



Infrastructure for researchers: High-performance computing with HPC@HU

High-performance computing (HPC) enables efficient management of data-intensive and computationally demanding processes. At Humboldt-Universität, the Computer and Media Service (CMS) provides a high-performance HPC infrastructure for researchers with HPC@HU and the flexible Azimuth platform. There are many possible applications: from simulations in the natural sciences and labour market forecasts in economics to the analysis of historical documents in the humanities, numerous disciplines benefit from HPC. In this interview, Malte Dreyer, Director of the CMS, reports on the opportunities opened up by HPC, its strategic importance for the HU and how researchers are supported.

[Read interview with Malte Dreyer](#)

Research & Teaching

Caroline von Humboldt Award: Nominations open until 18 May

In 2025, the Caroline von Humboldt Award will once again be presented to an outstanding female early career researcher from Germany or abroad. The award, endowed with 15,000 euros, enables the award winner to carry out a research project as part of a research stay at the HU (Scientist in Residence). Professors from universities and research institutions can nominate them. HU professors are not eligible to nominate. Nominations are possible until 18 May.

[Find out more about the CvH Prize](#)

Caroline von Humboldt Professorship: Nominate by 27 April

The Caroline von Humboldt Professorship to support outstanding female professors at HU will be awarded again in autumn 2025. It is aimed at excellen, internationally renowned female academics from all disciplines with a permanent position whose research has an impact beyond their specialism. The professorship is endowed with 80,000 euros for one year. Proposals can be submitted until 27 April.

[Find out more about the CvH professorship](#)

Academic Freedom Week: How to support researchers at risk?

How can research institutions support vulnerable scientists and artists in precarious times? This year's Academic Freedom Week is all about sustainable and fair strategies. Together with the partners of the Berlin University Alliance, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the consortium of the New University in Exile, the HU is offering a series of events on the topic. The programme from 31 March to 2 April comprises mainly public lectures and presentations, panel discussions and a performance - all in English.

[Register and view the programme](#)

Exchange in London: Circle U. Programme Leadership Symposium

Researchers who lead a programme at HU and are interested in exchanging experiences and knowledge with international colleagues can take part in the Circle U. Programme Leadership Symposium at King's College London. The event on 1 and 2 July is aimed at course coordinators and programme leaders. Although roles vary by discipline and institution, leaders always play a crucial role in student success, quality assurance and academic governance of programmes. Applications for participation are open until 17 April.

[Find out more and apply](#)

Circle U. Sandpits 2025: Interdisciplinary research impulses on democracy

The Sandpits offer researchers the opportunity to develop new projects and scientific innovations through collaboration with Circle U. colleagues from other disciplines. This year, they are focussing on the development of inter- and transdisciplinary projects with a focus on democracy. The two-part workshop programme offers researchers from the partner universities and associated partner institutions of the Circle U. University Alliance the opportunity to work together. The first session will take place on 27 May via video conference. The workshop will then continue from 9 to 11 September in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. Interested parties can apply to take part until 31 March. A limited number of travel grants are also available for the implementation of the programme.

[Read the call for applications](#)

[Submit an application](#)

UNITE Science: Innovation network founded for the Berlin-Brandenburg region

19 universities, colleges and research centres from Berlin and Brandenburg, including Humboldt-Universität, recently founded the 'UNITE Science' association to provide even more targeted support for scientific start-ups in the future. By sharing, exchanging and pooling resources, networks and expertise, research should find practical application more quickly, start-ups should become easier and innovations more numerous.

[Find out more about UNITE Sciences](#)

Call for applications: Apply for a fellowship at the Centre for Advanced Study 'inherit'

The Centre for Advanced Study 'inherit. heritage in transformation', a BMBF-funded Käte Hamburger Kolleg at Humboldt-Universität, is inviting applications for its fellowship programme. The fellowships run from 1 October 2026 to 31 July 2027 and are open to researchers from the early postdoctoral phase onwards, artists, filmmakers and curators. The centre deals with historical, present and future transformations in the field of (cultural) heritage. It accepts up to 15 international fellows each year. The theme for the 2026-2027 fellowships is: 'Addressing Heritage Loss'. The application deadline is 14 April.

[Find more information on the call for applications](#)

Marthe Vogt Prize: Nominate your doctorate by 31 March

With the Marthe Vogt Prize, the Forschungsverbund Berlin e. V. honours young female academics who have submitted outstanding dissertations. The dissertation must relate to a research area of the association and have been written in the Berlin-Brandenburg region. The prize is endowed with 3,000 euros and will be presented at a ceremony on 13 October. Professors and habilitated members of the faculties as well as directors of non-university scientific institutions are eligible to nominate. Nominations can be submitted until 31 March.

[Find out more about the Marthe Vogt Prize and submit nominations](#)

Standards in practice: Academic Standards Day on 20 May

The Academic Standards Day in May is all about practical insights and playful application of norms and standards. The project day is organised by the German Institute for Standardisation (DIN) e.V. in cooperation with the Technical University of Berlin and Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences. The event is open to all Humboldtians and interested parties. Participation is free of charge. The project day will take place on 20 May from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Haus des DIN e.V., Am DIN-Platz, Burggrafenstraße 6, 10787 Berlin.

[Find out more about the project day and take part](#)

Administration & Service

Women's plenary session: strategies for more balance

Stress, pressure, high expectations - everyday (university) life can be challenging. But how do you stay calm in the midst of it all? This question was at the centre of the women's plenary session at Humboldt-Universität, which took place on the occasion of International Women's Day. Stress factors such as care work and role diversity, which are a particular burden for women, were discussed. In groups, the participants discussed their challenges and strategies for coping better with stressful situations. The event was organised by the Central Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer in cooperation with the University Health Management.

[Read the report and view the photo gallery](#)

Prize draw: Win starting places for the Berliner Wasserbetriebe relay

Berliner Wasserbetriebe's traditional relay race will take place from 3 to 5 June. Five runners per team will complete a five-kilometre lap through Berlin's Tiergarten park. As always, it's all about the Olympic spirit: taking part is everything. In keeping with the new HU permanent exhibition 'OnWater. WaterKnowledge in Berlin', which will be on display in the Humboldt Laboratory from autumn, the Communications Department and University Sports are sponsoring starting places for two teams for the run on 3 June this year. We are therefore looking for motivated and sporty Humboldtians - preferably with a scientific passion for the topic of water - to apply for a starting place. Ideally with an appointment as a team of five. Participation in the draw is possible until 28 March via a form on the intranet.

[Find out more about the relay race and take part in the prize draw](#)

Archive of Humboldt Info: An overview of all this year's issues

Are you looking for an article from a past Humboldt Info? Or would you like to download an issue as a PDF? All German versions of Humboldt Info from 2025 are now available in PDF format on the intranet. The English version is already attached as a PDF in the header of each issue.

[Browse the archive on the intranet](#)

Employee self-service: digital retrieval of salary documents

Since January 2023, employees of Humboldt-Universität have been able to retrieve salary statements, social security registration certificates and income tax statements for previous calendar years (from 2023) via the Employee Self Service (ESS). The electronic wage tax statement for the 2024 calendar year and the 2024 annual social security notification in the ESS are also available there. It is not possible to retrieve documents in the ESS for periods prior to 1 January 2023.

[Read more about the ESS](#)

Berlin University Alliance

BUA Insight: Tobias Krüger on climate impact and water change

Tobias Krüger is Professor of Hydrology and Society at the Department of Geography at HU. As a member of the Einstein Research Unit 'Climate and Water under Chance' (CliWaC), he is researching the consequences of climate change for the Berlin-Brandenburg region. To this end, he and his team are analysing the water balance of local lakes and the River Spree and developing solution strategies for phenomena such as heavy rainfall and dry spells, which are occurring more frequently in the region due to climate change. Read the interview with the HU researcher to find out what role Berlin could play as a 'sponge city', how a competence network was successfully founded and what the CliWaC Explorer is all about.

[Read the interview](#)

Workshop: Critical perspectives on Open Science on 12 May

The Robert K. Merton Centre for Science Studies (RMZ) at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Aarhus University and the Berlin University Alliance are organising a workshop on 12 May from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Campus Mitte to critically analyse open science reforms and science reforms in general. Renowned international scientists will present their research approaches on site and put them up for discussion. The aim is not only to exchange views on their own work, but also to reflect on the central debates surrounding open science reforms in the plenary session. To register by 20 April, please send an email to Sven Ulpts at: su@ps.au.dk

[Find out more about the event](#)

Personalia

High honour: Ana Pombo receives Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize

Ana Pombo and nine other researchers were honoured for their outstanding scientific work at the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize ceremony on 19 March, marking the 40th anniversary of the German Research Foundation's Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize. As HU Professor of Transcriptional Regulation and Genome Architecture and a scientist at the Max Delbrück Centre for Molecular Medicine, she has made a significant contribution to genome biology. Her pioneering research on gene regulation and the underlying structures in the cell nucleus contribute significantly to a better understanding of disease processes. The Leibniz Prize is the highest scientific honour in Germany and is endowed with 2.5 million euros.

Award: Two prizes for excellent teaching staff at the Language Centre

Two colleagues from the Language Centre received the AKS 'Good Language Teaching at Universities' award at the 33rd conference of the Arbeitskreis der Sprachenzentren an Hochschulen e.V. (AKS) at Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Elena Carrara, who teaches Italian, was honoured in the category 'Promotion of action orientation and practical relevance', while Anja-Sylvia Zimmermann, who teaches Latin, was honoured in the category 'Formats for digital language learning'. With this award, the association aims to recognise the diverse innovative conceptual work in foreign language teaching at the universities of its member institutions, make good teaching concepts more visible and encourage teachers to emulate them.

Adlershof Dissertation Award for Kristin Klaue

Dr Kristin Klaue was awarded the Adlershof Dissertation Award on 20 March. As part of her doctorate at the Institute of Chemistry at Humboldt-Universität and the Centre for the Science of Materials Berlin, she developed infrared switches that are intended to enable particularly gentle medical applications. Light offers unique possibilities for the targeted, non-invasive control of biological processes and the treatment of diseases - a modern realisation of Paul Ehrlich's vision of the 'magic bullet', which specifically combats pathogens without harming the body. In her doctorate thesis, Kristin Klaue researched photoresponsive molecular units that are activated by harmless infrared light and precisely release active substances. Her research lays the foundation for novel phototherapeutics and innovative biomedical applications - including 3D printing directly in human tissue.

[View picture gallery of the award ceremony](#)

New official bulletins

Current issues of the Official Bulletins can be found here. Please send inquiries about AMBs to: franke.weiss@uvy.hu-berlin.de