



Corona bonus: Employees receive an extra 1,300 euros

HU employees can look forward to a tax-free bonus: On November 29, 2021, the collective bargaining parties agreed to pay a one-time Corona bonus. It amounts to 1,300 euros for pay-scale employees and 650 euros for trainees and will be paid out with the February pay. In individual cases, payment may not be made until March 2022. The bonus is also an expression of Humboldt-Universität's recognition and thanks to its employees for their dedication and commitment in research, teaching and administration during the pandemic.

[Read details about the bonus](#)

Out of turn

International Women's Day: Discussion and get-together

The Women's Assembly on the occasion of International Women's Day is dedicated to the topic "Pay Equity - the Gender Pay Gap at HU". Participants will examine the topic from all sides and look for concrete ways towards a more equitable grouping. The event will be held as a digital event on March 9, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. All HU women are welcome to attend and, after the panel discussion, to end the afternoon at a virtual get-together and engage in conversation with one another.

[More about the event and access data can be found](#)

Administration & Service

Successful election: Julia von Blumenthal becomes new president

Julia von Blumenthal is the new president of HU. She received 44 yes votes and 12 no votes out of 58 votes cast. Two votes were invalid. She is expected to take office in the winter semester and will be preparing for it until then. "In the coming period, I would like to seek contact with colleagues in research, teaching and administration in order to hold initial discussions, to gain a deeper insight so that I can take up my new office well prepared," says von Blumenthal.

[Read a selection of media reports about the new president](#)

[Read interview with von Blumenthal](#)

Case studies: What to do about Covid-19-related sick leave?

What happens if my child has to go into quarantine? Can I go to work? What is the rule if I test positive and am still able to work? The Staff Council for Higher Education sheds light on the jungle of current rules for Covid-19-related sick leave, isolation and quarantine, and highlights the current regulations with some case situations.

[View case studies on Covid-related sick leave](#)

Reminder: partial staff meeting for apprentices

Trainees and TV-L employees up to the age of 27 have the opportunity to elect a representation of their interests, the Youth and Trainee Representation (JAV). All employees up to the age of 27 can stand for election. The University Staff Council is hosting an online information session at 2 p.m. March 9. The link will be announced by the Staff Council.

Registration is requested personalrat@rz.hu-berlin.de

Storms: Beware of storm damage to HU buildings

Since last week's three storm lows, there have been repeated reports of damage to HU buildings. The Engineering Department and Security Guard are working diligently to secure, mark/block off and repair all locations. Due to the abundance of major and many minor damages incurred, this will take some time. The Technical Department therefore asks you to be attentive and to avoid the cordoned-off sources of danger as far as possible. If necessary, please report any undiscovered damage to the janitors or the security guards on site.

Change: new deanship at the Faculty of Humanities

The newly elected Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities constituted itself on February 16 and elected the following members of the Dean's Office in its first meeting:

- Prof. Dr. Thomas Sandkühler (Dean)
- Prof. Dr. Robert Jäschke (Dean of Studies)
- Prof. Dr. Thomas Schmidt (Vice Dean for Research, continues his office)
- Prof. Dr. Manuela Bojadzijev (Vice Dean for International Affairs)

Research & Teaching

Continuing education: Online micro-training "New in teaching"

All those who are about to design their (first) course can further educate themselves in the new micro-training in the HU Forum Online Teaching under the motto "New in Teaching". Based on a concrete example, all relevant topics related to the conception and design of a course are unfolded step by step. The tasks will be worked on in a workshop format on March 11, 18 and 25.

Registration by e-mail to sc.weiterbildung@uv.hu-berlin.de

[Read more about the training](#)

Apply: Elsa Neumann doctoral fellowships and graduation grants

Twice a year, the state of Berlin awards Elsa Neumann doctoral fellowships and doctoral completion fellowships to especially qualified young researchers. The current application deadline is March 25, 12 noon (cut-off deadline) with funding starting July 1, 2022.

[Detailed information on the Elsa Neumann Fellowship can be found at](#)

Funding: organize events in the natural sciences

With the "Encounter Zones" program, the Joachim Herz Foundation promotes events that support the exchange of natural scientists across disciplinary boundaries. The call is aimed at organizers of workshops, symposia, colloquia, meetings and conferences as well as summer and winter schools. The events should address interdisciplinary topics, actively involve doctoral students and postdocs, and enable exchange with experienced scientists. The deadline for applications is May 16.

[Find out more about the program](#)

Office hours: "Momentum" funding initiative for professors

The "Momentum" funding initiative of the Volkswagen Foundation is aimed at professors three to five years after taking up their first lifetime professorship. Funding is provided for concepts for the strategic and substantive development of the professorship. On March 18 at 10 a.m., a research officer from the foundation will explain the program and answer questions from participants.

[Learn more about the funding initiative and the online discussion hour](#)

Lunchtalk Teaching: "Examining in digital formats"

The Lunchtalk Lehre on March 2 is dedicated to the topic of digital examinations. Two keynote speeches are planned: Dr. Jana Brunner will talk about "Connections between digital learning opportunities and exam success." Dr. Maria Große and Dr. Andrea Beyer will provide information on "Competence-oriented testing in digital formats". This will be followed by an exchange and discussion. The Lunchtalk Lehre will take place from 13 to 13:50 in the run-up to the Jour fixe of the deans of studies. Food and drinks are welcome to be brought into the virtual session.

[Learn more about the Lunchtalk and participate](#)

From the Committees

Constitutional Commission: Prof. Dr. Martin Heger elected chairman

The new Berlin Higher Education Act may also entail changes to the HU's constitution. Therefore, at its meeting on November 16, 2021, the Council appointed a Constitutional Commission, which began its work on February 16. Prof. Dr. Martin Heger was elected chairman of the commission, and Michael Plöse is vice-chairman. The commission will examine the extent to which changes to Berlin's Higher Education Act will affect the constitution and, if necessary, draft proposals for amendments.

Portrait: Have a digital coffee with ... Dr. Maren Huberty

Last July, Dr. Maren Huberty was elected president of the Council. The three vice presidents had just been elected or confirmed in office, as had the president. It seemed as if the year would end as usual with a meeting in November. Then the events came thick and fast. For the Romance philologist, who is an expert in Romanian, Italian and French linguistics, it was a turbulent time, which will return to calm waters with the election of the new president.

[Read portrait of Dr. Maren Huberty](#)

Berlin University Alliance

Reminder: Participate in the Berlin Science Survey

How satisfied are scientists with the way they conduct research? Would researchers like more or less cooperation? These and similar questions are the focus of the Berlin Science Survey. The survey addresses the assessments of BUA researchers on topics such as research integrity, collaborations, knowledge transfer and open science, as well as the general conditions in the Berlin research area.

[Participate in the survey](#)

"BE:CURIOUS: New podcast from BUA and the University of Oxford

What can robots learn from parrots? How do we prepare for the next pandemic? And most importantly, how can scientists answer all these questions together? In the new science podcast "BE:CURIOUS", researchers from Berlin and Oxford take a look at the major challenges of our time. They talk about their work, about small and large projects that cross borders and open up new perspectives on the world.

[Go to the podcast](#)

Personalia

Honor: Anders Prize for literary scholar Joseph Vogl

Philosopher, literary and cultural scholar Joseph Vogl will receive this year's Günther Anders Prize for Critical Thinking. Vogl, who teaches and researches at the Institute of German Literature, is being honored for his entire academic and journalistic work, "especially for his recent work on the theory of the present and modern financial capitalism," according to the International Günther Anders Society in Vienna. The award ceremony will take place on May 8.

[Read more about prize and winner](#)

Winner: Adlershof Dissertation Award goes to physicist

Amran Al-Ashouri received the 3,000 euro Adlershof Dissertation Award, which was presented jointly by the research network IGAF e. V., HU and WISTA Management GmbH for the 20th time on February 17. Al-Ashouri wrote his doctoral thesis at the Helmholtz Center for Materials and Energy and the Technical University of Berlin. He dealt with a new generation of solar cells. Dr. Maria Troppenz (Humboldt-Universität) and Dr. Jan Ruschel (Ferdinand-Braun-Institut GmbH and Technical University Berlin) received prize money of 1,000 euros for their nomination.

In Media

Tagespiegel: Günter M. Ziegler remains FU President

Incumbent wins with clear majority

[Read article about reelection](#)

New official bulletins

New official bulletins can be found [here](#).

The next HU Info will be published on Wednesday, March 9, due to the holiday.



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Photo: Wilhelm Gunkel / unplash

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