



Opera in the courtyard: HU musicians perform 'La vida breve'

The rehearsals of Humboldt's Philharmonic Choir and Humboldt's Student Philharmonic Orchestra are currently in full swing (photo). Humboldt-Universität is hosting a performance of Manuel de Falla's opera 'La vida breve' in the inner courtyard of the main building. Under the direction of university music director Constantin Alex, students and graduates of Humboldt-Universität will perform together with professional singers and the Berlin flamenco group La Antonia. In 75 minutes, the opera tells a tragic love story set around 1900 in the southern Spanish city of Granada. In order to make the theme of 'poverty', which is omnipresent in the opera, visible, everything external is reduced to the essentials. There are no elaborate sets or scenery. The premiere will take place on 13 July at 20:30 in the inner courtyard of the main building of the HU.

[Find out more about the opera production and performance dates](#)

Out of sequence

Photo galleries: The best impressions of the Long Night of the Sciences

The Long Night of the Sciences opened its doors on 20 June - and with over 36,000 visitors for its 25th anniversary attracted even more interest than in previous years. At Humboldt-Universität, too, happy faces of young and old could be seen everywhere until late in the evening. A total of 9,000 visitors were counted at the locations in Adlershof, Dahlem and Mitte. A diverse programme of experiments, stands, lectures, hands-on activities, dance workshops and concerts awaited them. Many guests ended the evening with live music, a cool drink and games in the courtyard of honour of the main building. A big thank you to all Humboldtians who contributed to the success of this special celebration of science.

[View pictures from Campus Mitte](#)

[View pictures from Campus Adlershof](#)

Administration & Service

Cuts unavoidable: Budget and budget planning for 2026 started

Budget planning for 2026 began at HU in June. In an interview, Niels Helle-Meyer, Vice President for Budget, Human Resources and Technology, describes the course of this process and the challenges arising from reduced state allocations, unclear savings targets and unresolved legal issues. The university must also expect considerable cuts in the coming years. Nevertheless, the aim of the university management is to create planning certainty as early as possible and to provide transparent information about necessary measures.

[Read interview with Niels Helle-Meyer](#)

Networking: 'Lunch break against cuts' on 9 July

The renegotiations on the university contracts will continue until 14 July. The trade union Verdi is inviting all universities to a 'lunch break against cuts' on 9 July from 12:00 to 12:30 in the inner courtyard of the HU main building. The cuts mean serious cuts in science, studies and work at the universities - further information will be provided during this lunch break organised by the trade unions. A rally under the heading 'Universities are #uncuttable' is planned for 14 July from 8:30 to 10:00 in front of the Berlin Senate Administration. Humboldtians are exempt from work duties for participation. This also applies to teaching and study programmes. Only examinations are exempt - examinations must be carried out. Up to two hours can be counted as working time for participation.

[Find out more about meetings](#)

Update on Emil Fischer Lecture Hall: Damage higher than expected

HU President Julia von Blumenthal reported to the Academic Senate on 24 June that the Berlin police had now sent the HU a list of people who took part in the occupation of the Emil Fischer Lecture Hall on 16 April. On the basis of this list, the HU had banned 71 external persons from entering the building. Twelve people on the list are currently enrolled at the HU. Each case is now being examined individually. The refurbishment and renovation work in the Emil Fischer lecture theatre will continue until at least the end of October. It is currently estimated that the restoration of the lecture theatre will cost 210,000 euros. An initial estimate was 100,000 euros.

[Read the update on the Emil Fischer Lecture theatre](#)

Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences: Academic celebration and summer party

On 9 July, all Humboldtians are invited to the Academic Celebration and Summer Party of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, this time on the Dahlem campus. To mark the 30th anniversary, the agricultural policy spokesperson of the SPD parliamentary group in the Bundestag, Dr Franziska Kersten, MP, has been invited to give a short lecture on the topic of 'Agricultural policy needs agricultural sciences'. The summer party will take place at the research greenhouse from 15:30. Catering will be provided: There will be coffee and cake as well as grilled sausages and cold drinks. This year's programme highlight: the 'Farmer's Olympics', with 'spectTHAERcular prizes' to be won.

Registrations by 8 July to: thomas.aenis@agrar.hu-berlin.de

[Further information on the summer festival](#)

Extreme temperatures: Protection against heat in the workplace

Even if temperatures are currently falling, the summer will bring more hot days. Proven measures should be implemented on hot days to reduce stress in the workplace. These include the option of reducing core working hours - as provided for in the service agreement on flexible working hours. If you have a cooler place to work outside the university buildings, you can arrange mobile working with your line manager. Otherwise, closed blinds, night-time cooling, morning ventilation and fans can help. Electrical appliances that are not needed should remain switched off. If the temperature in workrooms reaches 35 degrees Celsius and it is not possible to use another workstation or work remotely, work can be stopped after consultation.

Photo gallery: Family festival at Zeuthener See

Last Saturday, a cheerful and relaxed atmosphere prevailed around HU's idyllic Schmöckwitz water sports centre at Zeuthener See. Numerous HU members came to the family day together with their children, partners and other family members. The event was organised by University Sports and the Family Equality Department.

[View photo gallery on the intranet](#)

Save the Date: Health Day on 13 November

'Sustainable health together' is the motto under which the University Health Management (HGM) and University Sports invite all Humboldtians to a Health Day this autumn. An afternoon is planned where everything revolves around a healthy and sustainable life - in harmony with yourself, the community and the environment. You can look forward to a varied programme with lots of information, exercise, new ideas for everyday life and fun. Make a note of it now: 13 November, 13:00 to 15:00, Campus Mitte. Helping to shape the programme is welcome! Suggestions can be submitted to gesund.hgm@hu-berlin.de by 31 July.

Research & Teaching

Innovative study programme: Teaching degree for lateral entrants

The HU is introducing 'single-subject lateral entry master's degree programmes' as part of a pilot project for the coming winter semester. The innovative study format offers graduates of non-teaching degree programmes a targeted, academically sound and practice-oriented approach to the teaching profession - especially for the teaching profession at integrated secondary schools, grammar schools and vocational schools. The new 'single-subject teaching degree programmes' will initially be offered at the HU in the subjects of biology, chemistry, French, computer science, mathematics, physics and business education (economics and administration). The subjects are based on demand at Berlin schools. Prospective students can apply for the winter semester until 31 August.

[Find out more about the new Master's programme](#)

Roundtable on 16 July: Challenges for cultural heritage

It is not only Germany's cultural heritage that is exposed to global dynamics that call the current understanding of heritage into question. Under the title 'Heritage Urgencies: Perspectives from Research in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America', Eva Ehninger and Sharon Macdonald, directors of 'inherit', will discuss the most pressing challenges for heritage and heritage studies. Their discussion partners are international experts and advisory board members. The event will take place on 16 July from 18:00 to 20:00 in the Festsaal, Luisenstraße 56, in English. A livestream will be available on the event website.

Registration by 14 July at: info-inherit@hu-berlin.de

[Read more about debate](#)

Cooperation with the USA: Information event on 22 July

The United States is an important partner of Humboldt-Universität in the areas of research, teaching and academic exchange. Currently, developments in higher education policy and changing framework conditions are raising questions about the future organisation of existing and new collaborations. The Department for International Academic Cooperation in the International Affairs Division invites you to a virtual information and exchange event on 22 July from 15:15 to 16:30. In addition to short input presentations by representatives of the Consulate General and the DWIH (German Centres for Research and Innovation) in New York, there will be space for collegial exchange and discussion of open questions and perspectives for further cooperation.

[Participate in the event via Zoom](#)

Funding: Apply for transdisciplinary seminars by 30 July

The programme 'Learning and teaching with society: transdisciplinary course programme in the object laboratory' supports HU lecturers and students in designing seminar work in cooperation with actors from civil society, culture or politics and integrating knowledge from society into teaching. The funding of the competence field 'Knowledge Exchange with Society' is open to new or existing BA or MA seminars in the winter semester 2025/26. It offers course funding of up to 1,000 euros, the use of the Object Lab room on the North Campus and support from the team of the Competence Centre. Applications are possible until 30 July.

[Find out more about funding for participatory seminars](#)

Circle U. Ambassadors wanted: Share experiences and strengthen the community

People from research, teaching or administration who have already had positive experiences with Circle U. can now share these with other HU members. Anyone who has used Circle U. offers themselves or has closely followed the alliance's initiatives can get involved as an official multiplier and contribute to making the European University Alliance better known. A small budget is available for Circle U. Ambassadors; the Circle U. team also provides continuous information on current developments. There is also the opportunity to get to know other Ambassador colleagues at the partner universities. We are currently looking for the second cohort for the period from October 2025 to September 2026.

[Find out more and register by 15 August](#)

International relations: Four cooperation agreements signed

The HU has signed a number of outstanding international partnership agreements in recent weeks. These include a new agreement with the Collège de France, one of the oldest and most renowned research institutions in France. In addition, the scope of cooperation with the top university Paris Sciences et Lettres will be expanded through a new agreement. Two long-standing and strategically emphasised partnerships were each extended by five years: the cooperation with the Universidade de São Paulo, the most important university in Brazil, and the South African Stellenbosch University, itself one of the most prestigious universities in the whole of Africa. With the new agreements, the HU facilitates international exchange and cooperation at the highest level for its researchers.

[Learn more about the co-operations](#)

humboldt together

Digital travel management: FI-TV module in use

The 'humboldt together' team worked intensively with the faculty to introduce the SAP FI-TV travel management system in order to digitalise all processes relating to business trips - applications, advances and invoicing. The go-live is now pending in selected areas: in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, the Department of International Affairs and the Research Service Centre. The system will be successively rolled out across the entire Humboldt-Universität.

Ordering process: Free text order forms simplify the process

To simplify the ordering process in 'SAP Ariba Guided Buying', the 'humboldt together' team has introduced special free text order forms. They are summarised in important main product groups. These forms are designed to make it easier for users to create free text or non-catalogue article orders in a context-specific manner and to guide them through the ordering process in an efficient and user-friendly manner. The forms can be found under a separate 'Ad Hoc Order' tile. Questions or suggestions can be submitted via a ticket to sap-support@hu-berlin.de. The SAP consultation hour, which takes place regularly on Mondays and Fridays via Zoom, can also answer questions. Further details can be found in the SAP Support workspace on the intranet under the menu item Overview.

[Find SAP Support on the intranet](#)

Berlin University Alliance

DiGeNet Dialogues: 'Research. Evidence. Strategy: Shaping diversity effectively' on 9 July

The event at the HU will bring together current research findings on diversity and discrimination in the university context and present strategic recommendations for action developed by the four DiGeNet junior research groups as part of the Berlin University Alliance. With research spotlights, structural impulses and a high-level discussion with university leaders, the dialogue between science and university development will be strengthened. The event will take place from 9:15 to 13:00, in hybrid format until 11:15, followed by presence and personal dialogue. It will be held in German. Please register by 8 July.

[Find further information on the event](#)

Transdisciplinary research: Start of new application round

Researchers from the Berlin University Alliance can once again apply for funding in the 'TD-Lab Funding Programme'. Funding is available for 15 supplementary participatory or transdisciplinary projects with up to 10,000 euros in material costs over a period of six months. The aim of the TD-Lab - Laboratory for Transdisciplinary Research of the Berlin University Alliance is to strengthen participatory and transdisciplinary research in the network, to support professionalisation and to open up opportunities to make research more effective for society. The application deadline is 30 September.

[Find information on the call for applications](#)

Personalia

Photo gallery: Richard Schröder honoured with Humboldt University Medal

The Protestant theologian and philosopher Richard Schröder was honoured with the Humboldt University Medal on 7 July in the Festsaal an der Luisenstraße. Schröder was a member of the Faculty of Theology at HU from 1991 until his retirement in 2009. As professor, dean, vice-president and chairman of the council, he provided decisive impetus for a democratic and self-critical academic culture. The 81-year-old co-founder of the Social Democratic Party in the GDR was honoured by chemistry professor Joachim Sauer. The Humboldt University Medal is awarded to outstanding personalities who have rendered outstanding services to the university.

[View the photo gallery on the intranet](#)

Photo gallery: Communicator Prize awarded to Petra Anders

The Communicator Prize 2025 was awarded to Prof. Dr Petra Anders from the Institute of Education on 30 June at the DFG Annual Meeting in Hamburg. The award, which was presented for the first time to a didactician, is intended to strengthen the dialogue between academia and the public. Anders receives the 2025 Award for her outstanding science communication on the promotion of reading and language skills at primary school level.

[View photo gallery of the award ceremony](#)

New opportunity: Christoph Schneider becomes Rector of the University of Hohenheim

Prof Dr Christoph Schneider, HU Vice President for Research, has been elected as the new Rector of the University of Hohenheim. After almost four years on the Presidential Board, the climate geographer is expected to move to Hohenheim in the autumn. After studying and completing his doctorate at the University of Freiburg, Schneider was appointed Professor of Physical Geography and Climatology at RWTH Aachen University in 2004. He has been a professor at the HU's Department of Geachy since 2015 and Vice President for Research since August 2021.

[Read more about Christoph Schneider](#)

New Official Bulletins

Current issues of the Official Bulletins can be found [here](#). Further Information: frau.kr.weiss@uv.hu-berlin.de