



## Next Grand Challenge: Raising 1.4 million euros for research projects

The Berlin University Alliance is funding research projects for the Next Grand Challenge "Responsible Innovation in Times of Transformation" with a total of 1.4 million euros. Researchers from all BUA partners have until 29 April to submit applications for funding for their projects. On 29 January and 14 February, interested applicants will receive information about the application process, the requirements, the selection procedure and the funding criteria in online events. In addition, workshops for various target groups from science, culture, politics, administration and civil society will be offered in February and March. In the Challenges, the Excellence Network is dedicated to tackling major societal challenges across institutional and disciplinary boundaries.

[Further information, dates and registration](#)

## In Focus

### Barrier-free HU: Report physical barriers via new functional email

Walkways are blocked, wheelchair users can't get past, there are no handrails and disabled toilets are dirty? These and similar obstacles can make everyday study and work life considerably more difficult for people with disabilities. Humboldt-Universität strives to be a place that is accessible and inclusive for all its members. In 2024, it will therefore focus on the topic of accessibility and identify key activities to remove barriers. Your support is important here: report physical barriers directly by email. The information enables us to respond efficiently to problems and make the university accessible to everyone. Your data will be treated confidentially. Please provide details of the location, building, floor, room number and type of barrier.

Report barriers via [barrieren.melden@hu-berlin.de](mailto:barrieren.melden@hu-berlin.de)

## Research & Teaching

### Research Lounge: Impulse lectures on "War and Peace" on 14 February

The Vice President for Research, Christoph Schneider, and the Vice Dean for Research of the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, Silvia von Steinsdorff, invite you to the HU's second Research Lounge. The event will focus on research projects on issues of war and peace. Seven HU researchers at various career stages will report on their work on 14 February. The event will take place from 16:30 to 19:30 in the Senate Hall of the HU, Unter den Linden 6. Registration is requested: [vpfrefere@hu-berlin.de](mailto:vpfrefere@hu-berlin.de)

[To the programme of the Research Lounge](#)

### Accessibility: What it's like to study with an impairment

Katja Tempke has her Master's degree in primary school education and is currently preparing for a traineeship at a Berlin community school. And she is saying goodbye to Humboldt-Universität, where she not only studied but was also heavily involved in the HU committees for accessibility. "I feel very much at home at HU and am also sad that I have to leave now," says the graduate, who has a disability herself. She therefore had to struggle with barriers, especially at the beginning of her studies.

[Read portrait about Katja Tempke](#)

### Tomorrow: Teaching mission statement - invitation to the future workshop

Almost exactly one year after the kick-off for the development of the mission statement for teaching, the Vice President for Teaching and Learning, Niels Pinkwart, is inviting all interested Humboldtians to a future workshop on 24 January. After the mission statement was successfully adopted by the Academic Senate in December last year, the event is the prelude to the integration of the teaching mission statement into everyday university life.

[Register now and take part](#)

### Video: Impressions of the President's trip to the USA

In the last quarter of 2023, a small HU delegation led by Julia von Blumenthal travelled to the USA to renew the partnership with Princeton University, among other things. The visit also included New York University, the German House for Science and Innovation and the American Council on Germany. The HU President reports on her trip in a video.

[Watch video](#)

### DFG funding: Edition of Galen's commentary on the Hippocratic aphorisms

Prof Dr Philip van der Eijk, Prof Dr Markus Asper and PD Dr Oliver Overwien from the Institute of Classical Philology have reason to celebrate: their project "Galen's Commentary on the Hippocratic Aphorisms" is being funded by the German Research Foundation with a total of more than four million euros over a period of nine years. The long-term project deals with the Greek physician and philosopher Galen of Pergamon (129-216 AD) and his commentary on the aphorisms of Hippocrates. The core of the project is a bilingual edition of this commentary, in which the Arabic translation from the 9th century will be critically edited and translated into a modern language alongside the original Greek text.

[Find out more about the research project](#)

### Online training: "How to COIL - How to design collaborative online courses with international colleagues"

COIL stands for Collaborative Online International Learning and is an approach in which students from different countries work together in mixed groups. Interested parties can discover the world of COIL in a 90-minute online course on 29 January at 15:30. You will gain insights into the impact of COIL on student engagement, broadening perspectives and effective online collaboration in culturally diverse teams. The course is organised by the Berlin Centre for University Teaching and BeCOIL, a joint project of Berlin's universities on COIL.

[Register for the online course](#)

[Find out more about COIL at the HU](#)

### Deutschlandstipendium: Apply for themed classes by 6 February

Humboldt-Universität is once again awarding themed class scholarships to its students for the 2024 summer semester as part of the Deutschlandstipendium. In the themed class "Sustainability & Global Justice", 15 Germany Scholarship holders will conduct research on an interdisciplinary topic together with academics. The scholarship supports committed students with very good grades with 300 euros per month for one year. The application deadline is 6 February.

[To the topic class application](#)

### Caroline von Humboldt Professorship and Award: submit proposals by 30 April

The application period for the Caroline von Humboldt Professorship, which has been awarded since 2013, and the Caroline von Humboldt Award has begun. The awards recognise outstanding female professors at Humboldt-Universität and excellent young female academics from around the world. The professorship is endowed with 80,000 euros, the award with 15,000 euros. Proposals for both categories can be submitted until 30 April.

[Details on the Caroline von Humboldt Professorship and Award](#)

### Adlershof Dissertation Award: Award ceremony on 13 February

Three nominees, three presentations: Whoever communicates their topic best and gets to the heart of it will win the Adlershof Dissertation Award, which is endowed with 3,000 euros. On 13 February from 3 pm, three young researchers will present their dissertation topics live at the Erwin Schrödinger Centre on the Adlershof campus. A jury will decide who is the best. The topics will be Riemann surfaces, the molecular design of carbon materials and the question of how our vision is influenced by active predictions.

[View programme and topics](#)

### Inter Circle U. Prize 2024: submit projects by 1 March

The Inter Circle U. Prize (ICUP) honours outstanding inter- and transdisciplinary research projects by researchers and doctoral students from Circle U. universities. Each year, three researchers or research teams are honoured with the award. The winners are invited to present their work on 27 May at the Université Paris Cité. The selected projects will also be presented in a professionally produced video. The deadline for applications is 1 March.

[Apply for the Inter Circle U. Award](#)

### Humboldt speech on Europe: Malta's President as guest on 25 January

The Walter Hallstein Institute for European Constitutional Law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin invites you to the Humboldt Speech on Europe with the President of the Republic of Malta, George Vella. He will speak on 25 January at 3 pm in the Senate Hall of the University, Unter den Linden 6, on the topic "Reflections on the present world order".

[Find out more about the Humboldt speech](#)

### Kosmos Lecture: "Towards Zero Hunger" on 15 February

In a new edition of the Kosmos Lecture on 15 February, Prof. Tilman Brück will talk about how economic research can contribute to overcoming hunger in the world. Based on his research in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, the economist explains how various risks - such as violence, fragility, displacement and climate shocks - interact to affect and curtail people's lives, incomes and food security. The Kosmos lecture "Towards Zero Hunger: How economic research can help people live free from hunger and violence" starts at 6pm in the Senatssaal, Unter den Linden 6.

[Find out more about the Kosmos reading](#)

### Humboldt Research Track Scholarships: Apply by 31 January

Humboldt-Universität is once again awarding Humboldt Research Track Scholarships. The six-month transitional scholarship is aimed at outstanding graduates or students shortly before completing a Master's degree programme and serves to prepare a doctoral project. The current application deadline is 31 January for funding to start from 1 April.

[Detailed information on the transitional scholarship](#)

### Study prize of the State Monuments Office: apply by 16 February

The "Studienpreis des Landesdenkmalamtes Berlin" is awarded annually for up to three outstanding bachelor's or master's theses that relate to the Berlin monument landscape and deal with topics relevant to the preservation of Berlin's monuments. Each prize is endowed with 1,000 euros. Students from all universities and universities of applied sciences in Germany and abroad are eligible to participate. Applications for the Berlin State Monument Office's study prize can be submitted until 16 February.

[Further information on the study prize](#)

## Administration & Service

### Security in IT: Trust in e-mail communication

The first "CMS Info" with the title "Security in IT: Trust in e-mail communication" has been published. The issue deals with the problems of spam, scam and phishing, the functionality and significance of digital signatures and the need for a critical approach even with existing security mechanisms. You will learn more about the relevance of signing emails and receive instructions on how to set up user certificates.

[Download CMS Info](#)

### Long Night of the Sciences: register projects by 9 February

The next Long Night of the Sciences will take place on 22 June from 5 pm to midnight. Researchers from all HU institutions are cordially invited to register their projects with the HU event management by 9 February. The Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften e.V. in Berlin is a joint project of the scientific institutions in the region.

Register projects for the Long Night: [lange.nacht@hu-berlin.de](mailto:lange.nacht@hu-berlin.de)

### Call for applications: Apply for early successor appointments for female professors by 5 February

The Commission for the Advancement of Women (KFF) is inviting applications for early successor appointments (VNB) for female professors from the HU's W position programme. In particular, subjects with few female professors or subjects that wish to fill a professorship with a (partial) denomination on the subject of gender studies have the opportunity to apply to the KFF for the approval of an early successor appointment. Institute directors and deans of the HU are eligible to apply. The application deadline is 5 February.

[Further information and applications for the VNB](#)

### Online-Workshop: "Fundamentals of diversity competence" on 24 January

The workshops "Fundamentals of Diversity Competence", which are offered throughout the year, are aimed at people with management responsibility. To enable broad participation, the workshops are held in Adlershof and Mitte, in person and digitally, in German or English. The next workshop will take place on 24 January (online). Registration is via the Continuing Vocational Training Centre.

[View and register for workshop dates 2024](#)

### Matching campaign: Donate to the Humboldt Law Clinic by 31 January

For 13 years, the Humboldt Law Clinic Fundamental and Human Rights (HLCMR) has been a valuable part of legal education at Humboldt-Universität and a unique link between the faculty and civil society. The Law Clinic offers students the opportunity to work together with researchers and civil rights, anti-discrimination and human rights organisations on specific cases in the field of fundamental and human rights. A generous matching donation has now been pledged to the Friends of the Clinic, which has been financed by donations for three years: all donations received in the association's account by 31 January will be doubled.

[Donate for Humboldt Law Clinic](#)

### Online workshop: Health tips for the cold season on 24 January

University Health Management cordially invites you to the online workshop "Healthy winter time: your feel-good moments for the cold season" on 24 January from 1 to 2 pm. The workshop will show simple and effective ways and possibilities of boosting energy reserves through exercise and nutrition and staying physically and mentally healthy without sacrificing enjoyment.

[Find out more and request a Zoom link](#)

### HU in dialogue: "Erwin Schrödinger - still acceptable as a building name?" on 5 February

A few years ago, allegations of abuse against the physicist and Nobel Prize winner Erwin Schrödinger (1887 to 1961) were publicised. Is the physicist still acceptable as the namesake of the Erwin Schrödinger Centre, which is considered the centre of the Mathematics and Natural Sciences Campus in Adlershof? A working group invites all Humboldtians to discuss this question. The event will take place on 5 February from 3 to 5:30 pm on the Adlershof campus in English as part of the "HU in Dialogue" event series in a World Café format. The sciencely app will be used for surveys at the event.

[This is what HU in dialogue on 5 February is all about](#)

### Picture gallery: Reopening of the Senate Hall

After extensive modernisation, the Senate Hall in the main building has a new, modern look. The ceremonial reopening took place on 11 January. From midday, all interested Humboldtians were able to experience the new features and take part in guided tours with the architects. In the evening, HU President Julia von Blumenthal invited representatives of the status groups to a fishbowl discussion in the redesigned hall.

[View photos on the intranet](#)

## Berlin University Alliance

### Research topic "Water": contributions wanted for exhibition at the Humboldt Forum

The Helmholtz Centre for Cultural Technology at HU and the Humboldt Lab team are planning an interdisciplinary exhibition project on the topic of "Water" for 2025. The Berlin University Alliance is now inviting all members of the four Berlin alliance partners to participate in the design of this joint format as part of Objective 2 "Fostering Knowledge Exchange". Researchers interested in collaborating can submit an initial expression of interest by 15 February.

[More about the project](#)

## Personalia

### Teaching differently: Bas Böttcher is the first Humboldt spoken word poet

Bas Böttcher, one of the co-founders of the poetry slam scene in Germany, is part of the teaching staff at HU in the current winter semester and in the summer semester 2023/2024. He is the first Humboldt Spoken Word Poet at the HU and offers various workshops and participatory art projects in the teacher training programmes at the Institute of Education. These include, for example, writing poetry with AI applications and programming an interactive poem as a growing long poem in which many people participate. Student teachers experience language beyond its function of conveying information as an aesthetic and sensual medium and strengthen their language skills.

[Find out more about Humboldt Spoken Word Poet](#)

### Award: Katharina Heinroth Prize for Olga Lukyanova

The young scientist Olga Lukyanova from the research group of Prof. Dr Robert Aurlinghaus at the Albrecht Daniel Thier Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences at HU was honoured for her Master's thesis. The Gesellschaft Naturforschender Freunde zu Berlin awarded her the Katharina Heinroth Prize 2024, which honours outstanding student theses. Lukyanova wrote her master's thesis on the migratory behaviour of pike in the Boddens waters around Rügen.

### Anniversary: Elisabeth Gibbels has been working at HU for 40 years

Dr Elisabeth Gibbels, research assistant at the Institute of English and American Studies, has been working at HU for four decades. The University congratulates her on this special anniversary and wishes her all the best for the future at HU.

## New Official Bulletins

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