



## Next Grand Challenge: "We need concrete solutions to face the complex challenges and crises of the time"

The Berlin University Alliance (BUA), the excellence network of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin and Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, has announced its third major research programme. In a joint brainstorming process with civil society, the research topic "Responsible Innovation in Times of Transformation" was chosen as the subject of the next Grand Challenge. "As a society, we need concrete solutions to meet the complex challenges and crises of our time" states Christoph Schneider, Vice President for Research and member of the BUA Steering Committee of the Focusing on Grand Challenges. In an interview, he explains what this means.

[Read interview with Christoph Schneider](#)

## Research & Teaching

### Forum Junge Spitzenforschung: Prize money of up to 30,000 euros for young researchers

Young researchers take note: The new application round of the science competition "Forum Junge Spitzenforschung" starts today. Participants can submit their application ideas from innovative basic research until 15 October. The competition is looking for research approaches in the field of "Sensors and Data Analysis in Practical Use".

[Read on the intranet](#)

### Survey: on the perception of scientific contributions in social media

How do researchers perceive scientific posts in social media, especially the sometimes hostile comments? As part of a joint research project at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, the University of Klagenfurt and the University of Vienna, a study is being conducted on the topic of "hostility against academics". The study is explicitly aimed at researchers in various qualification phases at German universities. Participation in the online survey takes about ten minutes.

[Participate in the study](#)

### Insights: Materials that change the world

Green methanol, sustainable batteries, tandem solar cells and 3D printing technology - all this is being created at the HU's new materials research centre, the Center for the Science of Materials Berlin (CSMB). Here, scientists are working on future materials that can be used to solve many of the major global problems. Researchers from various disciplines, founders and university and non-university institutions are all pulling together.

[Read report on \[humboldts17.de\]\(http://humboldts17.de\)](#)

### THESys Award: Students can submit work on the topic of "sustainability"

The IRI THESys asks all teachers at HU to make their students aware of the THESys Award. For the ninth time, this award will recognise particularly committed final theses on the topic of "sustainability" at the university. The theses must have been written between 1 October, 2022 and 30 September, 2023 and have already been graded. The deadline for applications is 15 November 2023.

[Learn more about the THESys Award](#)

## Administration & Service

### Call for proposals: Funding for the compatibility of studies, work and family life

From 15 September to 23 October, the Family-Friendly University Commission is inviting applications for funding from the HU Family Fund. The aim of the funding is to overcome structural obstacles to reconciling family life with studies, work and an academic career. The funds can be used, among other things, as subsidies for childcare for stays abroad or for childcare and care of needy relatives for participants in academic events.

[Further uses and other information](#)

## Berlin University Alliance

### Solidarity and Migration: Conference from 9 to 11 October

The joint research project "Transforming Solidarities" invites researchers and all interested parties to the international conference "Solidarity in the Migration Society". The three-day event will take a look at how solidarity is negotiated, enabled or prevented in the fields of work and employment, housing and health. The exhibition "Spaces of Solidarity" accompanying the conference can be visited at the German Centre for Architecture (DAZ).

[Programme and further information](#)

### New round: Flagship programmes for professors

The Berlin Leadership Academy (BLA) is the joint institution for leadership development of the Berlin University Alliance. It coordinates, expands and develops leadership development within the Alliance. Two of the institution's programmes are now entering the second round: In "Strengthening Strengths - Resource-Oriented Leadership", participants learn to identify and harness their own resources and those of their team. The "Leadership Programme for Women Professors" deals intensively with the topic of "Leadership in Science".

["Strengthening strengths - resource-oriented leadership"](#)

[Leadership programme for female professors](#)

## International

### Call for applications: Travel grants for doctoral students

Funding is available for participation in conferences, meetings and other short activities abroad. The planned stay abroad must have a clear objective related to a specific research project. The travel grants are awarded by the International Affairs Department and support research activities with a duration of two to ten days. The application deadline is 30 September and the activity must be completed by 31 December.

[Read the call for tenders on the intranet](#)

### Circle U. Conference: "European Universities as Actors in Multilingualism" on 6 October

Circle U.s Think and Do Tank invites you to the conference "European Universities as Actors in Multilingualism" at the Université Paris Cité. Language competences are at the heart of the construction of the European education area. They are indispensable for mobility, cooperation and mutual understanding across borders. The conference will take place on 6 October, registration is open until 21 September.

[Go to the conference website](#)

[Results of the Circle U. student survey](#)

### Online training courses: Cross-cutting topics for young scientists and scholars

Circle U. invites Early-Career Researchers to a series of online trainings on cross-cutting topics. The trainings are free of charge, only prior online registration is required. Next on the agenda are two independent modules from the Università di Pisa: "Soft skills and organisational utopias" on 27 September and 11 October, both from 2 to 5 p.m., and "Critical thinking and problem solving with AI: A support or obstacle?" on 28 September, 3 to 5 p.m., and 12 October, 2 to 6 p.m.

[Access module descriptions, registration and records](#)

## People

### Service Anniversary: Detlef Senger has been at the HU for 40 years

Detlef Senger, head of the training workshop and instructor in the Technical Department, was able to look back on 40 years of public service at Humboldt-Universität on 1 July 2023. The University congratulates and thanks him on behalf of all colleagues.

## New Official Gulletins

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



Photo: Stefan Klenke

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