

PhD Union report for the HTU university assembly meeting on 21.01.2026

PhD Union room:

- Need a new location for the PhD Union room.
- The current room will be occupied by the Institute of Railway Infrastructure Design by the end of 2025.

PhD Survey 2024:

- Presentation in the Senate meeting on 19th January by Alina Herderich and Anna Paulik.
- The final report was sent to all PhD students by the end of October.

Buddy System:

- An initiative of the rectorate and PhD-Union to make contact persons available at each institute, which is especially relevant for international PhDs
- Further advertising is necessary. Will be done together with the Koordinationsstelle Doktorat.

Regular Boards:

- Taskforce Doktorat: We participated as always. Next DocSchool coordination team meeting (all doctoral schools) on 21st January 2026. An annual report form is now available in TU4U. The forms for the supervision and educational agreements are also complete and available in TU4U. A training programme for PhD supervisors is partially implemented. Further training opportunities are discussed.
- Koordinationsstelle Doktorat: Regular meetings. The coordination officer prepared a catalogue of measures to support struggling PhD students and a second catalogue of measures for PhD supervisors. Networking meeting (PhD Union and coordination officer) on 18th December 2025.
- STV-Sitzung with the vice rector for academic affairs on 10th December 2025. Nothing important to report to the university assembly.

Events:

- Vibrant Spa Exploration on 5th December 2025 (Therme Loipersdorf).
- Vineyard rally on 21st November 2025.
- Crafting workshop on 17th December 2025 (19 participants)

Upcoming internal events:

- Christmas party to the end of January. The coordination officer and the HTU Vorsitz are cordially invited to join the party. The date will be issued as soon as possible.
- PhD Union seminar in the next summer term is under preparation.

Upcoming public events:

- The next crafting workshop is scheduled for January/February 2026.
- DocTales (Presentations, discussion, networking) in preparation.