

Dear subscribers,

In our newsletter you will find current information from the IPU Berlin, on upcoming **events**, news from our **GreenOffice** and the monthly **column** by IPU President **Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz**.

IPU graduates will be able to stay connected with our university via **IPU Connect**. Wiebke Stelling, Iris Petzschmann, Mauricio Cordovez and Tiisano Lekganyane manage the IPU alumni programme via the digital platform. **Register as an Alumni on IPU Connect** and find out about upcoming networking events and interesting career opportunities.

The **promotion of emerging academics** is an important concern for the IPU Berlin. Outstanding academic performances of our students will therefore be presented on **the new Emerging Scholars page**. Here you will find all publications in which our students have been involved.

Students at IPU Berlin can apply for the **Deutschlandstipendium**. The **application period for the summer semester begins on 1 December 2023**. Further information can be found **on our website**.

Events

30 November 2023 | 7pm (c. t.)

Erich Fromm Lecture 2023 with Prof. Thomas Fuchs (University Heidelberg).

Registration via **our website**.

26/27 January 2024

Operationalised Psychodynamic Diagnostic (OPD-CA)

Online workshop hosted by Prof. Annette Streeck-Fischer and Jenny Kaiser

Register **on our website**.

News from the GreenOffice

Think green, act green: As of this year, students can obtain a sustainability certificate at the IPU. There are various ways to qualify for this: attending events, getting involved in initiatives, developing ideas or writing a thesis in the field of ecology / sustainability. Recognition takes place through the GreenOffice and may also include activities from the previous summer semester. You can find the "routing slip" and information on the individual components **here**. For any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

And: The end of the year is just around the corner, which is why we would like to invite you to have a cup of mulled wine with us while getting to know the work and the employees of the Green Office better. Please join us on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 7:30pm in the "Glass Box" in house 91b. We look forward to seeing you.

Your GreenOffice

Fully Halfway Educated

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

Within the purview of my "half education," I can say who this critical term traces back to, namely Theodor Adorno, who was more disconcerted by the halfway educated than the completely uneducated. The former ascribe to rather surface level matters, are unfamiliar with the search for knowledge, and surround themselves with lithesome conversation. The latter are denied their self-determination, which is not only related to a lack of knowledge, rather also with limited capabilities for reflection, less sense of judgement, and less autonomy when it comes to making decisions. But according to Adorno, they have potential. This is where *education* comes in.

The German conceptualization of education (Bildung) traces back to late medieval mysticism and the imago Dei theology (i.e. that man is made in God's image), but was reformulated in the early 19th century - riding the coattails of the Enlightenment - by Wilhelm von Humboldt and his contemporaries through the ideals of intellectual individuality, free society, and self-determination (for the upper class, i.e., the "educated"). This is also how pedagogue Ernst Lichtenstein formulated it in his *Historical Dictionary of Philosophy*.

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.



Precisely this milieu, in which Adorno also saw himself, also presents a danger, since education is decisively more than recapitulated knowledge, rhetorical finesse or adequacy within social communication. Of course, I can dazzle the Berlin society with knowledge acquired from various sources, whether or not I have internalized it; but the ability to subject it to critical examination, reflection, contextualization, and independent augmentation presents a set of entirely distinct challenges. Education without knowledge is inconceivable, though knowledge without education is certainly possible. Education is a qualitative concept; whereas knowledge can be understood on purely quantitative terms in the sense that one can possess a "great deal" of knowledge without being educated. Knowledge is akin to a raw material awaiting refinement in order to attain the status of education. This transformation necessitates organization, critical scrutiny, contextual linkage, infusion with meaning and insight, and integration within the broader spectrum of human experience and culture. In the absence of such refinement, knowledge rapidly loses its value or propels individuals into the deceptive realm of what Adorno referred to as "half education."

But I have also not encountered anyone who could be considered "fully educated" (as the logic of these terms would seem to indicate), and the prospect of such a person is rather disconcerting to me. The notion of "half-education" as a form of relative quantification may, in itself, represent a misinterpretation of the concept. Therefore, one cannot be half educated, but only uneducated.

It's too bad that Adorno is no longer alive, as I would have liked to speak to him on this matter.

Christine Möllers started working at our university in November and joined Wiebke Stelling in the Quality Management and Organisational Development team.

Welcome to the IPU Berlin.

