

In this month's newsletter, we have something new for you. As of now, the newsletter will include a **column from IPU President Prof. Dr. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**. Every month he will comment on contemporary, timeless, psychoanalytic, and political matters.

Don't wait, vaccinate

August Column from Prof. Dr. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz



We want to be able to meet again, to have lively conversations, and to explore projects together. Both teaching staff and students wish to have live faces in front of them—no flat screens and no camera lens. That's probably one of the reasons that the vast majority of IPU members, including students, have gotten vaccinated.

But it also doesn't help to condemn or ridicule those who haven't gotten there yet. Neither does it help to pressure them. However, we can appeal to them to think about taking the step and encourage them along the way.

The highest rates of coronavirus infection are no longer in the older age groups, which, except for a few exceptions, are more or less completely vaccinated. Rather, people ages 15 to 35 are currently in the highest risk group. These age groups are also those that have the most social interactions, are most often out and about, and – not only in schools and universities – come together in large numbers in relatively small spaces. This immensely increases the risk of catching the virus and spreading it to others.

Under these conditions, it is hardly comprehensible when the possibility to get vaccinated is rejected. The risks one is willing to take for themselves is a personal decision. But the risks that a person imposes on others becomes a key ethical issue, since individual and societal health depend on and presuppose each other. This causality is unavoidable.

All of this belongs to societal normalcy, but also to the intellectual atmosphere and creative climate of a university. Upbringing is first and foremost a product of relationships. This is something I always tried to communicate when training teachers, even if universities do not focus on upbringing in the narrower sense, but rather on **education** – through science and academics. Both are social events that are geared towards authentic interactions.

Prof. Dr. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz took up the office of IPU Berlin President in July 2021. His background is in educational sciences, and he was previously head of the Institute for University Research in Wittenberg, president of the Humboldt University in Berlin, and Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs in Saxony-Anhalt .

Online Information Session for prospective students

27 August 2021 | 5 pm



News from IPU's International Office

The International Office is currently **looking for 3 student assistants** to support new, incoming international students between 15 September and 14 October 2021 (à 420€) as part of the DAAD funded STIBET I project **Study Buddy**. As a Study Buddy, you will offer initial support for incoming ERASMUS+ students and new international students of the MA Psychology English program. After the funding period ends, all Study Buddies are encouraged to join the subsequently occurring mentoring program, which will take place throughout the rest of the semester. For more information, please see the **call for applications**. **Application deadline: 5 September 2021.**

The International Office is offering **one last-minute scholarship as part of the PROMOS program for this autumn**. Funding is available for internships and language courses abroad, which must be finished before the end of this year (31 December 2021). **Application deadline: 4 September 2021.** For more information, see **Current Offers**.

For both, please send your application as one single PDF file to the International Office, which is also available for further enquiries: international@ipu-berlin.de

Events

27 August 2021 | 5 pm

IPU Online Information Event for Future Students

Registration [on our website](#).

Esther Fußbach began her employment at IPU this August. She is now the practice manager in our outpatient clinic. **Lucia Kuipers** is also now enriching the outpatient clinic team as a therapist. **A warm welcome** to both at the IPU Berlin.

