

Dear subscribers,

here you will find the latest news from the IPU Berlin, information on upcoming **Events** and the monthly **Column** by IPU President **Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**.

The IPU Berlin is celebrating its 15th anniversary with a week of festivities. From 21 till 25 October, **Prof. Stephan Doering** (Medical University of Vienna) will be guest for the ceremony (23 October) and **Prof. Louis Castonguay** (Penn State University) for a lecture and doctoral seminar (22 October). A party for all IPU members, i. e. students, researchers and employees, will conclude the week on Friday (25 October). Find out more **on our website**.

In our **Spotlight**, you can read about a **pioneering publication in the renowned *American Psychologist***, which was created with the help of **Prof. Michael B. Buchholz**, **Prof. Andreas Hamburger** and **Prof. Phil C. Langer**.

IPU researchers can use the internal research area of the InfoCenter to inform the university audience about academic activities or news from the scientific community. Please **use this form** for announcements.

Week of Celebration on occasion of 15 years IPU Berlin

21 to 25 October 2024



Events

15 October 2024 | 6 pm

The Rope of Sexuality or How Children 'Researchers' Prime the Place of Sexuality - a Freudian/Laplanchian View

Lecture by psychoanalyst Cecilia Taiana.

Register **on our website**.

16 October 2024 | 2-6 pm

Workshop with Cecilia Taiana

Exclusively for IPU students.

Find information on registration **on our website**.

16 October 2024 | 6 pm

Semester Opening 2024/2025

With Lectures by Prof. Michael B. Buchholz and Aleksandar Dimitrijevic.

Register **on our website**.

17 October 2024 | 6 pm

From Victimhood to Empowerment - Living with the Aftermath

Lecture by Maya Lasker-Wallfisch on occasion of the series »Transgeneracionalem Trauma begegnen«. Organised by Prof. Phil C. Langer in cooperation with AMCHA.

Register **on our website**.

Are you planning or organizing an event at the IPU Berlin?

Use **this form in the InfoCenter**, ideally up to four weeks before the event date. This will ensure that your event is included in the calendar of events and can be promoted in good time.

21 till 25 October 2024

Week of Celebration on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the IPU Berlin

With Prof. Louis Castonguay, Prof. Stephan Doering and Prof. David Tuckett, among others.

Program and registration **on our website**.

13 November 2024 | 7 pm

Library Talk: Anxiety, Modern Society, and the Critical Method

With Leon S. Brenner and Joel Crombez.

Register **on our website**.

15./16. November 2024

Online Seminar: The Unconscious Roots of Racism

Conducted by Leon S. Brenner

Register **on our website**.

SAVE THE DATE

27 November 2024

Info Session for Prospective Students

Further information **on our website soon**.

SAVE THE DATE

4 December 2024

Erich Fromm Lecture 2024

With Prof. Michael Thompson (New York).

Further information on our website soon.

Semester Opening 2024/2025

with A. Dimitrijevic and Prof. M. B. Buchholz

16 October 2024 • 6 pm



Aura

The **September column** by IPU President **Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**

Whenever I am in Rostock at the Kabutzenhof pier or at the Warnemünde breakwater, I miss Undine, the "oldest preserved seaside resort ship in Germany", as one can still read on the internet today. Built in 1910 at the Neptunwerft shipyard in Rostock and christened the "Kronprinz Wilhelm", the steamboat spent decades as a shipwreck, most recently on an open space in the old fishing port. All plans to restore the listed ship have failed. As a boy, I took countless harbor tours with it – with a detour onto the high seas; literally every rib of the hull is still familiar to me.

Recently, a new passenger ship of the same name has been sailing in Warnemünde among all the Mississippi steamer replicas, intended to commemorate the legendary bathing ship and – of all things – can be chartered for burials at sea. At the same time, it buries an aura that was only ever inherent in the historical model. The excursion ship of the 1950s to early 1990s, familiar to all older residents of Rostock, is firmly "anchored" in the regional consciousness, with its silhouette, steep bow and elegantly curved stern, slightly inclined chimney and wooden bridge. The same applies to its varied history, including its service in two world wars, then with private shipowners who were also the captains, and finally – after the expropriation – under the flag of the state-owned "White Fleet".

***Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz** has been President of the International Psychoanalytic University Berlin since July 2021. Once a month, he provides commentary here on contemporary, timeless, psychoanalytic and political issues.*



The sight of the new "Undine" brought back a feeling of disillusionment similar to what I experienced years ago in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Displayed in a glass case was the golden mask of Tutankhamen, the legendary pharaoh with the Nemes head cloth who ruled from about 1332 to 1323 BC. I couldn't tear myself away from the sublime beauty of his face until my gaze fell on a small sign: "Detailed replica – original currently as a loan to the British Museum in London". The magic was gone instantly, even though the mask resembled the

historical model down to the smallest scratch or discoloration. What had happened? The aura had literally collapsed.

It is not for nothing that “aura” is also translated as “breath” and described as an invisible, energetic field that surrounds objects (from art, culture and technology), but also people, or is perceived in this way by an observer. It stands for a scientifically incomprehensible, mysterious radiance, a kind of energy transfer, fed by perceived coherence, inner balance and, above all, authenticity. Of course, such a perception is always a reflection of ourselves, too, and thus of our own needs, desires, emotions, insights – and in any case, it is an occasion to engage with ourselves on an intuitive, perhaps even spiritual level.

Anna Beckh started working as a research assistant at the Erich Fromm Study Center in September. **Anna Krome** also joined Prof. Annette Streeck-Fischer as a research assistant this month.

Kai Hrebabetzky started as a new member of staff in the International Office in September.

Welcome to the IPU Berlin.

