-interactions are even more unevenly distributed across faculty, researchers, and PhD students than the scientific publications. Part of the reason is language and context. Again much of these activities are national. Some of them are covered in the backlist section of this report as "Commissions of trust". All in all we estimate these to several hundred per year. The importance of these interactions have become more acknowledged in science communications research in recent years.

However, there are also several large, elaborate and advanced publishing products listed as "Other", or in a different DiVA category named "Artistic output" (with only two items for 2017-2018). Members of the Division publish for example essays in book format and different forms of artistic work such as poetry, films, and documentaries. This work is in both English and Swedish. Among the artistic output we find poetry: A Rushing Mighty Wind (2018), by PhD student Jesse

Peterson, and an 84 minute long film: *One Table Two Elephants* (2018), by Jacob von Heland and Henrik Ernstson, shot on location in South Africa.

More comprehensive work at the interface of scholarship, art, policy, and societal engagement is done with the annual *Crosscuts film festival* for film, art and text. The festival aims to fill the gap between text-bound academic production and the growing consumption of visual media. With film as research focus, and with special invited guests, panels and visitors the festival takes on themes within the field of environmental humanities. This has drawn quite some attention and leading film scholars and critics have been engaged in peer review work on scientific films for the festival. "Crosscut comes across as a cutting-edge bridge between academia, the art world, and the public sphere. This is eminently in line with KTH's best traditions; the school's motto famously brings together science and art", said Jan Olsson, Professor of Cinema Studies at Stockholm University.

*Data from category "Other (popular science, discussion, etc.)" in the DiVA database 2017-2018: Language and Subject categories\*.*

Language	
Swedish	(35)
English	(12)
Dutch; Flemish	(2)
Norwegian	(2)
Finnish	(1)
Spanish	(1)

<i>National Subject Category (partially overlapping)</i>	
Humanities and the Arts	(41)
History and Archaeology	(26)
History of Technology	(16)
Social Sciences	(12)
History	(11)
Other Social Sciences	(4)
Sociology	(3)
Social Anthropology	(3)
Social and Economic Geography	(2)
Human Geography	(2)

\* Please, observe that for odd historical reasons there are no National Subject Categories for two of the three major historical sub disciplines in the Division: History of Science or Environmental History, only for History of Technology. This probably explains the large presence of subjects such as Humanities and the Arts; History and Archeology; and History. All information in DiVA is self-reported by the scholars.



Field-work with the camera. Andile Mkizwana and Jacob von Heland by Mount Ayliff Eastern Cape.  
Photo by Henrik Ernstson.

## TWO VOICES ON THE DIVISION AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE

>Erik Isberg

Over the course of 2017 and 2018, researchers from the division have been a continuous presence in the public sphere, both in Sweden and beyond. A majority of the output consists of written articles, ranging from longer essays to shorter debate articles and book reviews. The Swedish daily press is the most common outlet, but there are also examples of other media forms, such as documentaries and policy documents. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the themes of the media appearances from division researchers tend to adhere to the research fields of the division: science, technology and environment and their role in society.

Many of the articles concern some of the great challenges of our time, from technological change and digitalization to environmental issues and energy policy. According to associate professor Nina Wormbs, the Division's engagement with the public is an important part of academic work:

I think it is essential to go beyond the inner academic circle with both questions and findings. That kind of circulation of knowledge is key to improving and learning on a more aggregate level in society. The Division of History at KTH deals to a large extent with challenges of the present. The way in which we take part in the public discourse on various issues is a testament to the fact that what we provide is appreciated and useful.

Adam Wickberg, a post-doc in the division, shares the conviction that the research conducted at the division can provide important perspectives to contemporary issues:

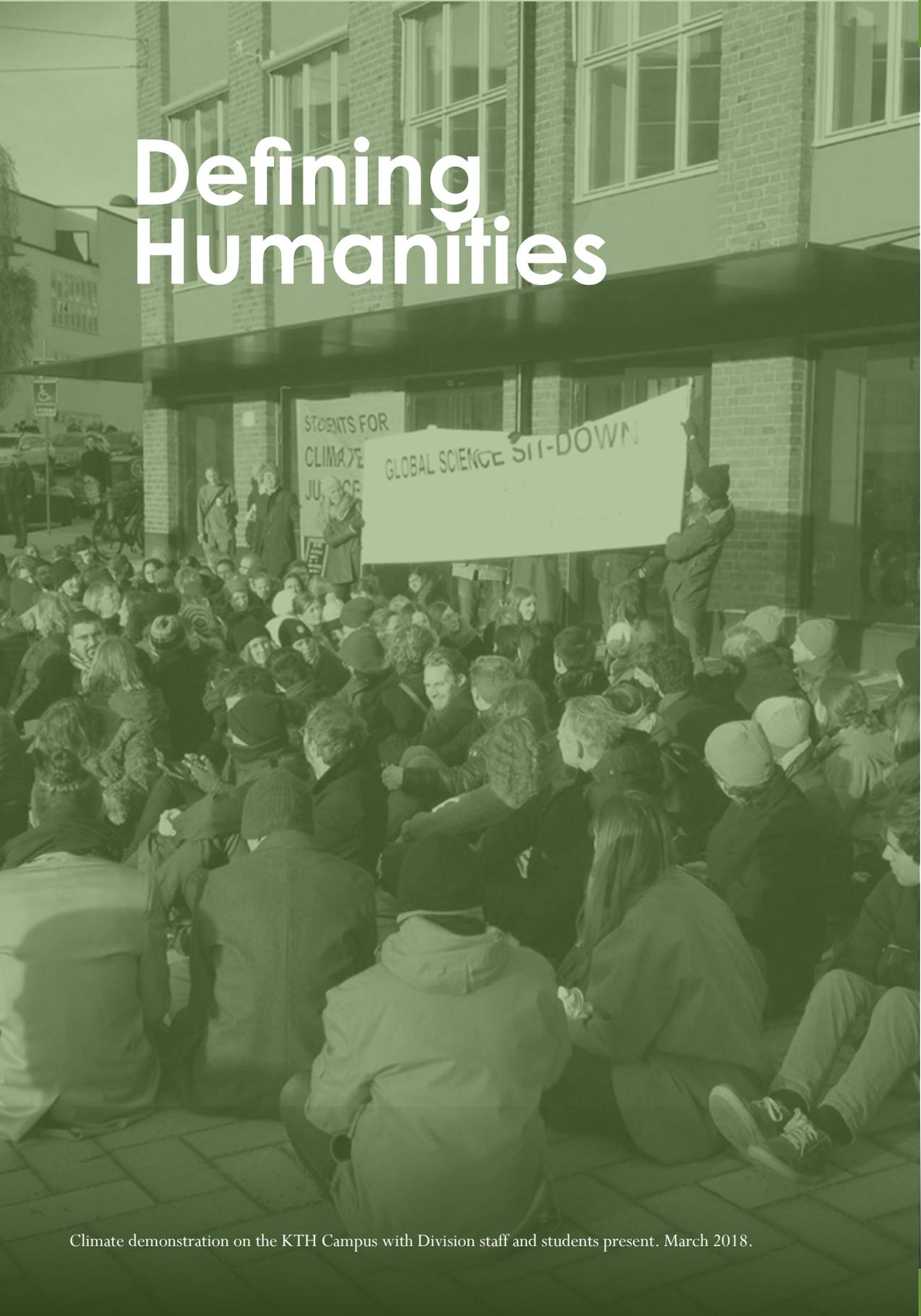
In relation to both policy and politics, I think the division has a lot to contribute in this time of climate crisis and ecological collapse. Particularly I see an urgent need for historical and critical understanding of the current state of the planet.

Wormbs and Wickberg see other benefits with participating in public discourse as well. "For me personally", Wormbs says, "I find it stimulating and rewarding to engage with people outside academia. The interaction improves my argument and I get new ideas from the many different encounters I have." Wickberg echoes a similar point:

I believe that active participation in public discourse by Humanities scholars like myself is not only good for the dissemination of knowledge but also because it forces one to consider the knowledge produced in relation to the public discourse in which it is already embedded.

Being a part of public discourse provides researchers with "ground truthing" perspectives. But participation in outlets outside academia is more than just a benefit for the researchers, it is, as Wormbs puts it, our obligation.

# Defining Humanities



## DEFINING THE ISSUES

> Thematic section, edited by Sverker Sörlin

Back in 2006 the Division made what seemed a modest thing: we decided to formulate a strategy. The immediate reason was a certain increase in the volume of our activities and a growing diversity that begged some organized reflection. Environmental History was coming in with a new professorship, bringing the climate change issue with it. STS was on the rise, policy studies as well, linked to research and innovation policies not the least. Research on the Arctic region was another growth area.

Thinking strategically turned out to be much more significant than anyone could expect. We started to reflect on what our areas of priority should be, and how we should think about growth, internal structure, and what a creative and fulfilling work place meant. Above all, we started to reflect on what it was that constituted “quality”, this complex and at times slippery concept. We agreed that quantitative benchmarks had their role to play, and that we needed to improve our use of such data to monitor our progress and identify gaps and weaknesses. But we also agreed that numbers are only a proxy for what it’s really all about; they don’t capture the essence of what makes our work worth the while. Out of these conversations, that took us through a sequence of five year strategies – we have just entered the third, covering the period 2018 to 2022 – came the concept “defining environment” as what we wanted to be, or will always want to become. Perhaps it can be seen as our shorthand for “quality”.

In this theme section we have collected a few pieces that can speak to these questions and concepts, after what is soon fifteen years of strategic work and many insight bringing conversations of how to do what we do better.

## THE FUTURE OF HUMANITIES: “FRAMING CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS AS DEEPLY HUMAN”

>Mats Benner

Contemporary research policy is based on two ideals: excellence and relevance. Excellence is understood as the potential of spectacular breakthroughs. Relevance is typically equaled with contributions to some of contemporary society's challenges, in a tangible form, through patents or corporate start-ups and the like.

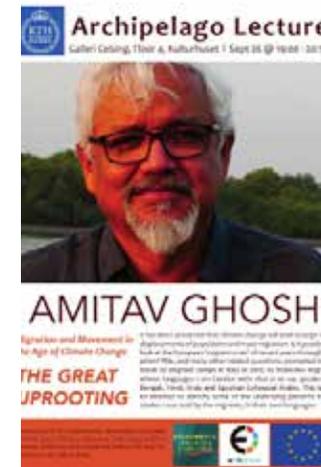
Both of these trends are skewed in their conception of the scientific ecology. They are founded on the experience of fields that seemingly seamlessly blend the scientific and the commercial – biotechnology and nanotechnology are recent examples. In research policy as everywhere else, Orwell's dictum holds true: All animals are equal but some are more equal than others. For the humanities, this need not be a problem, however. The humanities are, by definition, part of society's pattern maintenance: language, history, thought. And there is certainly no lack of breakthroughs awaiting dedicated efforts, from peacebuilding to planetary survival.

In the past, say from 1945 until 1990, the humanities in Europe had a natural articulation with the growing welfare state and its need of cadres of experts in the humanities infrastructure of the time, school teachers, cultural bureaucracy, and the like, and research efforts to match. The base has not disappeared altogether but has increasingly moved outside the humanities as such, to schools of education not least – and the educational remit of humanities in their classical form is shrinking.

What should be done? The future location of humanities resides arguably in the infrastructure of a globally integrated, flexible yet ultrasensitive society, affording the building blocs of a common global understanding of the limits and possibilities of societies, even of humankind. This calls for an articulation of what the humanities are – in themselves and in relation to other fields. It is not primarily a matter of training corporate predators to know a little culture or to soften engineering efforts. It should at the core be a matter of framing contemporary problems as deeply human, entrenched in history, in language and in thinking, and how that framing might articulate and resonate with other expert domains. Here, the success stories of other areas may be of assistance. Such areas are often brash and immodest in affording claims of utility and novelty, whereas representatives of the humanities tend to be meek in their communication. In contrast to the humanities, they tend also to be offensive in drawing on and integrating theories and methods from other areas. The humanities are a necessary building bloc of the society of the future – but necessity does not automatically lead to action. Action can only come from invigorated scholars and academic environments which are not afraid to address the most challenging issues of our time.

## A DEFINING DIVISION?

According to common assessment methods, the Division's research has developed well for a long time. Research Assessment Exercises (RAE) in 2008 and 2012 both gave excellent results; in 2012 a triple AAA, the highest possible level. During 2017 and 2018 we have benchmarked against other History departments around Sweden, with different disciplinary orientation. We now produce a volume of



The 2018 Archipelago speaker was Amitav Ghosh, renowned anthropologist and novelist, Mumbai, India.

research that is on a par with large and well established departments and in terms of international publishing our output is at least as pronounced.

However, the elements in our work that can be seen as “defining” are rather those of combinations of sub fields. Linking work in our sub-disciplinary specialties with policy related work and other humanities approaches in the years of the rising climate issue with the IPCC- and Stern reports 2006-07, the financial crisis 2008-09, and the search for a broader challenge agenda was crucial. In these years members of the Division used multiple arenas to advocate the formation of “environmental humanities” as a designated field and created the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, EHL, in late 2011. This became one of the early initiatives worldwide in this later rapidly expanding field. It was a defining moment that could be

grasped through creative use of existing capabilities. The EHL has then served to profoundly change the geographical and topical orientation of the Division towards the developing world, Global South centers and a focus on equity and justice issues. Most recently, in 2017 and 2018, it has attracted new scholars to the Division pursuing post-humanities studies.

In similar ways areas such as STS and heritage studies have combined with histories of energy, infrastructures and natural resources – all with long trajectories in the Division – to form a cluster of related research lines. If one adds concepts such as geopolitics, security, and governance it is possible to see all three ERC grants in the Division that started in 2017 and 2018 as related to this cluster.

Among the criteria that can be used to assess whether a research environment is defining enough to be attractive is to look at postdocs and visitors. In the present decade these numbers have grown significantly. In 2017 and 2018 eight postdocs were salaried by the Division, all with designated PD funding schemes based on competitive grants.

In 2012 the Division changed its name, and the name of its PhD training program to include all three keywords: Science, Technology, and Environment. At the same time Environmental Humanities was acknowledged as a designated field with the start of the EHL. What's in a name, Shakespeare asked? More than you might think. These names have signaled a way of doing history in selected but broad enough fields and with a strong commitment to societal challenges linked to these concepts. We may not have been aware of the full potential of the changes when the decisions were made. But by 2017-2018 we can see that they made a difference.

## HOW AND WHY ARE WE CHANGING?

>Nina Wormbs

The Division has been growing and shrinking over its 30 year history, since the first professor of History of Technology was hired in the late 1980s. There have been cycles in our staffing, and in particular the number of PhD students, but the Division has never had as many employees as by the end of 2018. This is primarily explained by four large research projects awarded in the last few years in which several researchers and in addition about a dozen PhD students have been employed. Moreover we are since 2018 hosting a research group previously at another university and a number of post-docs and middle sized research projects have also become part of our environment.

This growth is a noticeable change. It comes with both advantages and drawbacks – but it is a testimony to the fact that we are able to both attract able people and raise external funding. The strategy to work with challenge-driven research pays off and allows us to seek support for our endeavors from a diversity of sources. This growth is tipping towards the environmental humanities and topics related to climate change understood broadly, possibly also reflecting a larger portion of research funds available in these areas.

As pointed out in our strategy for the years 2018 to 2022, it is important for us to maintain a broad expertise and not become overly focusing on climate history and policy. At the same time, not everything can be planned. Even though the overall focus of research funding is important for how we change, there is some chance involved

in applying for and receiving a research grant. A bit like research itself, it is somewhat unpredictable, therefore exciting – and to be rewarded!

## “DEFINING” WHAT AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

>Eugenia Pérez Vico

After spending more than two years at the Division I am convinced that being a humanities research environment at a technical university can create an allowing space for scholars to combine a problem-solving and engaging approach with distinction and independence. I have met several skilful individuals in the Division who dare to engage with actors outside of academia in many exciting and innovative ways, yet upholding their distinction through awareness, reflection and academic rigour. This reflects a wider phenomenon that I have encountered in my research on university-society interaction that I started at Chalmers and continued at Halmstad University College and most recently KTH.

As researchers we tend to react in quite diverse ways when facing the question of how to make a difference in society. Some eagerly engage with various actors in society in close interactions around solving present-day challenges. They want to make sure that their knowledge is used and exchanged with that of others for the best of society, or even humanity. Others may intentionally distance themselves from actors outside of academia in order to uphold the independence and distinction that they perceive to be essential for voicing a critical perspective on societal issues that enables them to make a true difference. Yet others try

a mid-way approach. They combine close interactions that generate deep real-life insights and legitimacy in spheres outside of academia with distinction. However, they uphold distinction through a conscious reflection on the role distribution between themselves and actors outside of academia, as well as through academic rigour. Thus, they distinguish between being critical when conducting research and constantly putting forward a critical stance in relation to their societal context.

The way we respond to the question of how to make a difference in society is a consequence of a number of factors, such as personality, experiences and the history and tradition of our academic environment. Also, the way we make a difference changes over time and contexts. In times and contexts of political and scientific consensus, an eager interaction with a focus on problem solving may make the largest difference. However, in times and contexts of low consensus, or when old societal structures need to be abandoned, problematizing scholars seeking to voice critical and new perspectives may play a vital role. So, what it means to be a “defining” knowledge environment is also dependent on what you wish to achieve in a particular social and political situation.

## DEFINING THROUGH COLLABORATION

>Eugenia Pérez Vico + Sverker Sörlin

An academic milieu can take a defining role in many ways. One, perhaps under-articulated, is through collaboration (samverkan in Swedish). It is a common misunderstanding that collaboration is less frequent in the humanities compared to the STEM fields. It is rather on the contrary.

Humanities scholars have on the average more interactions with actors outside of the university. But their interactions differ in many ways. They are typically smaller, they engage with a wider range of partners, many in civic society, media, schools, churches, more rarely with traditional industry. They rarely collaborate for economic gains and the products and outcomes from the collaboration is different – texts, artistic products, courses, ideas and expert opinions rather than patents, licenses, common research projects, or innovations linked to production. The research literature is actually quite rich when it comes to examples of successful collaboration between humanities and societal actors. While there are cases of distinct collaborative projects when humanists carry out studies that lead to new ways of doing things, the literature suggests that it is far more common that the interactions require more time than they do in STEM fields.

But with time the impact can be fundamental. One example is influence on how people write. The well-known Swedish linguist Erik Wellander argued for language reform and a more straightforward way of writing, according to the principle “Write as you speak”. He launched his ideas in a book, *Good Swedish*, in 1939 and between 1942 and 1977 he wrote a weekly column in one of the leading Swedish newspapers *Svenska Dagbladet*. His ideas had a tremendous influence on the practical use of Swedish, not least in public institutions. It took years, in fact decades for them to finally resonate, but the results were comprehensive and helped change not just writing but social interaction as a whole.

Innovation is social, cultural, and have to do with how people think, act, behave just as much as innovation is industrial and economic. The social, cultural, ethical and cognitive innovations can over the long term be at least as influential.

Perhaps one could say that one dimension of defining humanities is the capacity to influence society to changes of this kind, and sometimes of this magnitude. This cannot be expected from all kinds of collaboration. But it does surprisingly often.

It may be worth keeping in mind that the most influential humanities scholars have developed ideas that have so profoundly impacted on our ways of thinking that they have become the most significant points of reference in scientific communication as well. The most cited researcher ever is a French philosopher who for a short time in the 1950s was a lecturer in his mother tongue at Uppsala University. His name is Michel Foucault. He is the first human being to be cited more than one million times on Google Scholar, which will happen in 2020. He has coined words such as biopolitics and heterotopia, and he has analyzed what he called ‘technologies of the self’ that we today take for granted when we think of social interaction.

The research literature suggests that it is in fact very common that the most influential humanities scholars also interact a lot with society. Foucault was a frequent public speaker, people from all corners of society flocked to hear his lectures in Collège de France, he wrote frequently in the press, he spoke on radio and television, and he had ideas on a range of societal issues. If there is anything we know about collaboration it is that it is typically positively correlated with scholarly quality and impact. The most successful scholars are very often also the same scholars who get attention and develop many liaisons outside of the library or the lab.

## MAKING MORE OF PUBLISHING

The overarching strategy of the Division is to build a significant challenge oriented humanities knowledge environment with a core in History. The publication strategy is linked to this goal. Ideas for it have been tossed and discussed during 2017 and 2018 (and a formal strategy document was decided in the spring of 2019). It puts international peer reviewed publications at the core but it also actively considers wider societal impact and using publication as a means of building of multiple skills in our researchers and PhD students.

The Division has radically shifted its publication pattern over the last ten years with a strong growth in the number of international peer reviewed publications. It stands today as one of the most internationally profiled history departments in Sweden and can offer both a much larger body of work now than in the past and also work with a much wider international circulation.

At the same time, the composition of our staff, with a majority either born outside Sweden or deeply anchored in international research contexts creates a strategic dilemma. How can we address the Swedish media and policy arenas to stay relevant in our own country? So far, we have managed to balance these goals, thanks partly to a few individual Swedish-speaking authors with a high public profile. Maintaining this quality requires care and cultivation.

We see a lot of potential in enhancing the resonance between peer reviewed and other publishing formats. Quality and impact are stimulated when research is shared and communicated frequently in direct relation with users,

partners, and in social or professional networks, or in media at large. Recent research by the Humanomics Centre in Denmark has demonstrated the importance of such ‘creep’ of knowledge – both from research to society, and from society to researchers – and how it drives impact in multiple and often unexpected ways.

We encourage these interactions and strive to make them part of the publication and communication efforts of projects, groups, and of individual scholars, and we train PhD students to learn the practice of them. We explore and experiment with a range of communicative genres and formats: artworks, film, poetry, popular and non-fiction books, textbooks, literary criticism, essays, op-ed. articles, policy reports, and we publish on blogs, podcasts, and other social media. Members of the Division and EHL work to innovate peer review for film and moving images as a tool for publishing research. We experiment and curate in these areas with film festivals, public conversations, workshops, television, and other media, and we argue that it is good, both for the society that we serve and for ourselves in our scholarly careers and for the diversity of our working environment.

Still, international, and national, significance on the highest level in history disciplines is typically represented by influential single authored research monographs published by respected university presses or trade publishers. Successful careers in history almost without exception require publications in book format, and books remain the most cited publications by historians and also by and large the most respected. As a consequence we encourage all researchers, in particular PhD students to publish individually – but also to collaborate and co-author publications, to learn and become familiar with different modes of operation as a scholar.

In sum, in our strategy for publishing and communication, we:

- Observe respect for academic freedom and individual choice of publishing format.
- Wish to promote meaningful and successful individual careers as well as impacts on academic communities and society at large.
- Link to wider strategic ambitions in the Division and KTH at large.
- Build on and improve our general trend towards peer reviewed articles in respected (including high impact) journals.
- Promote peer reviewed monographs with major international or academic presses.
- Develop structured publishing – careful choice of journals/book projects; increased awareness of journals/outlets; strive for open access when possible.
- Use multiple formats as a means of securing a presence in relevant communities, media, and policy, including a voice in the Swedish public sphere.
- Seek possibilities for co-authorships when relevant.

# Around the Division



The Division has a long established activity in Antarctica, focusing on the history and politics of natural resources and cultural heritage.

## TRAINING DIPLOMATS IN HOW SCIENCE WORKS – SCIENCE DIPLOMACY FROM THE InsSciDE

>Nina Wormbs

In 2018, a large H2020 project on a new science diplomacy for Europe – InsSciDE – took off. Coordinated from CNRS and Sorbonne in Paris, 15 partners from Budapest to Manchester, Portugal to Tromsø engage with issues of science diplomacy in collaboration between disciplines such as archeology, international relations, history of science and technology, political science, and media and communication studies. An aim of InsSciDE is to train young diplomats to be more versed in how science really works, a challenge in itself as it turns out since the STS-scholars of the project have a different understanding of science than the political scientists or the diplomats do.

KTH leads a work package on environmental monitoring and assessment with a particular focus on the Arctic. This allows for cross-cutting exchange with other projects at the Division. A workshop is planned for June 2020, involving local stakeholders. Several scholars in InsSciDE are also engaged in the newly formed Commission on Science Technology and Diplomacy, part of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (itself part of the International Science Council) opening up this new field in our disciplines. Contributors in the Division: Miyase Christensen, Nina Wormbs.

## MAKING UNIVERSITIES MATTER

>Linus Salö

Making Universities Matter — MUM, for short — is a transdisciplinary knowledge platform, funded by Sweden’s innovation agency Vinnova 2015–2023. Engaging broadly with knowledge policy and the governance of universities, it brings together junior and senior researchers from the Division at KTH and Lund University with international experts and national stakeholders. MUM aims at making scholarly inquiries into wide-ranging areas such as research quality and impact, and universities’ interaction with the surrounding society. However, as the signifier “knowledge platform” suggests, the agenda

of MUM extends those of ordinary research projects. Beyond the advancement of scholarly thought, MUM is a hub devoted to cross-sector dialogue. It functions accordingly as a sounding board positioned between the realms of research policy and research per se — in other words, between those who govern the academic world and those whose practices are governed. Such brokering activities are intentionally realized through seminar series which engage policy makers as well as through advisory tasks, commissioned reports and hands-on input into ongoing policy debates. To be sure, while universities already matter, they can and should always strive at mattering more. Per this motto, and through the strategy opted for, MUM has an important role to play.

## CROSSCUTS

>Sofia Jonsson

Crosscuts film festival started as an annual event for film, art and text in November 2018, with an intention to fill the gap between text-bound academic production and visual media. The festival has a film-as-research focus where special invited guests, panels and visitors take on different topics within the field of environmental humanities.

The first edition of the festival had an overall theme intended to put emphasis on bridges and crossings amongst individuals, publics, communities and institutions. During three days at Bio Rio in Stockholm, almost five hundred visitors enjoyed a varied programme of documentary films and discussions on media activism, postcoloniality, resource extraction, indigenous

politics, plastic, relational filmmaking and much more. Among the invited speakers were Professor Serenella Iovino on waste and resistance in the Anthropocene, associate professor and multimedia artist Igor Vamos as his alias Mike Bonanno from the Yes Men on satire and activism, and activists Tor and Astrid Tuorda on mining, extraction and Sami heritage in Lapland/Sapmi – to mention a few.



In addition to the program at Bio Rio, a documentary short film competition was held at GT30. Eight short films within environmental humanities competed. The winning film *Stratum* (directed by Jacob Cartwright and Nick Jordan) navigated through post-industrial landscapes on the European Route of Industrial Heritage.

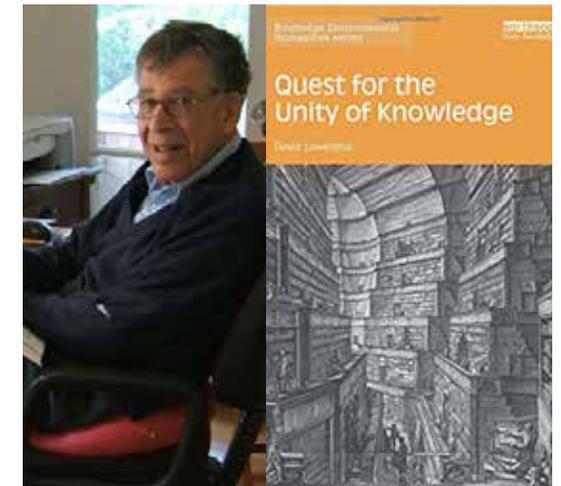
The festival was founded by Jacob von Heland, Marco Armiero, Miyase Christensen (SU/KTH), and Sofia Jonsson. It was made possible thanks to contributions from Formas, KTH Sustainability, and several projects at the Division and the EHL during 2018 – and the assistance of Roberta Biasillo and Camilla Winqvist.

## THE ARCHIPELAGO LECTURES AND DAVID LOWENTHAL

>Sverker Sörlin

In September 2012 the historian and geographer David Lowenthal visited the Division to give a series of talks. They were entitled the Archipelago Lectures, referring in part to the Stockholm Archipelago, but also to David's career long professional and personal interest in islands, in the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, in the Isle of Man where he had a summer house, and elsewhere. The lectures were the first major public event of the KTH Environmental Humanities Lab and has become an annual institution. The lecturers in the last two years were, respectively the New York Times journalist Dan Fagin, whose talk "Connecting Dots in Toms River and Beyond", based on his Pulitzer Prize winning book *Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation* (2013), was held 5 October 2017, and the acclaimed Indian anthropologist and author Amitav Ghosh, who spoke on 26 September 2018 on "The Great Uprooting: Migration and Movement in the Age of Climate Change". The 2019 lecture will be offered by Nancy Fraser, professor of Philosophy in the New School of Social Research, New York. More info on past and upcoming lectures on: <https://www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/philhist/historia/ehl/ehl-events/stockholm-archipelag/stockholm-archipelago-lecture-series-1.593981>

David Lowenthal worked for several years to develop his Archipelago lectures into a book. It turned out to be his last. *Quest for the Unity of Knowledge* (Routledge) was published in November 2018, two months



after David passed silently in his sleep on the night of 5 September at the age of 95. He had then seen the proofs with his own eyes. The Division and the EHL supported David and his wife Mary Alice in their quest as best we could, and a foreword for the volume telling a bit of the winding story behind the book was signed by Marco Armiero, Libby Robin, and Sverker Sörlin. We honor the memory of a great scholar and a pioneer of the environmental humanities, decades before the concept was invented.

## ARCTIC FUTURES

>Nina Wormbs

News on the Arctic is increasing and has been for a while. This has coincided with the capacity building on Arctic issues at the Division where this region has occupied our interest for more than a decade. The on-

going Nordforsk Center of Excellence called REXSAC, and the ERC Starting Grant, GRETPOL are recent contributions to Arctic humanities and social sciences. Arctic Futures was a Mistra programme and within which the Division received funding for a project on Assessing Arctic Futures 2010 to 2014. The core idea was to look at the construction of Arctic futures and to focus on the voices, the resources and the governance.

A recurrent trope in the media reporting on the Arctic is a face-less story of change caused by external drivers, such as globalization, resource extraction and climate change. The fact that these go together and indeed have agents is seldom articulated and interrogated. In one of the research projects I edited a collection of chapters published with the title *Competing Arctic Futures: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives* (Palgrave 2018). In the book we challenged this grand narrative and the light is brought back on those who have been producing futures of the Arctic in history, hopefully also bringing back agency in the stories of the changing Arctic today. *Competing Arctic Futures* was very much a product of the Division. Not only did I lead the work on the volume, another six members of the Division had chapter contributions.

## TOWARDS A VISUAL ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

>Jacob von Heland

The world appears differently in film and text. But research is by and large a text-based tradition. Is something lost in this observation? The project *Towards*

*a Visual Environmental Humanities* develops and supports the use of film and cinema as integral practices in the environmental humanities. It investigates possibilities in trans-modal research practices and science film inspired by the motto to “show, don’t tell”. The project has three pillars:

*Filmmaking as research practice* – We engage filmic practice and theory with urban ethnographic research in African cities. Our second feature film has its world premiere in 2020. “One Table Two Elephants” (2018) competed at international festivals (CPH:DOX, Cape Town Film Festival, Tirana) and has been screened in university cinemas across the world, including Durban, Cape Town, Windhoek, Sheffield, Cambridge, Stanford, New York, Trier, Roma and Uppsala.

*New humanistic infrastructures* – We are founders and editors of the new double blind peer-reviewed publication for film-based research *Annals of Crosscuts* at Crosscuts Environmental Humanities Festival for Film & Text. The peer-review process welcomes filmmakers in the arts, sciences and humanities who experiment with the moving image as a complement or challenge to text-based research.

*Transmodal scholarship* – We make new institutional ties connecting STS and history of science and technology at KTH, artistic decolonial research at Valand Academy at Gothenburg University, human geography at the University of Manchester, and cinema studies at Stockholm University.



## POSTHUMANITIES HUB

>Cecilia Åsberg

The Posthumanities Hub is a research group and a platform for postdisciplinary humanities, art and science, and more-than-human humanities networks. Guest professor at KTH, Åsberg has over the last two decades been instrumental in the development of gender studies, feminist science and technology studies, cultural studies of science, technology and medicine in society, environmental humanities, posthuman ethics and multispecies research in Sweden. The Posthumanities Hub, the original “environmental humanities laboratory”, works across arts and science with philosophy informed by advanced eco-cultural critique and some seriously humorous feminist creativity. In our research, we specialize in the more-than-human condition, and in re-inventive methodologies for how we can learn to live better together on a damaged planet. Conceptually, we explore, re-think, design and put to use the posthuman, a-human, inhuman, nonhuman, and trans-queer, or decolonial and feminist theory-practices for postdisciplinary academic or societal uses. We target specific cases and relevant phenomena in our projects (funded by VR, RJ, ERC, Formas, Mistra, SSHRC, the Seed Box, KTH and Linköping University) - all with the clear aim to meet up with pressing societal challenges.

## HUMANITIES IN ANTARCTICA

>Lize-Marié van der Watt

Some fieldtrips can be organised on shorter notice than others can. When doing fieldwork in Antarctica, you need to lay plan A, B and C long in advance, because plans can change on short notice. When Otto Nordenskjöld planned the first Swedish Antarctic Expedition for 1901 - 1903 he did not plan for the expedition to stay two winters, but a series of unfortunate events meant that parties were forced to camp at different sites and spend an extra winter in Antarctica. The Argentinean corvette *Uruguay* rescued the expedition in November 1903, and the expedition plays an important role in Argentina and Sweden’s Antarctic histories.

CHAQ 2020 (Cultural Heritage Antarctica) is an Argentinean-Swedish historical-archaeology expedition to some of these sites. Antarctic field research requires interdisciplinary, interagency and international collaboration. Pablo Fontana, of the Argentine Antarctic Institute (IAA) will lead the expedition, which forms part of the IAA 2019/2020 field season programme. Dag Avango (LTU/KTH) is responsible for the Swedish team that includes Kati Lindström (KTH) as well as two experts from Gothenburg University, Gunnar Almekvist and Jonathan Westin, who will be working on behalf of the Swedish National Heritage Board. The Swedish Polar Research Secretariat also supports the expedition, which carries its official endorsement.

CHAQ 2020 has three objectives:

- to collect data for the VR-funded research proj-

ect, *On Creating Cultural Heritage in Antarctica* (PI: Lize-Marié van der Watt)

- to contribute to and support the conservation work Argentina has been conducting at these sites
- to use different techniques to tell the story of these sites to a wider audience, including virtual reality, 3D representations and documentary film.



Nordenskjöld's hut on Snow Hill Island. It was built in 1902, when a small party of Swedes and an Argentine scientist spent an unplanned two years here. (photo: Pablo Fontana, 2018)

## ASIA RISING

>Mats Benner

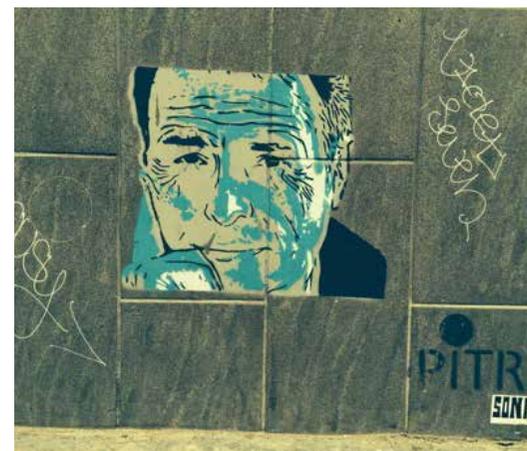
The long 20th century belonged to the United States in almost any way imaginable. The nascent 21st century has instead been hailed as the Asian century, where the economic forces and political locus have moved decisively to the East. Is this valid also for academic life? In my book, *The New Global Politics of Science* (Edward Elgar

2018) and a companion volume on research policy and academic work in a slew of Asian countries (published in 2020, also by Edward Elgar), I highlight the rapid rise of research in Asia, in quantitative terms (number of publications, investments in research, and so on) but also in qualitative (including mobility and impact). In many fastmoving areas, Asian countries now perform on a par with the United States and the European Union. Universities in Asia are determined to move up the reputational ladder to serve as leading academic environments, comparable with the likes of Harvard and Oxford. Clearly, they have the resources available. The ambitions are backed by governments seeking a competitive advantage in the so called knowledge based economy. And talent there is, where the historical brain drain to the US and Europe is stemmed with a multitude of programmes to support the massive pool of scholars of Asian descent. Will it work? The mobilization of resources, people and opportunities is daunting. But it is hamstrung by state intervention with politicking at many levels and heavy handed managerialism in the academic environments, and with little of the playfulness that (not always but surprisingly often) characterize the North American and European universities that excel today. But lessons are being learnt and experiments continue. Gravity is clearly moving eastwards.

## A LINGUIST AMONG HISTORIANS

>Linus Salö

The sociologist Pierre Bourdieu once wrote a paper about language – *The economics of linguistic exchanges* – which begins: “It may be wondered what business a



Street Art in Paris.

sociologist has to be meddling nowadays with language and linguistics.” His own response pertained to the importance of transgressing, or trespassing, disciplinary boundaries to advance the frontiers of linguistic knowledge. In the same spirit, he also engaged in conversation with historical scholarship, claiming that all history is sociological, and all sociology historical. On par with this integrative stance, it may be wondered what business a linguist, such as myself, has among historians. My response, correspondingly, is that language permeates the human world, sociologically and historically, and that it thus provides a powerful inroad into non-linguistic matters. For example, my research centers on how the use of language in science constitutes one terrain where socio-historical struggles unfold. Hence, in this pursuit there are knowledge virtues in disciplinary trespassing.

## NUCLEARWATERS: PUTTING WATER AT THE CENTRE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY HISTORY

>Per Högselius

NUCLEARWATERS is a research program based on an ERC Consolidator Grant that I lead. In it we try to develop a groundbreaking new approach to studying the history of nuclear energy. Rather than interpreting nuclear energy history as a history of nuclear physics and radiochemistry, it analyses it as a history of water. The project develops the argument that nuclear energy is in essence a hydraulic form of technology, and that it builds on centuries and even millennia of earlier hydraulic engineering efforts worldwide. Culturally speaking, it goes back to earlier “hydraulic civilizations”, from ancient Egypt to the modern Netherlands. We investigate how historical water-manipulating technologies and wet and dry risk conceptions from a deeper past were carried on into the nuclear age. These risk conceptions brought with them a complex set of social and professional practices that displayed considerable inertia and were difficult to change – sometimes paving the way for disaster. Against this background we hypothesize that a water-centred approach enables us to resolve a number of the key riddles in nuclear energy history and to grasp the deeper historical logic behind various nuclear disasters and accidents worldwide.

Involved researchers: : Per Högselius, Kati Lindström, Anna Storm, Alicia Gutting, Achim Klüppelberg and Siegfried Evens

## SPHERE – HOW WE STARTED TO GOVERN THE EARTH

>Eric Paglia

SPHERE (Study of the Planetary Human-Environment Relationship) is a historical study of a complex governance issue in the contemporary world: humanity's relation to planetary conditions and constraints. *The key argument* of the project is that Global Environmental Governance (GEG), which has emerged in response to this issue, is inseparable from the rise of Earth Systems Science and a knowledge-informed understanding of global change. This process has been ongoing for over half a century since preparations began for the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. *Yet no comprehensive history of GEG currently exists.* SPHERE seeks to provide such a history, although this can surely only be a beginning of work to occupy historians and environmental scholars for many years to come. SPHERE is based at the Division of History, Science and Technology at KTH Royal Institute of Technology and is led by Professor Sverker Sörlin (PI), with a research team comprised of Associate Professor Sabine Höhler, post-doc Eric Paglia and PhD students Thomas Harbøll-Schröder, Gloria Samosir, Jasmin Höglund Hellgren and Erik Isberg, and research engineer Christina Goldhar, together with core partners Paul Warde at the University of Cambridge, Glenda Sluga at the University of Sydney, and Vanessa Ogle at the University of California-Berkeley. The project is funded by the European Research Council (ERC).

## TRAINING HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERTS FOR AFRICA

>Sverker Sörlin

It started with a call from Lars Geschwind, fellow historian at the Division of Learning. He had met with a colleague, a higher education specialist from the Universidad Eduardo Mondlane in Mozambique. He had proposed starting a joint PhD training program. He wondered if we could be part of it, share joys and efforts and said funding could be made available through the Swedish International Development Agency, SIDA. I thought it was an exciting idea. I had been in Mozambique in 1980 but never returned. Here was a chance. But above all, it aligned with our strategy to widen our efforts beyond our comfort zones in Europe and the Anglo-speaking world. Said and done. We took the trip down to Maputo in June 2016, and since we have been down a few times. The project was officially granted in 2017 and after a fair share of paper work we could start in earnest during 2018.

The core mission with Comparative Higher Education, Policy and Innovation Studies (CHEPIS) is to train a new cohort of experts that can lead Mozambique and that region of the world as their university systems start growing. Higher education and research needs leadership based on knowledge and experience. We can share. The University of Western Cape in the Cape Town region also joined. The PhD students have already started their time with us. Four spend most of the time in Stockholm, another three have UWC as their home base. In the fall of 2018 and the winter of 2019

all seven were at KTH, plus one postdoc. We all need to learn, and we do so eagerly. We have hired Urban Lundberg, originally a historian from Stockholm University, who for personal reasons spends several years in Mozambique, as a member of the project to liaise across continents. At KTH Mats Benner, Sverker Sörlin and Nina Wormbs work with Lars Geschwind to get the project going.

## ENERGY TRANSITIONS IN UK AND FRANCE SINCE THE 1960S

>Tae Hoon Kim

Discussions on energy transition often focus on technological innovations and institutional adjustments to encourage such change. The objective of this post-doctoral research project, funded by the Standup for Energy research initiative, is to challenge this technology centric outlook. It analyzes trends in energy transitions from a historical perspective, highlighting the political, social, economic, and cultural factors that shaped past transitions. It uses a case study of the nuclear energy policies of the UK and France from the 1960s to the present day and explains why the nuclear trajectories of the two came to diverge. By doing so, it not only stresses the fluidity and unpredictability of energy transition, but also calls for a change in energy transition policies that concentrate on promoting new technologies.

## ENVIRONING TECHNOLOGIES

>Johan Gärdebo

'Environing' refers to human shaping of the natural world into a conceivable object, materially and discursively. 'The environment' can be regarded as the result of environing processes whereby humans make and make sense of their surroundings over time. In setting up what became the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory in the fall of 2011 Sverker Sörlin suggested that 'environing technologies' could be used to conceptualize the particular practices of sensing, writing, and shaping in forming the environment. As part of the project Views from a Distance (2013–2017), led by Sabine Höhler and Nina Wormbs, my doctoral research focused on environing by remote sensing technology. Studying environing technologies for me involved numerous activities, most notably developing courses on environmental visualization, a visiting fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2016, and hosting workshops at the Anthropocene Campus in Philadelphia 2017. Sverker Sörlin and Nina Wormbs further developed the original concept into an article, "Environing Technologies: A Theory of Making Environment," *History & Technology* (2018). Working with Nina and Sabine I used the concept in my doctoral dissertation, *Environing Technology: Swedish Satellite Remote Sensing in the Making of Environment 1969–2001* (2019). Upcoming initiatives on numerous environing technologies, media, and practices, both within and beyond the Division and the Lab are set to deepen our analysis in the coming years.

# In Transit



Descending the Fraser River. Photo by Jean-Sébastien Boutet.

## EXPOSED TO THE UNEXPECTED IN MUNICH

> Nina Wormbs

There are allegedly several Rachel Carson Centers in the world – but none could possibly compare to the one for Environment and Society at the Ludwig Maximilians Universität in Munich. It was founded in 2009 as a collaboration between LMU and Deutsches Museum (a leading European institution for research and exhibitions on technology and society), and is headed by History professor Christof Mauch. RCC has a competitive programme for research fellows and an impressive line of events and activities. I was fortunate to spend five months as a Visiting scholar during the spring semester of 2018, which allowed me to focus on and finish several projects.

The RCC is international and multidisciplinary and the placement in the three million capital of Bavaria makes it an attractive spot for both body and mind. I took part in the recurring RCC lunch seminars, film screenings and workshop and enjoyed the Montags Colloquium at the Deutsches Museum, and once in a while the Oberseminar für Wissenschaftsgeschichte at LMU. Perhaps paradoxically, the fact that I was able to focus on my reading and writing meant that I could also allow myself to be exposed to the unexpected and not immediately useful. The combination made for an invigorating and productive spring and a fond memory of the RCC and its staff and fellow scholars.



Hamburg Hauptbahnhof. Division co-workers have increasingly chosen to travel by train to European destinations.

## EXPERIENCES OF A MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE PHD AT THE DIVISION

> Daniele Valisena

Walking along the rusty silhouette of the former Carsid blast furnace in Charleroi my mind flies back to Leeds, where back in 2016 I presented my research in the opening conference of my Marie Skłodowska-Curie PhD network ENHANCE. From the British Black Country to the Belgian Black Country, a life circle closes around me. Being part of a European training network has been an incredibly rich experience. It gave me the opportunity to visit the best research centers in Europe and conduct research in three countries (Germany, Belgium, and Italy) on Italian migrant communities in European coal mining districts and how they learn to cope socially and ecologically, not least through bringing their own kitchen biota and culinary cultures across boundaries. Still, all my academic meandering would have been in vain without the warm embrace of the Division, the year of course training and the support of my colleagues back in Stockholm, a place — or better a community — which is always hard to part from.

## GROUNDING MOVEMENTS

> Gloria Samosir

After having lived or studied, in varying turns, in Indonesia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and the USA, I landed in Sweden in February 2019 to join the Division. My work in the SPHERE project focuses on the

role of international financial institutions in shaping the rise of global environmental governance. It is phenomenal to take part in a research project that is mobile by design and will take me to plenty of exciting places in the years to come—e.g. Cambridge, UK or Sydney, Australia to collaborate with colleagues, Southeast Asia for fieldwork, and relevant conferences and workshops wherever on earth they happen to occur—but it is equally tremendous to be based here in Stockholm. In equal parts vibrant and serene, inspiring and accessible, and earnest and amusing, I am delighted to call this city, and the Division, my new home.

## BLENDING HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

>Dmitry Arzyutov

The dynamically expanding realm of environmental studies gradually involves a huge variety of disciplines. To a certain extent, my personal trajectory from Siberian/Arctic history to anthropology and now to historical anthropology of the same region corresponds to this development. I have worked at Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) in Saint Petersburg, Russia, Aberdeen University in the UK, and am currently working at KTH in Stockholm, Sweden. Relying on the experience gained from these diverse intellectual milieus, I developed an interest in human responses to the environmental dynamics and changes. I see it as a two-way road of ‘historicizing’ the social practices documented in the field and ‘anthropologizing’ the historical dynamics seeing from afar. I believe that such a road opens a venue to underappre-

ciated indigenous and local ways of knowing within the academic knowledge production and may give new perspectives in the studies of human-environment relations.

## BRINGING ASIAN AND EUROPEAN ENERGIES TOGETHER

> Thomas Harböll Schröder

After almost six years in the subtropical and beautiful country of Taiwan, I joined the division in February 2019. Stockholm’s winter met me cold and dark, but the Division felt warm and bright with its daily lunch-break at 12 and a common ‘fika’ every week. I am hoping that the years outside Europe can inspire my work on the SPHERE project where I focus on wind power and plan to study imaginaries related to environmental governance and energy systems. The work has already provided chance to exchange ideas also with academics outside the division when our SPHERE group recently travelled to meet with colleagues at the iconic Cambridge University.

## UNIVERSITIES IN AFRICA – THEIR ROLE IN INNOVATION

> Domingos Jaime Langa

Pursuing a PhD programme is one of the key steps to build up an academic career. A student experience as PhD is even more important. A citizen of Mozam-

bique, I joined the Division late in January 2019 with a warm welcome from fellow PhD students, professors and researchers. Changing location is challenging, however, Stockholm and the Division have provided me an opportunity to not take for granted higher education in Africa. I hope the seminars, courses and conferences in the next following years will enable me to develop a more critical historical consciousness (so that I can constantly shake my certainties and beliefs) and a nomadic and cosmopolitan predisposing (so that I can feel at home at anyplace).

## NOTES FROM THE NORTH, 2019

>Jean-Sébastien Boutet

This past summer I had the chance to travel to Canada to participate in different field schools and explore new research possibilities in the general area of Indigenous economic history. Anthropologists and ethnographers might refer to this period as their “pre-fieldwork,” or “fieldwork: season 0,” but whichever the name, it is invariably made of a strange mix of uncomfortable encounters, beginner mistakes, and a very unhealthy dose of self-doubt.

I started off in a sense where I began, in Schefferville, along the Québec-Labrador borderlands, the site of my previous graduate fieldwork where I wrote about the mining history of the region. It was special, almost surreal, to come back to this place after so many years to witness all the changes, but perhaps most extraordinarily the continuities that characterize the close-knit

and isolated communities who depend, for better or for worse, on the industrial production of iron ore. Due to a lack of imagination, or better terms, I entered people's homes introducing myself as the researcher from a decade ago who came to write about you, and has not returned since. Amazingly, I was offered coffee and a willingness to tell more stories in exchange; some even remembered me, and with guilt I could only produce, like last time, a vague promise to return again, "soon..."

I thought, in Schefferville, about the passage of time. The mining industry, much like researchers, cyclically staging a return as a function of financial swings, following the devastation of a previous abandonment. Elders whom I once interviewed have now passed, or are travelling to a far away hospital, unsure about when they will be able return to their family and home community. I'm told there are only about 30 elders left here, people who were born in the forest, *sur le territoire*. Surely their precious life history must never be forgotten, but how?

From Québec I carried on to the west coast for a short



Mining the Québec-Labrador border. (Photo by author)

stop on the upper canyons of the Fraser River. There was also a going back to the roots of sort, in this case to the beginning of the Canadian mining industry (at least to my mind...). Indeed, on the Fraser, accompanied by incredibly knowledgeable Indigenous guides, rafting superstars and field scholars, we negotiated a relatively tame portion of the river – the one between Lillooet and Lytton – and visited river bars where, starting in the mid-19th century, Chinese migrants expertly operated placer gold mines in the most rigorous conditions imaginable. All this, interestingly, almost half a century ahead of the nation defining moment that constitutes, in the Canadian imagination, the Klondike gold rush. Despite the impressive work of scholars that have made these abandoned sites come alive again, there is still much mystery surrounding the composition of social life and labour conditions at the mines, whether these early miners could turn a decent profit, and most interestingly for me, the nature and extent of Indigenous peoples' involvement with Chinese labourers.

The third major component of the travels took me to Winnipeg, and from there by road all the way past Thompson to northern Manitoba. This portion of the trip assembled an eclectic group of professors, students and artists dedicated to learning first hand about the impacts of hydroelectric development on First Nations communities in the province. Despite the enthusiasm of the group and endless humour from our Indigenous guides, this place had a more sombre tone. Compared to former and operating mine sites, which are certainly destructive but equally so full of life or traces of past lives, there is a deadening aspect to river damming that I find overwhelming, almost hard to take in. In Manitoba we witnessed death: the silencing of the Grand Rapids, now only a sad trickle of their former



Witnessing the silencing of the Grand Rapids. (Photo by author)



Damming of the Nelson River near Gillam. (Photo by autor)



Jean-Sébastien Boutet. (Photo by author)

local economies.

Evidently, I do not know what of make of it all. It was, at minimum, a productive year zero in the field for me. I was glad to be reminded about the field, how much I love the field, how much I miss it, how difficult and real it is. I remembered where I am most comfortable, at the kitchen table, on the lake, listening to the words and not saying very much, just awkwardly explaining myself and the purpose of our presence here.

*Tataskweyak (Split Lake), July 13, 2019.*

—Did I tell you the story of when I went to look for porcupine with my dad in 1975?

—No.

—Ok. I will tell you the story of when I went to look for porcupine with my dad in 1975.

—Ok.

It is for these simple encounters, these generous telling of a story imbued with morality that feels bigger than the land, that I love the north most. It's where I hope to return, "soon..."

# Backlists



The Posthumanities Hub participated in the start of new Scandinavian art network State of the Art with a panel on 'who are the WE of the Anthropocene' and a talk by Cecilia Åsberg, Silkeborg, Denmark. October 2018.

## COMMISSIONS

### Boards, commissions of trust, and other engagements

One of our core missions is to collaborate with society in Sweden and other countries. We offer advice and service to policy, organizations and civil society, and we engage in our academic communities. This often takes the form of work in boards, commissions, networks, and societies. Below we have listed a selection of these engagements during 2017 and 2018.

**Dag Avango** was an expert member of ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and of the International Polar Heritage Committee (IPHC) of ICOMOS, a member of the Board of Trustees of TICCIH (The International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage) and also served as a member of its Swedish section, Svenska Industriminnesföreningen. He served as expedition leader for several field trips to Greenland and Svalbard.

**Marco Armiero** served as associate editor of the *International Journal of Environmental Humanities* (Duke University Press) and chaired the Program Committee of the European Society for Environmental History, ESEH, bi-annual congress in Zagreb, held in June-July 2017. Marco also served as an associate editor of the journal *Capitalism Nature Socialism* (Taylor and Francis) and he was a member of the editorial boards of *Fennia: International Journal of Geography, Cartografie Sociali*, and *Rivista di sociologia e scienze sociali*. He has served as expert evaluator for tenure positions/promotions at the University of Edinburgh and Kansas and for grant proposals for several funding agencies. He has served in the advisory boards of the Seed Box: An international Environmental Humanities Collaboratory (Linköping University) and of the Australian Environmental Humanities Hub.

**Erik Arnold** served as a member of the Board of Trustees (Kuratorium) of the Fraunhofer-ISI institute, and of the editorial boards of the journals *Foresight and Innovation Policy* and *Research Evaluation*. He was also a visiting academic with the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, and a member of the

OECD team producing *OECD Review of Innovation Policy: Finland, 2017* and the *OECD Review of Innovation Policy: Kuwait* (forthcoming). He chaired the evaluation panel for the BONUS programme of marine research in the Baltic Sea for the European Union. He was part of the evaluation teams for the Norwegian Social Science Research Institutes (2016-2017) and the national field evaluation panel for the Humanities in Norway (2016-2017).

**Dmitry V. Arzyutov** serves as an associate editor of *Sibirica: Journal of Siberian Studies* (Taylor & Francis) and is on the editorial advisory board of the Routledge book series *Arctic Worlds: Communities, Political Ecology and Ways of Knowing*.

**Roberta Biasillo** is a guest researcher at the Italian National Institute of Social Security (INPS), affiliated researcher at the Roma Tre University (Italy), and alumni fellow at the Rachel Carson for Environment and Society in Munich (Germany). She is a member of the editorial board of the Italian journal *Historia Magistra: Rivista di Storia Critica*. She served as member of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) Summer School Committee and is currently part of the ESEH Next Generation Action Team.

**Mats Benner** was a member of the Swedish Government Research Board (Forskningsberedningen). He is also a member of the Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, IVA.

**Miyase Christensen** was the Editor-in-Chief (since 2013) of *Popular Communication: The International Journal of Media and Culture*, and Associate Editor (since 2015) of *The Annals of International Communication Association*. She also served as the Executive Board Member of the Sustainability Committee of the International Communication Association.

**Henrik Ernstson** was named Honorary Associate Professor at the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town 2018 to 2023.

**Anne Gough** was an affiliated guest researcher of the American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

**Sabine Höhler** serves on the management committee of the *Journal of Environmental Humanities* (Duke University Press) and is a member of the Swedish National Committee for the History of Technology and Science hosted by the Academy of Sciences. She was advisor for the Study Program at the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin, and a board member of the Society for the History of Technology, SHOT (United States).

**Arne Kaijser** is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, IVA, and chairs its committee for prizes and awards. He was also a board member of the Swedish Institute for Future Studies and The Norwegian Technical Museum.

**Kati Lindström** has served as a board member of the Estonian Centre for Environmental History, University of Tallinn since 2011. She was the Visiting Associate Professor at the World Heritage Centre Division, Shizuoka Prefectural Government, Japan, from October 2015 to December 2017. She served as a member of the ESEH board, Nomination Committee and Program Committee between 2017 and 2019, the organizing committee for the 10th biennial ESEH conference held in Tallinn, Estonia 20-25 August 2019, and as the chair of the ESEH Best Article Prize Committee 2015-2017. She is the current ESEH Regional Representative for the Baltic States until 2021. In February and March 2017 she was a Visiting Research fellow at University of Tokyo, Japan.

**Peder Roberts** served on the advisory board for the book project commemorating the centenary of the Geophysical Institute on Bergen, Norway.

**Anna Storm** is a founding member of the AHRC International Research Network “Nuclear Cultural Heritage: From Knowledge to Practice,” funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (UK), 2018–2020.

**Sverker Sörlin** was on the advisory boards of *Cultural Geographies*, *The Anthropocene Review*, *AMBIO*, and the Routledge book series on *Environmental Humanities*. He served on the Swedish Government Research Board (Forskningsberedningen), the board of the Nordic Museum (Nordiska Museet), the Program Board of the SAMKUL program of the Norwegian Research Council, and as an advisor to the Swedish Association for the Protection of Nature (Naturskyddsföreningen). He was President of the Swedish Meal Academy (Måltidsakademien), is a member of the Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, IVA, since 1998, and of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, KSLA, since 2016. In February-March 2018 he was a fellow of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Study, University of British Columbia.

**Ethemcan Turhan** was elected as a Steering Committee member of MedECC (Mediterranean Expert Network on Environmental and Climate Change) and also served as the co-chair of MedECC Working Group 3 on development, health and human security.

**Hanna Vikström** served on the board of the Swedish Chemical Historical Society (*Kemihistoriska nämnden*).

**Lize-Marié van der Watt** serves on the Swedish National Committee for Global Environmental Change (with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, KVA). She is a rapporteur to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting since 2014 and is on the executive committee of the Standing Committee on Humanities and Social Sciences in SCAR—the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR).

**Nina Wormbs** served as a member of the management committee of the *International Journal of Environmental Humanities* (Duke University Press). She was also a member of the Board of the Nobel Museum, and a member of the Advisory Councils of the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat, the Royal Library, and the Swedish Agency for Accessible Media.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

**Karl Bruno** received a prize (2017) from the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities (Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien) for his dissertation *Exporting Agrarian Expertise: Development Aid at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and its Predecessors, 1950–2009* (Swedish Agricultural University SLU, 2016).

**Henrik Ernstson** was one of three awardees of the AXA Foundation (Paris) Research Award 2017 in recognition of his “innovative work on urban sustainability in the global South”. The award included €250,000 towards a three year research project, “Grounding and Worlding Urban Infrastructures” (GROWL), with a focus on Angola’s capital Luanda and its “petro-urbanism”. <https://www.axa-research.org/en/project/henrik-ernstson>

**Jacob von Heland and Henrik Ernstson’s** research-based cinematic ethnography *One Table Two Elephants* (2018), was nominated to several prizes during 2018, among these the Nordic Dox Award at CPH:DOX, Copenhagen International Documentary Film Festival; Best Documentary Feature with African Premiere at Cape Town International Film Festival; Best International Documentary at Tirana International Film Festival (TIFF).

**Anna Svensson** was awarded the 2018 *Annals of Science* Student Essay Prize for best article by a PhD student for “‘And Eden from the Chaos rose’: utopian order and rebellion in the Oxford Physick Garden”. It draws on her text “Utopian Order and Rebellion

in the Oxford Physick Garden”, in her dissertation *A Utopian Quest for Universal Knowledge: Diachronic Histories of Botanical Collections between the Sixteenth Century and the Present* (Division of History, KTH, 2018). The new article is published in *Annals of Science*, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00033790.2019.1641223>

**Daniel Svensson** received the Ullr Award from the International Ski History Association (ISHA) at a gathering in Stowe, Vermont, USA in April 2017 for his PhD dissertation *Scientizing Performance in Endurance Sports: The Emergence of ‘Rational Training’ in Cross-country Skiing, 1930-1980* (Division of History, KTH, 2016) – “a unique contribution to the history of skiing”.

**Sverker Sörlin** was awarded the 2018 Prize in memory of Stig Ramel by the Swedish History Days and the Kjell and Märta Beijer Foundation. The prize is awarded to a person “who in the spirit of Stig Ramel has accomplished lasting achievements for Swedish historical research”.

## EVENTS

This is just what it seems to be – a diary of events, starting in January 2017 and ending in December 2018. It gives a sense of what we do, the range, but also the focus areas, the recurring topics and themes. It is not an exhaustive list. Some special events that we organize are not included. Among those that we co-organize outside of the Division some are mentioned. Of the events that individual members of the Division take part in – seminars, talks, conference sessions, media performances, etc. – only a small handful few are listed.

### 2017

#### From above: on a scientifically privileged position

*The aim of this workshop is to explore the modern history of scientific technologies, cultural practices and aesthetic conventions that produced extra-ordinary views from above.*

**Time:** Thu 2017-01-12, 09.00 to Fri 2017-01-13, 16.00

**Location:** The Royal Swedish Academy of Science.

#### Participants:

**Nina Wormbs** Associate professor, History of Science and Technology, KTH Royal Institute of Technology

**Staffan Bergwik** Associate professor, History of Ideas, Stockholm University

**Björn Billing** Senior lecturer, History of Ideas, Gothenburg

University

#### Higher Seminar: Ownership, Sustainability, and Conflict: Political Ecological Reflections on Faroese Pilot Whaling

**Time:** Mon 2017-01-23, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Ben Singleton, School of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences, Örebro University

**Location:** Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

#### Writing with Undisciplined Discipline

*A Writing Workshop with Environmental Humanities*

**Time:** Thu 2017-01-26 to 27

**Location:** Lillsved

#### Higher Seminar: Revolting New York: How 400 Years of Riot, Rebellion, Uprising, and Revolution Have Shaped a City

**Time:** Mon 2017-02-06, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Don Mitchell, Department of Social and Economic Geography, Uppsala University

#### Higher Seminar: Marknadisering: Studier i en idés konstruktion och tillämpning 1940-2015

**Time:** Mon 2017-02-20, 13.00

**Lecturer:** Jesper Meijling, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

Final seminar in research education  
Discussant: Per Lundin, Department of Technology Management and Economics, Chalmers University of Technology

**Arne Kaijser’s Farewell**

**Seminar: Exploring infrasystems - what can be learnt from history?**

**Time:** Thu 2017-02-23, 17.00 - 18.00

**Lecturer:** Arne Kaijser

**Location:** V1, Teknikringen 76

**Välkommen till min avskedsföreläsning! / Welcome to my farewell lecture!**

*"Exploring infrasystems - what can be learnt from history?"*

**Seminar in Tokyo at NISTEP**

*Katarina Larsen gives a seminar in Tokyo at NISTEP - National Institute of Science & Technology Policy 24 February 2017: Organizing for university-industry links and knowledge interaction in Swedish Centres of Excellence.*

**Time:** Fri 2017-02-24

**Lecturer:** Katarina Larsen

**Location:** Science and Technology Foresight Center National Institute of Science and Technology Policy in Tokyo

**Higher Seminar: Capitalist Pigs: International Aid Agencies and the Agricultural Development of Korea, 1945-1961**

**Time:** Mon 2017-03-06

**Lecturer:** Lisa Brady, Department of History, Boise State University

**Higher Seminar: Migrants' Visibilities: Counter-Mapping the Borders of Europe**

**Time:** Mon 2017-03-20, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Martina Tazzioli,

Department of Geography, Swansea University

**Workshop: Should scientists stop flying?**

*Decoupling knowledge from carbon in an age of climate change*

**Time:** Tue 2017-03-28, 10.00 - 12.00

**Participants:**

**Kimberly Nicholas** (Associate Professor of Sustainability Science, Lund University Center for Sustainability Studies)

**Marco Armiero** (Director, KTH Environmental Humanities Lab)

**Erik Westholm** (Professor, Department of Urban and Rural Development, SLU)

**Anneli Ekblom** (Director, Center for Sustainable Development - CEMUS, Uppsala University and SLU)

**"One Table Two Elephants"**

*An Environmental Film Essay*

**Time:** Mon 2017-04-03, 18.00

**Lecturer:** Henrik Ernstson & Jacob von Heland

**Location:** Deutsches Haus 42 Washington Mews, New York, NY 10003

**"The Impact of Societal Interaction on the Direction and Conduct of Materials Science in Sweden"**

**Time:** Mon 2017-04-10, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Eugenia Perez Vico, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Climate Control**

*Discussions on art, science and anthropocene*

**Time:** Wed 2017-05-03, 17.00 - 19.00

**Lecturer:** Sverker Sörlin, Klaus Schafler & Ellie Ga

**Location:** Dome of Visions Valhallavägen 79

**We, Anthrobot: Learning From Human Forms of Interaction and Esprit de Corps to Develop More Plural Social Robotics**

**Time:** Mon 2017-05-08, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Luis de Miranda, University of Edinburgh

**Final seminar in research education**

*Discussant: Jim Endersby, School of History, Art History and Philosophy, University of Sussex*

**Time:** Mon 2017-05-15, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Anna Svensson, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**A public event with Salvatore Engel-Di Mauro, Eco-Marxist scholar at KTH EHL**

**Time:** Mon 2017-05-22, 11.45 - 15.00

**Lecturer:** Salvatore Engel-Di Mauro

**The Specter of Scarcity: Constructing and Managing Rare Metals, 1870-2015.**

**Discussant:** Thomas Kaiserfeld, Division of History of Ideas and

Sciences, Lund University

**Time:** Wed 2017-05-24, 13.15

**Lecturer:** Hanna Vikström, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**PhD dissertation defense: Maria Isabel Perez Ramos**

*A Quest for Environmental Sovereignty: Chicana/o Literary Experiences of Water (Mis)Management and Environmental Degradation in the US Southwest*

**Time:** Fri 2017-06-02, 13.00

**Lecturer:** Maria Isabel Perez Ramos

**Location:** F3 KTH Campus  
**Opponent:** Professor Maria Herrera Sobek, University of California, USA

**Supervisor:** Professor Sverker Sörlin

**Democratic Practices of Unequal Geographies (Annual PhD Course/Seminar)**

**Time:** Mon 2017-06-19 - Fri 2017-06-23

**Lecturer:** Dr. Andrés Henao Castro, Dr. Ashley Bohrer, Dr. Henrik Ernstson

**Location:** Cape Town

**Higher seminar: Epistemic Authority Structure and the Territorial Expansion of International Society**

**Time:** Mon 2017-08-28, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Justiina Dahl, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Higher seminar: Why History and Philosophy of Science Should Be Intimate, But Often Aren't**

**Time:** Mon 2017-09-11, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Till Grüne-Yanoff, Division of Philosophy, KTH

**Data Driven Humanities Research [in Swedish]**

Workshop om datadriven forskning inom humaniora

**Time:** Fri 2017-09-15, 10.00 - 16.30

**Lecturer:** Patrik Svensson, UCLA & Pelle Snickars (Umeå University)

**Stories and Seeds film forum**

Come Hell or High Water

**Time:** Wed 2017-09-20, 18.00

**Lecturer:** Julie Sze

**Location:** KTH Bibliotek

**Higher seminar: Globalization and Mobility From the Inside Out**

**Time:** Mon 2017-09-25, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Rosalind Williams, Department of Science and Technology Studies, MIT

**Engaging Transcorporeal Publics**

**Time:** Mon 2017-10-02, 09.30 - 11.00

**Lecturer:** Stacy Alaimo

**Location:** Cirkus School DOCH, Brinellvägen 58, Conference Room (first floor).

As a part of the ENHANCE School in Public Environmental Humanities but open to the public.

**Film Screening, Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock**

**Time:** Mon 2017-10-02, 19.15 - 21.30

**Location:** Cirkus School DOCH, Brinellvägen 58, Conference Room (first floor).

Showing the movie: Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock

As a part of the ENHANCE School in Public Environmental Humanities but open to the public.

**Undisciplined Storytelling**

**Time:** Tue 2017-10-03, 19.30 - 21.00

**Lecturer:** Åsa Simma & Alberto Prunetti

**Location:** Division of History of Science Technology and Environment

As a part of the ENHANCE School in Public Environmental Humanities but open to the public.

**Nordisk scen: Arktiska spår, Isen smälter**

**Time:** Wed 2017-10-04, 17.00 - 20.00

**Lecturer:** Sverker Sörlin

**Location:** Nordiska Museet, Samlingssalen

**Archipelago Lecture 2017**

**Time:** Thu 2017-10-05, 15.00

**Lecturer:** Dan Fagin

**Location:** University of Dance and Circus, Brinellvägen 58

**KTH Space Rendezvous, Autumn 2017**

The general theme is Swedish Space History

**Time:** Wed 2017-10-11, 13.00 - 17.00

**Location:** Auditorium FR4, AlbaNova, Roslagstullsbacken 21, KTH

**Higher seminar: Can the Real Rebel City Please Stand Up? An Inquiry on Progressive Municipal Responses to Climate Change and Migration**

**Time:** Mon 2017-10-23, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Ethemcan Turhan, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Keynote: "Greening the Great White: Encounters of Knowledge and Environment – and the Northern Turn in the History of Science"**

*The History of Science Society Distinguished Lecture*

**Time:** 2017-11-10

**Lecturer:** Sverker Sörlin  
**Location:** HSS Annual Conference, Toronto

**Higher seminar: Reindeer Husbandry in Sweden Since 1945**

**Time:** Mon 2017-11-06, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Corinna Röver, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Higher seminar: Re-Use of Mining Legacies – A Comparative Study in the Arctic**

**Time:** Mon 2017-11-13, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Camilla Winqvist, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Higher seminar: Towards a Visual Green Humanities in a Digital Era**

**Time:** Mon 2017-11-20, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Jacob von Heland, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Brown Bag Seminar: Mountains and Mountaineering in the Alpine Space between 19th and 20th century**

*Two Environmental Humanities case-studies*

**Time:** Wed 2017-11-22, 12.00 - 13.00

**Lecturer:** Giacomo Bonan & Stefano Morosini

**OCC! Coffee Talk**

**Time:** Fri 2017-11-24, 14.00  
Informal coffee talk with Prof. Doreen Stabinsky in our Division kitchen.

**Higher seminar: Transitions, transformations and transdisciplinarity in**

**responding to nexus challenges**

**Time:** Mon 2017-11-27, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Andrew Stirling, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex

**StandUP Seminar: The Politics of Transforming Energy Infrastructures**

**Time:** Tue 2017-11-28, 10.00 - 12.00

**Lecturer:** Andy Stirling, SPRU, University of Sussex

**Stories and Seeds film-forums:**

**Apple Grown in Wind Tunnel**

*The third session of the Stories and Seeds film-forums will revolve around toxic embodiment with the screening of the short film "Apple Grown in Wind Tunnel" (2000)*

**Time:** Wed 2017-11-29, 18.00 - 20.00

**Location:** Salongen at KTH Library

**Global Arctic – Regional Governance.**

*Visions and Mediations of Northern Spaces*

**Time:** Wed 2017-12-06, 09.00 - Thu 2017-12-07, 10.45

**Lecturer:** Annika E. Nilsson and Miyase Christensen

**Location:** Nordic museum in Stockholm

**Tracing sequences of impact – capturing the influence of societal collaboration on**

**academics**

*a Ragnar Holm Fellowship Lecture*

**Time:** Wed 2017-12-06, 13.00

**Lecturer:** Eugenia Perez Vico

**Location:** Big Seminar Room, Teknikringen 74D, level 5

**I klimatförändringens tidevarv – finns fortfarande naturen?**

*Sänds också i P1 Vetandets värld fredagen den 15 december kl 12.10*

**Time:** Thu 2017-12-14, 17.30

**Lecturer:** Nina Wormbs m.fl

**Location:** Berwaldhallen

## 2018

**Stories & Seeds film forums: Expedition to the End of the World.**

**Time:** Tue 2018-01-16, 18.00

**Lecturer:** Miyase Christensen

**The Specter of Scarcity Experiencing and Coping with Metal Shortages, 1870–2015**

**Time:** Fri 2018-01-19, 10.00

**Location:** F3, Lindstedtsvägen 26, KTH Campus

**Subject area:** History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Doctoral student:** Hanna Vikström, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Opponent:** Fil dr Mats Ingulstad

**Supervisor:** Per Högselius

**Higher seminar: Environmental Rephotography – visually mapping a history of glaciers**

**Time:** Mon 2018-01-29, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Tyrone Martinsson, Valand Academy, Gothenburg University

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Higher seminar: From Macro to Micro Impacts of Science – A Framework for Responsible Impact Assessment**

**Time:** Mon 2018-02-05, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** David Budtz Pedersen, Humanomics Research Centre, Aalborg University

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Stories and Seeds film forums: One Table Two Elephants**

**Time:** Tue 2018-02-13, 18.00

**Location:** KTH Biblioteket Osquars backe 31, 114 28 Stockholm

**Higher seminar: Mending the gap – What Societal Metabolism and quantitative storytelling has to offer for energy research and social science**

**Time:** Mon 2018-02-19, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Alevgul H. Sorman, Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Can Cities Save the World?**

*A Roundtable on Climate Change, Migration and the City*

**Time:** Tue 2018-02-20, 19.00

**Location:** Arenagruppen, Barnhusgatan 4, Stockholm

**Higher seminar: Remediation, Reconciliation and Redress – Repairing mining landscapes and healing relationships in Northern Canada**

**Time:** Mon 2018-03-05, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Arn Keeling, Department of Geography, Memorial University of Newfoundland

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Posthumanities Hub: First Swedish Feminist STS Network Meeting: Nationell Forskningsplattform för Feministisk Teknovetenskap; KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.**

**Time:** Thu 2018-03-23, 12.00-17.00

**Lecturer:** Anna Wahl, Åsa Johansson, Cecilia Åsberg

**Communication as security: NATO's Cold War telecom infrastructure**

**Time:** Mon 2018-03-26, 12.15

**Location:** Teknikringen 74 D, level 5, KTH

**Higher seminar: Expert Infrastructures in Grand Challenges. The Case of Geoengineering in the US**  
**Time:** Mon 2018-04-09, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Julia Schubert, Forum Internationale Wissenschaft, University of Bonn  
**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Higher seminar: Can water die? pollution, algae, and collapse in the Baltic Sea**  
**Time:** Mon 2018-04-16, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Jesse Petersen, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor  
**Discussant:** Heather Anne Swanson, Department of Anthropology / Centre for Environmental Humanities, Aarhus University

**Final Stories and Seeds Forum: Wall-E**

**Time:** Wed 2018-04-18, 18.00

**Lecturer:** Presented by Sabine Höhler

**Location:** KTHB Osquars backe 6

**Higher seminar: Whose Paths? Traversing landscape stories in Lebanon and the United States**  
**Time:** Mon 2018-04-23, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Anne Gough, Division

of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Discussant:** Emily E. Scott, Inst. of the History and Theory of Architecture, ETH Zurich

**Higher seminar: “Models of Nature on Indigenous Land”**

*Presentation of dissertation plan by : Dmitry Arzyutov, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH*

*“Models of Nature on Indigenous Land: Constructing the Soviet Arctic Environment With(out) Indigenous People”*

**Time:** Mon 2018-05-14, 13.15 - 14.15

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Poetry Reading With Eco-Poet Ann Fisher-Wirth**

*Ann Fisher-Wirth will read poems and show images from her new collection, Mississippi, a collaboration with photographer Maude Schuyler Clay.*

**Time:** Tue 2018-05-15

**Lecturer:** Ann Fisher Wirth

**Location:** Teknikringen 74D, level 5

**Posthumanities Hub: Meet the Posthumanities Hub!**

**Official Relaunch of The Posthumanities Hub at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.**

**Time:** Thu 2018-05-28, 10.00 – 17.00

**Lecturers:** Matthew Fuller (UK),

Renée Valiquette (CA), Sabine Höhler, Cecilia Åsberg, Marietta Radomska (FI), Lauren LaFauci (LiU), Christina Fredengren (SU), Lotten Wiklund, Janna Holmstedt; Justin Makii, Vera Weetzel, Christine Daigle (CA), and Olga Cielemeńska.

**Posthumanities Hub: The Third International Queer Death Studies Workshop**

*“Death Matters: On Death and Dying in a Queer Context”, Linköping.*

**Time:** 2018-05-30 and 31

**Higher seminar: Carbon lives. Migrants and the metabolism of coal. The case of Wallonia, Belgium**

**Time:** Tue 2018-05-29, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Daniele Valisena, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Discussant:** Judith Rainhorn, Université Paris-Sorbonne

**The changing structure of research and innovation policies and the role of the OECD**

*A part of the Historically-aware research and innovation policy seminars*

**Time:** Fri 2018-06-01, 14.30

**Lecturer:** Prof. Philippe Laredo, Alliance Manchester Business School, University of Manchester, and Directeur de Recherche in

the Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire Sciences Innovations and Societes (LISIS) from CNRS, INRA and University Paris Est.

**Location:** Vinnova

**Higher seminar: Framing Antarctica as Fragile**

**Time:** Mon 2018-06-11, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Hanne Nielsen, University of Tasmania

**Location:** Seminar room, Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor

**Book Release: The Democratic Breakthrough - Personalities that Formed the Twentieth Century**

*Welcome to the release of a new book on the “The Democratic Breakthrough: Personalities that Formed the Twentieth Century”. The book portrays reformationists and revolutionaries, prime ministers and ordinary citizens, and other political figures across the political spectrum. There will be brief talks by a selection of the authors.*

**Time:** Mon 2018-06-11, 17.30

**Lecturer:** Sverker Sörlin among others

**Location:** Arena Group, Barnhusgatan 4

**Posthumanities Hub: “Queering Ecologies of Death”**

*a two-session panel at the SLSAeu GREEN conference in Copenhagen, DK.*

**Time:** 2018-06-13 to 16

**Posthumanities Hub: The Second International**

**Symposium “Eco/Decolonial Arts: Re-imagining Futures”**

**Time:** Tue 2018-08-28, 10:15 – 18:00

**Location:** Konstfack University of Arts, Crafts, and Design, Stockholm

**Posthumanities Hub: “Storying Exposure”**

Workshop on Collaborative Writing Methodologies in the Environmental Humanities. Part 1 of 2, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.  
**Time:** 2018-09-4 to 7

**Higher seminar: Calculating the world: The history of geophysics seen from Bergen**  
**Time:** Mon 2018-09-10, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Magnus Vollset, University of Bergen, Department of Archaeology, History, Cultural Studies and Relig

**Location:** Seminar room Division History of Science, Technology and Environment (Teknikringen 74 D, 5th floor)

**The importance of post-modern science policy**

*The talk is part of the seminar series ‘Historically-aware research and innovation policy’, organized within the platform Making Universities Matter and chaired by Erik Arnold.*

**Time:** Fri 2018-09-14, 14.30

**Lecturer:** Prof Arie Rip (Twente)

**Location:** KTH Library

**Higher seminar “Environing**

**Technology: Swedish Satellite Remote Sensing in the Making of Environment, 1969-2001”**

**Time:** Tue 2018-09-18, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Johan Gärdebo, Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment (Teknikringen 74 D, 5th floor)

**Discussant:** Assoc. Prof. Finn Arne Jørgensen, University of Stavanger, Norway

**Higher seminar: Evangelical Christians and Climate Change**  
**Time:** Mon 2018-09-24, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Karin Edvardsson Björnberg, Division of Philosophy, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Archipelago Lecture**

**“The Great Uprooting: Migration and Movement in the Age of Climate Change”**  
**Time:** Wed 2018-09-26, 19.00 - 20.30

**Lecturer:** Amitav Ghosh, Mumbai.

**Location:** Kulturhuset, Stockholm, Galleri Celsing, Floor 4

**Mediocene**

**Time:** Tue 2018-10-02, 12.00 - 17.00

**Location:** Teknikringen 74D, level 5, seminar room

**Docentföreläsning: Vad kan historiker bidra med till Agenda 2030?/What can historians contribute to Agenda 2030?** [In Swedish]

**Time:** Thu 2018-10-04, 15.30  
**Lecturer:** David Nilsson  
**Location:** V1, Teknikringen 76

**Higher seminar “Down the black hole: Sustaining national socio-technical imaginaries of coal in Poland”**

**Time:** Mon 2018-10-08, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Magdalena Kuchler, Department of Earth Sciences, Uppsala University

**Location:** Seminar room, Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment (Teknikringen 74 D, 5th floor)

**Posthumanities Hub: “State of the Art”**

*Seminar and Network Meeting, organised by The Independent AIR in collaboration with Bioart Society, The Posthumanities Hub and Laboratory for Aesthetics and Ecology, Silkeborg, Denmark.*

**Time:** 2018-10-10 to 13

**Making Universities Matter (MUM) and VINNOVA presents: seminar in the international series on “Historically aware research and innovation policy”.**

*Terttu Luukkonen (Senior Fellow at ETLA: The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy) and Prof Mats Benner (Lund University and KTH) give a seminar on Universities as Strategic Actors, based on their ongoing research.*

**Time:** Thu 2018-10-18, 14.30  
**Location:** Nobel Room at Vinnova, Mäster Samuelsgatan 56, Stockholm

**Making Change Through the Humanities - #humchange2018**

**Time:** Mon 2018-10-22, 11.00; Tue 2018-10-23, 13.00

**Location:** Open Lab, KTH

**Posthumanities Hub: “Our Posthuman Vulnerability: a material feminist inquiry”, Seminar with Prof. Christine Daigle (Brock University, Canada), KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.**

**Time:** 2018-10-22, 10:15 – 11:45 seminar

**Higher seminar “Mt Fuji Caught Between Nature and Culture: Japanese World Heritage Nominations and Outstanding Universal Value”**

**Time:** Mon 2018-10-22, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Kati Lindström, Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH

**Location:** Seminar room Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Språkpolicy 2.0 - policy för ett tvåspråkigt KTH [Towards a**

**bilingual KTH]**

**Time:** Tue 2018-10-23, 12.15 - 13.00

**Lecturer:** Linus Salö, Division of History and others.

**Location:** Sal E3

**Higher seminar “Pokémon 2000: global change, global environmental awareness, and The Power of One”**

**Time:** Mon 2018-11-05, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Sarah Cornell, Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University

**Location:** Seminar room Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Posthumanities Hub: “Queer Ecologies of Death”**

*Seminar with Dr. Tara Mehrabi (Karlstad University, SE and University of Turku, FI) at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.*

**Time:** 2018-11-6, 10:15 – 11:45

**Higher seminar: Reading Transgender: Trans-ing Characters in History and Fiction**

**Time:** Mon 2018-11-19, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Sam Holmqvist, Umeå University, Umeå Centre for Gender Studies

**Location:** Seminar room Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Lecture “The enigmatic**

**environment of disease ecology: a conceptual history”**

**Time:** Tue 2018-11-20 10.15 - 11.45

**Lecturer:** Warwick Anderson, University of Sydney/Harvard University

**Location:** Teknikringen 74 D, seminar room

**Crosscuts Film Festival 2018**

**Time:** Fri 2018-11-23 - Sun 2018-11-25 01.00

**Location:** Bio Rio, Hornstull, Stockholm

**From the Arctic to the eight-thousanders. Scientific research, mountaineering, geography and imperialism from an international perspective (1880-1964)**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Time:** 2018-11-29 to 30

**Location:** University of Milan, Italy  
Sala Napoleonica, Palazzo Greppi

**2018 PHOTOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTARY EXHIBITION**

**Time:** 2018-11-29 to 12-21

**Location:** University of Milan, Italy  
Sala Napoleonica, Palazzo Greppi

**Higher seminar “Breathing in Silesia: Living with coal in Poland’s mining heartland”**

**Time:** Fri 2018-12-07, 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Irma Kinga Allen, KTH,

Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment  
**Location:** Seminar room, Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment

**Discussant:** Heather Swanson, School of Culture and Society - Department of Anthropology, University of Aarhus

**Higher seminar “Occluded waters: a retrospective assessment of the impacts of hydropower on Sami reindeer herding communities”**

**Time:** Mon 2018-12-10 13.15 - 14.45

**Lecturer:** Rasmus Klöcker Larsen, SEI Stockholm Environmental Institute

**Location:** Seminar room, Div. History of Science, Technology and Environment (Teknikringen 74D, 5th floor)

# Projects

The project *Travelling Without Borders* is an exploratory study of how scholars think and feel about flying as part of academic work.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES, ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY AND POLITICAL ECOLOGIES

### Crosscuts Film Festival

Crosscuts is an annual festival for film, art and text, that aims to fill the gap between text-bound academic production and the growing consumption of visual media. With a film as research focus, special invited guests, panels and visitors the festival take on themes within the field of environmental humanities.

Project leader: Jacob von Heland & Sofia Jonsson. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Roberta Biasillo, Miyase Christensen, Henrik Ernstson, Jacob von Heland, Sofia Jonsson, Camilla Winqvist. The Swedish Research Council Formas and KTH Sustainability Office. 2018-2019.

### Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe, ENHANCE

ENHANCE (Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe) will provide the first fully coordinated training programme for Environmental Humanities in Europe. It will train twelve early-stage researchers, joining three leading universities for environmental research—the University of Leeds, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, and the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm—with Europe's largest science and technology museum, the Deutsches Museum, and a further five Associated Partners from the private and third sectors. ENHANCE aims to provide ESRs with the skills training to be at the forefront of a new generation of Environmental Humanities research, and to be employable in a range of careers including environmental consultancy, risk assessment, research and development, green business management, media and communications, and not-for-profit work (environmental and wildlife NGOs).

Project leader: Marco Armiero. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Irma Allen, Anne Gough, Jesse Peterson, Daniele Valisena. Marie Curie PhD Training Networks (ITN). 2015-2019.

### KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory

The KTH EHL was founded in 2011 and started operation in early 2012 as a cross-cutting unit of the Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment at KTH. It was part of long term

efforts in the Division to foster the Environmental Humanities. The immediate reason for its founding was a generous donation from industrialist Carl Bennet, which was matched by internal KTH funds. The KTH EHL has developed well under its initial phase and has already achieved a high visibility. It can also be seen as the humanities element of the recent campus-wide KTH Sustainability Initiative (KTH-S.) The work in the KTH EHL is built on the extensive research developed in the Division in the last two decades, especially in the fields of history of technology, science and energy and in STS. Those areas remain at the core of the KTH EHL though it has also expanded in other directions such as environmental history, eco-criticism, and political ecology.

Project leader: Marco Armiero. Bennet donation. Multiple grants from EU H2020, Formas, KTH Sustainability, Lerici Foundation, Barbro Osher Foundation, and others.

### **OCC! - Occupy Climate Change**

OCC!'s team will delve into the practices of self-organization and solidarity experimented by grassroots groups, researching which kind of knowledge is being produced and whether these practices can be scaled-up beyond "militant particularism" (Harvey & Williams 1995) and the specificities of the single case. The project will produce both a global database (The Map of the other worlds) documenting cases of grassroots initiatives that tackle climate change and an in-depth case study analysis on urban experiments from Europe (Stockholm, Naples, Istanbul), the US (New York City), and Latin America (Rio De Janeiro). OCC!'s key objective is to test which grassroots responses to loss and damage have been successful, why, and on what scale.

Project leader: Marco Armiero. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Sverker Sörlin, Roberta Biasillo, Salvatore Paolo De Rosa, Ethemcan Turhan, Ilenia Iengo. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2017-2022.

### **Stories and Seeds - University Gardening of Environmental Literacy**

The understanding of the environment and human-environment interactions from a multiple perspective is a critical skill for sustainable development education. The project "Stories and seeds" aims at enhancing environmental literacy among technical students. In order to achieve its goals, "Stories and seeds" will offer a monthly cinema forum, open to all KTH students, and the establishment of a small environmental literacy library at the EHL. The cinema forum will be the pillar of the project; every of the six sessions will be chaired by a different scholar from various disciplines. Through

the library, which will be publicized through social media and other means, we aim to build a permanent environmental literacy tool at the service of KTH community.

Project leader: Marco Armiero. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Sergio Ruiz Cayuela. KTH Sustainability Office. 2017.

### **The United Toxic Autobiographies of Europe –TOXICBIO**

Environmental (in)justice is not only occurring in places but also in the lives and bodies of people. It does not happen only in the present but it is also embedded into the memories of those who have been exposed to unequal environmental risks. We are proposing a modular project composed by two interconnected segments: The Guerrilla Narrative Labs and the TOXICBIO digital platform. With the expression 'Guerrilla Narrative' we mean the occupation of the mainstream memory with counter hegemonic storytelling and the sabotage of toxic narratives, that is, of narratives which reproduce/silence injustice. Our team will design an online platform dedicated to the gathering of Toxic Autobiographies.

Project leader: Marco Armiero. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Ilenia Iengo. The Seed Box: A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory. 2016-2017.

### **Tales from Planet Earth II**

Climate change is a ubiquitous topic in contemporary debate, but often it is framed through hard science expertise, or perhaps through wanted-to-be hard science, as economics. Instead, the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory has been working on those topics from a humanities perspective, researching the political ecology of mining, the impact of extractivism on local communities, and the raising of environmental justice concerns through a variety of projects. With this film festival we aim to communicate the results from those projects to a broader audience. The channel of communication is the film festival per se.

Project leader: Miyase Christensen. Participants at the Division: Miyase Christensen, Marco Armiero, Sofia Jonsson, Jacob von Heland. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018.

### **HICCUP — Heterogeneous Infrastructures of Cities in Uganda Project: Thinking Infrastructure with the South**

Building on African urbanist literature, the HICCUP project challenges the notion of the "infrastructure ideal", the goal that service provision should be created through a uniform solution throughout the city. Instead, the project focuses on describing and analyzing the

much wider landscape of infrastructure configurations that poor urban dwellers have created and fought for to improve services in relation to state and private sectors. This landscape of “heterogeneous infrastructure configurations” is deeply embedded in everyday realities, while connected to local-to-international geographies and networks. In close collaboration with Makerere University in Kampala, we are developing in-depth urban infrastructure ethnographies, which will be complemented with historical archival research and oral histories, alongside the spatial mapping of formal/informal infrastructure arrangements across Kampala.

Project leader: Henrik Ernstson. Participant at the Division: Henrik Ernstson. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2016-2019.

### **Challenging Europe: Technology, Environment and the Quest for Resource Security, 1815-2015**

The purpose of the workshop is to explore the potential for cooperation between historians of technology from different parts of Europe with an interest in the research group’s field and, more concretely, to draft a number of full-length scholarly articles, which will subsequently be published as a double special issue in a major European historical journal – tentatively Contemporary European History. The workshop examines connections between technology, environment, crises, conflicts and in particular issues related to resource security in Europe and in European engagements with the rest of the world from the early nineteenth century to today. Particular attention will be paid to the circulation of technologies, knowledge and ideas within Europe and from or to Europe, which are related to resource crises and resource supply security.

Project leader: Per Högselius. Participant at the Division: Per Högselius. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018.

### **Policies and practices that have shaped the Baltic Sea: An exploratory study**

The aim of this project is to investigate the decisions and policies that govern or control the environmental work in the Baltic Sea. Focus will be on key actors in science and governance in, for example, Ices (The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) and Helcom (Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission). We want to analyze how the conceptual development has influenced policy work and how it can continue to influence the way the administration chooses to act.

Project leader: Susanna Lidström. Participant at the Division: Johan Cederqvist, Susanna Lidström, Sverker Sörlin. Richert Foundation. 2018-2019.

### **Understanding marine environmental change: Ocean narratives from 1950 to the present**

Oceans are key indicators of global environmental change and play a central role in the earth’s climate, especially the high seas with its vast volumes of water. At the same time, the high seas are a difficult environment to govern and protect. Marine scientists argue that the way we have understood the oceans in the past needs to be radically changed in order to facilitate more and better marine policies and protection. To effect that change, we need not just new science and technologies but also profoundly new stories that can transform how we regard the sea. This project studies how these new stories take form in the genre of non-fiction ocean literature and examines public science writing about the sea in relation to contemporary societal and academic developments of environmental thought.

Project leader: Susanna Lidström. Participant at the Division: Susanna Lidström. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2016-2020.

### **Writing with Undisciplined Discipline: An Environmental Humanities Workshop**

This project experiments with undisciplining disciplinary writing practices in academic scholarship. Participants practice and experiment with writing techniques informed by the environmental humanities. It also serves as a springboard to develop a Swedish environmental humanities network through writing practice and sharing. The project takes steps towards developing an on-going writing-support network; ideas and proposals for future workshops, papers and conferences at national and international levels; and interdisciplinary, collaborative and experimental texts. At the same time, it serves to broaden the audience for environmental humanities work.

Project leader: Jesse Don Peterson. Project participants at the Division: Irma Allen, Johan Gärdebo, María Isabel Ramos-Perez, Daniele Valisena. The Seed Box: A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory. 2016-2017.

### **Between Science and Politics: How Arctic Research Survived and Thrived in the Cold War – and Beyond**

This project explores how Arctic research emerged as an important field after 1945, how it changed throughout the Cold War and what legacies this period of considerable growth and change has left in terms of current Arctic science politics. How did the emergence of the Arctic as a vital military theater after 1945 shape research agendas? What role did the broader shift toward ecological consciousness play in making the Arctic a valuable site for environmental monitoring – and how important were military surveillance technologies in facilitating such projects? Can we think of Arctic research as a site for international cooperation in addition to a mat-

ter for national agencies? The project involves a comparative study of institutions in North America (Canada and the United States), USSR/Russia and Sweden.

Project leader: Peder Roberts. Participants at the Division: Peder Roberts, Lize-Marié van der Watt. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2015-2017.

### **Climate Security with Local Authorities (CLISEL): From insecurity takers to security makers – mobilizing local authorities to secure the EU against the impacts of climate change in Third Countries**

CLISEL explores the climate-security nexus from the perspective of local authorities and communities, based on the idea that innovations in the exercise of regulatory power at local level can contribute to enhance the understanding of the indirect security implications of climate change in third countries. In particular, CLISEL looks at the issue of climate-induced migration, an issue often cited as an indirect security dimension of climate change, from the perspective of local administrators in Sardinia (Italy). The aim is to understand the extent to which migrants from ecologically vulnerable third countries are perceived as a security issue, the reasons why that is (not) the case, as well as the policies and actions through which local administrators can ward off the emergence of a security crisis within their territory.

Project leader: Ilenia Ruggiu (University of Cagliari). Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero (Local Coordinator), Ethemcan Turhan. European Commission H2020. 2016-2019.

### **Study of the Planetary Human-Earth Relationship (SPHERE): The Rise of Global Environmental Governance**

The project is a historical study of humanity's relation to planetary conditions and constraints and how it has become understood as a governance issue. The key argument is that Global Environmental Governance (GEG), which has arisen in response to this issue, is inseparable from the rise of a planetary Earth systems science and a knowledge-informed understanding of global change that has affected broad communities of practice. The overarching objective is to provide a fundamentally new perspective on GEG that challenges both previous linear, progressivist narratives through incremental institutional work and the way contemporary history is written and understood.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: Sverker Sörlin, Christina Goldhar, Jasmin Höglund Hellgren, Sabine Höhler, Erik Isberg, Eric Paglia, Gloria Samosir, Thomas Harbøll Schröder. European Research Council (ERC). 2018-2023.

### **Community-Responsive Adaptation to Flooding in Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya**

Flooding constitutes one of the biggest challenges to rapidly urbanizing cities today.

Community-level approaches are often more about “coping” with flood risk than adapting to it or mitigating it, while government-led initiatives are of mixed success and can even increase risk. Virtually no examples of successful community-government collaboration, combining infrastructure and services, exist. This research tests the theory that soft and hard infrastructure interventions at the local scale are a viable climate adaptation to flooding that bridges this gap. The study will provide critical new evidence on the viability of community-responsive flood adaptation measures, informing policy in Kibera and other rapidly urbanizing cities across sub-Saharan Africa.

Project leader: Anna Tompsett, Stockholm University. Participants at the Division of History: David Nilsson. Project financed by The Swedish Research Council & Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). 2017-2020.

### **The FILM: Ways of Knowing Urban Nature, “One Table Two Elephants”**

The film “One Table Two Elephants” is a film about knowledge and urban nature developed by Jacob von Heland and Henrik Ernstson. It forms part of the “Ways of Knowing Urban Ecologies” research project (PI Henrik Ernstson) and an associated Communication Project Grant from Formas (PI Jacob von Heland) that is producing a documentary film essay that takes place in Cape Town while also reflecting on what it means to use film as a tool for research within the Environmental Humanities. A first version of the film has been screened around the world and also led to the funding of a new grant into the Visual Environmental Humanities.

Project leaders: Jacob von Heland and Henrik Ernstson. Formas. 2014-2017.

### **Towards a Visual Environmental Humanities in the Digital Era: Filming and Writing as a Bimodal Research Practice**

The aim of this project is to explore the added value of filmmaking to the Environmental Humanities. The project involves a film trilogy set in Cape Town, Durban-eThekweni and Johannesburg working the intersection urban ecology and postcolonial studies. The project also studies the historical inability of the academy to institutionalise film and visual registers as part of its mode of knowledge production despite a broader visual and digital revolution.

Project leader: Jacob von Heland. Participants at the Division: Jacob von Heland, Henrik Ernstson. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2017-2020.

### **Plus Ultra: Media and Environment in the Spanish Colonial Empire 1570-1620**

The project studies the production and mediation of knowledge of the natural world in the Americas around the end of the 16th century, a period that rised a new regime of bureaucratic media infrastructure in which both the gathering and the dissemination of knowledge became systematized and large scale. The colonial history of Spain constitutes a clear example of the rapid building of environments, altering of habitats, and establishment of global networks. The current eco-crisis and the proposition of an Anthropocene epoch is hard to imagine without a development which inaugurated a large-scale exploitation built on global political expansionism and an incessant quest for natural resources. The project analyzes the conditions for this development in the media and infrastructure that allowed for long distance and global-scale governmentality.

Project leader: Adam Wickberg. Participant at the Division: Adam Wickberg. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2017-2020.

### **Understanding justification of climate change non-action**

For most people, to act against our conviction results in discomfort, sometimes called cognitive dissonance. Our hypothesis is that we try to manage this dissonance by justifying our choices in different ways, both individually and on a collective level. The gap between knowledge and action has been studied in a number of disciplines. We want to investigate further how these legitimization processes work for people in their everyday life in Sweden by using the Aristotelian *topos* theory. We also want to find out how these *topoi* are addressed in the public discourse on climate change and transition. Our unique contribution is to study these processes as culturally situated, but also as an internal dialogue.

Project leader: Nina Wormbs. Participants at the Division: Nina Wormbs, Maria Wolrath Söderberg. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018-2022.

### **InsSciDE - Inventing a Shared Science Diplomacy for Europe**

The Environment Work Package (WP7) intends to trace how environmental monitoring has long been an important resource for science diplomacy precisely because it challenges the notion of fixed boundaries between scientists and diplomats, and between the natural world and international affairs. Understanding its workings in the past and the present can lead to an assessment of how it might be made more effective in the future.

Project leader: Nina Wormbs. Participant at the Division: Nina Wormbs, Miyase Christensen. European Commission H2020. 2017-2022.

## **GEOGRAPHIES OF HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPES**

### **Cold War Coasts: The Transnational Co-Production of Militarized Landscapes**

Cold War Coasts explores the pervasive role of the military in shaping the Baltic Sea's coastal landscapes since 1945 – and the practical challenges that the legacies from the Cold War period give rise to today. Our point of departure is a dissatisfaction with the “methodological nationalism” that so far characterizes nearly all research in the intersection between military and environmental history. We counter this by developing a genuinely transnational approach, scrutinizing how coastal landscapes on opposite shores have been – and continue to be – “co-produced”. The project targets three broadly defined regions in Sweden and the former Soviet Union: Stockholm archipelago plus Gotland; northeastern Estonia's archipelago and coasts; and southern Latvia's militarized coastscapes.

Project leader: Per Högselius. Participants at the Division: Per Högselius, Anna Storm, Kati Lindström. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018-2021.

### **Sustainable communities and heritage politics beyond nature-culture divide: Heritage development as a strategy against depopulation in Japan**

The aim is to analyse the use of heritage development as a possible strategy against depopulation, by comparing how different types of heritage relate to the local communities. The project carries out qualitative analyses of 7 heritage nominations from four different categories (cultural landscape, natural, industrial and archaeological heritage) in Japan and asks which of the four types benefits the related communities best (economically, socially, culturally), how they are impacted by depopulation and changing community structures and how do local governments envision heritage maintenance with reduced population. It is expected that the results of the study serve as reference to heritage developers in depopulating communities worldwide. The study will be carried out from the perspective of environmental humanities, using various methods and sources.

Project leader: Kati Lindström. Participant at the Division: Kati Lindström. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018-2021.

### **World heritage and local communities**

This project is commissioned by the World Heritage Centre Division at Shizuoka Prefectural Government and asks how does local population at Mt Fuji World Heritage site and other Japanese world heritage nominations relate to the “outstanding universal value” extrapolated by global experts and whether or not the Eurocentric expert terms in which heritage is conceptualised (“nature,” “culture,” “heritage,” “religion” and “progress,” to name a few) accommodate the values and lifestyles of local inhabitants. The core

of the project is *Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration*, inscribed in the World Heritage List in 2013, but some comparative field work is carried out on other Japanese world heritage nominations as well, for example at Tomioka Silk Mill and related sites and Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution.

Project leader and participant at the Division: Kati Lindström.  
Funding Agency: Shizuoka Prefectural Government, Japan.  
2015-2018.

### **Negotiating Pathways to Multifunctional Landscapes: A Pilot Model in the Jämtland Mountains**

The mountain environment is simultaneously over-exploited and under-utilized. Consequently, the challenge is to enable and balance multifunctional use in ways that combine sustainable livelihood for local populations, recreational use, regional business development as well as national environmental goals related to both the natural and cultural environment. An essential starting point for the project will be to analyse and apply a landscape-based, expanded trail concept that encompasses more than existing physical trails. This trail concept will be used as a tool to engage different interests and to minimize conflicts between different users, while aiming to enhance the experiences and landscape values for all users. This approach is also highly relevant to various forms of nature conservation, which include current discussions about a new national park in the area.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: Sverker Sörlin, Daniel Svensson. Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. 2016-2018.

### **The Movement Heritage**

Landscapes which appear as wilderness or nature are often rather shaped by culture. They contain comprehensive traces and remains from different kinds of movement. These traces represent a neglected cultural heritage, the movement heritage. Landscapes of movement have been shaped by hiking, hunting, outdoor life, tourism, sports, and training. The demand for places suitable for movement, training and events continue to grow. We will formulate an expansion of the landscape heritage through one of its most defining practices, movement by foot. This heritage is physical in form of paths, trails and effects on vegetation, but also a local memory landscape or life world with great significance.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: Sverker Sörlin, Daniel Svensson. Swedish National Heritage Board (RAÄ). 2017-2020.

## **GEOPOLITICS OF SCIENCE AND RESOURCE EXTRACTION IN THE POLAR REGIONS**

### **Mining heritage as a resource for sustainable communities**

In this project researchers cooperate to explore how communities in the Arctic can handle the material and immaterial legacies of mining when building post-industrial futures. We use approaches from industrial and cultural heritage studies, history, archaeology, and physical geography to understand how communities can deal with legacies of mining – societal as well as environmental. Through field research, archive work and interviews with stakeholders, we explore how even the most physically resistant mining legacies are constantly open for reinterpretation by different groups and thus able to support different visions for the future of local communities. With mining in the Arctic as a subject of intense contemporary debate and the future of mining communities in Norrbotten under considerable scrutiny, lessons from around the Arctic can help inform responsible decision-making.

Project leader: Dag Avango. Participants at the Division: Dag Avango, Peder Roberts, Camilla Winqvist. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2016-2021.

### **Mining heritage as a resource for sustainable communities: Lessons for Sweden from the Arctic**

This project is conducted in close interaction with the Nordic Centre of Excellence REXSAC – Resource Extraction and Sustainable Arctic Communities. The project examines the legacies of mining in the context of communities around the northern parts of the Nordic countries, in order to inform contemporary discussions on the future of mining communities in northern Sweden. The material remains of mining – from ecological damage to operational equipment and transport infrastructure – persist long after the end of activities and the end of mining-generated income. Mining sites are often sites of cultural memory, central to the identity of the communities that depended upon them. Yet different communities have taken very different approaches to these legacies, from actively incorporating them into new economies (tourism in particular) to leaving them behind with no further consideration.

Project leader: Dag Avango. Participants at the Division: Dag Avango, Peder Roberts. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2016-2019.

### **Sustainable Communities and the Legacies of Mining in the Nordic Arctic**

The project examines three communities in which mining was (and in some cases still is) the dominant industry to better understand the social and cultural as well as the economic and environmental

legacies of mining in Arctic regions of Norden. By providing new insights into how Arctic communities interpret and use the material and immaterial heritage of mining, the study will contribute to current debates within research and policy on how to achieve sustainable resource utilization and economic development in the Arctic. The project will thus provide an important contribution to understanding how communities can remain economically and socially sustainable at the local level, and a counterweight to macro-level considerations of how mining revenues will affect national-level economies.

Project leader: Dag Avango. Participants at the Division: Dag Avango, Arne Kaijser, Eric Paglia, Peder Roberts. Nordregio. 2014-2018.

### **Mistra Arctic Sustainable Development**

The program seeks to develop a nuanced understanding of local and subnational governance challenges in the European Arctic with the aim to increase the capacity of local and regional decision makers to make informed decisions related to sustainable development. The program focuses on seven economic (and governance) sectors: mining, forestry, oil- and gas, fisheries, tourism, reindeer husbandry and municipal planning. A central research task is to investigate how laws and regulations for resource exploitation has been constructed and changed over time and why as well as how Arctic communities have responded to those changes and to new extractive industries.

Project leader: Carina Keskitalo (Umeå University). Participants at the Division: Dag Avango, Sverker Sörlin, Peder Roberts, Nina Wormbs, Sabine Höhler, Daniel Svensson, Jan Kunnas, Corinna Röver, Lize-Marié van der Watt. Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra). 2014-2018.

### **Arctic governance and the questions of 'fit' in an era of globally transformative change: a critical geopolitics of regional international cooperation**

This project addresses the question: What are the potential and limitations of Arctic international regional governance to contribute to stakeholders' differently positioned goals and priorities? In a context where drivers of change are often global yet powers to intervene lie mainly at the national and subnational levels, it analyzes the role of Arctic regional governance through a critical geopolitics lens. We will use content analysis of policy statements and media coverage as well as interviews to analyze how various actors frame challenges in relation to governance fit - the appropriate scale and scope of governance in relation to the problem to be solved - and how different framings travel in a mediatized world.

### **Greening the Poles: Science, the Environment, and the Creation of the Modern Arctic and Antarctic**

Project leader: Annika E. Nilsson (SEI). Participant at the Division: Miyase Christensen. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2015-2018.

This project investigates how and why environmental concerns have become so important to our conceptions of the polar regions today. Through a historical study of both the Arctic and Antarctic from 1945 to the turn of the past century, the project explores the connections between how environments are described - particularly through the natural sciences and economics - and the judgments made about how those environments should be administered. The key hypothesis of this project is that the process of describing an environment cannot be separated from the process of controlling and managing it. GRETPOL will produce a new understanding of how far from being the passive frames for human action, environments (in the polar regions but indeed also beyond) are constructed by human agency.

Project leader: Peder Roberts. Participants at the Division: Peder Roberts, Dmitry Arzyutov, Lize-Marié van der Watt. European Research Council (ERC). 2017-2022.

### **Resource Extraction and Sustainable Arctic Communities (REXSAC)**

REXSAC – Resource Extraction and Sustainable Arctic Communities – is a Nordic Centre of Excellence in Arctic research, funded by Nordforsk and led by the division of history of science, technology and environment at KTH, together with Stockholm University and Stockholm Environment Institute. Together with 12 additional partners in the Nordic countries, REXSAC studies extractive resource industries in the Arctic as cultural, social, economic, and ecological phenomena – from analysis of why resource extraction commences, to what consequences it has for communities in the Arctic and beyond, and what opportunities exist for transitioning toward post-extractive futures.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: Dag Avango, Jean-Sébastien Boutet, Annika Nilsson, Peder Roberts, Corinna Röver, Sverker Sörlin, Camilla Winqvist. Nordforsk. 2016-2020.

### **On Creating Cultural Heritage in Antarctica**

The aim of this project is to explore the processes through which cultural heritage production is used to create collective memories of Antarctica. It addresses the paradox of how cultural heritage can

be reconciled with a governance system that limits the accumulation of material legacies of human presence. The framing of cultural heritage protection in Antarctica within environmental protection regulations is significant as it raises particularly important questions about the relationship between environmental change and cultural heritage. The research draws on methods from history, geography, heritage studies and cultural anthropology.

Project leader: Lize-Marié van der Watt. Participants at the Division: Lize-Marié van der Watt, Dag Avango, Kati Lindström, Peder Roberts. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2017-2020.

Project leader: Lize-Marié van der Watt. Participants at the Division: Lize-Marié van der Watt, Dag Avango, Kati Lindström, Peder Roberts, Corinna Röver. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2017-2020.

## HISTORY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

### **Clinical Breeding: Cattle Reproduction and Veterinary Expertise in Sweden, 1922–1975**

The study examines how cattle reproduction became a veterinary expert field in Sweden; the impact this had on dairy farming; and the extent to which knowledge produced in a veterinary and agricultural context was used to understand and intervene in human reproduction. At the core, it is an investigation into how human-bovine relations, veterinary expertise, and reproductive technologies (in the animal and in the human) were co-produced during the middle of the twentieth century.

Project leader: Karl Bruno. Participant at the Division: Karl Bruno. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2018-2021.

### **Colonial Natural Resources and Swedish Foreign Policy 1914–1989**

The project explores, from a Swedish perspective, the interaction between two central features of what historians have called the “short twentieth century” (1914-1989): the unprecedented geopolitical turbulence during the period and the explosive growth of global natural resource extraction that supplied rapidly growing industrial economies. The project will contribute to new perspectives on Swedish foreign, security and industrial policy and to recent debates on the “colonialist history of non-colonialist countries.”

Project leader: Per Högselius. Participant at the Division: Dag

## NUCLEARWATERS

Avango, Per Högselius, David Nilsson. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2015-2018.

NUCLEARWATERS develops a new approach to studying the history of nuclear energy. Rather than interpreting nuclear energy history as a history of nuclear physics and radiochemistry, it analyses it as a history of water. The project develops the argument that nuclear energy is in essence a hydraulic form of technology, and that it as such builds on centuries and even millennia of earlier hydraulic engineering efforts worldwide – and, culturally speaking, on earlier “hydraulic civilizations”, from ancient Egypt to the modern Netherlands. We investigate how historical water-manipulating technologies and wet and dry risk conceptions from a deeper past were carried on into the nuclear age.

Project leader: Per Högselius. Participants at the Division: Per Högselius, Kati Lindström, Anna Storm, Alicia Gutting, Achim Klüppelberg, Siegfried Evens. European Research Council (ERC). 2018-2023.

### **Life on Mars: The Science and Fiction of Terraforming and the Future of Planet Earth**

This project explores the science and fiction of Mars settlement with the help of terraforming as a creation of new environments in Space as well as blueprints for the technological reconstruction of the Earth’s environment. The aim is to describe the Anthropocene not simply as an epoch that endangers the Earth but primarily as an epoch that essentially transformed the understanding of life to a minimalist principle of survival through infinite metabolic conversion and technological substitution. This understanding conjoined images of recreation and creation, of paradisiacal pasts and eco-technological futures. The question whether ‘postplanetary’ life, life that is not tied to a specific planet but transcends planetary boundaries, will be possible and desirable may become one of the most challenging questions of our future.

Project leader: Sabine Höhler. Participant at the Division: Sabine Höhler. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018-2021.

### **Saving Nature: Conservation Technologies from the Biblical Ark to the Digital Archive**

This project analyzes collecting and classification practices in the history of botany as technologies of conservation. Nature conservation is most commonly associated with protecting nature from human-induced destruction, as in the case of biodiversity conserva-

tion. However, protective measures are built on a number of conservation technologies: preserving objects through collecting and stabilizing objects through classification. Since the early modern period, increasingly sophisticated technologies have been developed to organize and preserve as well as transport and transcribe collected items. The project takes a diachronic approach – from the beginning of the systematic collecting of plants for scientific purposes in the early modern period to the botanical databases of the present. Adopting a comparative perspective, we aim to understand the practice and the meaning of nature collections in shifting historical contexts.

Project leader: Sabine Höhler. Participant at the Division: Anna Svensson. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2015-2017.

### **HoNESt (History of Nuclear Energy and Society)**

HoNESt involves an interdisciplinary team with many experienced researchers and high profile research institutions. HoNESt's goal is to conduct a three-year interdisciplinary analysis of the experience of nuclear developments and its relationship to contemporary society with the aim of improving the understanding of the dynamics over the last 60 years. HoNESt will embrace the complexity of political, technological and economic challenges; safety; risk perception and communication, public engagement, media framing and social movements; etc. Research on these interactions has thus far been mostly fragmented. We will develop a pioneering integrated interdisciplinary approach, which is conceptually informed by Large Technological Systems (LTS) and Integrated Socio-technical System (IST), based on a close and innovative collaboration of historians and social scientists in this field.

Project leader: Arne Kaijser. Participant at the Division: Arne Kaijser. H2020 European Commission. 2015-2019.

### **50 years in space: Documenting Swedish space activities**

Swedish space activities can be analytically divided in several ways. One aim has been to institutionalize space activities. At the same time, industrial policy and internationalization of both research and technology development has been cross cutting themes in the general arguments around space activities. Telecommunications, remote sensing and science - all different kinds of applications - have run parallel. This project will document Swedish space activities in order to create a database that can serve further research. It is an interview and oral history project that focuses on securing the knowledge of actors that were part of these activities, before it is

too late. The material will be made accessible for anyone who has an interest in Swedish space activities.

Project leader: Nina Wormbs. Participants at the Division: Nina Wormbs, Martin Emanuel, Johan Gärdebo. Vinnova. 2017-2018.

### **Views from a Distance: Remote Sensing Technologies and the Perception of the Earth**

This is a project about viewing Earth from a distance. Since the 1960s, we have been presented with awe-inspiring pictures of the entire globe taken from space. We tend to overlook, however, that elaborate sensing technology often mediates the long distances between the observer and the image. These distances are geographical as well as epistemic: remote sensing technology does not 'see' but perceives the Earth in complicated ways. This project aims to disaggregate the Earth imagery of landmasses, ice and seascapes. By analyzing the decisions, methods, money and technologies that enter the assembling of such imagery, we hope to explore and explain the political and social conditions of translating situated observations into global images and also to elucidate their global consequences.

Project leader: Nina Wormbs. Participants at the Division: Nina Wormbs, Sabine Höhler, Johan Gärdebo. Swedish Research Council (VR). 2013-2017.

## **KNOWLEDGE IN SOCIETY AND POLICY**

### **Agenda 2030 and Swedish innovation policy**

The project is concerned with the articulation between Agenda 2030 and Swedish innovation policy, and will study how the government's collaborative programmes can be aligned with the Agenda 2030 goals.

Project leader: Mats Benner. Participant at the Division: Mats Benner, Nannan Lundin. Vinnova. 2017-2018.

### **Universities as societal pillars? A platform for research on the impact of university**

The proposed project explores how universities operate, how they interact with their environments, and how that interplay shapes how they organize their core activities. The project assumes that universities worldwide share many characteristics but that universities also differ significantly depending on their historical evolution and their local and national embeddedness. To illuminate this, this project will study how universities interact with governments,

funders and stakeholders, how they structure their tasks, and how they shape the relationship between funding, organization and the aforementioned activities.

Project leader: Mats Benner. Participant at the Division: Mats Benner, Ulrika Bjare, Eugenia Pérez Vico, Linus Salö, Sverker Sörlin, Nina Wormbs. Vinnova. 2015-2021.

### Where is Science Going?: Research Governance and Scientific Impact in Asia

The aim of the proposed project is to inquire into the scientific investments made in China, India, Japan, South Korea and Singapore over the last decade (2000-2015), asking how their scientific profiles have evolved in terms of national and international collaboration, renewal and composition of the research cadre, institutional publication and impact patterns. This will in turn be related to the institutional configurations of research governance in the countries. On the basis of this research, we will be able to portray a coherent picture of the evolution of research in these countries and how their research governance model(s) are evolving. We will also be able to shed light on the linkages between these research systems and those of European and North American countries.

Project leader: Mats Benner. Participant at the Division: Mats Benner. Knut och Alice Wallenbergs Stiftelse (KAW). 2015-2020.

### Humanities Knowledge in Swedish Defense Research: Human Sciences at FOA 5

The purpose of the project is to study humanities knowledge in Swedish defense research during the Cold War, focusing on the Swedish National Defense Research Institute (FOA) and the Department of Human Sciences (Avdelningen för humanvetenskap), FOA 5, 1974–1989. The project explores knowledge that FOA 5 produced about human society, how the research was organized, prioritized, distributed as well as its impact. The aim of the project is to create new insights on the significance of humanistic knowledge in the Swedish sectorial research and in the building of modern Sweden. Theoretically, the project builds on, and contributes to, the concept of co-production.

Project leader: Fredrik Bertilsson. Participant at the Division: Fredrik Bertilsson. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018-2022.

### Strategic Action and Response Strategies in a Changing Swedish Higher Education Landscape 1993-2013

Universities have a broad range of missions in society: as guarantors of academic integrity, providers of professional training and partners in social and economic change processes. Historically, the management of these roles has been implicit, where governments



High-level panel discussion with Kerstin Sahlin (VR), Lars Ilshammar (National Library of Sweden), Sylvia Schwaag Serger (Lund University), Björn Halleröd (VR), and Jonas Brändström (Vinnova). Moderator: Professor Patrik Svensson, UCLA. Workshop October 18, 2018 on Humanistic infrastructure. Photo credit: Karolina Andersotter.

have steered universities via detailed and piecemeal regulations of funding, employment conditions, organisation, etc. However, the current governance model downplays detailed regulations, expecting universities to identify their own strategies and missions. In the light of this transformation, our main interest lies in how universities interpret and act upon these new regulatory conditions. How do they develop leadership roles, organisational structures, plans and models for priority-setting, external relations and recruitment to meet these expectations but also to maintain their internal organisational relations?

Project leader: Lars Geschwind (The School of Education and Communication in Engineering Science -KTH). Participants at the Division: Mats Benner, Katarina Larsen. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2015-2017.

### Travelling Without Borders

Flying is important for academic travelling but it also has importance for the Earth's climate. Travelling academics are also carbon-intensive scholars, boarding planes that lift off in the Holocene but will land somewhere else in the Anthropocene. This project is an exploratory study of how scholars think and feel about flying as part of academic work. It includes a blog where academics share stories about their travels, surveys about the role travelling has for academic work, and workshops to discuss alternatives to flying. The project's output consists of a peer-reviewed article, debate articles



Tekniska Verken, situated in Östergötland on top of iron age sanctuary and ancient heritage site but also creating the heritage of the future.

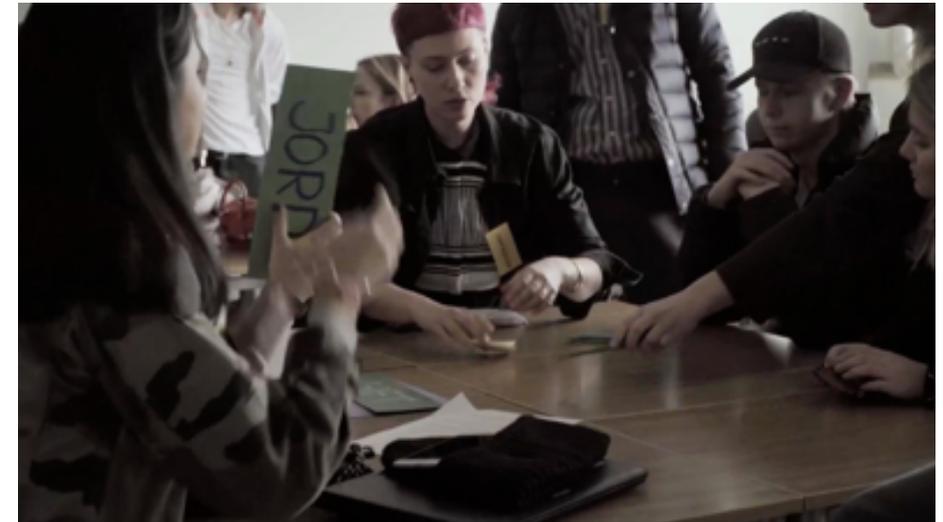


Photo from Popularizing Environmental Humanities workshop (organized by journalist Lotten Wiklund and Dr./artist Janna Holmstedt) with students at Bromma Gymnasium in collaboration with Prof. Cecilia Åsberg and PhD candidates Vera Weetzel and Jesse Peterson. Film still: Karin Wegsjö.

in Swedish newspapers, as well as a booklet, *The Travelling Scientist's Itinerary*. The outputs are aimed towards stimulating further debate about academic travelling habits.

Project leader: Johan Gärdebo. Participant at the Division:  
David Nilsson. KTH-Sustainability. 2015-2016.

### Science and Modernization in Sweden: An institutional approach to historicizing the knowledge society

The research programme is hosted by the Center for the History of Science at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The aim of the programme is to research the history of Swedish science in the modern era and to help develop the professional community of Swedish historians of science. The research project will focus on the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The Academy has been central for the development of Swedish science and for the relationship between science and forces of political change throughout the modern period.

Participants at the Division: Katarina Larsen, Sverker Sörlin, Nina Wormbs. Marianne och Marcus Wallenbergs Stiftelse (MMW). 2013-2018.

### Humanities Infrastructure: Strategy and Future

Humanities work depends increasingly on adequate infrastructure, ranging from digital interpretative platforms and visualization tools to laboratories and interdisciplinary institutes. Currently a broad movement has formed around humanistic infrastructure in Sweden. Responding to this development, a group of eleven scholars from eight Swedish universities formed a workgroup to address infrastructure in the humanities in early 2018. Key results include 1) a workshop in Stockholm on humanistic infrastructure on October 18, 2018 with 70 participants from universities, cultural heritage institutions, funding agencies and the ministry, and 2) a comprehensive report on *Humanities infrastructure* (published 2019) with recommendations to strengthen humanistic infrastructures nationally.

Project leader: Patrik Svensson. Participants at the Division: Sverker Sörlin, Nina Wormbs. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018-2019.

### Towards a new humanities in Sweden

The humanities are undergoing significant development from within the field, including the rise of digital, environmental and urban humanities, and through changing external expectations. "Toward a new humanities in Sweden" is concerned with this development, and will initiate new knowledge and networks in relation to this

turn in the humanities. The effort will focus on three key perspectives: institutional models for the humanities, technical universities as platforms for the humanities and on how the repertoire of the humanities can be extended through active and interventionist modes of engagement. A basic tenet is that institutional models, extended modes of engagement and the technical university as an environment for the humanities can meet the internal and external needs and expectations associated with the humanities.

Project leader: Patrik Svensson. Participant at the Division: Patrik Svensson. Riksbankens Jubileumsfond: The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences. 2018.

### Centre for Research Quality and Policy Impact Studies (R-QUEST)

Quality in research is a highly prioritized, but also a much debated issue in research policy. The Centre for Research Quality and Policy Impact Studies (R-QUEST) constitutes an 8-year commitment to explore the nature and mechanisms of research quality – funded by the RCN FORINNPOL initiative. A central aim of the centre is to understand research assessments, standards and practices in different fields of research. More generally, we aim to help policy makers in their efforts to develop the best framework conditions for high quality research.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participant at the Division: Sverker Sörlin. 2016-2024.

### Research Aid Revisited

This study will analyze, from a historical perspective, Swedish research aid as part of the Swedish development cooperation and as a part of Swedish and international research policy from the 1970s until today. The study will focus both on aid efforts for the strengthening of research capacities in place in developing countries and on aid-financed development research carried out in Sweden. The findings will then be used to assess different policy options for research aid given the global challenges and changes that affect the research agenda and the world, not least after the financial crisis of 2008. The authors will discuss possible changes of future research aid role, policy and direction in the light of the various global changes and challenges.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: David Nilsson, Sverker Sörlin. The Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA). 2016-2017.

## THE POSTHUMANITIES HUB

### The Public Humanities Project – humanist thinking for a challenged public sphere

The present project proposes to circulate recent research within the environmental humanities to a wider audience in a time characterized by so called ‘post-truth politics’. Trust in governmental institutions is decreasing, and academic institutions and public media are being discredited. History is being actively used to create new pasts that suit certain political views. The paradox is that with growing access to information and science, the importance of truth and knowledge has declined. Many are now trying to answer the question of why this is, in order to mitigate the grave consequences of democracies that are led astray by mass-disinformation filtered through social media and algorithms that only confirm existing views. Restoring a functional and critical public sphere that relies on a respect for knowledge and for human dignity has become an issue of major importance for democratic societies and Sweden is no exception. A sustained effort to *circulate humanist knowledge in society* is a way toward re-establishing a public sphere in which knowledge can inspire critical, engaged and reflected debate and serve societal needs.

Project leader: Sverker Sörlin. Participants at the Division: Marco Armiero, Sverker Sörlin, Nina Wormbs. Barbara Osher Pro Suecia Foundation. 2016-2018.



Photos from Toxic Embodiment Workshop in 2017 (org Cecilia Åsberg and Olga Cielemecka) with phd students from KTH, LiU and international scholars such as Rosi Braidotti (NL), Stacey Alaimo (US), Matthew Fuller (UK), Nina Lykke (DK), Olga Gourniova (UK), Ericka Johnson (SE) and Katie King (US)

### **Comparative Higher Education, Policy and Innovation Studies (CHEPIS)**

To meet the growing demands and needs of higher education systems and institutions, the field of higher education research and management has emerged in the past half century. Of 274 academic programmes worldwide, two thirds are in the USA whereas China comes second. The UK and continental Europe have about 13 programs, Japan has 6, the rest of Asia, excluding China, has around a hundred. Africa has only 7. Given the demand for higher education studies graduates in the Africa, particularly in Mozambique, and in sub-Saharan Africa, a Consortium between of Universidad Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, KTH and University of Western Cape (South Africa) has been formed for training of PhD students (7) and post-docs (2). Of the seven PhD students 2 have been enrolled in the Division, all recruited from Mozambican public higher education institutions, particularly UEM. The overarching goal of the project is to strengthen African higher education research and expertise through the training of a new cohort of expertise in higher education, policy and innovation studies.

Project leader: Professor Patrício Langa, UEM, Lars Geschwind, KTH (co-PI). Participants at the Division: Mats Benner, Urban Lundberg, Sverker Sörlin, Nina Wormbs. SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency). 2017-2021.

### **Posthumanism Research Network**

This network, headed by the Posthumanism Research Institute at Brock University, Canada, seeks to investigate the status and limits of the “human” in an era in which multiple crises — global warming, superintelligent computers, genetic engineering, and massive species extinction, to name but a few — mark the precariousness of exclusively human-centred practice and thought. Our transdisciplinary research network, a collaboration with other likeminded centres, institutes, and scholars across the globe, is committed to the idea that humanity’s perseverance in the coming centuries will require collaboration with agents (animal, vegetable, fungal, viral, mineral, and digital) besides those formerly classified as “human.”

Project leader: Christine Daigle, Brock University, Canada. Participants at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg. SSHRC – Social Science and Humanities Research Council Canada. 2017-2020.

### **Checking-in with Deep Time Clocks – re-configuring intergenerational justice and hope**

How can we re-tie the material and immaterial knots between past, present and future generations? And what might be ways forward to check in with our post-natural and materializing clocks? This project is methodologically innovative and aspires to have high impact on the approaches to sustainability, intergenerational justice

and care in postnatural heritage management. It works with three studies - on focusing on the politicization of the long-term within the natural/cultural heritage sectors, the next with how vernacular temporalities are met and transformed on site at Gärstadsverken (a garbage disposal site situated on an Iron Age Archeological sanctuary), and theoretical work on intergenerational justice and care where traditional theories are compared to those of feminism and the environmental humanities. This project has an emphasis on citizen humanities and collaborative research. It also aims to provide humanities innovations to civil service sectors and work on intergenerational justice, hope and care.

Project leader: Christina Fredengren, Stockholm University. Participants at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2017-2020.

### **On Common Ground: Synthesizing Equitable Environmental Humanities for Climate Change Action**

Climate change has mostly been represented and understood as a scientific problem in need of technological solutions. “On Common Ground” begins instead from the position that climate change is a social problem in need of diversified solutions. Science has explained this problem and its impacts, but only the humanities and the arts can help us understand how to live with, adapt to, and mitigate the social crises that are emerging. Our two-pronged synthesizing project thus aims at addressing both academic and public audiences of climate change stakeholders. We do so through traditional research articles, accessible Wikipedia entries, and a useful reference handbook for policymakers and other influential actors.

Project leader: Cecilia Åsberg. Participant at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2017-2018.

### **Popularizing environmental humanities: Film and media resources for young adults pondering the stakes for the future**

The project will be composed of four short films modelled to fit the specific paradigms of the internet. The films will extend from four different research projects performed within the research group The Posthumanities Hub. They will be developed through creative cooperations between researchers and artists or film makers. The ideas and work processes will emanate from a number of workshops. The all over aim would be to perform science communication in a manner that would relate to the genre defining stance of environmental humanities. This would enable researchers in the environmental humanities to find new paths of communication and to implement knowledge in a time of rapid change. The project will create a digitized interface of interaction and communication and can be followed at <https://pophum.wordpress.com>

Project leader: Cecilia Åsberg. Participants at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg, Lotten Wiklund (consulting journalist). The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018.

### Storying Exposures

Storying Exposures will operate as a collaborative, interdisciplinary initiative, principally through the design and delivery of two intensive, residential writing workshops occurring in different locations (Sweden and Scotland) where international gatherings of Environmental Humanities researchers will have the opportunity to enter into concentrated conversation, skill-sharing, collaborative experiment, and writing praxis.

Project leader: Cecilia Åsberg. Participant at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg. 2018-2019.

### The Seed Box: An Environmental Humanities Collaboratory

The Seed Box is an international environmental humanities collaboratory headquartered at Linköping University (LiU) in Sweden. Supported with generous funding from Mistra and Formas. The Seed Box takes as its mission the development of a national center for environmental humanities research across the nature-culture divide, and creative activity related to the pressing environmental problems.

Project leader: Cecilia Åsberg. Participant at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg. The Seed Box: A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory. 2018-2019.

### Toxic Embodiment

Concerns around health and the state of our planet today take on a much wider set of issues (and a wider set of bodies) as we interact with climate change, antibiotics, and untested chemical cocktails through the food we eat, the make-up we wear, the new sofas we sit it in or the environments we dwell in. Health-wise, we are acutely aware today of how we are in nature, and nature, polluted as it may be, in us. Environmental degradation and climate change stand out as major factors that not only reorganize the planet's ecologies, reconditioning Earth's temperature and climate along with the possibilities of species survival, but also calls for an interdisciplinary intervention on how our cultural behaviours play into environmental health. Building on previous research in fields such as environmental humanities, gender studies, medical humanities, feminist posthumanities, and gender medicine, our projects under the heading "Toxic Embodiment" gathers, bridges and advances a

unique multi-disciplinary skill set of gender and justice methodologies across the arts and sciences. Toxic Embodiment collects also a set of international scholars from major European research hubs, offering important and under-researched aspects on gender, health and climate change from interdisciplinary and bridge-building gender and justice methodologies.

Project leader: Cecilia Åsberg. Participants at the Division: Cecilia Åsberg and Marietta Radomska. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2014-2019.

## URBAN SOCIAL ECOLOGIES AND INFRASTRUCTURES

### Socioecological Movements in Urban Ecosystems (MOVE)

The MOVE project investigates urbanized ecosystems as 'bastard ecologies' that have emerged through hotly contested geographies that have created new interactions between humans, species, vegetation, and the built environment and created novel versions of 'the living'. Through this lens, and working with a highly interdisciplinary team, the MOVE project works to understand how various forms of human collective action can be viewed as not only producing cultural, social or political changes, but also biophysical and ecological changes. The study compares how historical investment patterns and urban planning paradigms in Cape Town and New Orleans, two port-cities with a long history of systematic apartheid and racial segregation, have produced cultural and environmental changes and how civil society organizations in the contemporary situation mobilize around and through this historically patterned urban environment.

Project leader: Henrik Ernstson. Participant at the Division: Henrik Ernstson. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2012-2017.

### Making the water flow: Conflict(s) and cooperation between formal and informal urban water regimes in Asia and Africa

Making the water flow in rapidly urbanizing regions critically depends on the combination of formal and informal water regimes. Ensuring that the two can better co-exist becomes an important step towards achieving sustainability and equity in water access and distribution. Combining socio-technical studies and urban political ecology, we will analyze how water services are managed and organized, both as technical water reform agendas and as politicized and inherently contested agendas. Our overarching objectives are to: 1) Problematisé the interaction of formal and informal water regimes;

2) Understand the interaction of water regimes through conflict(s) and cooperation in Asia and Africa; 3) Identify policy arrangements for improving the co-existence of water regimes and strengthen water equity. The study will be based on empirically grounded fieldwork in Gurgaon, India (Asia case study) and Nairobi, Kenya (Africa case study).

Future Research Leader Grant. Project leader: Timos Karpouzoglou. Project participants at the Division: Timos Karpouzoglou and David Nilsson. Project financed by The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018-2021.

**Ensuring sustainability and equality of water and energy systems during actor-driven disruptive innovation (SEQWENS)**

Improved energy efficiency in buildings contributes to global and national goals for environment and climate. Recovery of heat from wastewater is a promising technology but may become disruptive for the city-wide systems for water and heat. The aim of this project is to assess the system effect of on-property heat and water installations, including social consequences, in support of a smooth transition towards a climate-smart society.

We use case studies in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Värmdö, where different on-property solutions are already being tested. We assess the co-evolution of technology, actors and society, and how new technology redistributes benefits and costs among the societal actors.

Project leader: David Nilsson. Project participants at the Division: Timos Karpouzoglou. Project financed by The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2018-2021.

**The role of local innovation for a transformative shift towards sustainable water and sanitation in African cities**

Despite decades of reforms and numerous pilot projects, huge service inequalities persist in access to water supply and sanitation (WSS) in African cities. The WSS systems in Africa seem not to follow the historical development pattern of similar systems in the North, and existing change theories are ill-suited to African contexts. This project aims at developing and promoting knowledge about how local innovation can contribute to a transformation of these systems for a more equal access. Our research involves case studies in three cities in Uganda and Kenya: Kampala, Kisumu and Nairobi. We focus on WSS in low-income areas, including technical as well as organisational innovations, and combine secondary sources with primary data collected in the field.

Project leader: David Nilsson. Participants at the Division: David Nilsson. The Swedish Research Council Formas. 2016-2018.

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