

Spring Campus, April 1-5, 2019

Re:search. Re:act. Re:define.
The Future is Now: Driving Sustainable Development

Opening Day, April 1, 2019

From April 1-5, 2019 Freie Universität will host the fourth Spring Campus Conference of the University Alliance for Sustainability.

Program focus and objectives

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the UN member states in 2015 received a striking publicity and had a huge impact on the scientific and political discourse regarding the societal transformation to sustainability. Whereas the knowledge of the need to act grows, so do the emissions and risks caused by human activities.

However, sustainable development a work in progress that not only requires concerted action but also large scale experiments and disruptive technological and social innovations. The most recent IPCC special report assesses that limiting global warming to 1.5° Celsius would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society.

As we are heading toward a high-emission future, we need to put the business-as-usual scenarios behind by researching, reacting and redefining current practices and policies. Against this backdrop the 2019 Spring Campus Conference of the University Alliance for Sustainability invites sustainability experts to contribute to the question:

What are the Levers for Impactful Sustainable Development?

Science shapes the way we think about the sustainability transformation and how we address the challenges of the 21st century. Universities play a key role in this area. They not only develop new knowledge for a better understanding of global problems, but also empower generations of students who have to solve them. The SDGs address three key topics the Spring Campus Conference will focus on:

Energy. Food. Mobility.

Those are the three biggest causes of climate change and require, therefore, special consideration when discussing the levers for impactful sustainable development. Interdisciplinary research and management workshops will address the three fields of action during the conference.

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Monday, April 1, 2019 • Conference Room -1.2009, Fabeckstr. 23-25

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>
12:30 pm	Registration
1:30 pm	Welcome Note <i>Prof. Verena Blechinger-Talcott</i> , Vice-President for International Affairs, Freie Universität Berlin
1:45 pm	Key Note Speakers <i>Prof. Johan Rockström</i> , Director, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research: “Transformational Policies as Drivers for a Prosperous and Sustainable World?” <i>Matthias Buck</i> , Head of European Energy Policy, Agora Energiewende: “Clean Energy Transition in Europe: The Big Picture” Q&A with speakers, <i>Caroline Paulick-Thiel</i> , Politics for Tomorrow
3:15 pm	Coffee Break
3:45 pm	<i>Prof. Kathryn Harrison</i> , University of British Columbia: “The Comparative Politics of Carbon Taxes” <i>Prof. Cornelia Reiher</i> , Freie Universität Berlin: “Production, Trade and Consumption of Food in Global Contexts” <i>Dr. Kimberly Nicholas</i> , Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies: “Traveling the Globe to Drive Sustainability?”
5:30 pm	Interactive Discussion Format Moderation: <i>Caroline Paulick-Thiel</i> , Politics for Tomorrow
6:30pm	Reception and Get-Together