Promoting Research at Freie Universität Berlin

Prof. Dr. Brigitta Schütt
Vice President of Freie Universität Berlin
1. Mission

- **1948**: funded with support from the American Allied Forces and donors
- Innovative, internationally oriented
- Scholarship across national, social and ideological barriers

- **Networks for top-level research**
  - **Regional:** Research Campus Berlin-Dahlem
  - **International:** Requirement for modern research
2. Profile

• **Broad variety**
  – 11 departments, plus Charité (joint medical school)
  – 3 Central Institutes dealing with different world regions
  – 65 Bachelor, 92 Master programs (16 in English) and 20 structured doctoral programs

• **International student body**
  – 28,500 students
  – International students: 21% of MA-students, 23% of doctoral candidates
  – 105 university-wide partnerships (plus 339 ERASMUS programs)
2. Profile
International Networks

• **Strong presence in the USA:**
  German University Alliance
  (US contact office with LMU Munich)
  Kofi Annan Fellowships
  in Global Governance

• **Branches:**
  New York, Beijing,
  Cairo, Moscow,
  New Delhi, Brussels,
  Brazil

• **International Council**

• **Center for Area Studies**
3. High Rankings for Freie Universität

- Freie Universität ranked first by Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: “top-address“ for foreign scientists
- Among the top five universities in the DFG funding ranking
- Times Higher Education: among the top 100 universities of the world
- Tagesspiegel Meta-Ranking of German universities: first place together with LMU Munich and University of Heidelberg (examined criteria included third-party funds, special research departments, postgraduate programs, Leibniz prize winners, quota of international academics)
- Freie Universität ranked in first place by Prognos AG, Basel, and the magazine *Karriere* as an entrepreneurial university
4. Institutional Strategy

Central University Administration Division: Research

• Transfer of Knowledge and Technology
• Funding Support Service for Junior Researchers
• Research Funding Support Service, Contract Management, External Funding Administration
• Research Communication and Presentation
• Dahlem Conferences ®
• Research Database, Research Information and Reporting
• Office of the Research Committee
4. Institutional Strategy

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Examples for measures:
Elsa-Neumann-Stipendium des Landes Berlin
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**Examples for measures:**
Proposal Advice
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**Examples for measures:**
- Contract Management,
- Contract Review,
- Contract Drafting for Externally Funded Research
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Examples for measures:
- Fundraising,
- Deutschlandstipendien,
- Long Night of the Sciences
- Children’s Uni
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Aims:
• Formal and content-related indexing and handling of ongoing externally funded projects
• Process optimization in the internal administration of the projects
• Prevention of data redundancy and enhanced data updating
• Public presentation of the research profile of Freie Universität

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Examples for measures:
- Seed funding for individual research projects,
- Contract Review
4. Institutional Strategy
4. Institutional Strategy

Center for Cluster Development + Central University Administration Division: Research

Strategic aims:

- plans and promotes the long-term development of research activities,
- supports and assists the scientists in developing research alliances
- supports efforts to more delineate specific topics and to develop suitable management capacity
- provides assistance in making contact with appropriate potential sources of funding

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... both together build a strong all-level research support at Freie Universität Berlin, supplemented by:

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- Research Database,
- Research Information and Reporting
- Office of the Research Committee
4. Institutional Strategy
Application of Sciences

Dahlem Business Talks on urging topics
half-annually jointly organized with VDI | VDE
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Application of Sciences

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Since 2006: 65 foundings of new companies
Monthly Business & Beer meetings
FU temporarily facilitates young entrepreneurs with office space
FU allocates legal advice for young entrepreneurs
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Vice President of Freie Universität Berlin