



## Action week for FLINTA\* on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women\*

An exhibition that shows what often remains invisible, workshops that teach awareness and communication of one's own boundaries, a film screening with keynote and clear statements by male HU employees for gender equality in the '#MenForEquality' campaign. This and much more is on offer during the action week of the Centre for Equal Opportunities on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women\*, which runs until 30 November. 'With this event, we want to raise awareness of sexualised discrimination, harassment and violence and empower those affected,' says Dr Ursula Fuhrich-Grubert, Head of the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Central Women's and Gender Equality Officer at HU. All Humboldtians are invited to take part.

[View further information on the action week](#)

[View the #MenForEquality campaign](#)

## Out of Line

### 30 years of the Northern European Institute: Unrivalled in research, teaching and exchange

The Northern European Institute at Humboldt-Universität is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year - an occasion to look back with pride on the successes and developments of the past three decades. Since its foundation in 1994, when the Scandinavian studies programmes at Humboldt-Universität and Freie Universität Berlin were merged, the Institute has established itself as a unique location. With its interdisciplinary orientation, which encompasses the four subject areas of cultural studies, medieval studies, literary studies and linguistics, as well as the teaching of five Northern European languages, the Northern European Institute occupies an outstanding position in the German-speaking university landscape. Prof Dr Stefanie von Schnurbein and Dr Dörte Linke talk about the past and the future in this interview.

[Read interview about the Northern European Institute](#)

## Administration & Service

### Email addresses: Renew user certificates in advance

Users who use a HU-PKI user certificate for their e-mail or functional address and whose validity period is about to expire are requested to issue a new certificate in advance. User certificates for e-mail and functional addresses are required for e-mail signature and encryption and are issued via the PKI service of the Computer and Media Service in self-service. As the service for reissuing certificates is no longer expected to be provided by Sectigo for an indefinite period from 10 January 2025, the PKI service urgently requests the early renewal of certificates with a short validity period.

[More about the user certificate](#)

### KI: New tool summarises documents

The Computer and Media Service (CMS) provides all Humboldtians with a new AI tool that can be used to summarise texts from pdf and docx files. You can choose between a summary as a short version or a critical reflection of the original text. The original texts can be written in ten different languages, the summary is in German. In contrast to commercial offers, the use of the AI tool is data protection compliant and takes place on the HU servers; personal information or personal data remains confidential. The tool can be used via the HU account.

[Use the KI tool](#)

### Committee elections: Submit election proposals by 27 November

On 14 January 2025, committee elections will take place at HU, including elections to the Academic Senate/Council, the Faculty Councils of the Faculties of Law, Cultural Studies, Social Sciences and Education, Life Sciences, Mathematics and Natural Sciences and Theology, as well as the Councils of the Central Institutes for Islamic and Catholic Theology. Nominations for the above-mentioned elections can be submitted until tomorrow, 27 November, 3 pm. Postal voting documents can be requested from the relevant local election committee until 18 December, 3 pm.

[Find further information on the elections here](#)

### Intranet: Only available to a limited extent from 9 to 13 December

From 9 December, maintenance work will be carried out on the intranet software. Humboldt Intern will be readable for the first 48 hours, but editors will not be able to add new content during this time. The intranet is expected to be up and running again on 11 December. However, minor restrictions are to be expected until the end of the week. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions, please contact: [interne-kommunikation@hu-berlin.de](mailto:interne-kommunikation@hu-berlin.de)

### Magic of lights: atmospheric evening with music on 11 December

Humboldt's Lichterzauber in the Senate Hall: All Humboldtians are invited to the main building on 11 December for an atmospheric afternoon/evening full of music and movement! Between 6 and 7 pm, the HU Choir and the HU Chamber Choir will present a musical mix of international Christmas music and traditional chorales from the Renaissance to listen to and sing along to. Beforehand, from 4pm, the instructors from HU Sport will be offering a beginner's course in Cha Cha Cha. No previous knowledge is necessary to learn this Latin American dance, but comfortable shoes are required. The family office will take care of the younger visitors with a craft programme and a cake buffet will provide refreshments.

### Musical enjoyment: HU sounds for the festive season

The ensembles of Humboldt-Universität invite you to enjoy a few hours of music in winter. In December, Humboldt's Philharmonic Choir, Humboldt's Student Philharmonic Orchestra and the Symphonic Orchestra traditionally set the mood for the Christmas season with Johann Sebastian Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio'. The cappella academica will also be giving a concert to set the mood for a time of reflection.

[Read more about the programme of the HU orchestras](#)

### Order now: The New Year's cards 2025 via print on demand

The Department of Communication, Marketing and Event Management and the in-house print shop are once again offering the printing of New Year's cards for all HU institutions. This year there are two different motifs to choose from. Print orders for New Year's cards will be accepted until 18 December.

[Order New Year's cards](#)

## Research & Teaching

### Circle U. COIL: International online teaching on 26 November

The event 'International Online Teaching for Beginners' will focus on the concept of Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and the associated opportunities for teachers within the Circle U. alliance. HU teaching staff from all departments who are interested in working with Circle U. partner universities are invited to attend. The event will take place on 26 November from 4 to 5:30 pm in room 2249a in the main building, Unter den Linden 6.

[Read more information](#)

### METIS Lecture: Lecture on gender inequality on 28 November

Gender equality in mathematics has not yet been achieved at German universities. Under the title 'Old Barriers or New Changes? Gender in a Mathematical Cluster of Excellence', Anna Ransiek shares key findings on the topic from "Math+ as a Research Object", a sociological research project as part of the DFG Cluster of Excellence MATH+. The lecture will take place online on 28 November.

[Find out more about the METIS Lecture](#)

### Apply now: Flex Funds for projects with partner universities

Researchers, teachers and administrative staff can once again apply for internal HU funding to initiate collaborations with HU partner universities. Project proposals can include joint publications, teaching activities, workshops, exhibitions, staff exchanges and more. The first call involves the strategic partner universities University of Oxford, Princeton University, the Universidade de São Paulo and the University of Zurich. The second call is for global partnerships with the Australian National University, King's College London, Paris Sciences et Lettres and the University of Toronto. Please use the application forms provided for your applications. The deadline for submission is 10 January 2025.

[Find out more about calls for proposals with Oxford, Princeton, São Paulo and Zurich](#)

[Read more about calls for proposals with London, Toronto, Canberra and Paris](#)

### Circle U. webinar: 'Working with bots in the administration'

In a one-hour session on 12 December from 1 p.m., colleagues from the International Office of Circle U. member Aarhus University will report on their experiences and successes with the use of bots. A bot is a piece of software that is used to automate processes - and can therefore take over repetitive, time-consuming tasks. The webinar will explain in more detail what this can look like in everyday working life and how software is used to optimise the workflow in Aarhus in the areas of mobility and student administration. Please register by 11 December.

[Find out more and register for the event](#)

### Networking and interdisciplinary research: IZ Digitality and digital methods at Campus Mitte

The Interdisciplinary Centre (IZ) for Digitality and Digital Methods at Campus Mitte has set itself the goal of promoting interdisciplinary exchange in the social sciences, humanities and cultural studies on topics of digitality and digital methods. The centre supports the development of joint research priorities and promotes the establishment of modern infrastructures. It offers a variety of formats such as working groups, workshops and events that deal with topics such as Large Language Models, Git, Digital/Data/AI Literacies and short lectures from research practice.

[Learn more about IZ for Digitality and Digital Methods](#)

### Schrödinger: New insights into a heated debate

Serious allegations of abuse have been levelled against physicist Erwin Schrödinger in recent years. In the course of the debate, the possible renaming of the Erwin Schrödinger Centre at HU was also discussed. Scientists Magdalena and Martin Gronau presented new findings at a lecture in Adlershof on 18 November after viewing Schrödinger's previously blocked diaries. They have studied these and other important sources in detail and come to the conclusion that the accusations levelled against Schrödinger are not justified.

[Read the post-event report](#)

### Public Engagement: Networking event between Oxford and Berlin

On the topic of 'Researching with Society - International Perspectives', scientists and science-related stakeholders came together at the Helmholtz Centre's Animal Anatomy Theatre and Object Laboratory on 20 November. The aim was to exchange ideas on how research with society can succeed. The programme included workshops, a network bingo organised by the BUA's Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research and a keynote speech by Dr Victoria McGuinness, Head of the Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities at the University of Oxford. She emphasised the changing role of universities - from a static teaching institution to an open space for discourse in which everyone can participate - and at the same time highlighted the importance of every researcher as a 'doorway in the university' for non-academic communities.

### Apply now: Germany Scholarship 2025/26 for students

Humboldt-Universität is once again awarding Germany Scholarships to its students for the 2025 summer semester. It's worth applying: the scholarship supports committed students with very good grades with 300 euros per month for one year. The application deadline is 15 December.

[Find out more about the Deutschlandstipendium](#)

## Berlin University Alliance

### Excellence Strategy: Berlin competes with ten projects

In the coming weeks and months, teams of Berlin scientists will be travelling to Bonn to present and defend their research ideas as part of the Excellence Strategy funded by the federal government. There is a lot at stake: the four renowned partners in the Berlin University Alliance (BUA), Freie Universität, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Technische Universität are applying for a seven-year extension of the seven research clusters currently being funded. In addition, three new applications with Berlin participation will be entered into the competition.

[Find out more about the BUA in the Excellence Competition](#)

[Find out more about BUA in the #WirSindBUA campaign](#)

### DFG Funding Atlas 2024: BUA's research strength confirmed

In the current funding atlas of the German Research Foundation (DFG), Freie Universität and Humboldt-Universität are once again among the strongest research universities in Germany. They are ranked first and second in the humanities and social sciences. Among the university hospitals, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin occupies the top position. In terms of per capita funding, researchers at Technische Universität Berlin are in the lead across Germany in the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences. In the reporting years 2020 to 2022, researchers in the Excellence Network received a total of 716.21 million euros in funding from the DFG. This corresponds to an increase of 8.4 per cent compared to the previous reporting period from 2017 to 2019. The DFG presents key figures on publicly funded research every three years.

[Find out more about the Funding Atlas](#)

## Personalia

### Portrait: Martina Rost sails into retirement

Martina Rost, long-time head of the Central University Sports Centre, has shaped HU for decades. With her commitment, creativity and love of sport, she has realised many projects, created structures and inspired her team. From the promotion of sailing at the Schmöckwitz water sports centre to the introduction of university health management, her work was imaginative and visionary. At the end of November, the Weimar native will be retiring with 'one crying and one laughing eye'.

[Read portrait about Martina Rost](#)

### Honorary position: Jürg Kramer new President of the German Mathematical Society

In November, Prof Dr Jürg Kramer was appointed as the new President of the German Mathematical Society (DMV) by the Executive Committee. Kramer, who joined the Institute of Mathematics as a professor in 1994 and retired this year, has made a name for himself in the field of didactics of mathematics in particular. He was particularly committed to the promotion of young academics and the professionalisation of teaching staff. Kramer held numerous positions: He was spokesman for the Berlin Mathematical School graduate school and two graduate programmes of the German Research Foundation. He was also a member of the board of the Berlin Cluster of Excellence MATH+.

### Honour: 'Research with Responsibility' science prize awarded

The Stifterverband has announced this year's winners of the 40,000 euro science prize: Robert Arlinghaus from the Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries is being honoured for his work on the ecological, economic and social aspects of inland recreational fishing. Lena Hipp from the Social Science Research Centre Berlin receives the prize for her research on social inequalities related to gender and care responsibilities.

## New publications of official bulletins

Current issues of the Official Bulletins can be found [here](#). Please send enquiries about AMBs to: [frauke.weiss@uv.hu-berlin.de](mailto:frauke.weiss@uv.hu-berlin.de)



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Photo: Stefan Klenke

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