Marie Jahoda Visiting Professor Programme in International Gender Studies

Profile
The main objectives of the Marie Jahoda Visiting Professor Programme in International Gender Studies are to support research and teaching that is focused on gender and to encourage international cooperation in gender studies. The programme maintains a long-term strategy in combining gender research with six disciplines at the Ruhr University Bochum: sociology, gender studies, media studies, history, philology and art history. The programme also aims to promote exchanges on gender-related topics and to contribute to academic diversity through the co-teaching of a class at the master’s degree level in the gender studies programme and in participating subjects.

Organisation
The Marie Jahoda Visiting Professorship was founded to promote international academic exchanges on gender. It was inaugurated in 1994 with the support of the Ministry of Science and Education of the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia and is now funded by the rector’s office at the Ruhr University Bochum.

The professorship has been held by many eminent scholars with expertise in gender studies and represents the variety of disciplines researching gender topics at the Ruhr University Bochum. With a long-standing partnership of seven academic chairs with a focus on gender, the Ruhr University Bochum offers a unique and dynamic academic environment for studies on gender.

The Marie Jahoda Visiting Professor Programme in International Gender Studies is part of the Chair of Sociology/Social Inequality and Gender. The chair’s research and teaching areas focus on social and gender change in welfare societies and on organised inequalities in different societal fields. Currently, it concentrates on inequalities in scientific organisation(s) and on demographic change.

Contact
Chair
Prof. Dr. Heike Kahlert
Faculty of Social Science
Chair of Sociology/Social Inequality and Gender
Postal address: Universitätsstr. 150, 44801 Bochum, Germany
Office address: Universitätsstr. 134, room 3/3.14
Homepage: www.sowi.rub.de/sozsug

Project Coordinator
Stefanie Leinfellner
Faculty of Social Science
Chair of Sociology/Social Inequality and Gender
Postal address: Universitätsstr. 150, 44801 Bochum, Germany
Office address: Universitätsstr. 134, room 3/3.03
Phone: +49 (0)234 32-22986
Fax: +49 (0)234 32-14502
E-Mail: marie-jahoda-chair@rub.de
Homepage: www.sowi.rub.de/jahoda

How to Find Us
As a philosopher with wide-ranging interests in social and political questions, Associate Professor Fiona Jenkins is a Reader in the School of Philosophy at the Australian National University. After establishing the ANU Gender Institute, she was its Convenor from 2012 to 2015, combining academic and practical interests in gender equity. Her influential work on the status of women in Philosophy has developed into a wider concern with how excellence is measured in academia. She is the leader of the collaborative Australian Research Council Discovery project “Gendered Excellence in the Social Sciences” and a second project, which focuses on questions of political legitimacy and ways of resisting violence, is titled “Sensate Democracy”.

**Selected Publications**


**Events at the Ruhr University Bochum**

**Compact Course**

“Gendered Excellence: The Disciplinary Contexts of Persistent Gender Inequalities” with Prof. Dr. Heike Kahlert

**Time:** 26 October, 2 – 4 p.m., 23 – 24 November, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Venue:** GBCF 04/255

The radical transformation of traditional humanities and social science disciplines through feminist scholarship was an ambition often expressed in an era, roughly spanning the 1980-90’s, which saw the rapid growth of women’s numbers and influence in the academy, alongside the rise and institutionalisation of distinctive critical approaches to gender. Different disciplines have undergone widely differing degrees as well as kinds of change. Today, in several social sciences disciplines, one can see strong patterns of women’s workforce under-representation, as compared with sociology anthropology and history. This course will consider whether women’s status and workforce participation as academics, might be usefully considered alongside histories of the reception and influence of the scholarship that women introduced into particular fields.

**Feminist standpoint theory offers relevant reflections on the epistemic issues that arise for acceptance of scholarly work that criticises established hierarchies, contests authoritative norms, and is generated by a subordinated group.**

**Inaugural Lecture at the Colloquium of the Faculty of Social Science**

“Understanding the Odds against Women in the Academy: Unconscious Bias v. Gendered Excellence”

**Time:** 15 November 2017, 4 p.m.

**Venue:** GC 04/45

Unconscious implicit bias is now evoked routinely to explain the persistence of gender and racial inequalities, long after they were expected to have been defeated by the adoption of egalitarian norms. This approach seems to help us to see how the causes of inequality can lie in non-deliberate forms of discrimination by well-meaning actors. By bringing unconscious bias into the foreground, however, are more important questions about persistent inequality obscured? This presentation discusses where the limits of applicability of such approaches lie, particularly in view of gender inequality in academia. Although they offer a way of encouraging people to talk about uncomfortable topics, I argue their popularity involves disavowal of the political character of gender inequality in academia, fails to examine the extent of inequality’s implications for disciplinary knowledge, and does not adequately challenge inequality’s supportive social and institutional contexts.

**International Workshop**


**Time:** 8 – 10 November 2017

**Venue:** Beckmanns Hof at the RUB

Feminist standpoint theory offers relevant reflections on the epistemic issues that arise for acceptance of scholarly work that criticises established hierarchies, contests authoritative norms, and is generated by a subordinated group.