



## SGroupAnnual Meetings 2018

### Global Challenges in today's international Higher Education Sphere

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Think Tanks meeting  
Liaison Officers' meeting  
General Assembly meeting  
University of Trieste  
15 – 19 October 2018



# BIGSAS

## Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies



# Introduction to BIGSAS!



1. Background Profile
2. PhD Training at BIGSAS
3. Partner Universities
4. The Academic Basis: The Research Areas
5. The Academic Body: The Doctoral Students
6. Institutional Frame: The Academic & Administrative Bodies
7. Achievements by BIGSAS Junior Fellows
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# 1. Background Profile



- The Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) was established at the University of Bayreuth in 2007
- BIGSAS is financed and supported by the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal Government and the state governments
- BIGSAS offers a multi- and interdisciplinary research environment
- BIGSAS connects African and European academic networks
- 83 Junior Fellows in October 2018
- 124 Alumni in October 2018



Campus University



Location of BIGSAS:  
Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 3

## 2. Doctoral Training at BIGSAS



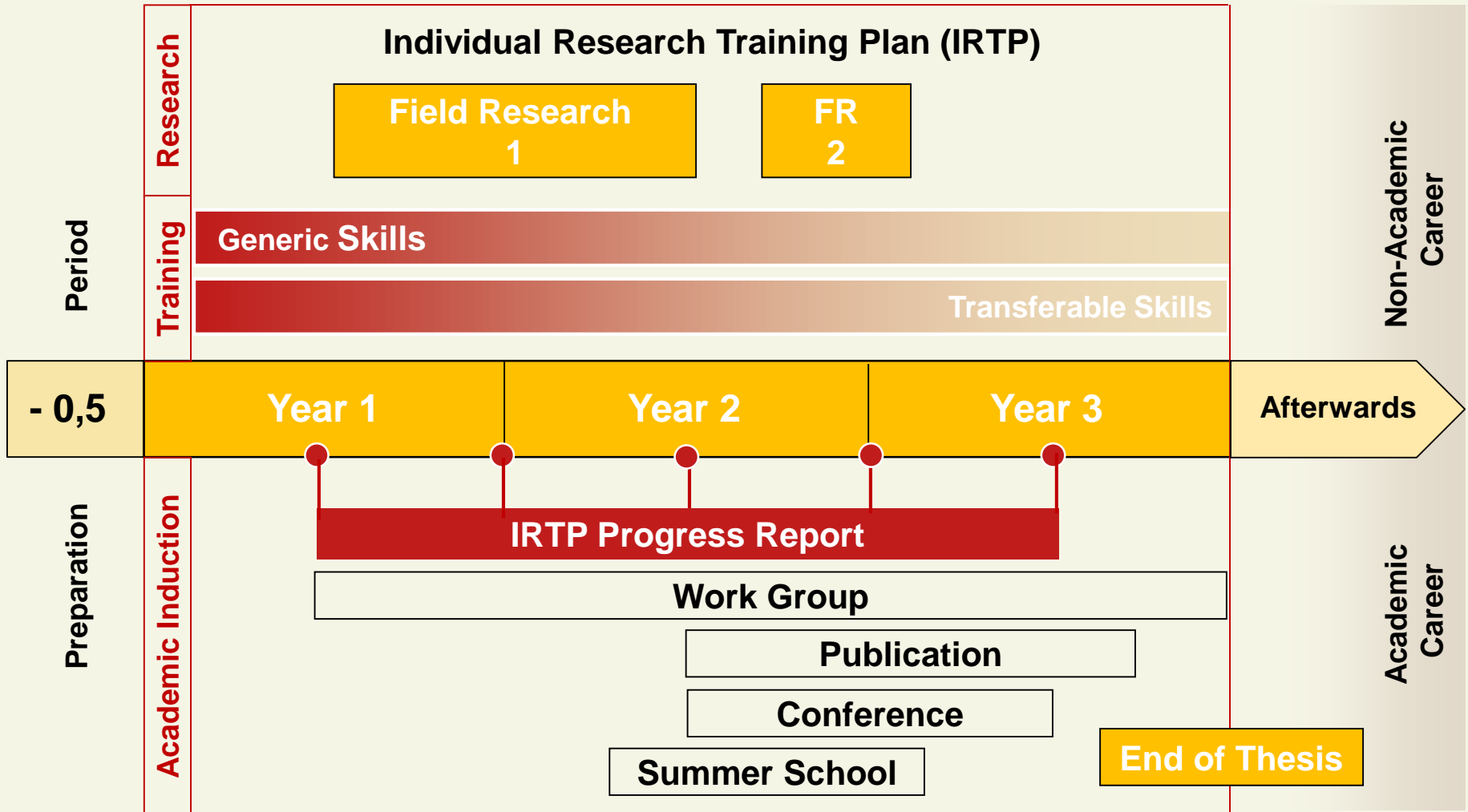
- Research with a multidisciplinary mentorship
- Training is based on the Individual Research Training Plan (IRTP) and regular progress reports
- Various models, e.g. joint training or double PhD degree
- Transmission and acquisition of employment-oriented transferable skills
- Early integration of the PhD students into the international academic community
- Individual career planning as well as shorter time-to-degree with structural and financial encouragements



Professional management and quality control:

Steady improvement of the quality of the training, mentoring and administration

## 2. Doctoral Training at BIGSAS



## 2. Doctoral Training at BIGSAS



### Research with a multidisciplinary mentorship

#### Individual Research Training Plan (IRTP)

- Mentor
- Personal Supervisor     ▲ Doctoral Student
- Mentor

Research Area A

Research Area B

Research Area C

# The Research Areas



## Research Environment

- Wide range of disciplines offering basic and applied research
- Research Areas arise from current research questions in African Studies
- Research expertise of the Principal and Associated Investigators
- Combination of the advantages of area studies with a specific disciplinary studies profile

# 3. Partner Universities



## Multi- and interdisciplinary research environment

- Collaboration with BIGSAS in recruiting, selecting, training and mentoring of doctoral students
- Large-scale long-term cooperation between BIGSAS and its six Partner Universities
- Locations of the Partner Universities cover the Arabic, English, French and Portuguese speaking regions of the continent
- Lively exchange through frequent invitations of academics from the Partner Universities as well as co-organised conferences, seminars and workshops





# 3. Partner Universities



## EU project „Academic Mobility for African Sustainable Development“ (AMAS)

- Successful application within the framework of the EU programme “Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme” in 2016
- Collaboration of the following Partner Universities
  - Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya
  - Université d’Abomey-Calavi in Cotonou, Benin
  - Addis Ababa University in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
  - Université Mohammed V in Rabat, Morocco
  - Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Maputo, Mozambique
  - University of Bayreuth, Germany
- Granted funding of 1.4 million Euro until 2021
- Aims:
  - Establishment and consolidation of cooperation between African Universities in terms of mobility of students and researchers
  - Promotion of exchange and transfer of ideas and knowledge among different regions of the African continent



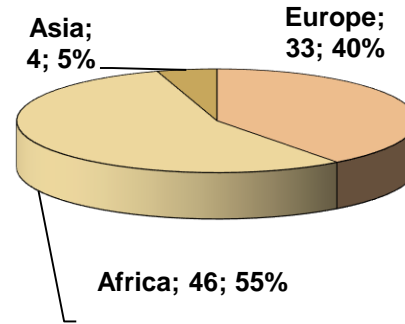
The AMAS team at the kick-off meeting in Brussels: Prof. Dr. Dymitr Ibriszimow, Dean of BIGSAS, Prof. Dr. Anne Nangulu, Moi University, Prof. Dr. Gregório Firmino, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Prof. Dr. Dodji Amouzouvi, Université d’Abomey-Calavi, Prof. Dr. Yamina El Kirat El Allame, University Mohammed V in Rabat, Prof. Dr. Brook Lemma Mamaru, Addis Ababa University, and Prof. Dr. Omar Egesah, Moi University (f.i.t.r.) (Source: Johan Francois, EACEA)

# 5. The Academic Body: The Doctoral Students

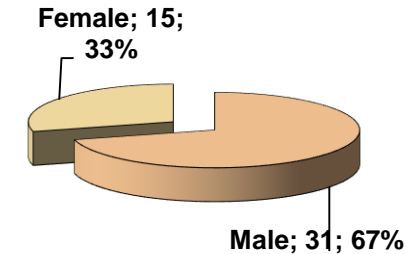


- 207 Junior Fellows and 2034 applicants since 2008
  - 92 women and 115 men
  - 39 different countries of origin
- 83 Junior Fellows und 124 Alumni (as of October 2018)
  - supported by 51 Supervisors
  - Research in 30 different countries

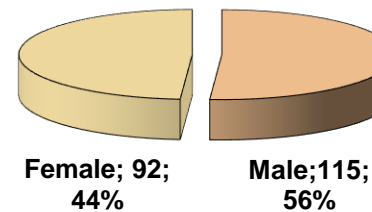
**Region of Origin  
(as of October 2018)**



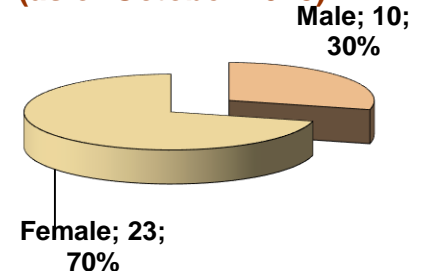
**African Gender Ratio  
(as of October 2018)**



**Overall Gender Ratio  
(as of October 2018)**



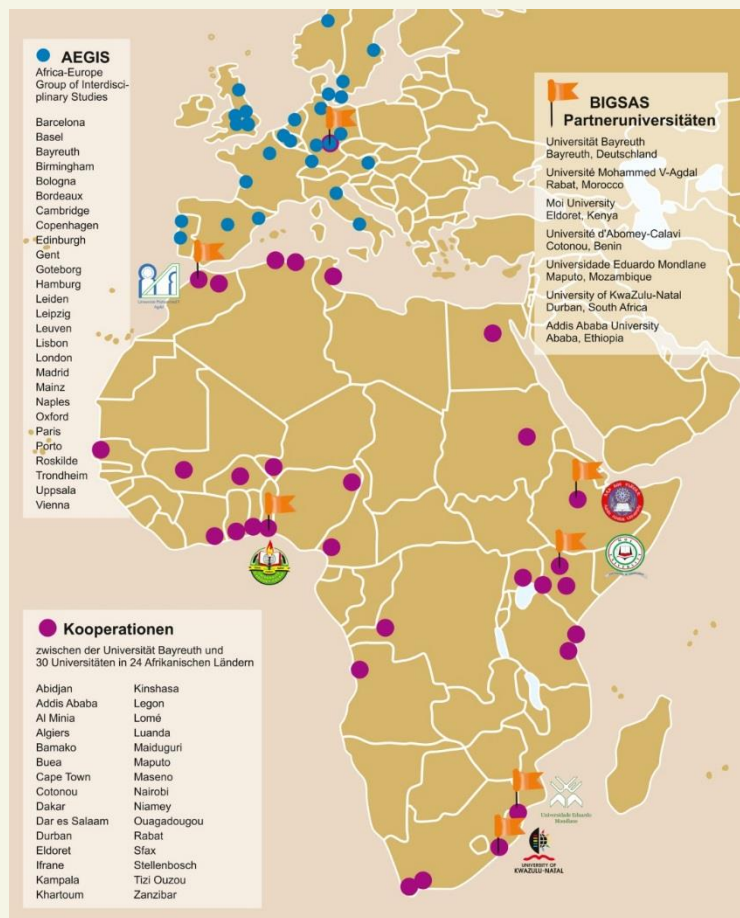
**European Gender Ratio  
(as of October 2018)**



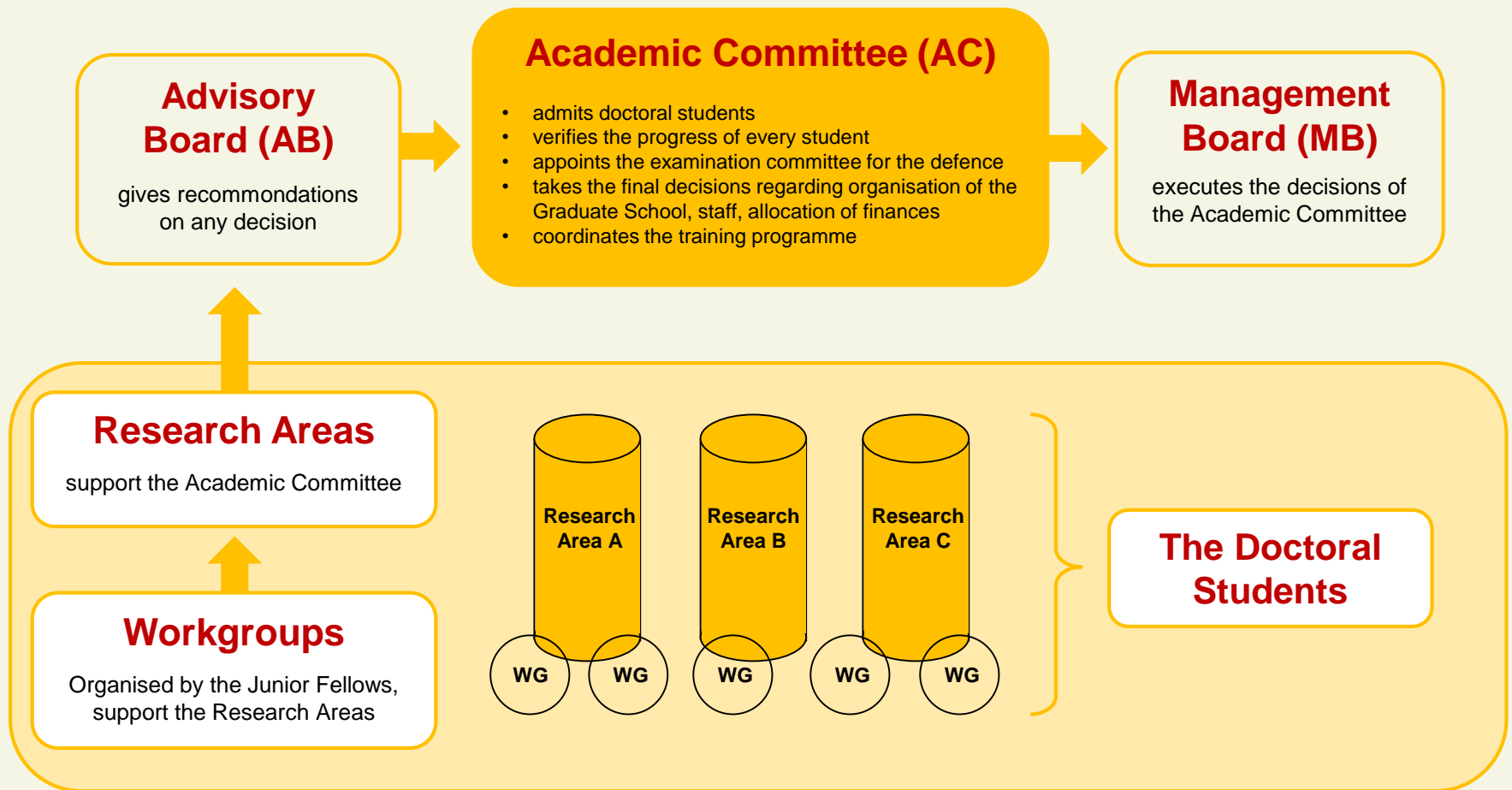
# 5. The Academic Body: The Doctoral Students



## Academic Network



## 6. Institutional Frame: The Academic & Administrative Bodies



## 6. Institutional Frame: The Academic & Administrative Bodies



### Management Board (MB)

executes the decisions of the Academic Committee



**Dean**

Prof. Dr.  
Dymitr  
Ibriszimow



**Vice Deans**

Prof. Dr.  
Martin  
Doevenspeck



Prof. Dr.  
Martina  
Drescher



**Gender & Diversity Representatives**

Prof. Dr.  
Susanne  
Mühleisen



Prof. Dr.  
Valentina  
Serreli

**and the BIGSAS coordination**

# 7. Selected Awards for BIGSAS Junior Fellows



## Several BIGSAS Junior Fellows were awarded for their work

- 2018 **Matthew Sabbi** – VAD Young' Scholars Preis
- 2017 **Michael Stasik** – Preis der Stadt Bayreuth
- 2017 **Rose Nyakio Kimani** – DAAD Preis
- 2017 **Antonia Valerie Hänsch** – Best Dissertation in Cultural Anthropology which was written at a German university in 2017 of the Frobenius-Institut für kulturanthropologische Forschung
- 2016 **Serawit Debele** – Award of the International Club
- 2015 **Antje Daniel** – Kulturpreis Bayern
- 2015 **Matthew Sabbi** – DAAD-Award
- 2014 **Anne-Kristin Borszik** – Preis der Stadt Bayreuth
- 2014 **Jimam Lar** – DAAD-Award
- 2013 **Lena Kroeker** – KfW-Förderpreis für exzellente praxisrelevante Entwicklungsforschung
- 2013 **Ndi Gilbert Shang** – DAAD-Award
- 2013 **Clarissa Vierke** – Heinz Maier-Leibnitz-Preis der DFG
- 2011 **Salma Abdalla** – DAAD-Award
- 2011 **Moulay Driss El Maarouf** – Gewinner des Fotowettbewerbs „Dance With Us: Motion Across Cultures“ des internationales Netzwerks „ExchangesConnect“
- 2011 **Genevieve Nrenzah** – Forschungsförderpreis des IAHR (International Association for the History of Religions) *African Trust Fund*

## 7. Achievements by BIGSAS Junior Fellows



### Several events and initiatives were held in collaboration with BIGSAS Junior Fellows

- 8 international conferences
- 30 workshops
- Various further events and initiatives (selected):
  - *BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literature* (annual since 2009)
  - *BIGSAS in Town* (since 2009)
  - *BIGSAS Journalist Award* (biannual since 2011)
  - *BIGSAS@school* (since 2012)
  - *BIGSAS Denkatelier/BIGSAS Forum for Thought / Les ateliers BIGSAS de la pensée* (since 2016)

## 9. Contact



### Administration office

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### Visitors' address

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95445 Bayreuth

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### Postal address

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Germany