



THE KLIFE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2022 Summer issue of The KLife Newsletter!

Dear friends of the KLI,

Welcome to the summer edition of the KLife Newsletter. In-person life has returned to the KLI. We cautiously opened up the past few months and hosted a long-anticipated in-person working group as well as an Altenberg workshop. To stay safe and continue to connect with our larger community, we kept our weekly colloquia in a hybrid format. Scroll down to learn more about our recent events, research highlights, activities, and the latest collection on “Critical Concepts” in *Biological Theory*.

Stay safe this summer, and see you after the break!

The KLI Team

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Working group

Evolutionary Theory for Social-Ecological Change

Evolutionary and adaptive change are general processes that apply to a wide range of systems. However, applying evolutionary logic to social-ecological systems remains a challenge. The KLI working group “Evolutionary Theory for Social-Ecological Change,” organized by Maja Schlüter and Tim Waring, aims to explore, extend, and enrich the connections between evolutionary theory and social-ecological change. After delaying for two years, we hosted the first in-person meeting of the working group.

[Read more...](#)



The 39th Altenberg Workshop

Agency in Living Systems: Conceptual Frameworks and Research Approaches

Prevailing scientific approaches study organisms largely as passive objects, predetermined in development by their genetic makeup, and in evolution by an external selective environment. The 39th Altenberg Workshop “Agency in Living Systems: Conceptual Frameworks and Research Approaches,” co-organized by Sonia Sultan and Armin Moczek, convened in person to discuss how organisms may be investigated as potential agents of adaptive phenotypes and evolutionary innovation.

[Read more...](#)



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Journal article

A case for empirical philosophy of science in practice

How can philosophers work with scientists? What is the best way for philosophy to be empirical? [In two new papers](#), KLI fellow Luana Poliseli defends empirical methods in philosophy and presents an interesting example of philosopher-ecologist collaboration that investigates mechanistic explanations in ecology.

[Read more...](#)



Journal article

Ethnobiological studies should not assume cultural consensus of knowledge

[New paper](#) in the *Journal of Ethnobiology Ethnomedicine*, led by KLI fellow Vitor Renck, found very little consensus in the way a fishing community classified their object of interest— local fishes. This finding shakes up our assumptions about ethnobiological knowledge.

[In another paper](#), they offer a philosophical framework to integrate traditional with academic knowledge.

[Read more...](#)



Journal article

What can academic institutions do to support international collaborations and innovation projects?

[A new study](#) in *Sustainability*, led by KLI fellow Marina Knickel, argues that the hybridization of cross-border differences between academic institutions (and other knowledge brokers) can help promote inter-regional innovation cooperation. The theoretical framework of this study has important implications for future EU programs.

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... and more!

[“Ethical microbiome research with Indigenous communities”](#) (Stephanie Schnorr) calls for better practices in microbiome research by advocating for a Community-Based Participatory Research

[“Willingness to receive an annual COVID-19 booster vaccine in the German-speaking D-A-CH region in Europe: A cross-sectional study”](#) (Guido Caniglia) offers an insightful example of how collaborative work can happen between sustainability and public health.

RECENT NEWS

Extending our external faculty

The KLI’s list of external faculty has now been extended to include Roberto Cazzolla Gatti, Kevin Lala, and Laura Nuno de la Rosa Garcia. [Read more...](#)



Welcoming new visiting fellows

In the last few months, we welcomed Simon Neubauer, Henrik von Wehrden, Giuseppe Feola, and Vanessa Triviño to the KLI as visiting fellows. [Read more](#) about the current projects supported by the KLI.



KLI at EuroEvoDevo 2022

After a pandemic delay, the organizers of the 8th EuroEvoDevo 2022 were finally able to invite its participants to gather in person at Naples, Italy (May 31-June 3rd, 2022). The KLI was present as both sponsor and attendees, with fellows and faculty giving presentations on the historical and philosophical aspects of evo-devo.

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VIENNA SERIES & BIOLOGICAL THEORY

Vienna Series in Theoretical Biology

Forthcoming: Evolvability, a Unifying Concept?

“Evolvability: A Unifying Concept in Evolutionary Biology?“, edited by Thomas F. Hansen, David Houle, Mihaela Pavlicev and Christophe Pélabon, is coming out next summer in the Vienna Series in Theoretical Biology (MIT Press).



Biological Theory

Now out: Biological Theory’s June 2022 issue!

Volume 17, issue 2 introduces a new collection—“Critical Concepts in Biological Theory”—with the article: “Serial Homology.”

[Click to read a summary of the issue, with links to free epdfs.](#)



SUPPORTING UKRAINE

Science Alliance for Ukraine

The KLI is supporting the Science Alliance for Ukraine, a website collecting academic and research offers (in the life sciences) for those seeking to continue their work abroad from Ukraine.

[Read more...](#)



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You can find all our past issues in pdf & email format [on the KLI website](#).

Get in touch!

The KLI is an independent center of advanced studies in the life and sustainability sciences. The mission of the institute is to **enable scientific reasoning** that can contribute to understanding and sustaining life on Earth in its biological, cognitive, social, and cultural diversity.

The KLI supports research focusing on **evolutionary theory**, especially in its relation to development, cognition, and sustainability science, as well as on the history, philosophy, and social studies of science.

You can find further information about KLI on our [Homepage](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).