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PRESS RELEASE

20th Anniversary Celebration of the ProFiL Programme and Kick-off Event of the 17th ProFiL Round

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

With the ProFiL Programme, which was launched in 2003, Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Technische Universität Berlin have been very successful in promoting high-achieving female scholars who are pursuing professorships. 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.

Numerous appointments to professorships and top positions of the alumnae testify to the success of the programme and the outstanding performance of the participants. Already 336 alumnae have been appointed W3/W2 or full/associate professor. As (vice) presidents of universities and directors of non-university research institutions, 19 alumnae bear responsibility for shaping the higher education and science system for the future and are committed to a culture of excellence and gender equality in science. One ProFiL alumna was awarded the Leibniz Prize.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the ProFiL Programme and the start of the 17th ProFiL round, the Presidents of the three cooperating universities and the Chief Executive Officer of Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin invite the general public to a celebratory event:

**“Shaping Higher Education and Science:
20 Years of Career Support for Female Scholars with ProFiL”
on 4 November 2023 from 6:30 pm
Freie Universität Berlin, Lecture Hall A, Henry Ford Building
Garyastraße 35, 14195 Berlin**

The celebratory speech will be given by Leibniz Prize winner **Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger**, Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures at Freie Universität Berlin. In the subsequent panel discussion, experts from various fields will address the significance of the ProFiL Programme for the career development of the participants and the excellence strategies of the cooperating universities as well as gender equality as a criterion of excellence in academia. Panellists include:

- **Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott**, Executive Vice President, Freie Universität Berlin
- **Prof. Dr. Caterina Cocchi**, Institute of 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, Freie Universität Berlin
- **Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger**, Leibniz Prize Winner 2023, Freie Universität Berlin

Moderation: **Dorothea Jansen**, head of the ProFiL Programme

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