Dear colleagues, dear students,

Our University’s dynamic development becomes evident not only in the new centers and facilities, research projects and course offers: the KU has also grown in size. Several buildings in the Eichstätt city center have become part of our campus. And this expansion just marks the beginning! As you will learn in this newsletter, we will soon move into two further buildings – one neighboring the cathedral and one in the industrial park. We need new office spaces because the number of employees is steadily growing (by now, KU staff excluding lecturers and assistants count nearly 900 people). Finding, preparing and allocating suitable premises is a major challenge for our administration and some of the buildings urgently need refurbishment.

This month’s newsletter will provide you with an overview of upcoming renovation works. My special thanks and appreciation go to our Facility Management team who are currently overseeing, planning and coordinating many projects. In addition, many other offices such as the Procurement Division or our Computer Center take care of equipping all offices and seminar rooms. In view of the large number of projects and relocations, we kindly ask for your understanding that some processes take time – our colleagues are working hard to fulfill all wishes.

I would like to close by wishing you all the best for the lecture-free period.

Kind regards,
Gabriele Gien,
President of the KU

Campus makeover – these parts of the KU will turn into a construction site

Folders containing tender documents, construction drawings and correspondence with architects and authorities are piling up on the desks at the KU Technical Facility Management Department. It’s busy times for Stefan Wenzel, the head of division for all construction and renovation measures. One wall in his office is covered with a giant plan outlining the timeline and individual stages of over a dozen renovation projects – advanced project management skills required! Our newsletter will give you an overview of the locations in Eichstätt and Ingolstadt that will undergo major changes over the following months:

Canteen with new meal counter

The canteen on our Eichstätt campus will be one of the major construction projects. There will be a complete makeover of the meal counter area. The two existing narrow ‘lines’ to the left and right will disappear and be replaced by a new larger open space with several different smaller meal counters where guests can put their desired meals together. The passage to the large dining hall will lead right up to the central checkout area. Construction works in the meal counter area will commence on July 1 and are expected to last until November. During this period, there will be a temporary meal counter in the small dining hall above the cafeteria.

Outdoor terrace for the canteen

The canteen in Eichstätt will be enhanced by another attraction: The dining halls will open onto an

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outdoor terrace built on the roof of the ground floor canteen extension overlooking the Altmühl river. The ground floor extension will provide space for storage and cold storage rooms near the kitchen. The roof of the kitchen building part was unused to date, but old construction drawings reveal that architects had already planned the space as a terrace back then. Now, 30 years after completion of the canteen building, the terrace will finally be added.

The outdoor space will partly be covered by a shading roof. On sunny days, the terrace will be an inviting place to enjoy your lunch break and the view over the river. Next to the terrace, blueprints provide for an external glass elevator which will contribute to furthering accessibility on campus. Construction works for the terrace and elevator will start in March. The project coordinators plan that the terrace will already be available for use this summer.

Main entrance facing fountain courtyard

The main entrance to the Eichstätt campus in the Ostenstraße (by the flagpoles between Sommerresidenz and mailroom building) will undergo a structural redesign in the months to come. One of the main objectives is to make the entrance barrier-free: The steps leading down to the fountain courtyard will be replaced by a long ramp leading from the Ostenstraße right down to the free space in front of the Main Building. The pathway will be framed by new lighting which will also illuminate the flags in the dark. Fifty-eight new bike racks will be installed along the wall facing the street, the fountain courtyard will feature 28 additional bike parking lots which will be partly covered by a roof.

Construction works on this part of campus will start in early April. During the summer semester, the usual entrance will be blocked. Coming from the Ostenstraße, you can access the Main Buildings using the path and stairs on the east side of the mailroom building (Ostenstraße 28a). The small trees along the existing entranceway already had to be removed. Due to poor soil quality, the trees could not root properly – they never grew tall and slowly withered away. Now, the soil will be renewed so that newly planted trees can grow strong and prosper. The new trees to be planted will be Prunus sargentii – the same Japanese cherry tree type which blooms beautifully in our Hofgarten every spring.

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New offices at the Domplatz
In March, the KU will move into a new building in the Eichstätt city center: the Dom-Augusto-Haus between the cathedral square and Pfahlstraße. The stately 17th century building was constructed according to plans designed by Jakob Engel – an architect who also designed many other Baroque buildings in the old town (such as, for example, the Ulmer Hof). In its early days, the provincial governor of the prince bishops resided in this building. Nowadays, the city’s tourist information center is located on the ground floor. The first and second floor were comprehensively refurbished in the last few months and are now rented out to the KU. Amongst others, the International Office will move into the new premises. To date, the office was located at the market square (Marktplatz 7). This building, which used to be a former bank branch office, will in future serve as a central service point for KU students, accommodating the Student Office, Examination Office and Student Advisory Service.

New University location in Sollnau
It is expected that the KU campus will grow by another building in autumn this year: The University will rent a building in the industrial park Sollnau which was previously used by the German Post. Following reconstruction of the building, the University archive, which had to date been accommodated in the confined cellar of the Kapuzinerkloster, will move to Sollnau. Furthermore, the refurbished building will provide office and seminar rooms. It is intended that the building will mainly be used for staff training sessions for University employees or temporary projects and not for regular teaching practice of the degree programs.

Lending desk upgrade
The entrance of the Ingolstadt School of Management library at the KU’s second campus will be refurbished in the course of this semester break. The entrance to the reading room will be equipped with so-called RFID terminals. These will allow users to register books for home lending themselves and also return the books to one of the return stations. The whole non-contact process is automated via RFID chips on the books. The library management hopes to gain a double benefit: The lending process is more convenient for users, and library employees will have more time for offering face-to-face advice.

New carpet for the library
The Main Library will undergo a facelift. The entire carpet flooring on the ground floor and first floor will be replaced – a total of 2100 square meters. It goes without saying that this huge area can only be refurbished bit by bit, not least because changing the flooring also means having to relocate the book inventory several times. The works will start with the first of six sections in this semester break on February 25. The Romance area on the first floor is the first part to be affected. During renovation works, stocks with the signature 66/... can unfortunately not be used in the reading room. However, students can lend these books to read at home from February 7. Renovation of the carpet will be continued in stages and will be completed by summer 2021.

New roof for the Ulmer Hof
In this summer, leaky and broken glass elements in the roof of the Ulmer Hof reading hall will be replaced. Therefore, the reading hall will be closed from mid-August for one month. Books from the Ulmer Hof can be ordered at the lending desk of the Main Library during this period.

Renovation of restrooms
At the Ingolstadt campus, refurbishment of the restrooms continues. In the second construction phase, the toilets on the first, second and third floor of the Main Building will be renovated step by step. The construction works will begin in early February.

Renovation of Eichstätt campus Main Buildings
The KU’s most comprehensive construction works will not commence before 2020. However, the planning procedures for the overall refurbishment of the Main Buildings run at full steam. Recently, the buildings which were designed and constructed by Karljosef Schattner in the 1960s were awarded the status of protected architectural monuments. This means that all existing plans must now be coordinated with the responsible monument protection authorities and partly adjusted, which makes the preparations for the renovation project much more complex. It is envisaged that the first measures for refurbishment will start in 2020.
**New career path for early-career researchers**

“Tenure track” – this term slowly but steadily made its way onto KU agendas in the past few months, particularly in committee meetings. The background behind this term is the University’s decision to establish another academic career path. Last year, the KU was the only non-state university to be given the opportunity of participating in the second approval round of the German joint federal states and government program for early-career researchers. This program is connected to a prestigious and highly competitive nationwide call for applications.

### The tenure track model

With the tenure track model, the KU intends to offer early career researchers who have completed their doctoral degree a further, internationally acknowledged career path in which they can qualify for a permanent professorship and which provides a reliable professional perspective. The core idea of the model aims at combining a fixed-term qualification phase in the context of an early-career professorship with the guarantee for a transition into a permanent professorship. The basis for this continuation process is a quality-assured implementation of and positive outcome to the evaluation procedure.

### What has happened so far?

In order to fulfil the requirements for participation in the call for applications, many departments and offices within the KU have been working hand in hand over the past few months to establish the fundamental structures and prepare for decision-making processes in the different University committees. After this intensive preparation phase, which was organized by the Research Service Center and the vice president for research in close collaboration with the University Management and individual committees, the KU submitted its application for participation in the joint federal states and government program for early-career researchers on January 31.

### What comes next?

If the KU is approved for the program, up to seven additional early-career professors could temporarily reinforce the KU’s research and teaching practice for the term of the program until 2032. The subjects of the seven potential early-career professorships were conceived in line with the overall concept “for a human-centered digital society” with which the KU intends to further distinguish its profile at the interface between the human being, society and digital transformation processes.

### What are the KU’s expectations?

This new internationally acknowledged career path leading to permanent professorships will enhance the KU’s ability to attract young promising researchers to Eichstätt and Ingolstadt and retain their relationships with the KU in future. At the same time, the KU is committed to readjust its promotion of early-career researchers in the years to come.

**New “KU Learning Lab” for international students**

The KU Language Center has established a new center for internationals: The “Learning Lab” offers advice on spoken and written language learning for international students and doctoral candidates. Writing advice is offered with the aim of providing internationals with individual needs-oriented advisory meetings for improving writing processes in their foreign language German. Language learning advice is provided for everyone who would like to work on improving or expanding their language proficiency independently. The “Language Lab” advisors show students how to independently structure their learning processes and offer advice on how efficient learning can succeed. The Learning Lab is located at Ostenstraße 27 in room 001. Drop-in office hours are on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. In Ingolstadt, the Learning Lab is open for interested students on Tuesdays from 1.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. in the Main Building (001). The project is led by Maria Müller-Pulsfuß (learning-lab@ku.de).
KU prepares for system accreditation

For several months now, the KU has been working towards the procedure of system accreditation. The University Management had decided to participate in this form of accreditation of the study offer in July 2018. We would like to give a brief overview of what system accreditation means and how this process is to be implemented at the KU.

What does accreditation mean? An accreditation is a measure of quality assurance for the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programs at universities. Private sector accreditation agencies closely examine the study offer and framework conditions under involvement of experts such as external university lecturers, students of other universities and professionals of the respective fields.

What is a system accreditation? Unlike the usual program accreditation at the KU, which focuses on one individual degree program which is being assessed, the system accreditation examines the whole quality management system of the university (QM system). A positive system accreditation certifies the university that its QM system in the area of studies and teaching is sufficiently equipped for independently ensuring and monitoring that the quality aims and standards of the degree programs are met. This will give the university permission to accredit its degree program itself.

What has happened so far? In the framework of an initial information event, all people involved in the studies and teaching practice at the KU were informed of the system accreditation and the individual steps of the procedure. In an ensuing workshop, participants determined in what way the existing QM system needed to be developed further in order to meet all legal requirements. Working groups were established for the development of the topic areas "mission statement", "reporting system and data management", "ideas" and "structure of the QM system".

What comes next? The working groups are currently drafting ideas for the design of the QM systems. The finished concept will then be presented to the faculty councils, the Senate and the University Council. After the QM system was tested on one degree program, it will be presented to the accreditation agency AQAS. In the end, the accreditation council will decide on the outcome of the system accreditation procedure. The procedure will be concluded in the 2022 summer semester. Following successful system accreditation, the KU will be allowed to award the seal of the accreditation council. Re-accreditation of already accredited degree programs could then be effected internally.

(How) can I get involved? All KU members are invited to contribute their wishes and ideas to the project. Please contact studien_gaenge@ku.de or call +49 8421/93-21045. It is also possible to get involved in the working groups. For further information, please visit www.ku.de/systemakkreditierung

Overview of planned committee meetings at the KU

This is an overview of planned meetings of the university committees. The University Management kindly asks all KU members to bear the dates and cycle of meetings in mind when submitting applications. This is in particular relevant for new applications and amendment requests for degree programs because a large number of committees must be involved in the decision-making process before the course offer can be extended or amended accordingly. Please contact the committees’ responsible offices in due time.

April
4/30/2019 Foundation Council
May
5/8/2019 Senate
5/9/2019 Election body and election of vice presidents
5/9/2019 University Council
5/29/2019 Extended University Management
June
6/19/2019 Senate
6/26/2019 Extended University Management
July
7/1/2019 Foundation Council
7/18/2019 University Council
7/24/2019 Senate
October
10/24/2019 University Council
10/25/2019 University Council and Foundation Council
December
12/3/2019 University Council and Foundation Council
New Master’s degree programs starting next winter semester

The KU extends its study offer by adding two new Master’s degree programs in the 2019/2020 winter semester:

Flight, Migration, Society
The interdisciplinary Master’s degree program in Flight, Migration, Society in its current form is unique in Germany. It combines academic and practical approaches and comprehensively prepares its students for a career in the field of migration and integration work. The program’s focus is both on political and social challenges and on flight and migration studies. It addresses historical and legal approaches and the interdependence of regional and global structures, the roles of different players, economic and socio-cultural processes as well as the change brought about by flight and migration. The program is coordinated by the Center for Flight and Migration.

Taxation
The Master’s degree program in Taxation at the Ingolstadt School of Management approaches the topic of taxation from a multidisciplinary perspective. It combines knowledge from the field of business taxation with insights into finance and the theory of law. Course content includes different tax types, tax effects, tax policy-making and relevant research methodology in this field. Students have the opportunity to specialize within the program by choosing up to two minors. They can choose between “Accounting & Auditing”, “Business Law”, “Digitalization and Digital Business” and “Quantitative Methods”. The degree program has an international design, is taught in English and closely cooperates with international partner universities.

Course on digital media in teaching
Digital media is incorporated in seminars and lectures more and more often. However, learning platforms such as “ilias” are often only used for storing documents without making use of all other possible applications of digital media – such as virtual group work or involvement of webinar technology.

In the context of the University’s continuing education program, a workshop held on May 3, 2019, will give an overview of how digital media can be appropriately applied in the teaching practice. It will present educational basics and possible ways of application, accompanied by practical examples. Furthermore, the workshop will incorporate the learning platform “ilias”, which is used at the KU, into the practical demonstration. The aim is to independently develop initial draft concepts. Participants will learn how students can be inspired with and for digital media and how the tools can be used in the educational practice in a beneficial way. First ideas for a blended learning scenario will be discussed and participants will develop their individual teaching concept. They will be working in small groups to test and reflect on the contents and a discussion round invites attendees to exchange opinions.

The education specialist and psychologist Dr. Sandra Niedermeier will lead the course. She works as an advisor for learning and information architecture at the Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft association and is responsible for the digital learning media section. The practical workshop is held in German (“Digitale Medien in der Lehre nutzen - Didaktische Gestaltung von Blended Learning Formaten”) on Friday, May 3, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the building Ehemalige Orangerie (eO 001). Applications will be possible shortly via the ProfiLehrePlus portal available at www.ku.de/hochschuldidaktik

Internationalization Certificate
The KU is launching a certificate course specifically developed for research support staff to render employees’ foreign language proficiency and intercultural skills fit for internationalization. The “KU FIT” program is an important pillar in the University’s internationalization strategy and forms part of the KU staff development concept. It receives financial support from the Bavarian Ministry of Science.

The certificate is divided into two or three components respectively: Language training (English) – intercultural training – stay abroad. For the KU FIT basic certificate, participants must collect 20 credits in language training and ten credits in intercultural awareness. For the KU FIT plus certificate, participants must add a stay abroad. The courses start in March. The program is coordinated by the International Office (Jessica Hofmacher) For further information, please visit www.ku.de/ku-fit
KU Open Day in May 2019

The KU introduces itself to the general public on the occasion of this year’s open day in May. On Saturday, May 11, the University opens its doors in Eichstätt and Ingolstadt from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for all prospective students and interested citizens. KU members and alumni are also invited to attend the open day in order to get in-depth insight into the KU’s entire offer in teaching, research and transfer.

As in previous years, the program is coordinated by the University’s communication department and Student Advisory Service. All subject areas and disciplines are invited to present their study offer with information booths, short presentations and mock lectures. The coordinators also explicitly welcome contributions by the student initiatives and central facilities. Whoever has ideas for themed tours on campus is also welcome to approach the organization team.

In this year as well, the Science Slam, which is organized by the Research Service Center, will be one of the highlights of the open day. Students and (young) researchers will have the opportunity to present a research topic or project to a mixed audience in only seven minutes in an illustrative and thrilling way. The audience forms the jury and decides on the winner in the end.

Contact
Open Day: carina.tobies@ku.de
Science Slam: forschungsfoerderung@ku.de

Tips & Dates

Research at the KU
In an information event on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 6 p.m., the Research Service Center invites all professors and early-career researchers to get informed on current developments and projects in the field of research. There will also be an exchange on the focus and framework conditions in the KU’s research practice. A detailed invitation will follow.

Long Night of Businesses and the Sciences
After the successful premiere in 2018, the Initiative Regionalmanagement for the Ingolstadt region (IRMA) will host the Long Night of Businesses and the Sciences for the second time on May 24, 2019, starting at 5 p.m. until midnight. This time, the event in which businesses and scientific institutions can present themselves, will not only be held in Ingolstadt but also in Eichstätt. The KU will also participate with a program which is coordinated by the KU.Impact team (lang-nach@ku.de).

Student theater group “Wanderbühne” presents “Die Möwe”
In the following summer semester, the KU “Wanderbühne” group will stage a theater production again. The actors perform “Die Möwe” by Anton Chekov. The premiere is on June 26, 2019, at 8 p.m. – further performances are planned for June 27 and 29 along with special performances for school children.

Summer festival “Hofgartenfest”
This year’s KU summer festival will take place on Thursday, July 11, 2019.

Dies Academicus
The University’s festive day will be held on Tuesday, December 3. The church service will be followed by an official ceremony at the Aula.

Christmas party
The 2019 Christmas party for KU staff will take place in the afternoon of December 11.