

Spring Campus Conference, August 31 – September 04, 2020

Workshop: “Universities on the Way to Climate Neutrality”, September 01- 02, 2020

Organized by Andreas Wanke and Katrin Schweigel (Freie Universität Berlin)

More and more universities commit themselves to act on climate change. Cities and universities around the world have started to declare a state of climate emergency, making climate protection a priority in their own institutions. This development has triggered strong sustainability commitments and new activities on campus, based on a new understanding of the urgency of the climate crisis. Freie Universität Berlin was the first university in Germany to declare a state of climate emergency in December 2019 – pledging to become CO₂ neutral by 2025. This decision highlights the universities’ commitment to systematically embedding sustainability and climate protection in their institutions and international networks.

In our workshop, universities that have declared an emergency, such as Freie Universität Berlin and the University of British Columbia, will introduce their strategic plans for the climate emergency. We invite proposals for oral and poster presentations, addressing one or more of the following questions:

- What factors or developments led to the decision to declare a climate emergency or issue a strong sustainability commitment?
- What does the commitment entail? Which areas are prioritized? What governance changes and measures are considered?
- What additional activities have been added following the publication of a climate emergency declaration or sustainability strategy?
- What does a climate-neutral strategy at universities look like? What are the major milestones in achieving climate neutrality?
- Which system boundaries (scopes 1-3) are taken into account?
- Beyond reducing CO₂ and greenhouse gas emissions, how can climate protection and sustainability be implemented in the whole institution?

The workshop will take place at the annual Spring Campus Conference of the University Alliance for Sustainability. For further information on the conference please see: https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/spring-campus/03_Program/index.html

Important note: Given the current interest in the topic, we have decided to offer a workshop on the subject of climate emergency and climate neutrality. The workshop ***“Digitalization: Opportunities, Challenges and Impacts on Sustainability Management in Higher Education”*** therefore had to be canceled. However, aspects of digitalization and sustainability will also be considered in the new workshop format. Contributions addressing this topic can still be submitted and will be considered in the selection process.

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Tuesday, 01 September 2020 • Fabeckstraße 23-25, Freie Universität Berlin

Chair: Katrin Schweigel, Freie Universität Berlin

+++ Due to the postponement of the conference we are currently in contact with all contributors regarding their availability for our new dates. Programs are preliminary and will be updated as necessary. +++

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>
9:00 am	Plenary Session, open for all participants “Fostering Key Sustainability Competencies in Teaching” Prof. Robert VanWynsberghe, University of British Columbia, Canada
10:00 am	Coffee Break
	<i>Workshop IV: “Universities on the Way to Climate Neutrality”</i>
10:30 am	Welcome Note and Introduction Andreas Wanke, Director Sustainability and Energy Management Unit, Freie Universität Berlin The Suspicion of Greenwashing – How to Recognize a Serious Climate Management? Dr. Burkhard Huckestein, German Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt – UBA) Climate Neutral by 2025 – Freie Universität Berlins Commitment to Sustainability Andreas Wanke, Freie Universität Berlin Discussion
12:30 pm	Lunch
02:00 pm	Considering the Full Scope of Our Impact – Aligning Sustainability Efforts in the Climate Emergency (working title) John Madden, University of British Columbia Zero Carbon: Our 8-point Action Plan (working title) Martin Viles, University of Bristol, virtual keynote Discussion
04:00 pm	Coffee Break
04:30 pm	Kira Stoll (tbc), University of California, Berkeley: Climate Neutrality at the University of California, Berkeley Discussion of Lessons Learnt in Plenum

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	Short Campus-Tour ending at restaurant “Luise”.
6:30	We have pre-booked tables in the restaurant “Luise” near U-Bahn station Dahlem Dorf for a self-organized dinner.

Wednesday, 02 September 2020 • Fabeckstraße 23-25, Freie Universität Berlin

Chair: Katrin Schweigel, Freie Universität Berlin

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>
9:00 am	Plenary Session, open for all participants tbc
10:00 am	Coffee Break
	<i>Workshop IV: “Universities on the Way to Climate Neutrality”</i>
10:30 am	Putting the climate neutral campus to work: Michael Wilmes, Technische Universität Berlin What data is really needed?
11:15 pm	Discussion of Lessons Learnt and further cooperation opportunities Workshop Wrap-Up and Evaluation
12:30 pm	Lunch
02:00 pm	Excursion: After a sightseeing tour of Berlin's city center participants can choose between two tour offers (please indicate your choice in the registration form): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Futurium: The House of Futures. Here, everything revolves around the question: how do we want to live? In a "Tour of the Futures", visitors get to know different future concepts and approaches to solutions. • GLS Bank (tbc): GLS Community Bank eG is a cooperative bank and claims to be the world's first eco bank. The bank was awarded the German Sustainability Award as the most sustainable company and was named Bank of the Year for the 10th time in succession. Join the banks team for a discussion on sustainable finance in the international finance world.
06:00 pm	Farewell Dinner, Restaurant Paresüd, Prellerweg 47, 12157 Berlin