



# Insights into German Research

## A “Research in Germany” Information Session for Falling Walls Lab Participants



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

### ► Networking dinner by invitation of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

**Date:** 5 November 2024, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

**Venue:** Lindenbräu, Bellevuestraße 3-5, 10785 Berlin

### ► Information session and excursion, organized by the DAAD

**Date:** 6 November 2024, 8.30 AM – 4:40 PM

**Venue:** Henry-Ford-Bau der Freien Universität Berlin, Garystraße 35, 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

08:30 AM      Transfer from ParkInn Hotel

09:30 AM      Registration, Coffee

10:00 AM      **Start of Information Session**

Opening and Moderation: Dr. Ursula Paintner, Director Communications, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

#### **Welcoming Remarks**

Prof. Günter M. Ziegler, PhD, President of the Freie Universität Berlin

Kathrin Kohs, Director International Affairs, German Research Foundation (DFG)

10:15 AM      **Introduction: The German Research Landscape**

Tabea Kaiser, Head of Section International Research Marketing, German Centres for Research and Innovation, DAAD

10:30 AM      **Funding opportunities in a nutshell**

*5-minute-presentations by representatives of German research funding organisations*

- Inka Löck, Head of Berlin Office, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- Ingy Nafie, Senior Desk Officer Online Communications, Section International Research Marketing, German Centres for Research and Innovation, DAAD
- Mechthild Köhler, International Affairs, DFG

Q&A Session: Ask the funding expert

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11:15 AM Coffee Break

11:30 AM **Research opportunities in a nutshell**

*5-minute-presentations by representatives of German research organisations*

- Maïia Deutschmann, Projektträger Jülich, Start-up, Transfer and Innovation Promotion (GTI)
- Dr. Sarah Young, Science Policy Officer, Max Planck Society
- Dr. Doreen Forbig, Dahlem Research School, Freie Universität Berlin
- Dr. Claudia Seldin, Center for Metropolitan Studies of the Technische Universität Berlin

Q&A Session: Ask the research expert

12:30 PM **Networking Lunch**

01:30 PM Transfer to Science Excursions

02:00 PM **Science Excursion (5 different locations)**

*for detailed description see the file “overview excursions”*

- SupraFAB - Supramolecular Functional Architectures at Biointerfaces
- CCNB - Center for Cognitive Neuroscience Berlin
- Profund Villa
- The School of Veterinary Medicine
- Erinnerungsort Ihnestraße

03:35 PM End of event, transfer to hotel by bus

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Dear Falling Walls Lab Finalist,

Soon you will be travelling to Berlin to participate in the Falling Walls Lab and Science Summit 2024.

We hereby would like to **invite you to two additional events** that will take place before the Science Summit.

### ► **Networking dinner by invitation of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)**

**Date:** 5 November 2024, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

**Venue:** Lindenbräu, Bellevuestraße 3-5, 10785 Berlin

**Contact:** Andrea Wabschke - [andrea.wabschke@dfg.de](mailto:andrea.wabschke@dfg.de); +49 171 2084529

### ► **Research Insight Day: Information session and excursion organised by the DAAD**

**Date:** 6 November 2024, 8:15 AM – 4:30 PM

**Venue:** Henry-Ford-Bau der Freien Universität Berlin

Garyastraße 35, 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

**Contact:** Natascha Meyer - [fwlabs@daad.de](mailto:fwlabs@daad.de); +49 15124053713 (phone available on 6 Nov)

►►► [\*\*Click here to register! \(Deadline: Monday, 28 October\)\*\*](#)

### 💡 **What will happen during the Research Insight Day (6 November)?**

- presentations about your research opportunities in Germany, Q&A
- networking lunch
- 1-hour excursions to research institutions (see file “overview excursions”)

You will have the opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the German Research Landscape, to network and get in touch with leading scientists and representatives from both funding organisations and research institutions. All representatives will be happy to provide information concerning a research career in Germany.

→ For a detailed schedule, see file “programme”.

→ [Click here to register until Monday 28 October!](#)

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### **Networking Dinner: Logistics**

- Coming from the Italian Embassy (where the previous intro event takes place) the dinner venue **Lindenbräu** is within 16 minutes walking distance.
- To return to your hotel after dinner, please use the tram line **U2 from Potsdamer Platz to Alexanderplatz**. The tram station Potsdamer Platz is within 6-minutes walking distance from the restaurant.

### **Research Insight Day: Logistics**

- Transport to and from the location is provided (details see file “programme”).  
 For the bus transfer please meet on 6 November **at 8:15 in the Lobby of the Park Inn**.
- Snacks for breakfast and a lunch meal are provided.
- Please note: As the number of participants on the excursions is limited, not everyone will be able to participate in their chosen excursion. If the desired tours are fully booked, we reserve the right to allocate people to alternative options.

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## Science Excursions

**Date:** 6 November 2024, 02:00 – 03:35 PM

Each person can book one excursion; however, please note that we may not be able to accommodate all preferences, as the number of participants on the tours is limited.

► [Click here to register!](#) (Deadline: 28 October 2024)

### 1. SupraFAB - Supramolecular Functional Architectures at Biointerfaces

(max. 20 participants)

**Aim of the SupraFAB:** Working on research topics increasingly requires the participation of researchers from different disciplines, especially in the natural sciences. The joint Research Building SupraFAB (Supramolecular Functional Architectures at Biointerfaces) is located in the immediate vicinity of the institutes of biochemistry, biology, chemistry and physics of the Freie Universität Berlin and was opened in 2022. The SupraFAB research building offers scientists from chemistry, biology and physics shared laboratories, communication and office space as well as shared access to large-scale scientific research equipment under one roof. The procurement and use of expensive research infrastructures, such as large-scale research instrumentation is increasingly done jointly in core facilities. Young scientists of Freie Universität Berlin in particular can get financial support for own research projects and easy access to state-of-the-art research infrastructure such as large-scale research equipment.

**Scientific program of the Research Building SupraFAB:** Supramolecular architectures at biological interfaces play a central functional role in living systems, such as the interaction of drugs with protein complexes in the cell membrane or pathogens with cell surfaces. The long-term objectives of research in SupraFAB focus for example on the molecular understanding of the function of neuronal communication and pathogen-cell interactions. Highly specialized laboratories, clean room areas as well as low-vibration and exactly air-conditioned measuring rooms were established. Large-scale devices allow access to high and super-resolution optical and electron-microscopic methods (iso-STED and cryo-TEM) as well as novel method-combinations of time-resolved imaging and spectroscopic methods (FTIR-AFM/sSNOM and AFM-STM spectroscopy, respectively). These future-oriented methods are supplemented by interface analysis methods such as SEM, napXPS, TOF-SIMS and NMR as well as devices for the nanostructuring of surfaces.

After a brief introduction we will make a short tour through the building and visit the chemistry, biology and physics as well as some large scale instrumentation labs.

**Please note: S2 biology areas are off-limits to pregnant women and immunosuppressed individuals (e.g., those taking cortisone).**

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### 2. CCNB - Center for Cognitive Neuroscience Berlin *(max. 12 participants)*

To examine brain activity during various cognitive tasks, we use functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) at our Center for Cognitive Neuroscience Berlin (CCNB). During an fMRI scan, the volunteer is placed in a strong magnetic field, which allows us to visualize changes in the brain. From these changes, we can deduce which brain regions are active during different mental tasks. You are invited to visit the MRI scanner at Freie Universität. During a guided tour of the center's laboratories, you will learn about various measurement methods and experimental setups. A short demonstration will allow you to observe the MRI scanner in action and provide insight into its use in neuroscientific research.

### 3. Profund Villa *(max. 30 participants)*

The Startup Villa at Freie Universität is home to both the teams of scholarship holders from the Science & Startups Cluster Healthcare x Prevention and young companies that have already taken a step towards the healthcare industry. The teams will be happy to give an insight into the scholarship CV and share the progress of their own ideas. The start-up advisor team offers an excellent overview of opportunities to realise your own innovative scientific ideas with a view to successfully founding a company from research.

After a short introduction there will be a tour of the villa and plenty of time to network.

### 4. The School of Veterinary Medicine *(max. 20 participants)*

As an important pillar of the One Health concept, veterinary research is primarily concerned with maintaining animal health (infection medicine), ensuring food safety, animal welfare and resistance research. In addition to a guided tour of the faculty's historic campus, we would like to give you an overview of the current research priorities, infrastructures and technical-methodological approaches of veterinary research in Berlin.

### 5. Erinnerungsort Ihneströße (Memorial Exhibition) *(max 15 participants)*

Guided visit of the memorial exhibition "Erinnerungsort Ihneströße. A History of Science and Injustice". The guided tour leads you through the building at Ihneströße 22. The place that now belongs to Freie Universität Berlin once housed the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Anthropology, Human Heredity and Eugenics (KWI-A) from 1927 to 1945. Even as early on as the Weimar Republic this institute espoused and propagated eugenic ideas. Some scholars also used older colonial anthropological research in their work. During the National Socialist period members of the institute used their research to bolster the racist, antisemitic, and ableist policies of persecution and extermination enacted by the Nazis and were implicated in such crimes against humanity. The exhibition of Erinnerungsort Ihneströße addresses how science and injustice became intertwined at this specific site and commemorates the victims of this dehumanizing treatment.

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