# Ars legendi-Preis

**18/11/2014**
**2014 Ars Legendi Prize goes to Frankfurt am Main and Hohenheim**

The 2014 Ars Legendi Prize for Research-Based Learning has been awarded to **Prof. Dr. Martin Blum at the University of Hohenheim** and **Prof. Dr. Daniela Elsner at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main**. Both have been honoured for their outstanding and innovative contributions to higher education teaching. The prize is presented not only in recognition of excellent educational and teaching skills and the support and advice given to students, but also the fact that the recipients have promoted the ongoing development of higher education teaching in the area of research-based learning outside their own teaching commitments.

The chairperson of the jury, Prof. Dr. Holger Burckhardt, Vice-President of the German Rectors' Conference (HRK), said:

"Professor Blum was recognised for his project 'Humboldt reloaded'. Through this project, the University of Hohenheim enables students in all faculties and courses to participate in research projects. This allows undergraduates to experience all phases of a research project and be inspired about their subject and research in general. It's significant that Professor Blum was nominated by students and that his nomination was supported by a number of different departments. The long-term positive impact of 'Humboldt reloaded' in terms of the dissemination of research-based learning is clear from the submitted documents.

Professor Elsner encouraged students training as teachers in English and American studies to carry out individual research projects through a successful dovetailing of theory, application and research. These projects were carried out in cooperation with schools and experts from the second teacher training phase, allowing new research approaches to be tested, evaluated and further developed. The jury was particularly impressed at the way Professor Elsner successfully geared her classes and the supervision of teachers-in-training to the key idea of research-based learning at all stages of the course."

The Ars Legendi Prize recognises the special significance of university teaching in the training of early career academics. It is designed to ensure greater recognition of excellence in teaching, particularly when the commitment of an individual lecturer extends beyond his or her personal field of influence. The Donors' Association and the HRK believe that not only research achievements but also services to teaching should have a positive impact on an individual's academic career. The quality of teaching should be a key quality criterion and a strategic objective for leading universities.

The prize of €50 000 is awarded by the Donors' Association for the Promotion of Sciences and Humanities in Germany and the HRK. From 2006 until 2012 it was presented annually in a

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different discipline each year. In 2013 the concept was modified to focus on one particular aspect of teaching and learning, the focus this year being on research-based learning. The jury included students and experts representing various fields as well as higher education teaching. The winners were chosen from 44 nominees. Nominations are usually made at the suggestion of faculties or departments; lecturers may also nominate themselves.

The Ars Legendi Prize will be formally presented on 1 December 2014 at the Canadian Embassy in Berlin. Journalists are welcome to attend (please register with Moritz Kralemann, Donors' Association for the Promotion of Sciences and Humanities in Germany (Stifterverband), Tel. +49 (0)30 / 32 29 82 527; moritz.kralemann@stifterverband.de).

For more information, please visit www.ars-legendi-preis.de

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