



# NEWSLETTER



SOMMERSEMESTER 2023 - NR. 3

The first half of 2023 already passed and we are happy to announce that the last months were full of life at the Center, including interesting talks in the colloquium and successful collaborations between the researchers and fellows on-site. We want to say thank you to Dr. Christin Beck, Dr. Ronald Planer, Prof. Dr. Nicholas Evans, Prof. Dr. Terry Harrison, Dr. Ahmet Aytek, Prof. Dr. Amina Mettouchi and Dr. Lauren Reed for insightful discussions, interesting talks at the colloquium and great collaborations.

In addition, we are happy to welcome three new Fellows in July.

A warm welcome to Prof. Dr. Ammie Kalan, Prof. Dr. David Strait, and Prof. Dr. Steven Moran. We look forward to interesting colloquium talks, insightful discussions and research collaborations.

## Prof. Dr. Ammie Kalan



Dr. Ammie Kalan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Victoria in BC, Canada. She is the PI of the Great Ape Behaviour Lab (GAB Lab: [www.ammiekkalan.com/team](http://www.ammiekkalan.com/team)) where her research group investigates diverse aspects related to great ape tool use, communication and culture. Dr. Kalan is visiting the DFG Center for Words, Bones, Genes and Tools in the summer of 2023 to collaborate with Dr. Alexandros Karakostis on a comparative kinematic analyses of chimpanzee tool use to potentially inform hominin models. Dr. Kalan will also be working with Dr. Claudio Tennie to discuss theoretical considerations of how field primatologists and comparative psychologists can work together for an improved understanding of cultural evolution. More about her research and the contact information can be found online on our homepage (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/201838>).

## Prof. Dr. David Strait



Prof. Dr. David Strait is Professor of the Anthropology Department at the Washington University in St. Louis. During his time in Tübingen, he will be collecting data on European fossil hominins as part of a long-term project reconstructing the evolutionary relationships of all fossil hominin species. It is a well-established principle in evolutionary biology that the pattern of evolution (i.e., phylogenetic relationships among taxa) must be understood before hypotheses regarding evolutionary processes (i.e., adaptive and/or biogeographic scenarios) can be rigorously evaluated. The reason underlying this principle is that phylogenetic relationships constrain the spectrum of plausible evolutionary scenarios. Accordingly, phylogenetic analysis (i.e., the reconstruction of evolutionary relationships) is a critical endeavor in Paleoanthropology. More about his research and the contact information can be found online on our homepage (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/201838>).

## Prof. Dr. Steven Moran



Dr. Steven Moran an Assistant Professor at the University of Neuchâtel. He is a scientist trained in computational linguistics, linguistic framework, and language teaching. His research focuses on the evolution of the phonological system in humans, quantitative approaches in linguistic diversity, and aspects of language ontogeny from a cross-linguistic perspective. More about his research and the contact information can be found online on our homepage (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/201838>).



## Invited Speaker in our Colloquium

Besides our Fellows at the Center, who are all contributing at the Colloquium, we are happy to announce an invited talk by Prof. Dr. Caleb Everett, who is a Professor of the Anthropology Department at the University of Miami.

All talks are announced via our Emaillist. We would like to invite you to join the list by the following link: <https://listserv.uni-tuebingen.de/mailman/listinfo/wordsandbones>

## Call for fellowship application

The Center is a forum of interdisciplinary discussion and research. Its fellowship program is a great opportunity to connect with the core staff and associated members to establish new, interdisciplinary ideas and research projects.

We would like to invite you to apply for a fellowship to work together with us in order to gain more insights in the human past from different research perspectives. The core staff and several local members are open to new collaborations as well as the associated Emmy Noether Junior Research Group "The Language Dynamics of the Ancient Central Andes" lead by Dr. Matthias Urban.

For more information on the Center and the associated members and research groups, please visit our homepage [wordsandbones.uni-tuebingen.de](http://wordsandbones.uni-tuebingen.de)

For more information on the fellowship program, please have a look at the description and information on our webpage (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/201430>) or contact our scientific coordinator Dr. Marisa Köllner ([marisa.koellner@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:marisa.koellner@uni-tuebingen.de)).

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