

# **FUB International Staff Training Week 2025**

June 23 – June 27

**Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL):  
Creating an international impact at home**



## Monday, June 23

### Welcome to Freie Universität Berlin's 13<sup>th</sup> International Staff Training Week

**Venue:** *Freie Universität Berlin, Henry-Ford-Building, Garystraße 35, 14195 Berlin*

11:30 Arrival of participants and registration

12:00 **Welcome address** by Vice President International Affairs  
Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott  
Welcome and presentation of Freie Universität Berlin  
Dr. Herbert Grieshop, Head of International Affairs Division

13:00 Welcome by FUB's International Staff Training Week-Organizing Team

13:20 Group Picture

13:30 **Lunch**

15:00 **Scavenger Hunt** on FUB Campus

18:00 **International Summer Reception**  
Henry-Ford-Building, Garystraße 35, 14195 Berlin

## Tuesday, June 24

**Venue:** *Henry Ford Building, First Floor, Academic Senate Hall, Garystraße 35, 14195 Berlin*

9:30 **Welcome and Introduction by the Berlin BeCOIL Team**  
Introduction of International Staff Week's Program

10:00 Getting to Know Each Other

10:40 Break

11:00 **Working together in an international setting + Q&A**

*"Creative solutions when working across borders: How to foster hybrid learning environments"*

*Dr. Lena Stölzl, Staff Member of the Network Project "Netzwerk Hybride Lehre", Freie Universität Berlin*

*“Towards diversity-inclusive compuses: Diversity, discrimination and mental health in higher education”*

Laura Pilz González (she/her), Research Associate and Doctoral Candidate, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

If time allows: Sharing our BeCOIL Resources  
BeCOIL Team

12:30 Lunch

14:00 **World Café Session – 5 tables with different COIL related topics**

Introduction to the World Café topics by our 5 presenters

**Table 1** – *“Passport to Connection: Designing Intercultural Competence for Virtual Exchange Programs”*

Gabriela Avalor, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina  
Assistant: Anne Mbakwe

**Table 2** – *“Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and Virtual Exchanges in promotion of Internationalization at home in Higher Education Institutions in Kenya”*

Dr. Ezekiel Mecha, University of Nairobi, Kenya  
Assistant: Sophie Michels

**Table 3** – *“Bridging Borders: International Learning and Collaboration at Politehnica Bucharest”*

Prof. Daniela Cristina Momete, National University of Science and Technology  
Politehnica Bucharest, Romania  
Assistant: Eren Yalçinkaya

**Table 4** – *“NTU Beyond borders: Challenges and opportunities”*

Dr. Guan Ying Li, National Taiwan University, Taiwan  
Assistant: Lukas Groß

**Table 5** – *“Non-Verbal Communication, Virtuality, Team Processes, and Team Performance”*

Dr. Valerie Alexandra, San Diego State University, USA  
Assistant: Tobias Lebens

14:30 Round 1

14:50 Round 2

15:10 Round 3

15:30	Round 4
15:50	Round 5
16:15	Comments of Table Hosts and Wrap-up
17:00	End of Tuesday's program

Optional Event: An evening out with your track

### Wednesday, June 25

**Venue:** HWR (Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht) Berlin – **House A**  
„Großer Senatssaal“, Room A 2.04 (2nd floor), Badensche Str. 52, 10825 Berlin

9:45 **Welcome by :**  
HWR's Vice President Prof. Dr. Silke Bustamante  
Ingrid Sperber, Head of HWR's International Office  
HWR's COIL Team

10:15 – 10:25 Coffee Break

10:25 – 12.00 **COIL Panel with experienced lecturers + Q&A**

*“COIL 2024: Lakehead - BHT”*

Prof. Oliver Krüger – BHT Berlin (Berlin University for Applied Sciences and Technology)

*“GEAR – A German-Argentinian COIL Project to Create Momentum for International Exchange in Electrical Engineering”*

Prof. Marcus Purat – BHT Berlin (Berlin University for Applied Sciences and Technology)

*“COILing with four distinct cultural orientations: from challenge to competence”*

Martín Hernán Castro – HWR Berlin

*“Education without Borders: How COIL is Shaping the Future of Education in Africa/Kenya”*

Dr. Daniel Otieno, Kenyatta University, Kenya

*“Expect the Best and Plan for the Worst: Lessons from Building a COIL Program”*

Prof. Carol Lanham, University of Texas at Dallas, USA

12.30 Lunch at Ratskeller Schöneberg  
John-F.-Kennedy-Platz 1, 10825 Berlin

13:30 End of program – free afternoon for individual appointments and activities

15:30/17:00 Optional Event: Berlin River Cruise

### Thursday, June 26

**Venue:** Holzlaube, Seminar Room 2.2058, Fabeckstraße 23/25, 14195 Berlin

9:30 Introduction to the Day

9:45 **Good Practice Presentations by Participants + Q&A**

*“Making COIL part of the culture: Incentives, challenges and lessons from implementation“*

Allison Betancourt Chilcon, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Peru

*“Studying Sustainability Across Continents: The Una Europa Virtual Exchange Program”*

Dr. Annika Silberstein, University of Zurich, Switzerland

*“Teamwork Without Borders: Student Learning Experiences in Global Virtual Teams”*

Dr. Saifon Singhatong, Mahidol University International College, Thailand

*“From digital platforms to virtual collaboration: the experience of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Faculty of Computer Sciences”*

Prof. Oleksii Oletskyi, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine

10:45 Break

11:00 *“Train the Trainer - Zoomed In: Professional Identity and challenging situations in online teaching”*

Sophie Michels (she/her), BeCOIL Coordinator, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

12:00 Lunch

13:30 Networking – Matchmaking with potential new partners – Poster gallery showcasing successful COILs – QR Code for LinkedIn Group – Question cards for conversation starters – Coffee talk – Interactive Board - Testing our Serious Game on Intercultural Communication,...



15:30      Make our Staff Week a Success – Takeaway, Feedback and Staying Connected,  
Survey  
Group Picture

16:00      Freie Universität Berlin Summer Party 2025 and CampusRun

### Friday, June 27

#### **Team Event at FUB's Water Sports Center & Farewell**

*Venue: Water Sports Center, Badeweg 7A, 14129 Berlin*

9:30      Meeting at the Water Sports Center, welcome, introduction, preparation of team  
(and individual) activities: pedal boat, kayak, stand-up-paddling, sailing, surfing,  
wingfoil as well as activities on land

10-12:30      2 rounds of activities

12:30      Wrap-up & award of certificates

13:00      Lunch and end of program

\* events marked in grey are joint events for the whole group / participants of all tracks