



INVITATION

The President of Freie Universität Berlin
Prof. Dr. Günter M. Ziegler

The President of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Prof. Dr. Julia von Blumenthal

The President of Technische Universität Berlin
Prof. Dr. Geraldine Rauch

The Chief Executive Officer of Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Prof. Dr. Heyo K. Kroemer

cordially invite you to the

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF PROFIL

“Shaping Higher Education and Science:

20 Years of Career Support for Female Scholars with ProFiL”

In German with Simultaneous Interpretation into English

4 November 2023 from 6:30 pm

Freie Universität Berlin, Henry Ford Building
Hörsaal A/Lecture Hall A, Garystraße 35 · 14195 Berlin

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and Research,
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INTRODUCTION

Both the ProFiL Programme and the ProFiL Network Association have special reasons to celebrate this year: They are both marking milestone anniversaries. Twenty years ago, the ProFiL Programme was launched by Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Technische Universität Berlin. Ever since it has been continuously successful in promoting female scholars on their way to securing professorships. And ten years ago, the ProFiL Network Association started supporting ProFiL alumnae on their advanced academic career paths.

On the one hand, the ProFiL Programme focuses on advancing the careers of high-achieving female scholars, providing them with opportunities to develop leadership and management skills in addition to strategic skills at the interface of personnel and organisational development. On the other hand, the programme seeks to effect broader cultural changes in the name of excellence and equality, while also striving to strengthen sustainability at the cooperating universities. Through the efforts of the Berlin University Alliance, the programme has significantly grown with additional places for participants and the creation of the English ProFiL line for international female scholars.

By now, 336 alumnae have been appointed W3/W2 or full/associate professor and 8 alumnae are readers or (senior) lecturers; 15 participants serve in top positions in non-university research institutions, 14 alumnae are or were (vice) presidents at their universities, and 5 participants are directors or (vice) presidents of non-university research institutions or academies. One participant was awarded the Leibniz Prize (all data as of 19 September 2023).

The ProFiL network currently has 651 members and is a core component of the ProFiL Programme. As a strategic vehicle, the network has helped establish sustainable support structures for female scholars, which allow them to better combine their expert knowledge, experience and commitment to foster exchange and facilitate peer-to-peer guidance as they continue on their career paths. In order to secure and strengthen in the long term these structures and the culture of dialogue and advice that has been developed, the *“ProFiL-Netzwerkverein zur Förderung einer exzellenz- und gleichstellungsorientierten Führungskräfteentwicklung in der Wissenschaft e.V.”* (ProFiL Network Association for the Promotion of Excellence- and Equality-oriented Leadership Development in Science) was founded in 2013.

Alongside tried and tested forms of support, the association has developed new formats that emphasise dialogue and consultation. The events and workshops that the association organises enable an exchange of ideas with experienced colleagues and established experts both on the levels of senior postdocs and professors: network members share information about professional requirements, both present and future, and discuss the challenges that offices in higher education pose. With these offers, the ProFiL Network Association hopes to actively shape reform processes and establish a non-discriminatory academic culture.

Through their co-organised events, the ProFiL Programme and the ProFiL Network Association open up opportunities for dialogue with leaders from academia, politics and other relevant areas to discuss the demands and developments that the future holds in their fields. These conversations also explore innovative reform ideas that keep equality in the forefront as part of the big picture.

On the heels of the ProFiL Network anniversary conference, we would like to mark our appreciation for the three cooperating universities' commitment and dedication over the years, as well as the many successes of the ProFiL Programme and the ProFiL Network Association, with a public celebration. Concurrently, this event also serves to officially kick off the 17th ProFiL round for 66 new participants. We would like to discuss the importance of ProFiL for the participants' career development with the universities' executive boards, the chair of ProFiL's scientific advisory board and ProFiL alumnae. We also plan to talk with them about how the targeted promotion of gender equality and diversity can contribute to enhancing universities and achieving even more excellence in academia.

With regard to the ProFiL participants, we would like to discuss what influence the ProFiL Programme and the offers proposed by the ProFiL Network Association had on their career path to a professorship and/or to other top positions in higher education. What specific lessons, skills or knowledge were they able to garner from the mentoring, the seminars or the network within the programme? What exactly did they gain from the workshops for professors or senior postdocs developed by the association? Have participants noticed that their support of young scholars has been influenced by the ProFiL Programme, especially regarding gender and diversity? And how have the policy discussions on gender equality and higher education organised through the ProFiL Programme brought about change? Does this type of exchange and dialogue put us on a path to effecting even greater changes? Can it be a source of motivation and inspiration for us to reform and actively shape higher education and science?

With a view to the universities, we would like to pursue the question of what the ProFiL Programme has achieved for the cooperating universities over the past two decades. Did ProFiL contribute to the universities' profiles as excellent academic institutions that promote equality? What role did ProFiL play in increasing the proportion of women with professorships? And what equal opportunities goals are the universities planning to pursue with ProFiL in the future? Finally, what do the alumnae see as the most significant issues to address regarding future equal opportunities perspectives for ProFiL?

Photo: David Aussenhofer



Photo: Michael Setzpfandt

PROGRAMME

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Welcome and Opening

Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott

Member of the Executive Board of the Berlin University Alliance and Executive Vice President, Freie Universität Berlin

Prof. Dr. Maria Andrea Mroginski

Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the ProFiL Programme and Professor of Biomolecular Modelling, Technische Universität Berlin

Prof. Dr. Christoph Schneider

Member of the Executive Board of the Berlin University Alliance and Vice President for Research, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

7:00 pm – 7:15 pm

“Gender Justice as Marker of Excellence: Milestones for the Next 20 ProFiL Years”

Celebratory speech

Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger

Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and Leibniz Prize-Winner 2023, Freie Universität Berlin

7:15 pm – 8:30 pm

“Shaping Higher Education and Science: 20 Years of Career Support for Female Scholars with ProFiL”

Panel discussion with the following guests:

- **Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott**
Member of the Executive Board of the Berlin University Alliance and Executive Vice President, Freie Universität Berlin
- **Prof. Dr. Caterina Cocchi**
Professor of Theoretical Solid-State Physics, Universität Oldenburg
- **Prof. Dr. Katja Matthes**
Director, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel
- **Prof. Dr. Sabine Schülting**
Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the ProFiL Programme and Professor of English Philology (Cultural Studies), Freie Universität Berlin
- **Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger**
Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and Leibniz Prize-Winner 2023, Freie Universität Berlin

Moderation: **Dorothea Jansen**, Head of the ProFiL Programme and Board Member of the ProFiL Network Association

From 8:30 pm

Reception with Musical Accompaniment by Saxophone Quartet “First Ladies Berlin”

Foyer of Henry Ford Building

Exhibition: “20 Years ProFiL Programme and 10 Years ProFiL Network Association”

Foyer of Henry Ford Building

- Presentation of the ProFiL Programme’s achievements over the last twenty years and a look at current progress and projects
- Presentation of ProFiL Network Association’s achievements over the last ten years

SPEAKERS AND GUESTS OF THE PANEL DISCUSSION

Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott

Verena Blechinger-Talcott studied Japanese Studies, Political Science and Law at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. From 1993 to 1997, she worked at LMU München at the Institute of East Asian Studies and received her doctorate in Political Science there in 1997. From 1997 to 2002, Verena Blechinger-Talcott served at the German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ) in Tokyo (Japan), where she was head of the Social Sciences Department from 2000 to 2002 and deputy director from 2001 to 2002. From 1999 to 2004, she was a lecturer at the Institute of Political Science at Universität Münster and from 2000 to 2002 at the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo (Japan). Verena Blechinger-Talcott was also an advanced research fellow in the Programme on US-Japan Relations at Harvard University (USA) from 2002 to 2003. From 2003 to 2004, she was an assistant professor at the Department of Government at Hamilton College (USA). In 2004, Verena Blechinger-Talcott accepted the offer of Freie Universität Berlin to a professorship in Japanese Studies (Politics and Economy of Japan) at the Department of History and Cultural Studies. She was chair of the Centre for Area Studies (CAS), director of the Graduate School of East Asian Studies (GEAS), member of the Academic Senate as well as vice dean and dean of the Department of History and Cultural Studies, just to mention a few of her numerous posts. Verena Blechinger-Talcott is currently spokesperson for the Wissenschaftliche Beirat für Nordostasien (Japan, Korea) (Scientific Advisory Board for Northeast Asia (Japan, Korea)), of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Asienkunde (German Association for Asian Studies), a member of the international editorial advisory board of the *Japan Forum* of the British Association for Japanese Studies, a member of the international editorial board of *Social Science Japan Journal*, a member of the international advisory board of the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo and member of the German-Japanese Forum of the Federal Government of Germany. Verena Blechinger-Talcott became Vice President for International Affairs, Diversity and Equality in 2018 and has been Executive Vice President of Freie Universität Berlin since 2022. She is also a member of the executive board of the Berlin University Alliance (BUA). Furthermore, Verena Blechinger-Talcott is involved as a mentor in the ProFiL Programme.

Prof. Dr. Caterina Cocchi

Caterina Cocchi studied Physics at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Italy), where she received her doctorate in 2012 from the Physics and Nanosciences School of Graduate Studies. She was a research associate at the Centro S3 – CNR Istituto Nanoscienze in Modena and at the Department of Physics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where she accepted a junior professorship in 2017. Caterina Cocchi has been professor of Theoretical Solid-State Physics at Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg since 2020. She is a member of the Integrative Research Institute for the Sciences IRIS Adlershof at HU Berlin, a member of the board of the PostDoc Centre Adlershof as well as mentor and organiser of scientific events at WiNS Adlershof. Furthermore, she is a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), advisory board member of the *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter* and editorial board member of *Electronic Structure*. Caterina Cocchi is an alumna of the 13th ProFiL round 2017–2018.

Dorothea Jansen

Dorothea Jansen studied General and Comparative Literature, Philosophy, Psychology and Theatre Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. She initially worked as a dramaturge in modern dance theatre before taking over research and acquisition management at a&o research, an institute for labour and organisational research and consultancy. In 2000, Dorothea Jansen began working with the Europäische Akademie für Frauen in Politik und Wirtschaft Berlin e.V. (European Academy for Women in Politics and Business Berlin). She designed and managed various career building programmes for female junior executives in academia, politics and business. Since 2003, Dorothea Jansen has been working as head of the ProFiL Programme for Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Technische Universität Berlin. She developed the concept of the ProFiL Programme, which supports high-achieving female scholars on their way to a professorship and prepares them for leadership and management responsibilities in higher education. Since October 2013, Dorothea Jansen is a board member of the ProFiL Network Association. The latter safeguards and develops the successfully established consulting and support structures of the ProFiL network.

Prof. Dr. Katja Matthes

Katja Matthes studied Meteorology at Freie Universität Berlin, where she received her doctorate in 2003. As a postdoctoral researcher, she worked at the National Centre for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado (USA) from 2004 to 2007. From 2009 to 2011, Katja Matthes was head of the Helmholtz Young Investigator Group NATHAN at Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam – Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum GFZ (Helmholtz Centre Potsdam – GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences) and at Freie Universität Berlin's Institute of Meteorology. From 2010 to 2011, she served as a professor for Atmospheric-Hydrosphere Systems at GFZ Potsdam and the Institute of Meteorology at Freie Universität Berlin. Since 2012, Katja Matthes has been a professor at GEOMAR Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung (GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research) in Kiel and at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel and head of the “Physics of the Atmosphere” working group. At GEOMAR, she also headed the NATHAN research group from 2012 to 2015. From 2013 to 2017, Katja Matthes was chair of the GEOMAR Women's Executive Board; and from 2018 to 2020, she headed the research section Ocean Circulation and Climate Dynamics at GEOMAR. Since 2020, Katja Matthes has been director of GEOMAR. She was co-author of the “Sixth Assessment Report, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change” and is currently chair of the scientific advisory board of the Leibniz-Institut für Atmosphärenphysik (Leibniz Institute of Atmospheric Physics, IAP) in Kühlungsborn, co-chair of SCOSTEP “Next Programme PRESTO – Predictability of Variable Solar-Terrestrial Coupling”, member of the scientific steering group of the World Climate Programme (WCRP) on the Challenge of Short-Term Climate Predictions (NTCP), co-chair of WG II-D “External Forcing of the Middle Atmosphere” of IAGA and coordinator of the “SPARC Solar Influence Study Group (SOLARIS-HEPPA) for the World Climate Research Programme – Stratospheric Processes and their Role in Climate” (WCRP-SPARC). Katja Matthes was a participant in the 5th ProFiL round 2008–2009.

Prof. Dr. Maria Andrea Mroginski

Maria Andrea Mroginski studied Physics at the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste (Argentina). With a scholarship from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service, DAAD), she pursued her doctorate simultaneously at the Max-Planck-Institut für Strahlenchemie (Max Planck Institute for Radiation Chemistry) in Mühlheim an der Ruhr and at the Universidad Exactas Nacional de La Plata (Argentina) and obtained her doctorate in Computer Science in 2002. After a period at the Instituto de Tecnología Química e Biológica in Oerias (Portugal), Maria Andrea Mroginski was a junior research group leader at Technische Universität Berlin from 2005 to 2009. In 2009, she followed TU Berlin's call to the junior professorship for Molecular Modelling. In 2015, Maria Andrea Mroginski was appointed professor for Biomolecular Modelling at the Institute of Chemistry at TU Berlin. She is chair of the executive board of the Einstein Centre of Catalysis and the Berlin International Graduate School of Natural Sciences and Engineering (BIG-NSE). Maria Andrea Mroginski is an alumna of the 10th ProFiL round 2013–2014 and has been a member of the scientific advisory board of the ProFiL Programme since 2020.

Prof. Dr. Christoph Schneider

Christoph Schneider studied Geography and Physics at Universität Freiburg and Universität Basel (Switzerland). He received his doctorate in Geography from the Faculty of Geosciences at Universität Freiburg in 1998 and completed his habilitation at the Faculty of Forest and Environmental Sciences in Freiburg in 2004. In 2004, Christoph Schneider took on an interim professorship of Physical Geography at the Institute of Physical Geography (IPG) in Freiburg. In the same year, he accepted a professorship for Physical Geography and Climatology at the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen. From 2009 to 2011, Christoph Schneider was spokesperson for the Arbeitskreis Klimatologie (Climatology Working Group) at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geographie (German Association for Geography). He was executive director of the Institute of Geography from 2009 to 2011 and dean of studies at the Faculty of Georesources and Materials Engineering at RWTH Aachen from 2010 to 2014. Since 2015, Christoph Schneider has been professor for Climate Geography at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Among his many positions, he has also served as director of studies and managing director of the Geography Department of HU Berlin, section editor for *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* (Meteorological Journal), scientific editor for the *Journal of Glaciology* and is currently a member of the review board for Physical Geography at the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation, DFG) and a member of the advisory board of the Leibniz-Institut für Gewässerökologie und Binnenfischerei (Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, IGB). Since 2021, Christoph Schneider has been Vice President for Research at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and a member of the executive board of the Berlin University Alliance (BUA).

Prof. Dr. Sabine Schülting

Sabine Schülting studied English Studies, Romance Studies and Journalism at Universität Münster. She completed her doctorate in 1995 within the research training group Gender Difference and Literature at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. From 1996 to 1997, Sabine Schülting was a visiting fellow at the Graduate Research Centre in Culture and Communication at the University of Sussex, Brighton (UK) and she worked at Universität Erfurt until 2002. In 2002 Sabine Schülting accepted a professorship in English Philology (Cultural Studies) at Freie Universität Berlin. She was a member of the board of the German Shakespeare Society, a member of the academic board of the TEEME Erasmus Mundus Doctoral Programme, editor of the *Shakespeare Jahrbuch*, member of the project “NEW FACES – Facing Europe in Crisis” and of the project “MOVES – Migration and Modernity (European Joint Doctorate-Programme)”. Sabine Schülting is currently a member of the advisory board of *Shakespeare Studies*, a member of the advisory board of the “Shakespeare and Holocaust Culture” conference in London and a member of the advisory board for the book series “Shakespeare in European Culture”. Sabine Schülting has been a member of the scientific advisory board of the ProFiL Programme since 2007 and has served as its chair since 2010.

Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger

Anita Traninger received her doctorate from Universität Wien (Austria) in 1999. From 1998 to 2000, she was the head of internal and external communication and public relations at the Österreichische Kammer der Wirtschaftstreuhänder (Austrian Chamber of Tax Advisors and Public Accountants). Between 2000 and 2001, she was a research associate at the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (Institute for Human Sciences) in Vienna and at Boston University (USA), where she was managing director until 2004. She joined Freie Universität Berlin in 2004, where from 2009 to 2012 she was academic coordinator during the preparatory phase of the collaborative research centre “Episteme in Motion. Transfer of Knowledge from the Ancient World to the Early Modern Period”. In 2011, she was nominated as an Einstein Junior Fellow by the president of Freie Universität and was a fellow of the Einstein Foundation Berlin from 2012 to 2015. In 2015, Anita Traninger was appointed to a temporary professorship of Romance Literatures (French and Spanish Studies) at FU Berlin, and in 2018 she received a permanent professorship in the same subjects with a focus on rhetoric. In 2017, Anita Traninger received the Teaching Award of FU Berlin. She is deputy spokesperson for the Dahlem Humanities Centre and a board member of the Margherita von Brentano Centre for Gender Studies. Since 2020, she has been a founding board member of the Ada Lovelace Centre for Digital Humanities at FU Berlin. Fellowships have taken her to the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study, the Mahindra Humanities Centre at Harvard University (USA) and All Souls College at Oxford University (UK), among others. The cluster of excellence “Temporal Communities: Doing Literature in a Global Perspective”, which she co-founded and has co-chaired since 2019, is the only literary studies project to receive funding in the Excellence Strategy of the German federal and state governments. In 2023, Anita Traninger was awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize by the German Research Foundation. In the same year, she was elected a full member of Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities). She was a participant in the 4th ProFiL round 2007–2008.

EVENT LANGUAGES

The event will be taking place in German with simultaneous interpretation into English.

REGISTRATION

We look forward to welcoming you to our celebratory event. Please register in advance by sending an email to jansen@tu-berlin.de or dallmann@tu-berlin.de by **11 October 2023**.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is offered free of charge for this event. If you would like to bring your child or children with you, please provide us with the following information when registering by **11 October 2023**:

- Number of children and their ages
- Time slot for which you would like to make use of the childcare option
- Your mobile number where you can be reached if necessary

Childcare is offered in room 102a on the first floor of the Freie Universität building at Van't-Hoff-Straße 6 (a two-minute walk from the Henry Ford Building). The room can be reached via stairs or lift.

Mineral water, juice, biscuits and fruit will be available for the children in the care room. Dinner will take place as part of the reception in the foyer of the Henry Ford Building.

CONTACT

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