

Scientific Short Bio



Prof. Dr Dr h.c. Friederike Welter MAE

President of the Institut für Mittelstandsforschung (IfM) Bonn
Professor of Business Administration, in particular of SME
Management and Entrepreneurship at the University of Siegen

- 2008 - 2013 Jönköping International Business School/Schweden, Professor of Entrepreneurship; Vice Dean for Research
- 2005 - 2008 University of Siegen, Professor for SME Management & Entrepreneurship
- 1993 - 2006 Rhenish-Westphalian Institute for Economic Research Essen (RWI), former deputy head of the competence area "Business Start-ups and Business Development, Crafts, New Technologies"

Selected Committees and publishing activities

- 2026 DG Grow Fellow
- since 2024 Member of the steering group of Fin.Connect.NRW
- since 2023 Member of the Ludwig Erhard Foundation
- since 2022 Member of the Expert Commission for Research and Innovation (EFI)
- 2022 - 2025 Member of the Advisory Board of the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin)
- since 2014 Advisory member of the North Rhine-Westphalia SME Advisory Board of MWIKE
- since 2014 Member of the SME Advisory Board of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE)
- since 2006 Member of the EXIST Expert Advisory Board at the BMWE, since 2016 Chairwoman
- 2009 - 2022 Chairwoman of the expert group "Validation of the technological and social innovation potential of scientific research – VIP (later VIP+)" at the BMFTR
- since 2015 Member of the Executive Editorial Board of the journal "Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice", Associate Editor from 2009-2014
- 2007 - 2009 President, European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB)

Awards and honours

- 2025 Foundational Paper Award der Entrepreneurship Division der Academy of Management
- 2023 Honorary doctorate from the University of Glasgow
- 2021 Invitation to become a Member of the Academia Europaea (MAE)
- 2020 Elected to the prestigious circle of 21st Century Entrepreneurship Research Fellows
- 2017 Greif Research Impact Award from the Lloyd Greif Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, University of Southern California
- 2015 Legacy Award, honoured by the Diana International Research Project
- 2014 Honoured as Wilford L. White Fellow of the International Council for Small Business (ICSB)
- 2011 Fellow of the European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB)
- 2005 TeliaSonera Endowed Professorship "Entrepreneurship", Stockholm School of Economics in Riga
- 2002 Habilitation Prize of the IHK Wolfsburg-Lüneburg