

DR. SARAH LOHMANN

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AND LECTURER

CHAIR AND CO-FOUNDER, ZÜRICH SCIENCE FICTION NETWORK (ZSFN)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

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[ORCID](#) page

[Zurich Science Fiction Network \(ZSFN\)](#)

HIGHER EDUCATION

- Jan 2017 – Durham University, England
Jan 2021 *Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice* (PG Cert / PGCAP)
Also awarded status as **Fellow of The Higher Education Academy (FHEA)** in Feb 2018
- Oct 2014 – Durham University, England
Jul 2020 *Doctor of Philosophy in English Literature* (PhD, awarded Aug 4, 2020)
Passed with minor corrections ('magna cum laude')
Thesis topic: 'The Edge of Time: The Critical Dynamics of Structural Chronotopes in the Utopian Novel'; Supervisors: Professor Patricia Waugh and Professor Simon James
Examiners: Dr Siân Adiseshiah (Loughborough) and Dr Jenny Terry (Durham)
- Sep 2012 – University of St Andrews and University of Stirling, Scotland
Nov 2013 *MLitt Philosophy*
Dissertation: 'The Ethics of Selves: In Defence of the Connection Between Parfitian Reductionism and Utilitarianism'
- Sep 2011 – University of St Andrews, Scotland
Nov 2012 *MLitt Women, Writing and Gender (Distinction in the Dissertation)*
Dissertation: 'On the Edge of Time: Feminist Utopias and Four-Dimensionality'
- Sep 2007 – University of St Andrews, Scotland
Jun 2011 *MA Hons Philosophy and English Literature (First Class)*
- Sep 2003 – Städtisches Luisengymnasium, Munich, Germany
Jul 2007 *Abitur, English Literature and French as advanced subjects (final grade 1.4 – excellent)*

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Nov 2023 – Oct 2025; ETH Zürich, Switzerland
Nov 2025 – Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences
- Oct 2022 – Dec 2022; University of Tübingen, Germany
Jan 2023 – Mar 2023 Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin
(Postdoctoral Research and Teaching Fellow in the English Department - Anglistik)
- Oct 2021 – Sep 2022 University of Tübingen, Germany
Teach@Tübingen Teaching and Research Fellow, Excellence Initiative

PUBLICATION LIST

BOOKS:

Monograph: *Complex Utopias: Discovering Dynamic Sustainability in the Utopian Novel* (revised thesis publication) – forthcoming.

Short Monograph: *An Introduction to 'Woman on the Edge of Time' by Marge Piercy* (Palgrave SFF: A New Canon, Palgrave Macmillan, eds. Anna McFarlane and Tim Miller) – invited and in preparation, forthcoming 2027.

ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS:

Book Chapter: 'Ecofeminist Speculative Fiction' (provisional title) in *The Liverpool Handbook of Environmental Science Fiction*, ed. Eric Otto, Liverpool University Press – invited and in preparation, forthcoming Nov 2026.

Journal Article: 'Von der Kenntnis des Unbekannten: Wie Mary Shelleys Frankenstein Licht in die wesentliche Dunkelheit der science-fictionellen Cli-Fi bringt', *Das Narr (Narrativistisches Literaturmagazin)* #47 (Sci-Fi) – accepted, forthcoming May 2026.

Book Chapters: 'Utopia', 'Dystopia', 'Ecological SF of the 1960s and 1970s', 'Sarah Pinsker's *A Song for a New Day*' and 'Leni

Zumas's *Red Clocks*' in [This is Not a Science Fiction Textbook](#), eds. Mark Bould and Steven Shaviro (Goldsmiths and MIT, 2024).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: [“Wheels turning in opposite directions”: Objective Temporality, Utopia and the Individual in Sheri S. Tepper's *The Gate to Women's Country* and Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*’](#) (*Fafnir – Nordic Journal of Science Fiction and Fantasy Research* 2/2022).

Book Chapter: “What isn't living dies”: Utopia as Living Organism in Joanna Russ's *The Female Man* and Marge Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time*’, in [Transgressive Utopianism: Essays in Honor of Lucy Sargis](#), eds. Raffaella Baccolini and Lyman Tower Sargent (Peter Lang Publishing, Ralahine Utopian Studies series, March 2021).

BOOK REVIEWS:

[Living and Dying Together: Heather Alberro, Emrah Atasoy, Nora Castle, Rhiannon Firth, and Conrad Scott, eds. *Utopian and Dystopian Explorations of Pandemics and Ecological Breakdown: Entangled Futurities*. Routledge, 2025.](#), *Science Fiction Studies* 52/2025: 559–564, eds. Joan Gordon and Veronica Hollinger.

‘*The Routledge Companion to Gender and Science Fiction*, eds. Lisa Yaszek, Sonja Fritzsche, Keren Omry, and Wendy Gay Pearson’, *Utopian Studies*, 37:1 (2026), ed. Elisabeth Reichel.

‘*Darwinian Feminism and Early Science Fiction* by Patrick B. Sharp’, *Fantastika Journal* 2:1 (2018): 105-108.

OTHER RELEVANT ACHIEVEMENTS

EXAMPLES OF OTHER MAJOR ACADEMIC, EDITORIAL AND EXTRACURRICULAR ROLES:

Chair and Co-founder, [Zurich Science Fiction Network \(ZSFN\)](#), ETH Zurich and German-speaking Switzerland, Nov 2023 onwards. Co-founded ZSFN as first academic science fiction organisation in German-speaking Switzerland with Professor Andreas Kilcher; now leading organisational team for science fiction events across German-speaking Switzerland.

Main Organiser, [Climate/Science/Fiction Symposium](#), Zurich Science Fiction Network (ZSFN), ETH Zurich, July 2026. International symposium on how historical and current fictional narratives shape public thinking on climate science. Raised 9.600 CHF ‘Scientific Exchanges Grant’ from Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) for international speakers.

Secretary, [Science Fiction Research Association \(SFRA\)](#), oldest science fiction organisation in the world, Dec 2022 – present. Greatly improved administrative structures and assisted organisation of **GFF/SFRA conference ‘Disruptive Imaginations’** at TU Dresden Aug 2023, **SFRA conference ‘Transitions’** at University of Tartu, Estonia, May 2024, and **SFRA conference “Trans People are (in) the Future”: Queer and Trans Futurity in Science Fiction’** at University of Rochester, NY, USA in Jul 2025.

Department Representative, Association of Scientific Staff at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences/Mittelbauvertretung (ASST) D-GESS, ETH Zurich, 2025-26. Representing department at departmental conferences and discussing/voting on various organisational changes.

Co-organiser, [Kolloquium ‘Speculative Temporalities’](#), ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2024. Organised well-attended lecture series through the DGess department at the ETH, featuring local and international speakers including Professor Mark Bould.

Co-editor of Book Series [EcoSpeculations: Science Fiction and the Environmental Humanities](#), Lever Press, together with Dr. Chris Pak, Swansea University, Jun 2025 – present. Series on critical new science fiction scholarship within Environmental Humanities. Volumes address conceptual, historic, political, and formal dimensions of mode/genres engagement with environmental and climate change, gender, human-animal relationships, plant studies, science and technology, and more.

Co-organiser, [Symposium ‘Social Justice and Technological Futures’](#), University of Tübingen, May 2023. Collaborating with colleagues from American Studies, RHET AI Center and International Centre for Ethics at University of Tübingen to arrange large-scale, multi-day international symposium on Artificial Intelligence and social justice in the design of technological futures. Arranged funding from multiple sources (see ‘selected awards’).

Project Officer for Museum Exhibition [‘Time Machines: The Past, the Future, and How Stories Take Us There’](#), displayed at Palace Green Library, Durham in Summer 2017, Jan 2016 – Apr 2017. Researched, collaborated on and wrote majority of text for highly successful exhibition on time travel and narrative, an outreach project by Durham University English Department. Used as REF impact case study for English department.

Convenor, ‘Inventions of the Text’ Seminar Series, Durham University, Oct 2016 – Jun 2017. Organised popular bi-weekly talks by local and international academics on subjects related to the study of English literature.

Co-convenor, Late Summer Lecture Series, Durham University, Feb – Oct 2015. As part of a team of three, organised well-attended public lecture series through the Department of English Studies, with a focus on interdisciplinary papers.

PhD Student Representative, Durham University Student Staff Consultative Committee and Board of Studies, Department of English Studies, Oct 2014 – Oct 2015. Acted as representative of PhD students in the Department of English Studies in regular meetings concerning teaching and student issues.

President, University of St Andrews Literary Society, 2010-2013. Organised popular events including talks by high-profile authors and academics, theatre trips and debates as head of a committee over a three-years. Greatly increased membership.

Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Minerva (St Andrews Feminist Society Journal), 2010-2011. Solicited and edited articles and prose on gender, feminism and queer theory as leader of editorial team; coordinated layout design and printing.

President, University of St Andrews Feminist Society, 2010-2011. Organised talks, gender workshops, theory presentations, demonstrations, marches, art exhibitions and film festivals. Significantly increased membership and public profile of society.

President, University of St Andrews Philosophy Society, 2009-2010. Organised debates, socials and talks by renowned philosophers. Greatly increased membership to form one of largest academic societies in St Andrews (approx. 200 members).

KEYNOTE SPEECHES:

Keynote Speech: ‘Science Fiction and the Environmental Imagination’ at workshop ‘A Case for Space Environmentalism: Emerging Impacts of Spaceflight’, Collegium Helveticum, Zurich, Apr 2026.

Keynote Speech: ‘And Then There Were None: Feminism, Identity and the Possibility of a Human Utopia’, ‘Identitees: A Spectrum of Representation’, MA graduate conference, Teesside University, Middlesbrough, UK, Mar 2018.

Keynote Speech: ‘Complex Relations: Rethinking Utopia in Marge Piercy’s *Woman on the Edge of Time* and Joanna Russ’s *The Female Man*’, DurhamCon, annual convention of the Durham Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, Feb 2018.

RELEVANT OUTREACH:

Invited Session Leader: workshop on sustainability and science fiction in series ‘Speculative Space of Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums’, Women’s Art Library Goldsmiths, Autumn 2026.

Interviewed as feminist climate fiction expert for ‘Klimakollaps’ Podcast by Marie Seidel, part of ‘Öko-Passionen: Coming-of-Age im Anthropozän’ project, University of Zurich, Mar 2026.

Invited Lecture: ‘Climate Fiction: Bringing the Science to Life’, *Sustainability Lecture Series*, Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), ETH Zurich, Mar 2026.

Interviewed as Academic Expert for ‘[Essay: Stranger than Fiction](#)’ by Suyin Haynes, *Kinfolk* magazine, issue 52 (*The Influence Issue*), Jun 2024.

‘[Meet the Future: An Interview with Sarah Lohmann](#)’, *SFRA Review* 50:1 (2020): 13-18. Interviewed by SFRA review editor Sean Guynes for column on ‘up-and-coming SF scholars’.

Featured Interview for Podcast Episode on *The Dispossessed* ([part 1](#) and [part 2](#)), Utopian Horizons Podcast on Soundcloud, Oct 2018 – interviewed by Paul Walker-Emig on *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin.

Co-host of ‘[Exploring Utopian York](#)’ Podcast (guided tour and discussion) for York Festival of Ideas 2018 with Dr Adam Stock of York St John University, Apr – Jun 2018. Researched and led 1.5-hour podcast on York’s utopian history.

Interviewed for ‘[Feminist Utopias and Afrofuturism](#)’ Podcast, Palace Green Library on Soundcloud, Summer 2017. Discussed alternative time travel as Project Officer of ‘Time Machines’ exhibition at Palace Green Library for Durham University.

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS:

‘Scientific Exchanges Grant’ for ‘Climate/Science/Fiction Symposium’, Zurich Science Fiction Network (ZSFN), ETH Zurich (9.600 CHF), July 2026. Awarded by Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

Collaboration on workshop and edited volume ‘Speculative Fiction and Marginalised Voices’ with Dr. Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay, University of Oslo (funding amount TBD), in planning, with the support of the CoFutures project at the University of Oslo; funded by the European Research Council, the Norwegian Research Council, and the European Commission (total CoFutures funding exceeds €10.000.000 as world’s largest science fiction research project).

Funding to teach course ‘Re-Imagining the Impossible: Inclusive Imaginaries and the Fight for Climate Justice’ in English Department at University of Tübingen (1.500 € plus 580 € travel costs), Winter Semester 2023/24, awarded in competitive process by ‘TEAching Equality-Programm’, University of Tübingen for innovative teaching on Gender Studies.

Part of committee organizing funding from multiple sources as co-organiser of Symposium ‘Social Justice and Technological Futures’ (ca. €30.000-50.000), University of Tübingen, May 2023, inc. funding by German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, DFG (German Research Foundation), VolkswagenStiftung, EU project ‘WeNet - The Internet of Us’.

‘Fellow in Focus’ ([interview](#)) Aug 2022, College of Fellows, University of Tübingen, recognising outstanding interdisciplinary research and scholarly contributions to the College of Fellows - Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies, Aug 2022.

Four-time winner of Hatfield Award (Gold), Hatfield College, Durham University, recognising outstanding academic achievement and community engagement, 2016/17-2019/20.

Durham University Faculty of Arts and Humanities Postgraduate Research Support Fund Grant (£900) – awarded grant in competitive scheme to attend Society for Utopian Studies Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, Nov 2015.

Funding from Sir James Knott Trust etc. for Late Summer Lecture Series (ca. £3000) – raised funding from local and national organisations for co-convening lecture series at Durham University, Feb – Oct 2015.

Deans’ List of the University of St Andrews 2009/10 – awarded for excellent academic performance.