

Apply now for a scholarship
by the Foundation to Promote University Psychoanalysis

Apply until
17 March 2023



Dear members of the IPU Berlin,

find out more about current information about the IPU Berlin and upcoming **Events**. Besides you can read the monthly **Column** by IPU President **Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**.

The IPU Berlin mourns the death of **Prof. Heinrich Deserno**. Deserno was professor of clinical psychology, psychoanalysis and pathology at our university from 2009 to 2015. Until 2015, he also directed the outpatient clinic. We extend our condolences to Heinrich Deserno's family and all his loved ones. **On our website** you will find an obituary by Prof. Lutz Wittmann.

January 2023 marks the start of the **joint Graduate School of IPU Berlin and KKC Bochum**. On the occasion of the ceremonial opening, sociologist Prof. Aladin El-Mafaalani gave a lecture followed by a discussion with Prof. Andreas Hamburger and the six fellows. **On our website** you will find a report and photos of the evening.

Every year, **the Foundation to Promote University Psychoanalysis awards doctoral scholarships to support young researchers**. In addition, this year, for the first time, parallel grants will be awarded to doctoral students who are simultaneously completing their psychotherapy training. The application deadline for the fellowships and funding is 17 March.

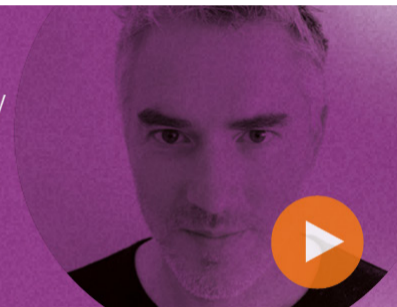
Deborah Santarpia receives this year's DAAD award for her special social commitment. She studies MA Psychology at IPU and participates in the StuFen project, among others. Read more about her award **on our website**.

On our YouTube channel you can find a lecture by **Calum Neill** (Napier University Edinburgh), who gave a talk on the political potential in Jacques Lacan's theory in January.

Prof. Rainer Funk celebrated his 80th birthday last week, on which the IPU Berlin congratulates him. **On our website** you will find a congratulatory text on Funk's work for psychoanalysis and the academic anchoring of Erich Fromm's work.

Lecture by Calum Neill
on the Political Potential of Lacan's Non-conclusive Binary

Now online
on our YouTube channel



Events

23 March to 24 May 2023

DAAD Online Webinar Series for International Students

Meet our International Office and find out more about our English language programs.

Further information **on our website**.

SAVE THE DATE: 8 June 2023 | 5 pm

Information Event for prospective students

More information on our website soon.

Old House, Old Sport

The **February Column** by IPU President **Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**

(In German, the term "altes Haus" – translation: old house – is equivalent to "old sport" or "old pal" in English.)

Recently, I was at my sister's 70th birthday party – and mine is coming up in about a year and a half. In our cheerful circle of friends, I was talking about how a few days earlier when I was sitting across from an older man in the S-Bahn. But while telling it, the thought crossed my mind that perhaps there was an old man sitting across from *him* – a relatively sharp change in perspective.

Ageing is gradually, bit by bit becoming a topic for me. Since my first visit to the Dessau Bauhaus, I came to imagine that the quality of a building depends on how it ages. What kind of an impression will the house make when it gets long in the tooth, so to say? Is it possible to see a house as becoming more beautiful with age based on its design value, such as its use of architectural forms, the type of material, its functionality and maybe also its purpose? Or will it be considered derelict at a relatively young age? How many houses increase in prestige and splendor over the decades or centuries and bring us to continuously decorate them again and again, and how many new buildings from today make it impossible to imagine such graceful maturation...

Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz has been president of the IPU Berlin since July 2021.

Once a month, he provides commentary here on contemporary, timeless, psychoanalytic and political issues.



In a catalogue for highly priced outdoor furniture, there is currently an offer of antique-style chairs, which are notable due to their "carefully applied patina" – after all, a telltale honest feature. Is it possible to speak of people the same way we speak about houses, such as talking about a person's "patina"? In modern restoration theory, patina is considered to be part of the original core, as in, it is not just a layer; rather, it is part of the substance. People who – even in old age – remain active, follow their cultural needs, attend to their social networks, and stay informed can age with composure and are considered much less "derelict" than those who were never able to access this potential in themselves. And in fact, these people grow to be older, as it has been found that life expectancy is correlated with level of education, which in turn translates to cultural awareness and activity. Some years ago, education researchers at the University of Essen even found that a professor (as long as they are not also a university president, one must add) has a lifespan that is nine years longer on average than those without a qualified profession.

Once when I gave my cousin the – admittedly ambivalent – compliment that she doesn't ever seem to age, she responded that it just costs her more time and money each year. One shouldn't really be surprised by *chronological* age, which is counted by years. This is not necessarily so for *biological* age, which is dictated by how old one's doctor says they are. One's *psychological* age, on the other hand, describes how old one feels to be and is partially up to the individual. But it does reflect the *social* age that is ascribed to a person by their environment, of which one is also a part. If a relatively harmonious balance between these four dimensions of age(ing) can be reached and one has a bit of luck, a person can also become an "old house", which is respectfully addressed in this way and can be maintained for a long while still – even restored if necessary.

