

# AFOA – WG Freelance OsteoAnthropologists

## Preamble

In recent years the field of anthropology within the university system has been subject to a continuous process of dismantling. As a result, various opportunities for freelance anthropologists have arisen, particularly in cooperation with state offices for archaeology, private excavation outfits, and museums, all of whom are seeking the services of a competent partner for archaeological digs or consulting.

The examination of human remains in Germany, meanwhile, is and will be done mainly by Freelance Osteoanthropologists.

The designation „anthropologist“ is very broad and not protected. To ensure a high quality of analyses and protect the interest of freelance anthropologists, a group of experienced anthropologists founded the Workgroup „Freelance Anthropologists (AFOA)“ at the meeting of the Society for Anthropology (GfA). The members of AFOA have agreed upon guidelines and a codex in which they agree to adhere to the code of best practice and to deliver the highest standard of analyses according to current research standards. The codex ensures a high quality for serious anthropological work. With their signatures, members agree to abide by the guidelines and the codex.

For more information on AFOA, its members and the codex, please visit the GfA website ([www.gfanet.de](http://www.gfanet.de)) or contact the group spokespersons:

1. Dr. Bettina Jungklaus and 2. Carola Berszin

Individualdaten	Skeletons		Cremation remains
	Base recording	Standard recording	Standard recording
Preservation	x	x	x
Minimum number of individuals, mixed bones	x	x	x
Estimation of Age, morphological	x	x	x
Estimation of Age, histological			x
Combustion grade, Colour of bone fragments, weight			x
Determination of Sex, morphological	x	x	x
Estimation of Stature	x	x	x
Osteometrics (Measurement of bones)		x	x
Nonmetric Variations		x	x
<b>Diseases</b>			
Dental status incl. Dental Pathological	x	x	x
Diseases of Joints (Osteoarthritis)	x	x	
Degenerative changes in the vertebral structure	x	x	x
Markers of muscular stress		x	
Striking changes and unusual features	x	x	x
<b>Fotographing</b>			
Diseases, changes and discolourations	x	x	x
<b>Final report</b>			
Catalogue and evaluation of the data	x	x	x
Discussion of the results		x	x

## Guidelines & Codex

Object of the osteologist work is the examination of human remains from (pre-) historic epochs.

In the ideal case the Osteoanthropologist is involved during the excavation. Experiences have shown that important information can be won with their participation on the spot or be lost irrevocably without a technical company.

The estimation of age of death, sex and stature provides the basic information about the individual. Diseases in particular cases or a population permit conclusions on the conditions of life. Therefore a detailed pathological analysis, inclusive of a photo documentation, is part of every examination. Archaeometry analysis increasingly gain meaning.

Depending on target and question of the examinations the base recording or the standard recording is recommended (see table below).

All members of the AFOA have signed a codex in which they among others commit themselves to produce anthropological work according to the guidelines as well as the general current scientific standards to continue regularly their education and to calculate her fees in an adequate and serious way.

The employment of of archaeometric and medical methods makes more detailed acquisition of knowledge possible:

Method	Statement possibility
Analysis of stable isotopes	Diet, geographical origin
Analysis of aDNA	Sex-/ relationship determination, origin
X-rays	Diseases diagnosis (Macrostructure of bone/tooth)
Toothcementannulation	Estimation of age (Microstructure of tooth)
Light microscopy	Age-/ Diseases diagnosis (Microstructure of bone/tooth)
Computer tomography	Diseases diagnosis (Microstructure of bone/tooth)
Endoscope	Diseases diagnosis (Surface of bone/tooth)
Electron microscopy	Diseases diagnosis (Surface of bone/tooth)



## Founder members AFOA

standing, left to right:

Dipl.-Biol. Kristin von Heyking (München),  
Susanne Storch M.A. (Berlin),

Dr. rer. nat. Bettina Jungklaus (Berlin),  
Carola Berszin M.A. (Konstanz),

kneeling, left to right:

Dipl.-Biol. Anna Zipp (Göttingen),  
Barbara Teßmann M.A. (Berlin),

Dr. rer. nat. Katharina Funk (Berlin) und  
Dr. rer. nat. Birgit Großkopf (Göttingen).

## Freelance Projects

### Interdisciplinary researches and restoration of an East Frisian Chieftain family - crypt at the Lutheran parish St Bartholomew, Dornum, District of Aurich, East Friesland, Germany

**Project:** 2013 – Land of discoveries. The archaeology of the Frisian coastal area, Module „Death and „Herlichkeit“ (territory)“, Pilot study „Crypt of the Barons of Closter“

**Date:** 2011

**Sponsoring:** INTERREG IV A-Programm Deutschland-Niederland (Mittel des Europäischen Fonds für Regionale Entwicklung (EFRE)), Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Arbeit, Wirtschaft und Verkehr, die Provinzen Groningen, Drenthe und Fryslân, Sparkassenstiftung Aurich-Norden, Ems-Dollart-Region EDR, Ostfriesische Landschaft, Ev.-Luth. Kirchengemeinde St. Bartholomäus Dornum

**Measures:** Scientific documentation of the inventory (art-history, textiles und anthropology) /

Renovation and restoration of the vault / Restoration of the coffins



[www.land-der-entdeckungen.eu](http://www.land-der-entdeckungen.eu) / [www.forschungsstelle-gruft.de](http://www.forschungsstelle-gruft.de) / [www.tillwick.net](http://www.tillwick.net)  
Kontakt: [forschungsstellegruft@gmx.de](mailto:forschungsstellegruft@gmx.de)



### The late medieval village population of Diepensee, Brandenburg

Bettina Jungklaus, Berlin

An archaeological survey conducted in Diepensee (district Dahme-Spreewald) in the summer of 2005 resulted in the surprise discovery of the village's medieval cemetery which was subsequently excavated in its entirety. The 480 individuals represent the first complete skeletal series found in the state of Brandenburg dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. Osteological and palaeopathological examinations yielded a plethora of data that provide information on the life of the inhabitants. The comparatively low mortality rate amongst small children and high life expectancy in adults indicate fortuitous living standards. Their diet is thought to have consisted primarily of grain foods with a large proportion of tough fibre. Evidence shows that the childhood years following weaning were associated with physiologically stressful situations, which however, were not necessarily correlated to a higher death rate. On the contrary, it seems that these burdens were successfully overcome. It is apparent that the inhabitants of Diepensee enjoyed a relatively good quality of life.



Section of the cemetery with burials



Enamel Hypoplasia, female, 40-47 years



Tooth abrasion, male, 50-58 years

Jungklaus, B., Palaeodemographic and palaeopathological aspects of the late medieval village population of Diepensee (Brandenburg). In: Grupe, G., McGlynn, G. and Peters, J. (eds), Limping together through the ages. Joint afflictions and bone infections. Documenta Archaeobiologiae 6, 2008, 81-117.

**Sponsoring:** Flughafen Berlin-Schönefeld GmbH, Technische Planung und Bau BB1  
**Contracting authorities:** Brandenburgisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege, Archäologisches Landesmuseum

### Roman burials from Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium (CCAA), Cologne

Carola Berszin, Konstanz



The first urban settlement was the Oppidum Ubiorum, founded in 38 BC by the Ubii. In 50 AD the Romans founded CCAA and in 85 AD the city became the provincial capital of Germania inferior. Remnants of grave monuments and graves have been discovered since the Middle Ages. Today almost 10000 Roman burials are known. An ongoing project to examine the roman burial places has been organized by the Römisch Germanisches Museum, Cologne. Up until 2011 nearly 900 Roman skeletons and cremation remains have been examined anthropologically by the author. From the archaeological point of view the political, economic, ethnic and religious changes are reflected in burial and funeral customs. One of the anthropological foci lies on the research of the skeletal series and their socio-economic context employing modern standards of anthropological examination.

Höpken, C. Liesen, B. mit Beiträgen von H.Berke, C.Berszin, I. Martell und M. Schweissing: Römische Gräber im Kölner Süden I. Von der Stadtmauer bis zur Nekropole St. Severin. Kölner Jahrbuch 42, 2009, 447-544.

**Financing:** Ministry of Economy, Energy, Building, Habitation and Transport of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia  
Römisch Germanisches Museum, Cologne



## Members of WG:

### Carola Berszin M.A.

Wessenbergstr. 22-24  
78462 Konstanz  
Tel.: 07531 – 363 20 30  
Mobil: 0160 – 9054 2201  
[carola.berszin@t-online.de](mailto:carola.berszin@t-online.de)

### Dr. Angelika Burkhardt

Schürmannweg 5  
38118 Braunschweig  
Tel.: 0531 – 509789  
[an.bu@t-online.de](mailto:an.bu@t-online.de)

### Dr. Katharina Funk

Tel.: 030 – 9559 0061  
Fax: 030 – 9559 0062  
Mobil: 0178 – 180 38 99  
[funk@anthropologie-berlin.de](mailto:funk@anthropologie-berlin.de)  
[www.anthropologie-berlin.de](http://www.anthropologie-berlin.de)

### Dr. Birgit Großkopf

Wolfgang-Pauli-Weg 4  
37077 Göttingen  
Tel. 0171 - 482 68 23  
[birgit@grosskopf-online.de](mailto:birgit@grosskopf-online.de)

### Kristin von Heyking, Dipl.-Biol.

Gautingerstraße 13  
82131 Stockdorf (bei München)  
Mobil: 0172 – 470 15 53  
[kheyking@gmx.de](mailto:kheyking@gmx.de)  
[www.sapm.mwn.de](http://www.sapm.mwn.de)

### Dr. Bettina Jungklaus

Weißwasserweg 4  
12205 Berlin  
Mobil: 0172 – 400 94 96  
[B.Jungklaus@t-online.de](mailto:B.Jungklaus@t-online.de)  
[www.anthropologie-jungklaus.de](http://www.anthropologie-jungklaus.de)

### Johanna Kranzbühler M.A.

Gießener Straße 10  
35410 Hungen  
Mobil: 0176 – 4127 7337  
[kranzbuehler-bioarch@web.de](mailto:kranzbuehler-bioarch@web.de)

### Susanne Storch M.A.

Semliner Straße 18  
12555 Berlin  
Mobil: 0160 – 44 34 121  
[s.storch@abp-anthropologie.de](mailto:s.storch@abp-anthropologie.de)  
[www.abp-anthropologie.de](http://www.abp-anthropologie.de)

### Barbara Teßmann M.A.

Wrangelstraße 86  
10997 Berlin  
Tel.: 030 – 618 73 97  
Mobil: 0163 – 618 73 97  
[barbaratessmann@gmx.de](mailto:barbaratessmann@gmx.de)

### Viera Trancik Petitpierre, Dipl. phil II

Am Hübeli 12  
CH-4147 Aesch  
Tel.: +41 78 609 77 67  
Mail: [v.trancik@bluewin.ch](mailto:v.trancik@bluewin.ch)

### Dr. Martin Trautmann

Stolzenekstraße 7  
81245 München  
[info@ao-bioarchaeologie.de](mailto:info@ao-bioarchaeologie.de)  
[www.ao-bioarchaeologie.de](http://www.ao-bioarchaeologie.de)

### Dana Vick M.A.

Flotowstr. 29  
22083 Hamburg  
Mobil: 0176 – 29 00 52 05  
[dana\\_vick@gmx.de](mailto:dana_vick@gmx.de)  
[www.forschungsstelle-gruft.de](http://www.forschungsstelle-gruft.de)