



HU constitution: Council adopts amendment

At its meeting on 21 November, the HU Council adopted the amendment to the HU constitution by a majority vote. It was developed in an intensive process over the past year and a half by the Council's Constitutional Commission and, in addition to the amendment requirements of the Berlin Higher Education Act, also takes into account suggestions from a survey of elected officials and functionaries at the university. The future composition of the Council was the subject of controversial debate right up to the end. In future, the body is to be made up of 16 university lecturers and 15 members from each of the other status groups. The amendment to the constitution has already been approved by the Academic Senate. The Board of Trustees of Humboldt-Universität must now approve the numerous deviations from the Berlin Higher Education Act in accordance with Section 7a BerlHG, which are provided for in the new HU constitution. In the final step, this will be submitted to the Senate Administration for Science, Health and Care for approval.

[Learn more about the constitution](#)

Administration & Service

Election: Committee for the election of the full-time Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer on 12 December

On 12 December, all female university lecturers and academic staff are invited to vote in a by-election to elect the HU's full-time Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer. The election will take place from 10 am to 1 pm in the main building, room 1053B, Lichthof West (Student Service Centre). As no nominations have been received for the election of the decentralised Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer of the Central University Administration, this election cannot take place. As the current decentralised Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer will no longer be able to serve in the office, new arrangements will have to be made in the coming weeks.

[View nominations for the committee for the election of the central Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer](#)

Diversity: workshops for employees with management responsibilities

From December, workshops on diversity-competent leadership will be held for the central Women's and Equal Opportunities Officer, which can be booked via the professional development programme. Both face-to-face and online sessions will be offered, alternating between German and English. On 7 December from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Adlershof, the focus will be on "Diversity-Competent Leadership" (English). On 8 December, a "Diversity-Competent Leadership" (German) will take place via Zoom from 10:00 to 13:30.

[Book workshop on 7 December](#)

[Book workshop on 8 December](#)

Follow-up report: Campus Adlershof celebrates its 20th anniversary

The Governing Mayor Kai Wegner and the Senator for Science Dr Ina Czyborra visited Campus Adlershof on 22 November and then took part in the anniversary celebration at the Erwin Schrödinger Centre. The reason for the visit was the 20th anniversary of the relocation of the mathematics and natural sciences institutes to the south-east of the city, where they have been working successfully with numerous non-university institutes and companies ever since. "Adlershof is one of 15 of the largest technology parks in the world, and we want to do everything we can to keep it that way," said Wegner in his welcoming address. It is a flagship project and an important economic factor.

[Read the follow-up report](#)

[To the picture gallery](#)

Order now: HU New Year's cards 2024 via print on demand

Select, order, collect and send. Together with the in-house print shop, the Department of Communication, Marketing and Event Management is once again offering the printing of New Year's cards for all HU institutions this year. Print orders for the New Year's post will be accepted until 20 December.

[Order now: HU New Year's cards 2024 via print on demand](#)

Humboldt's magic lights: choral music on 13 December

All Humboldians are cordially invited to sing along and listen on 13 December: The HU's a cappella choir and chamber choir will be presenting a colourful mix of international Christmas music and traditional chorales in the foyer of the main building from 5pm. Music groups and choirs who would like to take part in the programme with their own contributions can do so between 3 and 5 p.m. and register for "Humboldt's Magic of Lights" at veranstaltungen@hu-berlin.de until 1 December.

Advent calendar: Little surprises in the run-up to Christmas

From 1 December, you can open a little door every day in the digital Advent calendar on the intranet. Behind each one is a little story from the world of Humboldt-Universität. Once again this year, colleagues will reveal their favourite recipes, Christmas event tips and a prize draw behind the calendar doors on the working days leading up to Christmas.

[Find the Advent calendar from 1 December](#)

Current measures at a glance: Saving energy remains important

Last winter, HU members saved around 15 per cent on electricity, district heating and natural gas compared to the years 2017 to 2021. A number of measures are planned for this winter in order to make a further contribution to saving energy and thus to climate protection and cost savings. These include heating offices to a maximum of 20 degrees Celsius, limiting outdoor lighting and restricting the opening hours of the University Library around the turn of the year.

[View energy measures in detail](#)

Dorotheenstraße 28: Refurbished institute building for English and American Studies students

The English and American Studies departments have a new home. Catrin Hedwig, Head of the Technical Department, ceremoniously handed over the completely renovated and extended building at Dorotheenstraße 28 to the Managing Director of the Institute of English and American Studies, Prof. Dr Elabe Haschemi Yekani, on 13 November. Following extensive refurbishment work, the interior of the listed building is now characterised by its elegance.

[Read more about the refurbished building](#)

Invalidenstrasse 110: Refurbishment work begins in January

With a delay of one year, the renovation and refurbishment work on Invalidenstrasse 110 will begin in January 2024. The building was recently handed over to the client, the Senate Department for Urban Development, Building and Housing, by the HU. After completion, the Institute of Romance Studies and the Institute of Slavic and Hungarian Studies as well as the Central Language Centre will move into the building. In future, it will bear the name Victor-Klemperer-Haus.

[Find out more about the building project at Invalidenstraße 110](#)

Snow fun: Registration for winter excursions with university sports

This winter you can once again go skiing or snowboarding on the piste with University Sports. No matter what level you are at, everyone can take part. It starts on 27 December with a trip to snow-covered Altenmarkt. With just one ski pass, participants can try out the five ski regions of Ski Amadé with 760 kilometres of pistes and 270 cable car facilities. Ski and snowboard lessons, half board and coach travel are also included. There are also still places available for individual trips to Ahnrtal or Saalbach.

[All winter excursions at a glance](#)

Acrobat, Photoshop and Co: New installation of Adobe products necessary

On 30 November, the Computer and Media Service will have to fundamentally change the provision of Adobe products such as Acrobat Pro, Photoshop and InDesign. The reason for this is the transition from serial number-based activation of the software to personalised licensing. The changeover requires several steps and will be supported by the IT officers in the departments.

[What you need to do now](#)

Flu vaccination: Dates on the Adlershof campus and at Charité

On 1 and 18 December, employees and students can be vaccinated against the flu (influenza) from 9 am to 3 pm on the Adlershof campus and on various dates at the three Charité sites. The time spent is considered working time for employees. The Standing Committee on Vaccination at the Robert Koch Institute (STIKO) recommends that older and chronically ill people in particular get vaccinated against the flu every year.

[Find out more about the vaccination programme, view Charité dates](#)

Research & Teaching

Funding: Apply for the Gerda Henkel Prize 2024 by 31 January

The Gerda Henkel Foundation awards the prize of the same name for outstanding research achievements in the historical humanities. The funding priorities include archaeology, history, historical Islamic studies, art history, legal history, prehistory and early history as well as the history of science. Excellent and internationally recognised academics can be nominated until 31 January 2024. The award is endowed with 100,000 euros.

[Read more about the call for proposals](#)

Cancelled: Pitch Night for female founders on 30 November

The Pitch Night, the conclusion of the Marga Faulstich Programme, which was planned for 30 November, has been cancelled due to illness. The organisers ask for your understanding.

Berlin University Alliance

For Open Science: Mission Statement for the Excellence Alliance

The Berlin University Alliance has adopted a mission statement for open science. It aims to make science more cooperative, inclusive, transparent and verifiable and contains nine specific goals. For example, service offerings for open science practices are to be expanded and researchers are to be supported in publishing their research results in freely accessible, non-profit open access. The joint orientation framework has been developed in a network-wide participation process since 2022. The mission statement takes into account new challenges in science communication and ensuring research quality and fulfils the requirements of the German Research Foundation and the State of Berlin.

[Read the BUA mission statement](#)

Crossing Boundaries: Successful BUA networking event

Under the motto "Crossing Boundaries", more than 300 guests from science, politics, culture, business and society met at the Kulturbrauerei on 22 November to discuss how they envisage the future of Berlin's science landscape: How will Berlin's scientific landscape manage to set new standards in open science? How can Berlin strengthen its visibility as a globally excellent centre of science? And how can the capital become an even more attractive destination for talented researchers from all over the world and at all career levels? With lively discussions, fresh perspectives, inspiring visions and tangible demands, the participants drew a picture of Berlin as a centre of knowledge and innovation in 2033.

[Read more about Crossing Boundaries](#)

Personalia

Funding: ERC Consolidator Grants for two HU researchers

Prof Dr Sarah Eaton from the Institute of Asian and African Studies and PD Dr Magdalena Waligórska from the Institute of European Ethnology have each been awarded an ERC Consolidator Grant and thus funding of almost two million euros each. In the "TECHtonics" project, Eaton will analyse the three emerging powers China, India and Kenya and their activities in the field of global technical standard-setting. In the "Plundered Lives" project, Waligórska is researching various forms of appropriation of Jewish personal possessions by the non-Jewish indigenous population in East-Central European shtetls during the Second World War.

[Read the press release on the ERC Consolidator Grants](#)

Honour: Democracy Prize for Steffen Mau

The renowned sociologist Steffen Mau has been honoured with the "Against Forgetting - For Democracy" prize from the association of the same name for his committed examination of social polarisation trends. In his current work, the professor of macrosociology clearly demonstrates that, contrary to widespread assumptions, Germany is not divided into two camps, but rather resembles a "fissured landscape of conflict", according to the jury's statement. The researcher's widely discussed publications on the German-German unification process and its consequences describe social structural upheavals with great empathy and analytical clarity and provide insights into the East German mentality.

[Find out more about the prize and award winners](#)

Award: Open Access Prizes 2022 awarded to two groups of researchers

A research group from Geography and a group from Law have been recognised for the Humboldt-Universität's Open Access Award 2022. The "Earth Observation Lab" research group led by Patrick Hostert, Professor of Remote Sensing, was honoured in the Natural and Life Sciences category. The Fundamental Rights team with members of the Faculty of Law, which is part of the larger Fundamental Rights project of the "openRewi" initiative, was honoured in the Social Sciences and Humanities category.

[Read more about the award winners and the prize](#)

Forum Junge Spitzenforschung: Three HU research projects honoured

Julian Bopp, a physics doctoral student at the HU, took first place in the "Forum Junge Spitzenforschung" competition, while Daniel Hübner and Marcel Glomb from the HU's Urban Plant Physiology department took second place. Fourth place also went to three Humboldtians, the physicists Dr Pietro Marabotti, Dr Sebastian Heeg and Dr Sven Ramelow. A total of six teams were honoured for their application ideas from innovative basic research in the field of "Sensors and data analysis in practical use". The "Forum Junge Spitzenforschung" competition is organised by the Stiftung Industrieforschung and Humboldt-Innovation GmbH and honours outstanding young researchers in Berlin.

[Find out more about the award-winning projects](#)

New official Bulletins

Current issues of the Official Bulletins can be found [here](#).