



Business trip: New travel management system planned

Humboldt-Universität is planning to introduce the SAP FI-TV travel management system in January 2025 in order to digitise processes relating to business trips - applications, advances and invoicing. SAP FI-TV is intended to make everyday business travel easier and more convenient. The project to introduce this system is being managed and led by 'humboldt gemeinsam' in close cooperation with the Special Personnel Matters unit of the Budget and Personnel department. In this interview, Head of Unit Kaj Schumann, reports on what the introduction of the new system means for everyone who is travelling on business or approving travel and funding, and provides insights into the current status of the project. *Photo, from left to right: Kaj Schumann, Irina Charuk (humboldt gemeinsam, Project Manager Travel Management) and Frank Baumeister (Travel Office).*

[Read interview with Kaj Schumann](#)

Administration & Service

Online workshops: Participate in focus groups to analyse working conditions

The Presidential Board of Humboldt-Universität cordially invites all HU employees to participate in the focus groups of the University Health Management (HGM), which will take place online in September. Following the HGM's 2022 employee survey, a number of critical issues in the area of working conditions were identified, which will now be analysed in greater depth in the focus groups. The aim is to understand the causes and motives behind the individual problems and, building on this, to jointly develop ideas that can contribute to effectively solving these problems in everyday working life. The registration deadline is 30 August.

[Find out more about focus groups and register](#)

Workshops: Securing knowledge from former colleagues

The Continuing Professional Development programme is offering two courses that deal with knowledge transfer and knowledge management - topics that are indispensable in today's working world, not only to drive innovation, but also to secure the knowledge of former employees during staff changes and the induction of new colleagues. The classroom course 'Continuous knowledge management' will take place on 12 September. And on 21 November, the online course will focus on 'Knowledge transfer and induction of new employees'.

[Register for the course on 12 September](#)

[Register for the course on 21 November](#)

Equal opportunities: Dynamic increase in the proportion of women achieved

Humboldt-Universität has achieved great success in terms of equal opportunities for women. The proportion of women at all career levels has increased dynamically, especially in top academic positions. The proportion of women in professorships has almost doubled since 2008: from 20.5 per cent to 39.8 per cent in 2023. Gender parity has already been achieved among academic staff: the proportion of women is 51.5 per cent (2023). However, there are still major differences between the individual subject groups. HU therefore wants to further increase the proportion of women, particularly in the STEM subjects and in law and economics. On average, 27.5 per cent of professorships in these subjects are held by women, while 39 per cent of academic staff are women.

[Read more about equality](#)

Reminder: Digital retrieval of salary documents in the ESS

Since January 2023, employees have been able to retrieve their payslips, social security notifications and income tax statements for the years from 2023 themselves via the Employee Self Service (ESS). These documents will no longer be sent by post. For documents prior to 1 January 2023, retrieval via ESS is not possible. Access to the ESS ends as soon as the employment relationship ends. Employees should therefore download the documents regularly and in good time. After the end of the employment relationship, the subsequent creation and postal dispatch of the documents is very time-consuming and expensive. Due to limited capacities, such requests cannot be processed quickly.

[View all information on Employee Self Service](#)

New CMS Info: WLAN/eduroam use made easy

The new edition of the CMS Info series provides all the important information on using the WLAN/eduroam at Humboldt-Universität at a glance. The compact, easy-to-understand overview, which is available for download, contains everything you need to know, from the requirements and set-up to tips and tricks for typical problems.

[Read CMS info](#)

Training for researchers: Sharing knowledge with society

Researchers can now take part in a training programme run by the Berlin School of Public Engagement and Open Science via the Centre for Cultural Technology's Knowledge Exchange with Society competence field. The online workshops teach researchers how to organise, creatively implement and evaluate projects for knowledge exchange with society. The series will take place from October 2024 to June 2025 and can be completed with a certificate. Researchers from all disciplines and career stages can participate. Please send enquiries and expressions of interest by 15 September to wissensaustausch.hzk@hu-berlin.de

[Find out more about the programme](#)

SAP driving licence: Register for course dates in September and November

Team "humboldt gemeinsam" is organising SAP training courses. They provide a general overview and introduce the basic navigation and administrative content of the SAP system. SAP Ariba for procurement, the xSuite system for centralised electronic invoice receipt and the structure of the budgetary budget report will be presented. The courses are offered online and in person, in the mornings and afternoons.

[Register for SAP course](#)

Arboretum fundraising campaign: plant sponsorship from the Jane Goodall Institute

A fundraising campaign is currently underway with which interested parties can support the preservation of the Arboretum and its environmental education work. The Jane Goodall Institute Germany has taken on a special sponsorship: To mark the 90th birthday of the researcher and activist on 3 April 2024, the institute is sponsoring a tulip tree, which is a tree of the future that stands for adaptability and resilience in times of climate change. Donors can sponsor a tree, a small shrub or ferns and herbs for one year in the fundraising campaign and receive a personalised plaque on their sponsored plant for donations of 200 euros or more.

[Become a plant sponsor for the arboretum](#)

Research & Teaching

Circle U.- COIL: Funding for European online teaching

Teachers have the opportunity to internationalise their teaching by collaborating with European partners and offering their students the chance to learn in a virtual classroom together with fellow students from Circle U. partner universities. As a member of Circle U., Humboldt-Universität supports the modern concept of Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) with targeted funding. Applications can be submitted until 30 September.

[Apply for COIL funding](#)

CU.til Week: Develop your teaching with us

The Circle U. Teaching Innovation Lab (CU.til) is organising a training week to develop innovative teaching methods. From 11 to 13 September, a combination of training modules, a co-creation lab and coaching labs for lecturers, students, teacher trainers and other educational developers will take place in Louvain-la-Neuve in Belgium. The aim is to develop and implement transformative educational programmes that enable students to confidently face the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

[Find out more and register](#)

For doctoral students: Apply for short scholarships by 10 October

Doctoral students at Humboldt-Universität can apply for travel grants from the Department of International Affairs, which are suitable for short research activities lasting between two and ten days. By participating in international conferences or similar events, doctoral students can network internationally and thus advance their research and career opportunities. Funding is provided in the form of a lump sum. The application deadline is 10 October.

[Read the call and apply](#)

Mulberry City: pop-up exhibition at the Huguenot Museum

The exhibition 'Mulberry Tree City' at the Huguenot Museum Berlin presents photographs, collages and plants on the history of silk. The works on display focus on historical and modern aspects of silk production and processing as well as the propagation of historical mulberry trees. The white mulberry is the basis for the breeding of the silkworm, as the caterpillar feeds exclusively on the leaves of this tree. The works were created in the interdisciplinary project 'Agritecture' with students from the Berlin University of Applied Sciences and the Department of Agroecology at Humboldt-Universität. The exhibition can be seen from 24 August (Long Night of the Museums) until 12 October.

[Learn more about project and exhibition](#)

Berlin University Alliance

Workshops in September: Staying healthy during your doctorate

A doctorate is challenging, the workload enormous, the time pressure noticeable and the personal responsibility high. The two-day workshop 'Glück Ahoy - Gestärkt und gesund durch die Promotion' organised by the Berlin University Alliance (BUA) helps researchers in this career phase to keep a cool head, overcome challenges and strengthen their mental resilience. Following the event, a three-week online format ensures that the skills taught are put into practice in everyday life. Doctoral students from the BUA network can apply to take part.

[Read more information and register for the workshop](#)

New Einstein Research Unit: Focus on social polarisation

The Berlin University Alliance and the Einstein Foundation Berlin are funding a new joint scientific project as the Einstein Research Unit with around four million euros. Researchers from Humboldt-Universität will work together with researchers from Freie Universität Berlin, Charité-Universitätsmedizin and international partners to investigate the connections between polarisation, social cohesion and democracy. For example, the research group will establish the 'Berlin Polarisation Monitor', which will be used to identify current and potential future social conflict issues.

[Read press release](#)

Personalia

Visiting professor: social geographer Ilse Helbrecht teaches at the renowned Dartmouth College

Ilse Helbrecht has accepted an invitation to teach at Dartmouth College (USA) from 11 September to 15 November. The Professor of Cultural and Social Geography at Humboldt-Universität will be teaching in New Hampshire as Harris Honorary Visiting Professor. Alongside Harvard, Princeton and Yale University, Dartmouth College is one of the eight highly respected Ivy League universities in the USA and is therefore part of a group of the most prestigious universities in the world. From Dartmouth, she will begin her new research project 'Transformations in Housing and Intergenerational Contracts in Europe (THICE)', which is funded by the Volkswagen Foundation and deals with intergenerational (in)justice in European housing markets.

[Find out more about Ilse Helbrecht's research](#)

Anniversary: 40 years of service to the university

Martin Mammel, IT/Service Operations employee in the Technical Department, can look back on 40 years of public service on 1 September. The University would like to congratulate him on this special anniversary.

Olympics: Silver medal for HU student Martin Zwicker

The 2024 Olympic Games in Paris have come to an end and the six top athletes and students from Humboldt-Universität have shown great performances in their disciplines. Two students came home with medals: sports science student Martin Zwicker won the silver medal with the men's national hockey team. Teacher training student Tabea Schendekehl also has reason to celebrate - she and her team-mates won a bronze medal in the women's double sculls.

[Find out more about the HU Olympians](#)

Obituary: Linguist Manfred Bierwisch deceased

The Faculty of Languages and Literature bids farewell to Manfred Bierwisch. One of the most influential and versatile German linguists passed away on 31 July 2024 shortly after his 94th birthday. As Professor of Linguistics at Humboldt-Universität, he left his mark on generations of students and researchers. His dissertation from 1963, in which he analysed the grammar of the German verb, is considered a milestone in generative grammar. Despite adverse circumstances in the GDR, Bierwisch created numerous ground-breaking works and remained a formative figure in linguistic research even after reunification. His death leaves a huge gap in linguistics.

[Read obituary for Bierwisch](#)

New Official Bulletins

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Photo: Timée Lochert

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