

Apply now for a Project Tutorial

An opportunity for all IPU students

Application deadline for the winter semester 2022/2023 is 1 September 2022.

Dear Newsletter Subscribers,

here you can read about current information, upcoming **events** and the monthly **column** by IPU President Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz.

Und sie fanden eine Heimat is the German title of a new book from longtime IPU Professor Christiane Ludwig-Körner. In this text, she depicts the lives and work of staff members at the wartime children's home established by Anna Freud and Dorothy Burlingham. You can find more information in our **IPU Spotlight**.

At the start of July, for the first time since 2019, the IPU hosted the **Long Night of the Sciences** once again. On our website, **you can find a photo gallery** with impressions from the evening, which was organized together with the Berlin psychoanalytic institutes.

Project Tutorials at the IPU are courses that are organized and led by students, for students. Anyone interested can apply until 1 September to lead a project tutorial. More information **on our website**.

Events

26 August 2022 | 5 pm (Berlin time)

Information session for prospective students

Please register **on our website**.

“Enjoy!”

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

Not that I've run out of serious questions – but it's actually a very substantive topic if I tell you about the necessity of having a cup of coffee in the morning. On this note, I have a coffee maker that can do just about everything: making different special coffees, I can control it through a smartphone app, it seems to have about 1,000 different settings and levels that control the foamed milk or how the coffee beans are ground, and it cleans itself with a variety of cleaning programs. This sounds like luxury, and it is. When I purchased it, I believed that from then on, a delicious cup of coffee was just one push of a button away.

But the reality looks very different – I got myself mixed up with a diva: she's full of allure, eccentric, craves attention, and is incredibly moody. I walk into the kitchen, still in shock from my alarm, stumble to the coffee maker and push “Start,” but then the display tells me “coffee grounds full”. And so, still sleep drunk, I pull out the container, empty it, rinse it out, and put it back in place. Then I push the start button again. “Water tank empty” is the next demand that stands in the way of my morning coffee. After I've taken care of that and pushed start again, I get the warning “cleaning cycle required.” Thankfully, I can skip over that. With wistfulness I think back to my time as a student when I could just put a spoonful of coffee in a mug and pour hot water over it – we called it “Turkish coffee”. You could drink it right away and then chew the rest.

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.



Finally, and not after a short time, I hear that the machine starts to perform its duties, and I can quickly check my emails from the previous evening...until a peculiar hissing sound surprises me and clouds of steam start to fill the kitchen. Copious amounts of milk spill out from under the machine. “Milk container incorrect”, mentions the display laconically. Now I have to pick up the machine and move it somewhere else, wipe off the milk from under it, clean the floor and the machine's feet, and push the start button one more time. It's so nice how such days can begin; the word “workday” appeals to me in a very authentic way on this morning...

Yes, this coffee maker is a diva – and if I am to be politically correct and also use the masculine form, a divus: of capricious sensitivity, but can do divine work. If it could also sing arias, it would definitely already have the title of Kammersängerin – with an inimitable voice, but eccentric performances when not on stage...

In the meantime, after 20 minutes of concentrated work and a strenuous dialogue, there is an aromatic cappuccino with beguilingly foamed milk sitting in front of me. But I have to leave. No more time to drink it. I will arrive at the university exhausted and in a bad mood (this is an explanation for those who have noticed it before).

From the display I read a final message: “Enjoy!” She could have spared herself that one.

Lisa Birkenhagen joined the International Office at our university this August and will be working with Carmen Scher and her team.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to the IPU Berlin.

