

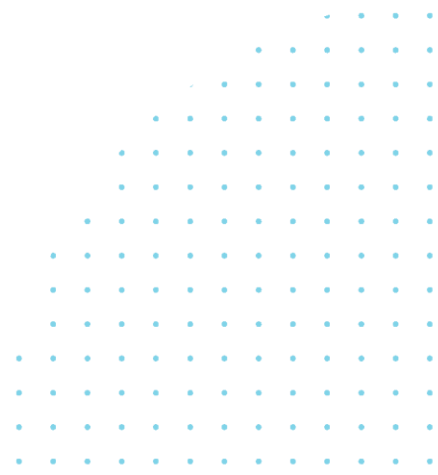
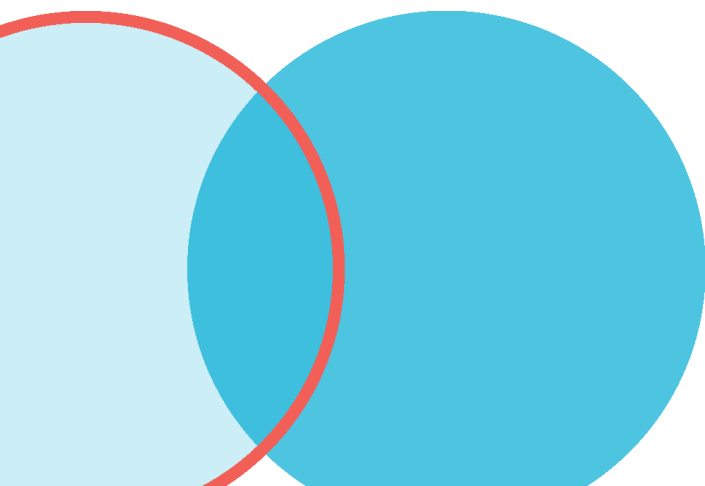


UNIVERSITY
OF COLOGNE

NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF VICE-RECTOR FOR RESEARCH

October until December 2023





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NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF VICE RECTOR FOR RESEARCH

October 2023

Staff

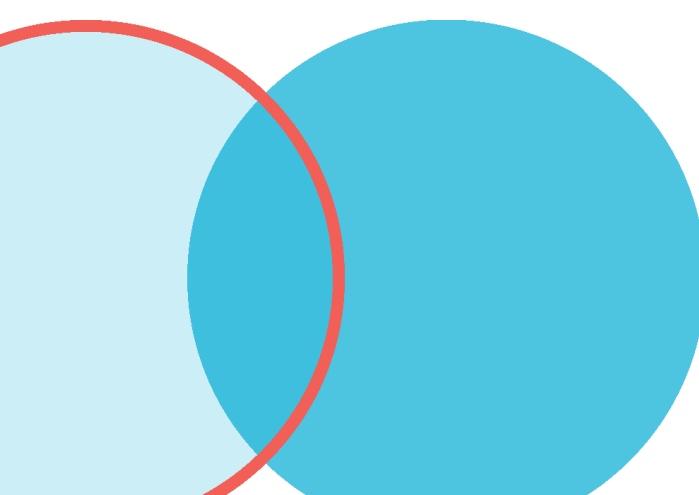
- Professor Dr **Claus Cursiefen** has assumed the role of **Vice-Rector for Research**. The areas of sustainability and transfer have their own Vice-Rectors since 1 October 2023.
- Professor Dr Birgit Träuble is the new Dean of the **Faculty of Human Sciences**. The new **Vice-Dean for Research** is Professor Dr **Christian Rolle**.

Excellence Strategy

- Out of a total of seven draft proposals concerning the (new) Clusters of Excellence, three more were reviewed in October. **CECO₂M** (Cluster of Excellence on CO₂ Management with the University of Düsseldorf), **Our dynamic Universe** (Dynaverse with the University of Bonn) and **Language Challenges** (University of Cologne). The final decision on the draft proposals will be made in February 2024.

University of Cologne

- **Katja Restel** has been the coordinator of the recently established [Open Science Center Cologne](#) since October 2023. She is responsible for implementing and developing Open Science principles at the UoC. She will initially focus on bringing the individual stakeholders within the university together and on raising awareness of the concept of Open Science.





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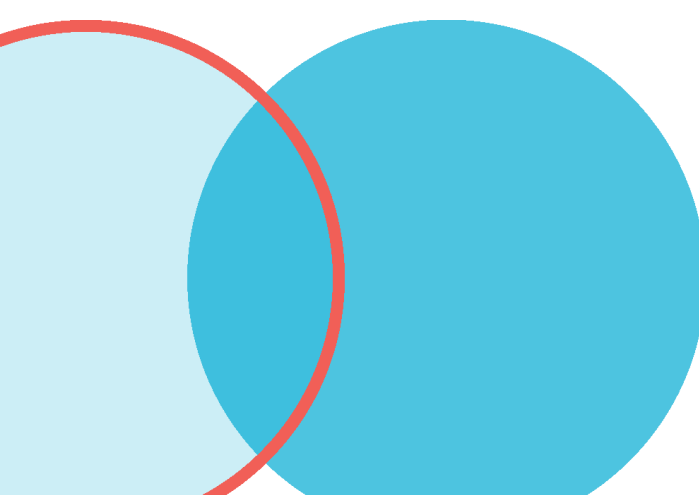
- **Professor Dr Johannes Vogt** (University Hospital Cologne) is the new [DFG-Liaison Officer](#). He succeeds Professor Dr Hilde Haider (Faculty of Human Sciences).

Excellence Strategy

- The last of seven reviews for new Clusters of Excellence took place on November 7th: **ECOCAN** (Understanding and targeting cancer in the context of its ecosystem; with the University of Duisburg-Essen). The decision to submit full proposals will be announced in February 2024 (for all new initiatives).

University of Cologne

The University Prize for Research is awarded annually to honour an outstanding academic lifetime achievement. This year, **Professor Dr Andreas Speer** (Faculty of Arts and Humanities) receives this prize. Congratulations!





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Collaborative Research Centers

The University of Cologne has successfully acquired new Collaborative Research Centers (CRCs) in [May](#) and [November](#) 2023. Beginning in April 2024, the University of Cologne will host 17 CRCs, making it the highest number of CRCs at the UoC so far. According to our own calculations, we belong to the TOP 5 universities in Germany.

Excellence Strategy

The University of Cologne is participating in the new Excellence Strategy of the federal and state governments with seven new draft proposals for Clusters of Excellence (on top of the four EXC already running). A decision on full applications of the new initiatives will be announced in February 2024.

- **ECOCAN** – Understanding and targeting cancer in the context of its ecosystem (mit U Duisburg-Essen), *Professor Henning Walczak*
- **smartEO** – Observations and Algorithms for Next-Generation Earth System Science (U Bonn, FZ Jülich, ECMWF), *Professor Susanne Crewell*
- **Our Dynamic Universe** – A Big Data-driven approach to a physically-guided digital cosmos (U Bonn, MPI Radio Astronomy, FZ Jülich, DLR), *Professor Stefanie Walch-Gassner*
- **Language Challenges** (MPI Psycholinguistics), *Professor Birgit Hellwig*
- **Sharing a Planet in Peril** (FU Berlin U Freiburg, MPI for the Study of Societies), *Professor Catherine Rigby*
- **Code for Behavior**¹ (DZNE, MPI for Neurobiology of Behavior), *Professor Graziana Gatto (Speaker UoC)*
- **CeCo2M**² – Cluster of Excellence on CO₂ Management (RWTH Aachen. FZ Jülich), *Professor Stan Kopriva (Speaker UoC)*

In Germany, 143 draft proposals were submitted by 59 different universities.

¹ Main applicant: U Bonn.

² Main applicant: U Düsseldorf.

