

FRIAS Express - September 2022



Dear FRIAS Community,

big news coming from FRIAS! First and foremost, we will have a new board of directors at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, starting on October 1st. Classical Archeologist and former FRIAS fellow Ralf von den Hoff was appointed Executive Director, following Bernd Kortmann who has been leading FRIAS for almost a decade. For sure, this is a good reason to scroll down to the Director's corner immediately, but don't miss another important note: After a three-year pause due to the pandemic, we are able to revive our Staudinger Lecture. UT Southwestern-based immunologist and Nobel Laureate Physiology or Medicine 2011 Bruce Beutler will give the talk on October 5th.

What an exciting start into a certainly inspiring Academic Year 2022/23. Keep up to date on our [homepage](#).

FRIAS welcomes new Executive Director von den Hoff



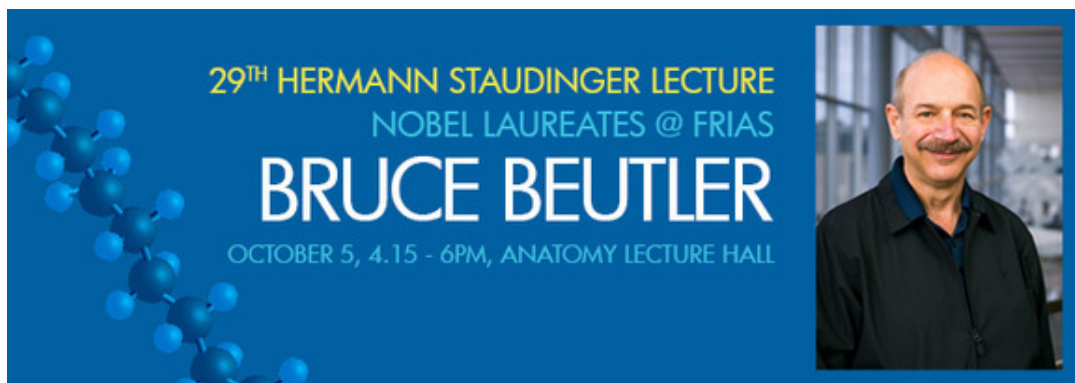
The rectorate of the University of Freiburg has appointed [Ralf von den Hoff](#), Professor of Classical Archeology, as the new Executive Director of the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies. The new board will be completed by Biologist Barbara Di Ventura (Director Natural Sciences) and Historian Veronika Lipphardt (Director Social Sciences).

Amongst others, von den Hoff has been speaker of the Collaborative Research Center 948 /Heroes, Heroizations, Heroisms, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). From 2012 until 2014 he was FRIAS Research Fellow at the School of History.

Von den Hoff will succeed Bernd Kortmann who was responsible for the realignment of FRIAS after 2012, became Director in 2013 and was appointed Executive Director in 2015. Together with Kortmann, Annegret Wilde (Director Natural Sciences) and Günther Schulze (Director Social Sciences) will resign from the board.

Bernd Kortmann has found some remarkable words representing the spirit of FRIAS perfectly, so don't miss the Director's Corner. For more information on his achievements for the institute click [here](#).

29th Hermann Staudinger Lecture ahead



Our Staudinger Lecture Series goes back to the very beginning of FRIAS and used to attract up to three Nobel Laureates to the University of Freiburg each year. Due to the pandemic we had to interrupt the prestigious event for almost three years.

All the happier we are to host immunologist Bruce Beutler, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2011 and currently Director of the Center for Genetics of Host Defense at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center on **October 5th, 4:15 until 6pm** at the Anatomy Lecture Hall.

[More information](#)

FOCUS ON OUR FELLOWS



Book Launch: The Responsible Artificial Intelligence

The former FRIAS Saltus! Group “Responsible Artificial Intelligence” has edited The Cambridge Handbook of Responsible Artificial Intelligence – Interdisciplinary Perspectives. The volume addresses the most pressing philosophical, ethical, legal, and societal challenges posed by AI. It will be published and available Open Access on Cambridge Core in October 2022. We can’t wait for the [Book Launch](#) at FRIAS on **October 26th, 5.00-7.00 pm**.

YAS-Member leading Emmy Noether Junior Research Group

Benjamin Schütze, junior fellow at our Young Academy for Sustainability Studies (YAS), has been admitted to the DFG Emmy Noether-Programme. He will lead the junior research group on the topic “Renewable Energies, Renewed Authoritarianisms”. He is currently seeking for two doctoral researches. You can find him on [twitter](#).

New Arrivals at FRIAS

With the Academic Year 2022/23 ahead we are delighted to welcome many new fellows at FRIAS. We are looking forward to get to know their research projects at our retreat in the Black Forest Studios in Kirchzarten on October, 13th and 14th. New arrivals will be:

Dr. Michel Abeßer (University of Freiburg, History)
 Dr. Laura Becker (University of Freiburg, Linguistics)
 Dr. Christoph Dittel (University of Freiburg, Quantum Many-Body Physics)
 Karl-Heinz Leven (University of Erlangen, History of Medicine)
 Dr. Nibedita Nandi (University of Freiburg, Chemical Biology)
 Prof. Dr. Anssi Peräkylä (University of Helsinki, Sociology)
 Prof. Dr. Marit Rosol (University of Würzburg/Calgary, Human Geography)
 Prof. Dr. Erik Schleef (University of Salzburg, Linguistics)
 Dr. Karsten Schubert (University of Freiburg, Political Theory)
 Elena Vishlenkova (Netzwerk Wissenschaftsreflexion, History)
 Dr. Zainab Musa Shallangwa (University of Maiduguri, Nigeria, Cultural Studies)

Further information on all current FRIAS fellows you find [here](#).

FRESCO and other funding programs on call for application



For the third time FRIAS publishes a call for applications of the Freiburg Research Collaboration Programme (FRESCO), now for the period 2023 until 2025. Through FRESCO, the University of Freiburg intends to establish long lasting, sustainable links between excellent researchers from Freiburg and high-ranking national and international researchers to substantially strengthen and develop existing profile and emerging fields, and thereby enhance the University of Freiburg's overall research profile. Application deadline is **15 November 2022, 24 h CET**.

Besides FRESCO there is a variety of other funding programmes on call for application that provide very attractive opportunities for researchers at different stages of their academic career to further strengthen already strong research areas. Please check our website for [more information](#).

Symposium: How can we foster “More Courage”?



During the Corona Crisis, we perceived repeated complaints about missing courage in German politics and science. The former board of directors took this as a cause to explore the foundations of courageous decisions from an interdisciplinary point of view and discussed with speakers from different backgrounds why courage has come at such a high cost in recent times. The symposium "Mehr Mut" took place in June 2022.

[More information](#)

Director's Corner



This DC is the final curtain, the Director's Farewell. After nine years as Executive Director of FRIAS, I am very happy to return to my department and chair, to the Freiburg linguistics crowd, and to my many close colleagues and friends in the international community in English Linguistics. As of 1 October, I will fully engage again in the teaching and research of the wonderfully colourful and exciting world of languages and Englishes around the globe.

To all readers of the FRIAS Express, let me simply say this: what has always stood at the centre of my interest as Director was a close cooperation with all fellows, the creation of an environment and atmosphere conducive to stimulating exchange across disciplinary boundaries and academic cultures and, above all, to forming a true fellow community, year by year, for each new fellow generation. In the process of orchestrating all this and designing the annual academic programmes, I've learnt so much from (and about) all of you. My respect for science and scientists has grown immensely over all these years. It was a true privilege to be surrounded by so many extremely bright, erudite, unconventional and, yes, truly beautiful minds who had not lost the essence of what makes a good scientist and IAS fellow: natural curiosity --in their own field of interest, but also far beyond! On a personal level, it was a privilege, too, to meet so many wonderful human beings over the years. With quite a number of them I had many enriching conversations and formed close relationships, with a few, I am happy to say, even true friendships. Every single one of you has made my life so much richer — I can't thank you enough! To all those of the FRIAS alumni/ae who are planning to return to Freiburg at some point: please, never hesitate to contact me! I'll be enjoying my normal life as a Freiburg professor for a few more years and, as some of you may remember, my regular office in the English department is only a leisurely 10 minute walk away from FRIAS (half way to Liefmannhaus). It would be a true pleasure for me to meet up with any of the FRIAS inmates between September 2013 until today!

Let me also thank the FRIAS team for all their support and dedicated work over the years. Most deeply and dearly I would like thank my fellow directors Hermann Grabert (2013-15), Marlene Bartos (2015-16) and, especially, Günther Schulze (since 2015) and Annegret Wilde (since 2016) for their wonderful cooperation and support, and the friendship which has grown between Annegret, Günther and myself. Moreover, I can assure all friends, alumnae, alumni, current and future fellows and guest researchers of / at FRIAS that there couldn't be a better choice as my successor than archaeologist Ralf von den Hoff. I am convinced that Ralf and his new co-directors will maintain the high standards of FRIAS, not only academically, but also concerning spirit and atmosphere -- not to mention the many fresh ideas they will bring to FRIAS!

But back to the present. Here it is then, finally: a last deep bow — and the curtain of the Kortmann era falls!

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