

Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik

After graduation at the MA level at the Ruhr University of Bochum, I took my PhD in 1983 and my habilitation in 1989 also at this university. Subsequently, I was appointed full professor at Heidelberg in 1989 and acted as professor for Modern China Studies until 2002. From 1999 to 2001, I was Vice-Rector for International Relations of Heidelberg University.

In 2002 I accepted the invitation of the University of Vienna to take over the Chair for Sinology. In 2004, I was appointed Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies, in 2010, I became its Dean. Starting from 2011 I was Vice-Rector for Research and Career Development. Currently, I am back in my institute organizing the study programme of East Asian Studies as its director.

I first went to the PRC to study at Beijing Yuyan Xueyuan and Beijing University from 1975 to 1977 supported by a scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). I returned to Beida in 1980 to collect materials for my PhD thesis and later on had multiple chances to internationalize my career by affiliating with the University of California, Berkeley (1984-1985), Tsinghua University (Beijing), Beijing University (1987), Kyoto University (1992), Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (1997), University of California, Berkeley (1914) and the Chinese University of Hong Kong (2018).

My research has been focused on issues related to the writing of modern and contemporary Chinese history, the history of East Asia and the politics of memory in the PRC. In addition, I publish on Chinese politics, especially on public health and environmental policies as well as on foreign relations.