

Agenda

The Evolving Role of Geoscience: Reflecting on Disciplinary Boundaries in a Changing World - Inter and Trans Disciplinary Dialogue Session

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Hosted by the Research Institute for Sustainability at GFZ, Potsdam

Funded by Geo.X, The Research Network for Geosciences in Berlin and Potsdam

- 0845-0915 **Welcome Coffee and Registration**
- 0915-1000 **Welcoming Remarks and Round Introductions**
- 1000-1045 **Keynote Talk with Q&A** Etienne Benson, Director Knowledge Systems and Collective Life, MPI for the History of Science - *Representations and Relations: A History of the Geosciences beyond Epistemology*
- 1045-1215 **Framing Talks with Q&A and Discussion**
- What happens to a geoscience that denies politics? Conversations and Political Geology at the Natural/Social Science Interface*, Marianne Pascale Bartels, RIFS Potsdam
- Natural Systems, Political and Economic Stakes: Linking Arctic Geoscience and Geopolitics*, Volker Rachold, Head of Arctic Office, AWI
- Who sets the agenda? From helicopter-science to co-design: how to make geoscience research a level playing field*, Cecile Blanchet, Deputy Topic 2 (Ocean and Cryosphere), GFZ
- Situated Modelling as a way of bringing geoscience together with critical social science*, Tobias Krueger, Director of IRI THESys and Professor of Hydrology and Society, Humboldt-University
- 1215-1230 **Closing Discussion and Remarks**
- 1230-1400** **Networking Lunch with Heiliger See Walk**
- 1400-1520 **Boundary Work Talks with Q&A and Discussion**
- ArtScience Engagements: Landscape Experiments and the Visual Politics of Environmental Data*, Michaele Buesse, TU Dresden
- Talk Title Placeholder**, Andreas Läufer, Head of Polar Geology Unit (or Lutz Reinhard TBD), The Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR)

Talk Title Placeholder, TBC

1520-1600 Breakout Sessions (*please just grab a coffee and cake as your group sees fit*)

Breakout Session A – *Geoscience in Transition: Key Topics and Future Research Needs*

Breakout Session B – *Reflecting on Boundaries: What Geoscientists and Social Scientists Can Learn from Each Other/ Political Thinking in Geoscience and Geological Thinking in the Humanities/Social Sciences*

1600-1645 **Breakout Groups Summary Session and Next Steps** (White paper/Workshop report etc.)

1645-1700 **Concluding Round of Reflections**