

Press Release

Dr. Stephanie Christmann-Budian Takes over Management of the TU9 Office

Berlin, March 31, 2025

As of April 1, 2025, Dr. Stephanie Christmann-Budian will take over as Managing Director of the TU9 Office in Berlin. Dr. Christmann-Budian, who holds a doctorate in sinology and was most recently Head of Research Promotion Section at TU Berlin, succeeds Dr. Nicole Saverschek, who headed the office of the TU9 Alliance from 2016 to February 2025.

With her long-standing experience through positions at various funding organizations (VDI/VDE, DFG and DAAD), universities, and non-university research institutions, Stephanie Christmann-Budian has outstanding expertise in science management, especially in science and innovation research as well as international cooperation. The sinologist, who specializes in science policy and international research funding, also worked in Beijing for many years. Most recently, she was Head of the Research Promotion Section at TU Berlin and Deputy Head of the Research and Technology Transfer Department. Her work there included the analysis and evaluation of current science and higher education policy, the digitalization of funding management, and the development and implementation of data-based concepts for funding advice. Dr. Christmann-Budian has published several papers in the field of science and innovation research, in which she analyzed national science systems and national strategies for the development of, for example, artificial intelligence or green technologies.

"I am very much looking forward to working with the TU9 Universities and their partners. The trusting cooperation within TU9 is a particular hallmark and strength of the TU9 Alliance. The exchange with decision-makers in politics and business along with international networking are essential for the future viability of Germany as a science location. I appreciate that I can build on the excellent work of my predecessors to strengthen the political voice of the TU9 Alliance of leading Universities of Technology at both national and international level," says the incoming Managing Director Dr. Stephanie Christmann-Budian.

TU9 Co-Presidents Professor Angela Ittel and Professor Peter Middendorf: "We are delighted that we have been able to win Dr. Christmann-Budian, an experienced science manager, as TU9 Managing Director. With her many years of experience in science management in a university and non-university context as well as at an international level, she has a deep understanding of the focus topics of the TU9 Alliance, in particular science and innovation policy and transfer."

About TU9

TU9 is the Alliance of leading Universities of Technology in Germany: RWTH Aachen University, Technische Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Technical University of Darmstadt, TUD Dresden University of Technology, Leibniz University Hannover, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Technical University of Munich, and University of Stuttgart.

TU9 Universities take special responsibility for the productive and innovative strength of our society and economy. We help shape the future by contributing to digitization and the energy and sustainability transition, to name a few. To this end, we combine our specific expertise in basic research, especially in the natural sciences and engineering, with applied research and innovation. TU9 Universities enjoy an outstanding reputation around the world as renowned research and teaching institutions. As such, they train exceptional young academics for careers in science, business, and administration and assume social responsibility. TU9 Universities foster top-class international networks and diverse cooperation with industry, making them a key element of Germany as a location of science and innovation.