



CALL FOR PAPERS

Graduate Student Meeting

18th Colloquium of the Ernst Herzfeld-Gesellschaft | Ernst Herzfeld Society

<https://ernst-herzfeld-gesellschaft.com>

Munich (Germany)

6 July 2023

Are you a graduate student in Islamic Art, Architecture, or Archaeology? Are you interested in meeting other students working on related topics? Would you like to discuss your research with your peers? How about making a pitch or presenting a paper based on your research at the graduate student meeting of the Ernst Herzfeld Society? How about participating in both sections?

The graduate student meeting offers an opportunity for graduate students in the fields of Islamic Art History, Archaeology, and Architecture to present their ongoing research while providing a platform for discussion and networking. It is organized by Suzanne Compagnon of the University of Vienna. It will take place at the Museum Fünf Kontinente (Museum Five Continents) in Munich (Germany) on Thursday 6 July 2023 in conjunction with the 18th Colloquium of the Ernst Herzfeld Society.

Graduate student meeting format

This year's graduate student meeting will consist of two sections, "Pitch it!" and "Present it".

1) Pitch it!

Have you ever tried to convince a professor to supervise your research project during a coffee break at a conference? Or tried to interest a colleague into collaborating with you on your next scientific endeavour? Or tried to demonstrate to a panel that your project deserves to be funded during an interview? Have you ever been called upon to explain the relevance of your research to the society which funds it with its taxes? In these cases, clarity, concision, and accessibility are central to convincing your audience of the importance of what you do.

We will tackle these communication challenges in the first part of the graduate meeting. Each participant (including the organiser) will be expected to prepare in advance a 5-minute pitch for a project of their choice. Participants will take turns making their pitch and listening to other people's pitches. After each person has taken their turn, participants will go off in groups of two or three people to give each other feedback. At the end, participants will come together again to discuss the challenges encountered while preparing for the pitch and possible solutions. The aim is to work together to improve our communication skills.

The pitch should last maximum 5 minutes. Time will be measured strictly so good time management is key. The pitch must be made as spoken word. No notes are allowed for the pitch and only a single static slide is permitted since the idea is to prepare for situations in which you will not have access to either. The slide should be shown from beginning to end. The goal is to interest your audience in your research project by clearly stating what it consists of and why it is important. Considering your audience as you prepare for this is key. Imagine the scenario for which you want to practice and think about how this will impact what you say and how you say it.

Online resources for inspiration for the pitch:

- University of Melbourne's tips on pitching a proposal: <https://students.unimelb.edu.au/academic-skills/resources/speaking-and-presenting/pitching-a-proposal>
- Tips on a PhD elevator pitch: <https://academicpositions.be/career-advice/how-to-write-an-elevator-pitch>

2) Present it!

The second part of the graduate meeting will consist of papers given by graduate students based on their current research. Any topic relating to Islamic Art and Architecture or Islamic Archaeology is welcome. Each presentation is limited to 15 minutes, followed by 15 minutes of discussion. This is an opportunity to present research findings as well as open questions and the methodological and practical challenges of individual projects. Thus, speakers are encouraged to include open questions to be addressed as a group in the follow-up discussion. The aim is to provide an open and constructive setting for exchange in which we can gain perspective on our own research and be inspired by other participants' ideas.

Participation

The graduate student meeting is organised by a graduate student for graduate students. The only prerequisite is to be a graduate student and a member of the Ernst Herzfeld Society. Advanced BA students may also be considered if there are available time slots. The aim of the graduate student meeting is to provide a supportive setting in which participants can practice various forms of scholarly communication, experiment with something new, possibly make mistakes, and discuss the challenges of their project, if they wish to do so. By attending the graduate meeting, all participants agree to give and receive feedback with an open mind, and to actively contribute to the meeting's constructive atmosphere.

While the graduate student meeting is designed to give graduate students a platform for exchange and collaboration, it also wishes to encourage discussions on an equal footing between all members of the scholarly community. More experienced scholars are welcome to attend the "present it" section of the graduate student meeting and participate in the discussions of graduate students' exciting new research. However, the "pitch it" section is only open to graduate students.

Information about becoming a member and membership fee payment can be found here:

<https://ernst-herzfeld-gesellschaft.com/en/mitgliedschaft/>. Membership fees can be paid to the Society's treasurer at the time of the colloquium. Registration for and participation in the colloquium are free for members of the Society. More information about the colloquium is also available on the Society's website.

Application

Please submit your proposal for a paper for the "present it" section and/or the title of your pitch for the "pitch it" section by 31 March 2023 to Suzanne Compagnon: suzanne.compagnon@univie.ac.at.

- Pitches for the "pitch it" section: Please submit the title of the pitch.

- Papers for the „present it" section: Please submit a title and an abstract of 250 and no more than 300 words.

Please state explicitly if you are applying for both sections, or just one, in which case please specify which one. You should also include your full name, the name of your university and whether you are an advanced BA student, an MA student, or a PhD student. Pitches and papers can be given in English or German. Acceptance will be notified by mid-April 2023.

We kindly request that speakers and participants make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. We recommend having a look at possible funding opportunities offered by your university or other funding bodies. Should you have questions regarding travel, accommodation, or Munich, please get in touch with the organiser of the graduate student meeting.

Some suggestions for affordable accommodation in Munich:

- Wombat's City Hostels Munich Hauptbahnhof or Werksviertel
- A&O Hostels
- Hotel Seibel
- B&B München
- Meininger
- Campingplatz in Obermenzing (<https://www.campingplatz-muenchen.de/>)
- Campingplatz München-Thalkirchen (<https://campingplatz-thalkirchen.de/>)