

# *Progress Report*

## UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures

*Period: 09/2019 – 08/2020*



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Linnæus University



• UNESCO Chair  
• on Heritage Futures,  
• Linnæus University, Sweden

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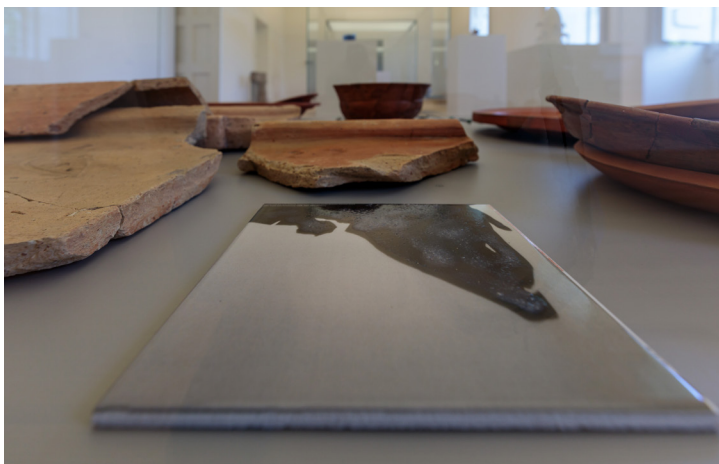
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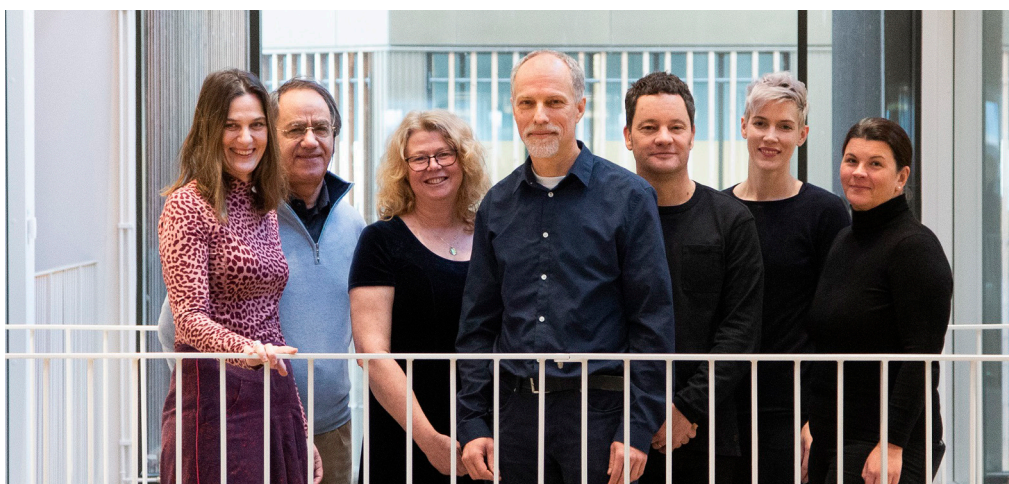
## *Preserved for the future*

Cornelius Holtorf (with Martin Kunze) prepared a contribution to the exhibition "Creative (un)makings: disruptions in art/archaeology" at Santo Tirso International Museum of Contemporary Sculpture, Portugal, 6 March – 21 June 2020.



"Preserved for the Future" is part of the larger installation called Ineligible which took artefacts from an excavation in San Francisco and used them as raw materials in order to make new artistic work that stimulates museum viewers' thoughts about a variety of contemporary issues. Our work used a shoe from the excavation. Illustrating the creativity in all preservation, it challenges the widespread preservation paradigm according to which the cultural heritage is constantly at risk and must be saved from loss.

# Team



A mix of committed individuals from different countries, with different specialisms and at different stages in their careers.

**Dr Cornelius Holtorf**, Professor of Archaeology and holder of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University. Director of the Graduate School in Contract Archaeology (GRASCA).

**Dr Annalisa Bolin**, Postdoctoral Fellow at Linnaeus University. She conducts research on the international politics of heritage repatriation from Germany to Rwanda—with a focus on the uses of heritage in decolonization and developing new futures for Global South nations.

**Dr Anders Högberg**, Professor of Archaeology at Linnaeus University. Special fields of interest are heritage studies and human cognitive evolution.

**Dr Sarah May**, Senior Lecturer in Public History and Heritage at Swansea University. She is particularly interested in the way children are used in future discourse.

**Dr Claudio Pescatore**, nuclear engineer, previously at the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the OECD, special field of interest is the preservation of memory. Affiliated Researcher at Linnaeus University.

**Helena Rydén**, Assistant to the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures.

**Ulrika Söderström**, PhD student at the Graduate School in Contract Archaeology at Linnaeus University. Her research interest is the use of heritage and archaeological knowledge in sustainable urban development.

All seven members of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures met on 21–22 January 2020 at Linnaeus University in Kalmar to exchange views and experiences on relevant issues and to launch the second phase of their work for which they will intensify joint discussions.

# Introduction

Over its first three years, the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University has been engaging in an extensive programme of national and international collaboration in research and training. We presented our work and agenda on many occasions in Sweden and around the world. In this report, we document the progress made by the entire team over our third year of activities. Please note especially the many topical publications this year.

The impact of Covid-19 meant that after mid-March our planned trips for research and conferences were cancelled. But it also meant that we got used to efficient meetings with colleagues in Zoom and other digital environments and that we had more time to write at home. We also got to think about the implications of the corona virus, which still holds the world in its grip, for heritage, heritage futures and the future of society at large (see following double page).

## Background

Heritage futures are concerned with the roles of heritage in managing the relations between present and future societies, e.g. through anticipation, planning, and prefiguration. Our work is dedicated to developing professional strategies that can enhance how heritage shapes the future. We ask questions such as: Which future do we preserve the heritage for? Which heritage will benefit future generations most? How can we build capacity in future thinking (futures literacy) among heritage professionals worldwide?

The UNESCO Chair Programme addresses pressing challenges in society. The chairs serve as think-tanks and bridge-builders between human communities, civil society, academia, and policy-making, generating innovation through research, informing policy decisions and establishing new teaching initiatives. The UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University is one of eight UNESCO Chairs in Sweden and the only one in the area of culture.

Please get in touch if you have any comments or suggestions.

*Cornelius Holtorf*

*Professor of Archaeology and holder of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures*



*Map of the Chair's activities 09/2019 – 08/2020 (selection)*

# Activities

## *From Corona Crisis to Heritage Futures*

A commentary on the “corona crisis” from the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures. — Do we need a new kind of world heritage for the post-corona world?

A virus has put the world on hold. Many individual human actions suddenly appear extremely small and insignificant in comparison with the unyielding might and relentless spread with which the SARS-CoV-2 virus is presently conquering Earth. We are witnessing how the virus does not distinguish between human hosts and how all societies struggle with the challenges of containing and managing the corona virus disease “COVID-19”.

It is not surprising that many have started asking about the legacy that the ‘corona crisis’ of 2020 is going to leave behind for the years and perhaps for decades to come. Seldom have the relations between present and future societies felt more relevant than during the present weeks.

Besides a likely breakthrough of digital solutions in communication, there are some important lessons to be learned. We all need care from fellow human beings but also adequate health care provision, appropriate risk preparedness and basic social security available in the communities within which we live. Furthermore, there have been calls to make the global economy less dependent on ‘just-in-time’ production and multi-country supply chains. A third issue that has been raised is the right level of power for international organizations, national governments and expert authorities: which combination of competence, trustedness and executive capacity will make the best decisions for a population’s wellbeing and which boundaries must not be overstepped?

There are considerable implications of all this for education and scientific research. On the one hand, this concerns a likely shift to a much greater role of distance learning and digital communication in teaching. On the other, during the years to come we will see many new topics of research and academic debate relating to the current crisis, its management and its consequences.

Perhaps most importantly, there are also consequences of the current crisis for cultural values and beliefs around the world. The strict measures imposed on large parts of the human species have been posing a question that is not asked often enough: how do we want to live together on this planet? Avoiding handshakes and other physical contact for a while has been relatively easy for most but rethinking our contacts with animals, especially those demanded by meat production, will be much more difficult for many – yet could also have greater benefits. Still other kinds of values directly linked to COVID-19 are even more pertinent in the present situation: commentators in many states call for more economic self-reliance, governments increasingly invoke national symbols while international collaborations are played down, and a variety of xenophobic ideas circulate in the media. Such nationalistic rhetoric and behaviour promote a set of values and opinions that could put global peace at risk.

Education, research, culture and communication are important to address this risk. These are the realms of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, better known by the acronym UNESCO. Since its start after the end of World War II, UNESCO has been aiming to foster the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue. Of particular importance has been the ambition to increase mutual understanding and collaboration among the 193 member states and their populations. One tool for achieving this is UNESCO’s 1972 World Heritage Convention. With presently more than 1,100 listed sites, the Convention is arguably the most successful of UNESCO’s various initiatives.

Today, UNESCO’s aims are as significant as ever but the corona crisis could have detrimental consequences for the ability to achieve them in the future. We should therefore not forget that all the measures we take today to mitigate the crisis and its impact, the way in which we communicate on social media about the events as they unfold, and all the calls made about what needs to be done, or must cease to be done, once the crisis is over have a bearing on our future ability to work globally for the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue.



Illustration: World heritage for the post-corona world? Artefacts of the Anthropocene. From Tracey Williams's Collection "Lego Lost at Sea", *The Guardian* 4 April 2020, <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/04/monopoly-houses-toy-soldiers-lego-museum-of-plastic-lost-at-sea>.

In the light of the global spread and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is time to remind ourselves once more of the interdependences between all the people and communities on this planet. We are all part of an interconnected humanity. In recent weeks, we have been reminded that there is a strong need for global solidarity and cooperation. As the virus has spread across the world's societies, many realised the benefits of a speedy global exchange of correct information, of mutual support and solidarity between people to address everybody's needs, and not the least of joint strategies of medical research and the development of a safe vaccine. Over the years and decades to come, we can expect many other kinds of crises when similar collaboration will be important.

Maybe it is time to start identifying and promoting a new kind of world heritage that is not employed to bolster national pride and generate financial benefits for a limited group. We might be better served by a world heritage that reaffirms the many interconnections and common interests between all branches and specimen of humanity – and indeed between humans and other living beings on this planet.

An intriguing example of a truly global world heritage is Tracey Williams' collection of plastic artefacts washed up on the world's beaches. Her images illustrate how global production, consumption and disposal of human artefacts are connected through the flows in the world's oceans. A majority of this plastic trash does not find its way to any beaches but has a destructive impact on maritime habitats and contributes to building up a unique geological signal of the Anthropocene at the bottom of the sea.

A need to appreciate such global interrelations and the way in which all our lives as human beings are connected with each other could turn out to become the most important lesson from the current corona crisis for future societies.

## Education and Training

Cornelius Holtorf lectured on “Heritage Futures and Applied Heritage” for a group of ca 15 researchers and students from South Africa, Turkey, Serbia, Latvia and Sweden taking a course on Applied Heritage and the Time Travel method organised by Kalmar County Museum, Kalmar (13 September 2019). Anders Högberg addressed the same group on “Heritage beyond learning about the past” (17 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf taught students in the Masters-level course on “Advanced Field Archaeology” about how to make a difference in society through field archaeology (17 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf led a half-day Future workshop with 14 members of the Committee for Culture and Leisure at Kalmar Town Council (19 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf and Anders Högberg led a half-day Future workshop with ca 20 politicians and civil servants at the start of working on a new master plan for Borgholm Municipality, Borgholm (23 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf taught 13 students in the Graduate Studies Programme in Antiquity Studies at the University of Basel, Switzerland taking a course on “‘Cultural Heritage’ in Antiquity Studies”. His intensive 2-day workshop on “Das Kulturerbe und wie es uns in der Zukunft von Vorteil sein kann” (Cultural heritage and how it can be of use to us in the future) contained elements of text-based seminar discussion, lecture with discussion, structured futures workshop and open group discussion (18/19 November 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf lectured on “UNESCO and World Heritage: communication with the future” to ca 10 undergraduate students in Heritage Studies at Linnaeus University (31 January 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf gave a Prezi presentation on “Heritage Futures: What does the future hold for heritage?” for the Global Webinar Series of the ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group (29 March 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a Masterclass on “How can heritage professionals respond to environmental change?” for the HERILAND College for Heritage Planning’s digital workshop on Changing Environments, bringing together ca 30 Ph.D. students and their supervisors as well as representatives of partner organisations, from Belgium, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom, and Sweden (11 May 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf presented the story behind the colouring book “Archaeology Today” for an international audience of about 20 attending a seminar during the National Archaeology Week dedicated this year to Archaeology in Society, held at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia (20 May 2020).



A report of our ICOMOS University Forum “Thinking and Planning the Future in Heritage Management” in Amsterdam, 11-14 June 2019 has been co-edited by Nour Munawar and Helena Rydén and was published online.

<http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A1368435&dswid=-4008>



The Proceedings of our Workshop on “Information and Memory for Future Decision-Making – Radioactive Waste and Beyond” in Stockholm, 21-23 May 2019 have been edited by Claudio Pescatore and were published online by the Swedish Nuclear Waste Council.

<http://lnu.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A1356698&dswid=-4008>



# Research

Cornelius Holtorf (as director), Claudio Pescatore (as coordinator) and Anders Högberg have been collaborating with a number of project partners on the project "Memory Across Generations", funded by Sweden's Innovation Agency, VINNOVA, as a challenge-driven innovation project (stage 1). The challenge being addressed was the need of future generations to be able to make knowledgeable decisions relating to repositories of hazardous wastes. We proposed the creation of living cultural heritage by initiating site-specific heritage processes that can contribute to keeping long-term memory alive across generations. Such continuity requires heritage processes to be sufficiently versatile in order, repeatedly, to be able to adapt and translate into new contexts, while embracing change.

Annalisa Bolin completed the first half of a 2-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship on the international politics of heritage repatriation between Rwanda and Germany, especially how governments attempt to use heritage to decolonize and develop new futures (see also the following double page). She received travel grants from the Kungliga Vitterhetsakademien and Erasmus funding for staff mobility.

Ulrika Söderström has been continuing her Doctoral research investigating how futures are created in modern urban planning and development by using cultural heritage as a resource, and the potential consequences these practices can have to social sustainability.

Cornelius Holtorf (co-director) and Anders Högberg recently started work in a project on "Post-Pandemic Tourism Development: Navigating Uncertainty in the Visitor Economy", funded by the Kamprad Family Foundation.

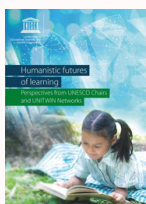
Impact of our research:

[The 2020 Report of the Swedish Nuclear Waste Council to the Swedish Government \(SOU 2020:9, in Swedish\)](#) contains in chapter 7 over several pages a summary of the results of our Workshop "Information and memory for future decision making – radioactive waste and beyond" held in May 2019 in Stockholm.

Raimund Karl reviewed Ulrika Söderström's study *Contract Archaeology and Sustainable Development. Between Policy and Practice* (Växjö: LNU Press, 2018) in [Archäologische Informationen 42, 2019, 399-401](#).



Members of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures met on 21-22 January 2020 at Linnaeus University in Kalmar to exchange views and experiences.



Among the 50 think pieces in UNESCO's new volume on the futures of education is a short essay by Cornelius Holtorf on "Enhancing cultural resilience by learning to appreciate change and transformation." The volume is part of UNESCO's new Futures of Education initiative. It was simultaneously published in English and French.

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pfo000372577.locale=en>

### *Coronavirus and the changing practices of memory in Rwanda*

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in spring 2020, Rwanda was on the brink of Kwibuka, the yearly commemoration of the genocide in 1994. Rwanda is a small, still-impooverished country, highly dependent on aid; Kwibuka, in turn, is a period of memory and mourning, observed via numerous mass gatherings. The intersection of these two events had the potential for significant negative impacts on the public health of a country without huge amounts of resources. But Rwanda's response to the pandemic has been, by all accounts, highly competent. Today, some six months after the essay below was written, confirmed Rwandan deaths from COVID remain in the double digits. This has much to do with a swift and serious response by both the government and many parts of Rwandan society, including a pivot to new forms of commemoration during Kwibuka in order to balance the imperative of mourning with that of public health. With COVID's threat persisting, 2021's Kwibuka may bring an increased focus on the innovative digital spaces developed in 2020, and move Rwanda even further toward this different kind of future for memory.

Every April, Rwanda observes the official commemoration of the Genocide Against the Tutsi, which cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of Rwandans in 1994. People gather in large groups to remember the victims, pay respects, and mourn together; wreaths are laid at mass graves and the flame of remembrance is lit at Kigali Genocide Memorial in the capital.

This year, coronavirus hit Rwanda only weeks before the season of Kwibuka ("to remember"). Rwanda has witnessed enormous change and development since 1994, but it remains relatively impoverished, and while most Rwandans are covered through a system of universal healthcare, a coronavirus-induced spike could—as in most countries—quickly overwhelm the country's healthcare capacity. The government responded swiftly to flatten the curve, closing Rwanda's borders and instituting a nationwide lockdown, complete with provision of food and essentials to some of Rwanda's most vulnerable.

For Rwandans, as for much of the world, this spring brings immense changes to everyday life. But it also changed Kwibuka, pressuring organizers to find ways of reconciling the mandate to remember—a mandate fulfilled every April through mass commemoration and public participation—with the imperative to reduce virus transmission.

Kwibuka not only provides space for memory, but also ensures that this memory is passed on to younger generations—an urgent need in Rwanda, where a majority of citizens was born after the genocide. This desire to educate has been a driver of the growth of Kwibuka into a major national event, shaping commemoration in the country. Rwanda's lockdown has forced changes in these practices, potentially endangering the ability to maintain collective memory into the future, as well as posing obstacles to meeting the needs of survivors and commemorators today.

President Kagame acknowledged the challenge in his Kwibuka address to the nation: "This year's commemoration for survivors and families and for the country is hard because we cannot be together physically to comfort one another," he said. "It is not an easy thing to do, Rwandans are used to coming together with solidarity and collective strength." But, he added, "The current unusual circumstances will not prevent us from fulfilling our obligation to commemorate this solemn anniversary, honor those we lost and console survivors."

There are resonances between April 1994, when Rwandans hid in their homes, and April 2020, under a national lockdown order. "It is April again, and we are on lock-down but this time not for being killed!" writes genocide survivor and author Claver Irakoze. "This time we actually feel safe to be locked down. We feel protected, not ambushed or surrounded." Kwibuka has gone on, although the photos from this year's ceremonies look very different. The President and First Lady light the flame at the Kigali memorial alone; high-ranking government officials lay wreaths one at a time, while the Rwandan Army Band performs, each member seated two meters apart from the next.

The changes in Kwibuka are difficult, as Nelson Gashagaza and Samantha Teta acknowledge. "Kwibuka26 is going to be exceptionally hard for survivors who will not be able to visit their beloved, lay down flowers on grave or water-bodies or meet in one place," they write. New ways must be found to commemorate, especially online. These are especially important, Gashagaza and Teta point out, for survivors, who can find the anniversary of the genocide traumatic. "The best we can do for now is not allow survivors to experience the worst part of holding the memories: the loneliness of it," they say. Being unable to visit shared spaces for commemoration is a loss, but not one that requires survivors, or any Rwandan, to go through Kwibuka alone. "Just because we can't convene in lieux de mémoire," Gashagaza and Teta say, "doesn't mean we can't create milieux



*During a pre-COVID Kwibuka, the lighting of the flame at Kigali Genocide Memorial. Photo by Kwibuka Rwanda, Creative Commons licensed.*

de memoire—an environment of remembrance” online, using the digital platforms that are helping Rwandans connect during lockdown to facilitate communal gathering and support for survivors.

In Kagame’s speech, the Rwandan New Times reports, the president “highlighted that historical lessons have taught Rwandans the importance of working together to build a better future for all Rwandans”. Rwanda’s post-genocide development has been built, in part, on the pursuit of self-reliance, and the attempt to solve Rwandan problems with “homegrown solutions”. Lessons from Rwanda’s past are helping it manage the challenges of the present in contexts as different as the pursuit of development and mitigating coronavirus’s impact on the most difficult, important season of the year.

For Kwibuka<sup>26</sup>, Rwandans are helping to ensure their collective survival through finding new ways to be together while having to be apart. Although it is easy to think of memory as past-oriented and static, in fact the many ways humans remember—including Kwibuka’s commemorations—are dynamic. They respond not only to contemporary conditions, but also to what is anticipated that the future will need, as in Rwanda’s efforts to educate younger generations through collective commemoration. Coronavirus has prompted changes in memory practices, opening up new possibilities for the coming years. In Kwibuka<sup>27</sup> and beyond, perhaps some of these new milieux de mémoire, and other solutions Rwandans develop, will persist as part of the changing landscape of commemoration.

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*Dr Annalisa Bolin, Postdoctoral Fellow at Linnaeus University and member of the team.*

## Publications

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### *Heritage Futures – the book*

The volume *Heritage Futures* draws on research undertaken over four years (2015-2019) by an interdisciplinary, international team of 16 researchers and more than 25 partner organisations to explore the role of heritage and heritage-like practices in building future worlds.

This large and collaborative project (directed by Rodney Harrison). The main results are presented in this book, which is available both [in print and in free open access](#).

## Conference presentations/Lectures

Cornelius Holtorf presented an invited lecture entitled “Atommüll als Erbe der Zukunft. Wissenstradierung aus Sicht der Archäologie und Kulturerbeforschung” for more than 50 experts and members of the public at the Symposium “Markieren, hinweisen oder vergessen? – Überlegungen zum Umgang mit Wissenserhalt bei nuklearen Lagerstätten über Generationen hinweg” organised by the Bundesamt für Energie at Zürich, Switzerland (4 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf and Anders Högberg participated in the Roundtable on Climate Change and Heritage at the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Bern, Switzerland (6 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a lecture entitled „Archaeology: making a difference to global development“ in a session on „Critical ideas — reflexive archaeologies“ at the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Bern, Switzerland (7 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf and Anders Högberg (with Harald Fredheim) co-organised and co-chaired a session on “EAA2500 – Thinking the Future in Archaeology and Archaeological Heritage Management” at the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Bern, Switzerland. For an audience of around 30 they presented papers in this session on “Archaeologists and the future – an arranged marriage to last?” (Holtorf) and “Contract Archaeology – a future making business” (Högberg) (7 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a talk on “Heritage Futures – what it means and why it matters” for a group of ca 20 PhD students and researchers including staff from the Centre for Anthropological Research/Palaeo-Research Institute, University of Johannesburg, South Africa at Linnaeus University, Kalmar (10 September 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a talk on “Applied heritage and the need to increase ‘futures literacy’ in the heritage sector” for ca 15 international heritage specialists attending a JPI-CH expert meeting on Heritage Management in Dynamic Environments held at the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands in Amersfoort, Netherlands (9 October 2019).

Annalisa Bolin gave a talk entitled “Material Mediation: Heritage Politics Across Rwanda’s Borders” for the Critical Heritage Studies Network at Stockholm University (21 November 2019).

Annalisa Bolin attended a workshop at the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome on post-conflict heritage, and delivered a paper titled “The Strategic Internationalism of Post-Conflict Heritage in Rwanda” (December 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf gave a talk on “Cultural Heritage and Cultural Resilience” for a public audience at Linnaeus University, Sjöfartshögskolan, Kalmar (4 December 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf gave a talk on “Time Travel for real. Experiences of the Past” for the eXperience Knowledge Platform at Linnaeus School of Business and Economics, Kalmar (6 December 2019).

Annalisa Bolin presented a research seminar on “The Heritage Politics of Post-Genocide Rwanda”, for ca 25 researchers of the Department of Cultural Sciences at Linnaeus University (21 January 2020).

Claudio Pescatore presented a research seminar on “At the confluence of archaeology, history and sustainable development: millennial time capsules”, for 16 researchers of the Department of Cultural Sciences at Linnaeus University (21 January 2020).

Sarah May presented a research seminar on “Toxic Heritage and Community Futures: Contamination and regeneration in South Wales”, for 18 researchers of the Department of Cultural Sciences at Linnaeus University (22 January 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a keynote lecture entitled “Sustainable Futures for Heritage?” and participated in a subsequent topical panel debate, for the more than 60 participants at the Annual Spring Conference of the Nordic Centre of Heritage Learning and Creativity (NCK), this time dedicated to the topic Shaping Sustainable Futures through Heritage, in Östersund, Sweden (12 February 2020).

Claudio Pescatore participated in the Waste Management 2020 conference in Phoenix, Arizona. He took part in a panel on Records, Knowledge and Memory for Radioactive Waste Repositories with a presentation about our work, entitled “Recent activities and progress in Sweden in the field of preserving records, knowledge and memory for future generations” (9 March 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf presented a keynote lecture on “Post-Corona Archaeology: Creating a New Normal?” at the Opening Ceremony of the 2020 Virtual 26th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in front of an audience of several hundred archaeologists from Europe and around the world (25 August 2020).

Sarah May co-organized (with E. Kryder-Reid) a session on “Toxic Heritage” at the 5th Bi-Annual Meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies, attracting ca 35 participants and featuring among others papers by Sarah May on “Containment and Control: Toxic Heritage and liminal legacies” and by Cornelius Holtorf on “The Future Heritage of Toxic Waste” (26 August 2020).

Annalisa Bolin and Cornelius Holtorf co-organized (with Vanicka Arora and Qingkai Ma) a session on “Reconstructing Reconstruction: Examining Meanings, Uses, and Policies” at the 5th Bi-Annual Meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies, featuring among others papers by Cornelius Holtorf on “Reconstructing Heritage Processes” and by Annalisa Bolin on “Old Heritage in the New Rwanda: Development, Progress, and Genocide Materiality” (29 August 2020).

## Other Activities

Claudio Pescatore, Cornelius Holtorf and Anders Högberg took actively part in the first project workshop of the “Memory Across Generations” project dedicated to culture heritage and held at the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority, Stockholm (2 September 2019).

Anders Högberg and researchers from the University of Johannesburg visited the World Heritage site Agricultural Landscape of Southern Öland, meeting Emma Rydnér, co-ordinator of the world heritage site, and Niklas Petersson, one of the farmers keeping the world heritage alive. The guests were all in various ways working with the UNESCO World Heritage site Cradle of Humankind in South Africa (11 September 2019).

Anders Högberg attended a one-day conference in Malmö entitled “New ‘hybrid-competences’ for museums”. The c. 40 participants discussed what new knowledge is needed for museums to understand and act upon urgent future-related topics such as strengthening the sustainability of democratic societies (19 September 2019).

The UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures joined the Climate Heritage Network (CHN), which is a voluntary, mutual support network for the thousands of actors and advocates in arts, culture and heritage whose talents have not yet been mobilized on climate change issues (24-25 October 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf and Anders Högberg took active part in a meeting at middle management level at SKB in Stockholm discussing current and future collaborations concerning the preservation of records, knowledge and memory of nuclear waste (25 October 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf attended the meeting of the World Heritage Council for the World Heritage site Agricultural Landscape of Southern Öland, in Mörbylånga (8 November 2019).



*On Öland, a group with researchers from Johannesburg visiting Anders Högberg had the opportunity to exchange knowledge and discuss aspects on how to build futures for world heritage site in different contexts.*

We welcomed to Kalmar a delegation from the National University of Cultural Heritage (KNUCH) in Korea. They were on an official visit to Sweden with one day in Kalmar to investigate joint areas for cooperation between our UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures and their UNESCO Chair on Capacity-Building for the Preservation and Restoration of the Asia-Pacific Cultural Heritage. In our meeting participated even Prof. Anders Högberg, by link from South Africa, Prof. Bodil Petersson, who presented on our “Cultural Heritage in Present and Future Societies” degree programme, and Linda Liedström who gave an introduction to internationalisation and student exchange at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The delegation also visited Kalmar County Museum (21 November).

Cornelius Holtorf chaired a panel discussion with 5 experts on the significance of research in museum archaeology during an audience of ca 35 attending the Annual Meeting of the Swedish Association of Museum Archaeology (M-Ark) in Kalmar (28 November 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf chaired the second project workshop of the “Memory Across Generations” project dedicated to culture heritage, held at the National Archives of Sweden, Stockholm. Claudio Pescatore contributed actively and acted as Secretary (29 November 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf gave a talk (presented by recorded video) entitled “UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures: a short presentation” at the 2019 KNUCH UNESCO Chair International Conference, Hapjeong-ri, Chungnam, Korea (4 December 2019).

Cornelius Holtorf met in Växjö with Professor Ou Rong, Dean of the School of International Studies at Hangzhou Normal University, China, to discuss a variety of possibilities for future research collaboration (10 January 2020).

Anders Högberg participated in the kick-off meeting of the Working Party on Information, Data and Knowledge Management (WP-IDKM) at the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) in Paris. The focus of this new OECD-initiative is on issues related to the keeping of information and knowledge required to inform future generations about the location and content of nuclear waste repositories. Together with delegates from several European countries, Japan and the US, he contributed to defining the directions for the coming three years of work within this initiative (15-16 January).

Cornelius Holtorf met in Paris with staff of the Swedish Permanent Delegation to UNESCO and the OECD to discuss current projects and identify matters of shared interest (4 March 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf took part in an expert meeting on “Developing Methodologies for Integrated Governance to Protect Cultural Heritage” held at ICOMOS Headquarters, Paris (5-6 March 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf contributed to the Consultation of the Governing Bodies of the World Heritage Convention on the UNESCO Medium Term Strategy 2022-2029 by submitting suggestions of priorities to the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO (10 March 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf took part in the Annual Meeting of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Sweden, raising the question of how ICOMOS as a global NGO in the cultural sector might respond to the corona crisis (16 April 2020).



*An official visit to Sweden with one day in Kalmar to investigate joint areas for cooperation between our UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures and their UNESCO Chair on Capacity-Building for the Preservation and Restoration of the Asia-Pacific Cultural Heritage. Prof. Soochul KIM (Department of Conservation Science/research focusing on wooden material conservation), Mr. Seungtae NAM (KNUCH administrative staff, in charge international exchange and cooperation), Helena Rydén, Ass. to the Chair at LNU Prof. Cornelius Holtorf, holder of the Chair at LNU, Prof. Youngjae KIM (Department of Conservation and Restoration/major in architecture and urbanism/holder of UNESCO Chair on Capacity-Building for the Preservation and Restoration of the Asia-Pacific Cultural Heritage), Mr. Kihong LEE (KNUCH administrative staff in the Academic Affairs Department),*



Cornelius Holtorf participated in a high-level digital conference on Agenda 2030 – sustainable transformation on a scientific basis, organised by FORMAS, Sweden’s funding council for sustainable development. During the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden Isabella Lövin acknowledged that remembering is important and that “we need to take a longer time perspective”. Eeva Furman, one of the authors of the Global Development Sustainable Report (2019), suggested that culture has an important role to play in achieving sustainable development (4 May 2020).

Cornelius Holtorf took part in a UN75 Dialogue informing future priorities for the United Nations on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary, held at the 5th Bi-Annual Meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies (27 August 2020).

### *Swedish UNESCO Chairs met on Zoom*

The planned UNESCO Day on 1 April 2020 at Linnaeus University in Växjö was cancelled due to covid 19. Instead, six of the eight Swedish UNESCO Chairs together with Helena Rydén of Linnaeus University and Fanny Davidsson and Carolina Luciani of the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO met on Zoom to discuss current activities and priorities for the future.



*From left: Helena Rydén, Assistant to the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University; Cornelius Holtorf, holder of the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures, Linnaeus University; Ingrid Pramling Samuelsson, UNESCO Chair in Early Childhood Education and Sustainable Development, Gothenburg University; Ashok Swain, UNESCO Chair on International Water Cooperation, Uppsala University; Carolina Luciani, Swedish National Commission for UNESCO, Stockholm University; Merle Jacob, UNESCO Chair in Research Management and Innovation Systems, Lund University; Fanny Davidsson, Programme coordinator Swedish National Commission for UNESCO; Love Ekenberg, UNESCO Chair on Developing a Model for Large-Scale Higher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa.*

### *Media*

The home page <https://lnu.se/en/unescochair> with the blog <http://blogg.lnu.se/unesco/> and the twitter account [@UnescoChairLNU](https://twitter.com/UnescoChairLNU) (nearly 1,000 followers) work together. They contribute to networking and dialogue. Here are some examples:



## Öland 2050

The Corona Crisis made people think about the future: changed plans, lost income, no job to return to, loss of friends and relatives. But how has the crisis affected history as a whole? What are the consequences for cultural heritage? How does the crisis work together with other ongoing changes such as the climate crisis, urbanization and the rapid digital development?

In this project, we focused on the year 2050 and visualized five different scenarios of the future, speculating what the World Heritage site "Agricultural Landscape of Southern Öland" could look like in 2050.

A collaboration between the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University and Mörbylånga Municipality. Project group: Daniel Lindskog (graphics), Gustav Wollentz (text), Cornelius Holtorf (lead). <http://oland2050.nu>

The visualisations of Öland 2050 were also part of the digital exhibition "Memory Portals" (13 July–1 November 2020). <https://www.experimentalheritageexhibition.com>



### *Öland 2050: scenario of a dry landscape*

*Southern Öland is some degrees warmer now, exhibiting more of a Mediterranean climate during the summer months. Tourism during this period has increased significantly while farmers need to adapt to a drier climate.*

## *List of abbreviations*

**COVRA** - Centrale Organisatie Voor Radioactief Afval,  
Netherlands

**ICOMOS** - International Council on Monuments and  
Sites

**KNUCH**- National University of Cultural Heritage in  
Korea

**M-Ark** - Swedish Association of Museum Archaeology

**NCK** - the Nordic Centre of Heritage Learning and  
Creativity

**NEA** - Nuclear Energy Agency

**OECD** - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and  
Development

**SKB** - Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Co.

**UNESCO** - The United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

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