

Dear readers,

The **Baltic Gender** newsletter provides you with information on upcoming events, women networks and interesting reading about females in (marine) science. Our newsletter is published every four months and is also available for download under the following link: www.baltic-gender.eu.

We report on recent and upcoming project activities and outcomes. This issue informs you about the new round of the Baltic Gender Mentoring Scheme, gives insight into what is meant by the term "Gendered Innovations" by reporting on the workshop held by Londa Schiebinger and goes back into history for a short portrait of Maria Sibylla Merian.

If you have information for next issues, comments on the content, or suggestions – let us know! Enjoy reading, and we look forward to your feedback to: baltic-gender@io-warnemuende.de.

Project news

Workshop on "Gendered Innovations in Science and Engineering", 4 September 2018, Kiel

How does sex and gender apply to research, especially to marine science and technology? During the workshop, which was led by Prof. Londa Schiebinger from Stanford University and Director of "Gendered Innovations in Science, Medicine, Engineering, and Environment Project" 16 participants from Geomar, University of Kiel, Kiel University of Applied Sciences and the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde discussed lively about the relevance of sex and gender in their own research questions. Prof. Londa Schiebinger introduced several case studies on how gender analysis can profoundly enhance human knowledge in these areas and the participants discussed how gender analysis could be applicable to shape their research questions. □



Photo: Kiel UAS/M. K. van Elsacker

Second Baltic Gender Mentoring Programme started in August

The international Baltic Gender Mentoring Scheme supports female marine scientists and engineers. Eligible for the 2018 call have been 3rd year PhD students, (early to mid-career) female marine scientists holding a doctoral degree and female engineers from the Baltic Gender partner institutions and collaboration partners. Following the evaluation of the 22 applications by the selection committee, ten scientists from marine science institutions in Germany, Estonia, Finland and Latvia began the two-year Mentoring programme in mid-August. Now, the mentees are contacting their mentors to start communication about individual goals and focuses of the mentoring relationship. The next meeting will be held in April 2019 at the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde and facilitate cross-group exchange. □

Workshop on "Gender Equality and Gender-Conscious Teaching in Science"

The 2-days workshop on 14-15 June 2018 at the Kiel University of Applied Sciences focused on gender & diversity aspects in academic teaching, provided methods and tools for gender- and diversity-sensitive lecturing and, moreover, gave space for lively discussions. The training was led by Pia Garske, a political scientist from the University of Göttingen. The participants gained insights and new perspectives on the various effects of gender and diversity on performance

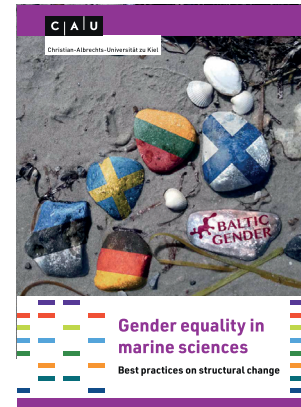


Photo: Kiel UAS/M. K. van Elsacker

and interpersonal behavior of students and staff in higher education institutions. The 17 participants from the partner institutions in Estonia, Lithuania, Sweden and Germany were an interdisciplinary mixed group. In the evening the workshop participants visited the Media Dome and the cultural centre Bunker-D located at the campus of Kiel UAS. A second workshop will take place in February 2019 at Kiel UAS.

Collection of successful measures to promote gender equality in the marine sciences now available

The electronic version of the brochure “Gender equality in marine sciences. Best practices on structural change” can be downloaded from the Baltic Gender homepage: <https://www.baltic-gender.eu/de/outcomes>. The brochure introduces a variety of measures and actions implemented within the Baltic Gender partner institutions in order to improve gender equality and to anchor gender-fair institutional structures and practices. The examples are categorized according to their main focuses ranging from decision-making over distribution of resources, recruitment and staff development to rising awareness of gender inequalities. Each example is accompanied by recommendations for all institutions who think of implementing similar measures. □



Check also the **Baltic Gender Blog** to read the latest entries: (<http://www.oceanblogs.org/balticgender/>). □

News from Baltic Gender partners & Other news

2018 Call for PhD Scholarships in Ecology and Environmental Sciences (Hydrobiology, Marine biology, Aquatic ecology, Limnology)

The Marine Research Institute of the Klaipeda University awards five PhD scholarships (4 years) to work on selected topics in marine ecology, policy and management. The institute is the largest research unit of the Klaipeda University and part of the network with many Baltic and European marine research institutions. Basic annual scholarship is provided. Additional scholarships and travel funds are available after 1 year through Lithuanian Science Council. Candidates (incl. Non-Lithuanian and Non-EU Nationals) with MSc degree are eligible to apply. Applications are accepted between September 10 and 21, 2018. Further information on topics, submission rules and start of the study period can be obtained here: <http://apc.ku.lt/en/index.php/the-doctorate-school-in-ecology-and-environmental-sciences/topics-for-2018-call/>. □



KLAIPEDA UNIVERSITY

Applying to the Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard-Foundation

The Foundation for the promotion of science and research, initiated in 2004, supports talented young women with children. The grants are aimed at excellent women scientists in the field of experimental natural sciences. The CNV-Foundation sponsors graduate students from the start of the second year of their thesis and as long as the project is still in its experimental stage. With postdoctoral fellows the CNV-Foundation is particularly keen to support those who have changed their area of research after their doctoral studies. Eligible to apply are graduate students and postdoctoral fellows of all nationalities, who are conducting their research at a German university or research institute, as well as postdoctoral fellows who have obtained their doctoral degree at a German university and continue their research abroad. Application deadline is on November 30 of each calendar year. For detailed information see <http://www.cnv-stiftung.de/en/application/>. □

Earth Science Women's Network (ESWN) wins the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM)

On June 25, 2018 ESWN was one of 14 organizational recipients of the U. S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM). PAESMEM recognizes

the critical roles mentors play outside the traditional classroom in the academic and professional development of the future STEM workforce. Since 1995, PAESMEM has honored the hard work and dedication mentors exhibit in broadening participation in the STEM pipeline. For details see: <https://eswnonline.org/eswn-wins-paesmem-award/>

Upcoming events

11/12 October 2018, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: STEMM Gender Equality Congress.

Details: <https://stemmequality.com/>

6 November 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark: The 7th BONUS Forum and the 8th HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan Stakeholder Conference.

Details: www.bonusportal.org/BONUS-HELCOM-2018

26 November 2018, Brussels, Belgium: The Baltic Sea Region – A Science Powerhouse”.

Details: <https://sciencebusiness.net/events/baltic-sea-region-science-powerhouse>

Women networks

[AcademiaNet](#)

- Data base with profiles of excellent female researchers from all disciplines in Germany (since 2010) and Europe (since 2012)
- initiative funded in 2010 by Robert-Bosch Stiftung and Spektrum der Wissenschaft

[epws](#) (European Platform of Women Scientists)

- since 2005
- >100 member networks in 40 countries
- international non-profit organisation
- represents >12,000 female scientists in Europe and beyond to give them a voice in EU research policy

[eswn](#) (Earth Science Women's Network)

[FemConsult](#) Note: Website (currently?) not in English available

- data base of more than 3,000 female scientists with doctoral or post-doctoral qualification from all disciplines and working at universities, non-university research institutions, industry and commerce from the German-speaking countries

[Femdat](#) Note: Website only partially in English

- Swiss data base of highly qualified women (since 2001) with job offers (since 2006)
- swiss women career portal (log-in required)
- tips & knowledge for job entry, career and switching

[FEMtech](#)-Expertinnendatenbank

- database of female experts
- initiative of the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT)
- further categories: news, events, knowledge, funding

[FiF](#) (Contact point women into EU Research) Website in German with partial information in English

- initiated 2001 by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- to provide women in Germany with information and service relating to the EU's research framework programmes (currently: Horizon 2020); only advisory services – no funding
- offers for female scientists: (i) seminars, workshops & lectures on EU research funding and participation chances, (ii) first information about funding opportunities, (iii) consulting during application, (iv) information about being a consultant to the EU

[GEPRIIS](#) Note: project information available mainly in German language

- online database made available by the DFG
- provides information on current DFG-funded research projects

[INWES](#) (International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists)

[WICGE](#) (International Network of Women in Coastal Geoscience and Engineering)

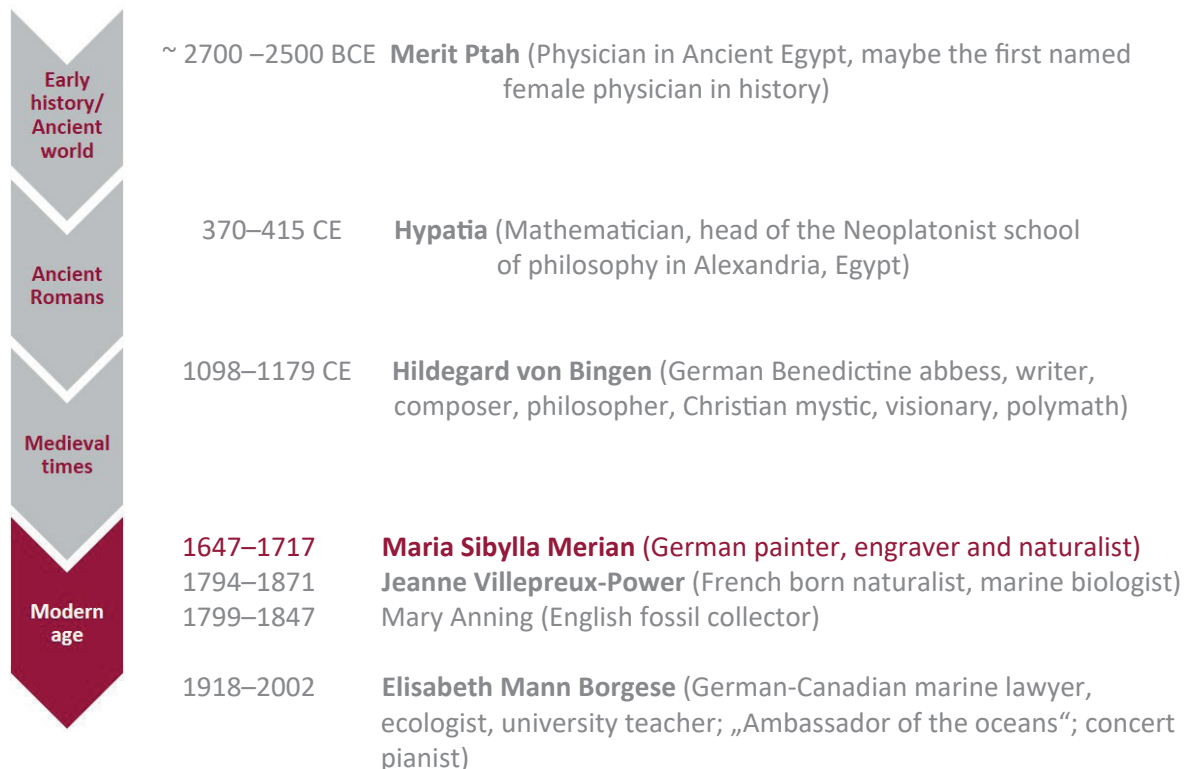
Interesting reading

Ana Vila-Concejo, Shari L. Gallop, Sarah M. Hamylton, Luciana S. Esteves, Karin R. Bryan, Irene Delgado-Fernandez, Emilia Guisado-Pintado, Siddhi Joshi, Graziela Miot da Silva, Amaia Ruiz de Alegria-Arzaburu, Hannah E. Power, Nadia Senechal & Kristen Splinter: **Steps to improve gender diversity in coastal geoscience and engineering**. *Palgrave Communications*, volume 4, Article number: 103 (2018), <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-018-0154-0> (Published: 04 September 2018, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-018-0154-0>)

James Zou & Londa Schiebinger: **Design AI so that it's fair**. *Nature*, Vol. 559, p. 324-326 (Comment, 19 July 2018) <https://www.nature.com/magazine-assets/d41586-018-05707-8/d41586-018-05707-8.pdf>

Londa Schiebinger (ed.): **Women and Gender in Science and Technology**. (Critical concepts in historical studies, Vol. 1), Taylor & Francis, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxford, UK, 2014. <https://www.routledge.com/Women-and-Gender-in-Science-and-Technology/Schiebinger/p/book/9780415855600>

Brief history of women in [marine] science – Part 5



Past and present – Female scientists in portrait

Maria Sibylla Merian (2. April 1647, Frankfurt am Main, Germany – 13. Januar 1717, Amsterdam, Netherlands) — German-born Naturalist and Artist

Maria Sibylla Merian, also known as Anna Maria Sibylla, German-born naturalist and nature artist known for her illustrations of insects and plants. Her works on insect development and the transformation of insects through the process

of metamorphosis contributed to the advance of entomology in the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

When Merian was three, her father, renowned illustrator Matthäus Merian, died, and she subsequently was raised by her mother and stepfather, still-life painter Jacob Marrel. Merian studied painting under the tutelage of Marrel at the family's Frankfurt home. She collected insects and other specimens for Marrel's compositions,

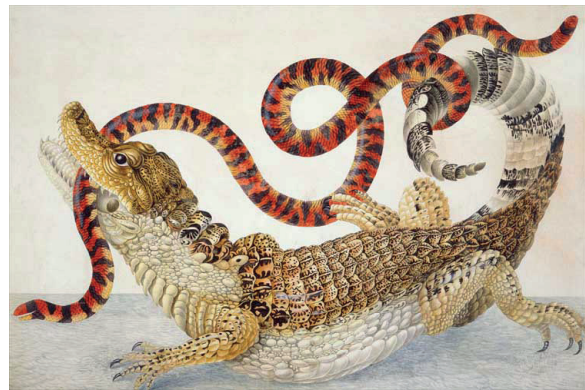
and in these formative years, nature—plants and caterpillars in particular—became Merian’s primary subjects of artistic interest. She eventually started her own caterpillar collection in order to study the insects’ maturation into butterflies. Even in these early years of her career, Merian’s observations and illustrations of insects and plants in various life stages were remarkable for their scientific quality.



Painted portrait of Maria Sibylla Merian (public domain via Wikimedia Commons).

In 1665 Merian married Johann Andreas Graff, an apprentice of Marrel’s. Three years later, the couple’s first daughter, Johanna Helena, was born, and soon after the family moved to Nürnberg, Graff’s hometown. They remained there for the next 14 years, during which time Merian created a series of watercolour engravings of popular flowers. These illustrations were published between 1675 and 1680 in the three-volume *Blumenbuch* (“Book of Flowers”), which was later reprinted, with 36 plates and a preface, as *Neues Blumenbuch* (“New Book of Flowers”). In 1678 the couple’s second daughter, Dorothea Maria, was born. The following year, Merian published the first volume of *Der Raupen wunderbare Verwandlung, und sonderbare Blumen-nahrung* (“Caterpillars, Their Wondrous Transformation and Peculiar Nourishment from Flowers”; the second volume appeared in 1683), in which she depicted in detail the metamorphosis of moths and butterflies. Each insect was shown on or beside its plant food source and was accompanied by text describing the stage of metamorphosis illustrated. The work was celebrated for its scientific accuracy and for bringing a new standard of precision to scientific illustration.

Merian, Graff, and their children eventually returned to Frankfurt, apparently to care for Merian’s mother following her stepfather’s death in 1681. In 1685, however, Graff returned, alone, to Nürnberg, and the next year Merian, her mother, and her daughters set out for the village of Wiewert (Wieuwerd) in West Friesland (now in the Netherlands), where her half-brother Caspar had joined a Labadist colony (Labadists were a separatist group of Pietists founded by theologian Jean de Labadie). During her time with the colony, Merian appears to have produced few paintings. In 1691, a year after her mother’s death, Merian and her daughters went to Amsterdam. She soon after was legally divorced from Graff.



Surinam caiman (biting South American false coral snake, hand-coloured transfer engraving by Maria S. Merian (Peter Sluyter, printmaker), 1719. J. Paul Getty Museum (object no. 89-B10750); digital image courtesy of the Getty's Open Content Program

In 1699 Merian and Dorothea Maria set sail for a projected five-year-long expedition to Suriname, located on the northern coast of South America. The voyage afforded Merian a unique opportunity to explore new species of insects and plants. The two women settled in at Paramaribo and together collected, studied, and composed illustrations of the jungle’s plants, insects, and other animals. After less than two years, however, illness forced Merian to return to Amsterdam. In 1705 she published *Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium* (“The Metamorphosis of the Insects of Suriname”). Arguably the most important work of her career, it included some 60 engravings illustrating the different stages of development that she had observed in Suriname’s insects. Similar to her caterpillar book, *Metamorphosis* depicted the insects on and around their host plants and included text describing each stage



Cardinal's guard flower with owl butterfly and unidentified larva, hand-coloured transfer engraving by Maria S. Merian (Joseph Mulder, printmaker), 1719. J. Paul Getty Museum (object no. 89-B10750); digital image courtesy of the Getty's Open Content Program

The year of Merian's death, her paintings were purchased for Peter I, tsar of Russia. Dorothea Maria subsequently was summoned to St. Petersburg, where she worked as a scientific illustrator for the tsar and became the first woman to be employed by the Russian Academy of Sciences. □

Reference:

[Cited with minor text cuts from the original article "Maria Sibylla Merian" written by Kara Rogers and published on March 26, 2018 in the biography section at: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Maria-Sibylla-Merian>, access date: September 09, 2018]

of development. The book was one of the first illustrated accounts of the natural history of Suriname.

Research infrastructure bearing the name of Maria S. Merian:

A **medium-sized research vessel** for expeditions to the near-polar regions, based with the Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemuende (IOW), from July 26, 2005 has been **named Maria S. Merian**. On February 9, 2006, the ship was handed over to the institute off Warnemünde and put into service. [source: <https://www.io-warnemuende.de/fs-maria-s-merian.html>]

On June 9, 2017, the **building of the Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre of the Senckenberg Nature Research Society in Frankfurt am Main** has been renamed **Maria Sibylla Merian-Haus**. [source: http://www.senckenberg.de/root/index.php?page_id=5206&PHPSESSID=348tp6t3nqdei15o4pfe51tqg3&year=2017&kid=2&id=4479]

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Baltic Gender brochure gives a summary of the motivation, aim, concept and activities of the project:

http://oceanrep.geomar.de/38342/1/fl_final.pdf



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