

24 August 2021



## Invitation to the Get-Together on 25 August at the Open Humboldt Festival

After a long time at a distance, in video conferences and a considerable additional effort for many colleagues, the 1st Open Humboldt Festival finally provides another opportunity for direct exchange. The challenges posed by the pandemic and the introduction of SAP could only have been overcome thanks to the outstanding commitment of many colleagues. The university management would like to express its gratitude for this once again and invites you to a personal meeting live, open air and with a cool drink after work.

### **Time & place**

25 August, from 4 pm

After Work Area at Campus Nord (in front of Haus 14)

### **Registration**

In order to be able to plan safely, a short registration via e-mail is requested: [veran-](#)

## Something else

### **New app: voyage of discovery through the Station of Science**

For the new underground station "Unter den Linden", not far from the main building, scientists from the HU, together with graphic designer Nele Brönnner, have designed the back track areas as an exhibition on the Anthropocene. Hidden images and word clouds artistically thematise the symbiotic connections between humans and nature. With the new app "sciencely", the station and the exhibition become a space of discovery: users of the free app can playfully explore the exhibition of hidden pictures. Using image recognition or an interactive swipe gesture selection based on the Tinder mechanism, an exciting, funny or even emotional chat begins with a motif from the exhibition. The app was developed in the Gamelab of the HU by Thomas Lilge and Christian Stein from the Cluster of Excellence "Matters of Activity", among others.

[Download the app from the Apple App Store](#)

[Download the app from the Google Play Store](#)

## Science & Teaching

### **Interview: "We live in a world society with feudalistic features".**

Sociologist Steffen Mau has published a new book, "Sorting Machines". It deals with the reinvention of borders in the 21st century. In an interview, he explains that it is precisely under conditions of globalisation that border regimes enforce territorial control and selectivity. While a small circle of privileged people are allowed to travel almost everywhere today, the vast majority of the world's population continues to be systematically excluded.

[Read press release at hu-berlin.de](#)

[Read interview with Steffen Mau](#)

## **Campus Nord: a public laboratory for biodiversity**

Campus Nord, the campus of the life sciences, is a historically significant site and a hidden natural idyll in the city centre. Susann Wicke, Professor of Botany and Biodiversity, wants to turn the park-like area into an experimental space. With the citizen science project "Stadtarboretum - Baumlandschaft der Zukunft" (City Arboretum - Tree Landscape of the Future), she invites citizens to explore the site on their own and record their impressions - in sketches, notes, photos or films. There are no limits to inventiveness. Ideas for the "Treescape of the Future" are to be developed in dialogue with the participants.

[Learn more about the project at Humboldts17](#)

[Get to know the project at the Open Humboldt Festival](#)

## **Portrait: "For a (digital) coffee with..." Thomas Wachtel**

Thomas Wachtel is a research associate at IRI THESys, and works in the EdiCitNet project on the topic of Edible Cities. The network takes up a trend that is becoming increasingly strong worldwide: sowing, weeding and harvesting in urban spaces. This is not only about contributing to self-sufficiency in food in urban areas, but also about social cohesion and the exchange between science and society, i.e. the basic idea of Open Humboldt. For Thomas Wachtel, it is indispensable, just like planting your own balcony with edibles.

[Read portrait with Thomas Wachtel](#)

## **Administration & service**

### **Merger: On 1 October, the Human Resources and Budget departments merge**

The Department of Human Resources and Personnel Development (III) and the Department of Budget (IV) become the Department of Budget, Human Resources and Personnel Development (III). With this, the university administration is taking the next important step in the interest of its structural development. Ramona Wenau will head the new department and thus assume responsibility for strategy and personnel management. Uwe Eichner, most recently deputy head of Department III, will take over on a provisional basis. Matthias Weiß, previously Head of Human Resources, is



moving to the Brandenburg Ministry of Science, Research and Culture. The university management thanks him for his work and great commitment and wishes him all the best for his new task.

## **Upgraded: BigBlueButton update brings many innovations**

The Computer and Media Service (CMS) provides the current version 2.3 of the BigBlueButton web conferencing system. In addition to a few technical innovations, which are primarily intended to increase stability for larger meetings, many functions have been revised and improved. For example, rooms with more than 300 people and a quick change of slide sets are now possible. The CMS video conferencing service continues to offer weekly BBB consultation hours, where the functions can be explained and tried out together.

[Learn more about the new BBB](#)

## **Save the date: Digital Family Week in October**

At the start of the semester, Humboldt-Universität is focusing on the topic of family. During the "Digital Family Week", the Family Office invites you to find out and exchange information on the topic of "Combining studies, career and family - how can you succeed? From 11 to 18 October, participants can look forward to various online and offline formats to get to know each other, participate, inform themselves and ask questions.

## **Video: "Friday after one..." with Sandra von Sydow**

EAIR - The European Higher Education Society invites you to participate in the EAIR Annual Forum 2021 in early September, hosted by Humboldt-Universität. The theme of the EAIR Berlin Forum 2021 is "Transformation Fast and Slow: Quality, Trust and Digitalisation in Higher Education". Sandra von Sydow, Head of the Quality Management Unit, reveals what is behind this in the video.

[Watch video on the intranet](#)

Register for EAIR 2021: [www.eairweb.org](http://www.eairweb.org)

## **Announcement: Central electronic invoice receipt starts on 15 September**

With the GoLive, disbursement orders will become history at the HU and be replaced by a digital approval process. In future, all invoice-relevant approvals will no longer be obtained on paper, but in the system. This affects the (de)central purchasers and all G1 and G2 approvers stored in the WBS elements. The departments and faculties will receive extensive information on the process flows in the next few days. The changeover will be accompanied by training courses and consultation hours.

[Introduction of the central invoice receipt and the new processes at a glance](#)

## **Berlin University Alliance**

### **Meridian - new podcast looks at science in the Global South**

"International Criminal Law and the German Colonial Past" and "Thinking about time and politics from a southern perspective" are two titles from "Meridian", BUA's new podcast. Here, scholars present their work on questions of cooperation between the Global South and the Global North, academic freedom and academic diplomacy.

[Learn more about the podcast "Meridian"](#)

### **Cooperation: Binational doctorate with Melbourne**

BUA is expanding its offers for young researchers in the international field. A framework agreement with the University of Melbourne enables doctoral candidates to undertake binational and cross-border doctoral studies at one of the BUA institutions and the University of Melbourne. They receive a doctoral degree from both institutions.

[Learn more about the cooperation](#)

## **People**

## **Award: Medal for Michael Borgolte and Johannes Helmraht**

Michael Borgolte and Johannes Helmraht, the founding directors of the Central Institutes for Islamic Theology and for Catholic Theology, were awarded the Humboldt University Medal for their extraordinary commitment. The ceremony, attended by Annette Schavan, former Federal Minister of Education and Research, took place on 17 August at the Open Humboldt Festival.

[Read more about the award](#)



[Click here](#) to unsubscribe.

Photo: Laura Benjamin

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
Unter den Linden 6  
10099 Berlin  
Deutschland

E-Mail: [interne-kommunikation@hu-berlin.de](mailto:interne-kommunikation@hu-berlin.de)

[www.hu-berlin.de](http://www.hu-berlin.de)