



Topping-out ceremony: Renovation of the Institute for Rehabilitation Sciences is progressing

The listed north and west wings of the Institute for Rehabilitation Sciences at Ziegelstraße 5 are currently undergoing renovation. Following completion of the structural work in the first phase of construction on the north wing, the topping-out ceremony was celebrated today, June 10. Among those attending the ceremony (photo) were Senator for Science Dr. Ina Czyborra, Humboldt-Universität President Prof. Dr. Julia von Blumenthal and the head of the technical department, Catrin Hedwig. Completion of this phase of construction is scheduled for December 2025. The second phase of construction is scheduled to begin in February 2026 and be completed in January 2028. The building on Ziegelstraße was constructed between 1878 and 1883 by architects Gropius & Schmieden. It is an important site in Berlin's medical history, as it was here that effective serums against diphtheria and sterile surgical methods were first developed.

[Learn more about the construction project](#)

Research & Teaching

Excellent: Studium Oecologicum receives Award for good Teaching

The 'Humboldt Universität zu Berlin Award for good Teaching', which had the motto 'Sustainable Teaching and Learning' for 2024, was presented to 'Studium Oecologicum' on 3 June. This time, the award was not given to an individual project or teacher, but to a concept. Studium Oecologicum is open to students of all disciplines and enables them to gain expertise in sustainability issues within a year. They receive a certificate for this. The programme, which has grown over twelve years, is designed and prepared by students for students. The prize money amounts to 10,000 euros.

[View photo gallery on the intranet](#)

For teachers: AI teaching certificate flexible and available at any time

Teachers who want to expand their teaching skills in the field of artificial intelligence can now flexibly enrol in the AI teaching certificate programme. What's new is that the AI teaching certificate can be completed at your own pace and the scope is freely selectable: between a micro-credential (approx. 30 hours), the micro-degree (approx. 100 hours) and the entire AI teaching certificate including the practical part (approx. 150 hours). The AI Teaching Certificate was developed in collaboration with the AI Campus HU Berlin and AI-SKILLS projects and guides teachers from the basics of artificial intelligence to the creation of their own teaching materials – with technical expertise and didactic support.

[More information and registration for the AI Teaching Certificate](#)

Digital is better!? Networking event on 2 July

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Digitality and Digital Methods at Campus Mitte (IZ D2MCM) invites you to a networking event in the humanities, cultural studies and social sciences in the field of digitality and digital methods under the guiding question 'Digital is better!?' With an interactive programme consisting of poster sessions, themed tables, a discussion panel and a lecture, the question 'What added value do digitality and digital methods really offer in our research areas?' will be discussed.

[Programme and registration](#)

Anniversary: GBZ celebrates 30th anniversary

The Centre for British Studies at Humboldt-Universität (GBZ) celebrated its 30th anniversary with a lively party in the east atrium of the main building on 5 June. Prof. Dr. Gesa Stedman, Director of the GBZ, Prof. Dr. Christoph Schneider, Vice President for Research, and Lord McDonald of Salford, former British Ambassador and Chairman of the Advisory Board, gave welcoming speeches. ARD correspondent Annette Dittert hosted the programme. A reception with Celtic dance and music by the Berlin band Nightlark brought the day to a cheerful close.

[View photo gallery](#)

Humboldt Prize 2025: Nominations open until 1 July

Students and young researchers can be nominated for the Humboldt Prize for outstanding work in the past year until 1 July. HU deans are eligible to submit nominations. Only one nomination per institute or monofaculty will be accepted per category (bachelor's thesis, master's thesis, dissertation). Self-nominations are possible for the Innovation Prize for the best 'Research to Innovation' qualification thesis.

[Learn more about the Humboldt Prize](#)

Open Access Prize: Apply by 1 July

The Humboldt-Universität Open Access Prize honours outstanding and exceptional achievements by members of Humboldt University in the field of open access, i.e. free access to research results. With this annual prize, the University Library aims to raise the profile of the open access activities of researchers and publishers at Humboldt University, to show its appreciation and to establish connections for future initiatives and projects. It can be awarded to both individuals and groups. The prize is endowed with 5,000 euros. The application deadline is 1 July.

[Learn more about the Open Access Prize](#)

Administration & Service

Voting: Participate in committee elections on 17 June

Committee elections will be held at HU on 17 June. Among other things, members of the committee for the election of the full-time women's and equal opportunities officer and her deputies will be elected. Female members of the university are eligible to vote in this committee election. In addition, by-elections to the council will be held for the status groups of university teachers and technical, service and administrative staff. If you have not already voted by postal ballot, you can cast your vote(s) at the ballot box.

[Find an overview of polling station locations and opening hours](#)

[View election proposals](#)

Photo gallery: Great team performance by HU runners

There was sweat, running and successful baton changes: in good weather and a great atmosphere, the Humboldt University running teams took part in the 5x5 km relay race on 3 June in Tiergarten, together with 1,970 other relay teams. In addition to HU Berlin Hochschulsport, the Technical Department and the two winning teams from the March raffle were also there, promoting the upcoming exhibition 'On Water. WasserWissen in Berlin' at the Humboldt Labor with their participation. HU's participation in the Berlin Water Works team relay, including the joint meeting point at the side of the track, was organised by University Sports and the Communications Department.

[View photo gallery with impressions of the event](#)

Networking: Humboldt Innovation opens office in Munich

Berlin and Munich are among the most important start-up metropolises in Germany. In order to better bring together Bavaria's economic and innovative strength with the talent, research, innovations and start-ups of the capital region in the future, Humboldt Innovation recently opened its own office in Munich. Humboldt Innovation GmbH (HI) is the innovation company of Humboldt University and is actively committed to promoting research, science and the development of new technologies.

[Read press release](#)

Workshops: Shaping diversity together

On 20 and 23 June, the Centre for Equal Opportunities (ZCG) is organising four online workshops in which HUU members can contribute their personal experiences and perspectives on the topics of discrimination and diversity. All suggestions will be evaluated anonymously afterwards and incorporated into the development of HU's diversity strategy.

To register, please indicate which workshop you would like to attend at: diversitaet@hu-berlin.de

[Learn more about the workshops](#)

Save the date: Family Day with sports, games and fun on 5 July

HU Berlin Hochschulsport and the Family Justice Department invite you to a family day at the Schmöckwitz Water Sports Centre. Under the motto of sustainability, employees, students and their families can look forward to a colourful programme of crafts, water sports, entertainment and relaxation at Lake Zeuthen. The family day will take place on 5 July from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

[Read more about the family day](#)

Berlin University Alliance

Seminar: Writing successful participatory third-party funding applications

Do you have an idea for a research project and a research question for which you would like to involve practitioners from politics and administration, business or civil society? Would you like to apply for third-party funding for this? A two-day seminar provides practical knowledge on developing and writing a successful third-party funding application. All content relates to third-party funding applications in general, but is also explored in greater depth with a focus on participatory and transdisciplinary research projects. The seminar will take place on 19 and 20 June from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in person at the TU Berlin.

[Learn more about the seminar and register](#)

Ideas competition: Doctoral student wins with app against loneliness

Loneliness is considered a growing social problem that has a profound impact on mental and physical health. Nevertheless, this issue is often misunderstood or downplayed, especially when it comes to younger people. Silvan Hornstein, psychologist and doctoral student at HU, wants to change that. Together with his team, he is developing philia.health, an app that not only connects people, but also helps to strengthen social skills and change obstructive thought patterns. Hornstein was awarded a prize for his research project in the 'Social Cohesion' category of the BUA ideas competition 'Art Meets Science'. In this interview, he explains why Berlin is considered the loneliness capital, what role digital tools can play in healthcare, and what inspired him to start his project.

[Read the interview with Silvan Hornstein](#)

Personalia

IPS Scholarship: HU President welcomes new scholarship holders

Around 500 guests attended the reception for the International Parliamentary Scholarship (IPS) in the Paul Löbe House at the German Bundestag. In her welcoming address, HU President Prof. Dr. Julia von Blumenthal emphasised the relevance of the programme for the preservation of democratic values and encouraged the 91 scholarship holders to learn from each other, gain new perspectives and thus build bridges between countries and cultures. The IPS programme is run by the German Bundestag and organised in cooperation with Humboldt-Universität.

[Read more about the reception and programme](#)

Honorary doctorate: Naika Foroutan honoured by Lund University

In a ceremony attended by over 500 guests in Lund Cathedral, social scientist and Islamic scholar Naika Foroutan, HU professor and director of the German Centre for Integration and Migration Research (DeZIM), was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Faculty of Theology at Lund University. In its statement, the jury said that Foroutan, as an international authority in the fields of migration and integration research, had opened up new academic perspectives with numerous important works that also influence the disciplines of theology and religious studies.

[Learn more about the award ceremony](#)

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