Candidates for Jura museum administration introduced

Five applicants for the scientific management of the Eichstätt Jura museum will publicly introduce themselves in presentations held on November 29 at the KU. The candidates will provide an insight into their fields of research and introduce their planned perspectives for the Jura museum. After their presentations, they will be happy to answer the audience’s questions. The round of introductions will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Holzersaal at the Sommerresidenz.

“With the format of a public introduction of the candidates, we continue academic practices that are also followed when appointing new chairs. In addition, the Jura museum is an institution of high public interest. This is why we would like to invite all interested citizens to attend so that they can get a direct impression of the candidates”, says KU President Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien.

The following candidates will introduce themselves: Dr. Patrick Chellouche (Curator of the geo-scientific collections in the Museum am Schölerberg in Osnabrück), PD Dr. Christina Ifrim (Privatdozentin for Palaeontology and Historical Geology at the Ru-

precht Karls University in Heidelberg), Privatdozentin Dr. Evelyn Kustatscher (Research associate and curator for palaeontology at the nature museum in South Tyrol, Bolzano), Prof. Dr. Alexander Nützel (acting director of the Eichstätt Jura museum and head curator at the Bavarian State Collection of Palaeontology and Geology) and Dr. Frederik Spindler (Scientific head of the Dinosaur Museum Altmühlthal, Denkendorf).

The Jura museum in particular exhibits fossils of the so-called Solnhofen Plattenkalke, finely grained limestone that is unearthed in the region’s quarries. The most impressive fossils from the Jurassic era dating back 150 million years include the world’s only specimen of the predatory dinosaur Juravenator and an original of the famous Archaeopteryx, the first bird.

The KU had taken over sponsorship for the museum with effect from July 1. It is expected that the museum will reopen on January 9, 2020.

Invitation to the Dies Academicus

On Tuesday, December 3, 2019, the KU celebrates its academic festive day Dies Academicus. All university employees and students are invited to attend the celebrations in the afternoon and evening. The program starts at 2 p.m. with a service at the Schutzengelkirche that is celebrated by the Eichstätt Bishop Gregor Maria Hanke and the university community. The musical framework of the church service will be provided by a choir and a music group consisting of KU students and staff. The festive ceremony at the Aula starts at 3.30 p.m.; the Bavarian Minister of Science Bernd Sibler is also expected to attend. The ceremonial address will be held by Prof. Dr. Armin Nassehi, LMU, on the topic of “Faith and knowledge. A sociological view of a complex relationship of tension.” Furthermore, the KU will award prizes for outstanding achievements in studies, research and teaching.

In order to enable all members of the KU to take part in the celebrations, there will be no lectures in the afternoon.

The Willibaldsburg overlooking Eichstätt is home to the Jura museum. The institution, which is supported by the KU since July 2019, is currently looking for a new scientific director.

Imprint

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Loos and Kropač remain chairpersons of University Council

In its inaugural meeting on the start of the new term in late October, the KU University Council has confirmed the former chairwoman of the council Barbara Loos, and her deputy Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač in their office for another four-year term. The newly elected chairwomen said she was very happy to be able to continue all the work and projects that were initiated in the preceding term. “The KU’s development during the last few years was very pleasing. But many of the projects cannot be implemented on a short-term basis – they take time. This is why we welcome a certain degree of continuity in the committees and councils”, said Barbara Loos.

The University Council has far-reaching powers: Its members decide on amendments of the Basic Rules and the establishment or discontinuation of degree programs or institutes.

The KU University Council consists of 16 members with voting power. Eight members are elected by the University members from among different groups of employees, another eight members represent different areas of society: science, culture, the economy and the church. For this term, the council has three new external members: Dr. Franz Glatz is director of the Digital Start-up Center of the City of Ingolstadt. Dr. Isabell Lisberg-Haag is director of Trio Service GmbH, a strategic communications consultancy firm in the field of research and higher education policy. Dr. Peter Müller was head of the Bavarian State Ministry of Education and Culture and the State Ministry of Science and the Arts until 2018.

Pechlaner and Lutter lead KU Senate

In its inaugural meeting, the newly composed Senate at the KU has confirmed Prof. Dr. Harald Pechlaner, Chair of Tourism (picture left), as its chairman. Dr. Klaus Lutter, Head of the University Sports Center, was appointed as his deputy. The KU Women and Equal Opportunity Officer, Prof. Dr. Kathrin Schlemmer (Professorship of Musicology) and her deputy Dr. Susanne Schäfer (Head of the KU Language Center) were also confirmed in office.

The KU Senate is composed of ten members and the Women and Equal Opportunity Officer, all of whom have voting power. The elected substitute representatives can act in an advisory capacity. The senators’ term of office is two years or one year for student representatives. Prof. Dr. Harald Pechlaner has held the Chair of Tourism since 2003. In addition, he is head of the Center for Entrepreneurship. He took over the position as chairman of the Senate in 2014, when the then chairwomen of the Senate, Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien, became Interim President of the KU. Since then, he has headed the committee without interruption. Pechlaner is a renowned tourism expert throughout Germany. Since 2018, he is scientific head of the federal competence center for tourism “Kompetenzzentrum Tourismus des Bundes” which was established by order of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

The KU President congratulated Pechlaner on his re-election. “I would like to thank the old and new chairman of the Senate for his great commitment for our University”, said Gabriele Gien.
Deans and Presidium meet to discuss KU development

Not only the University committees start into a new term of office in this winter semester, but also the deans, vice deans and deans of study at the faculties. The following deans have been newly elected: Prof. Dr. Anton Burger (Ingolstadt School of Management), Prof. Dr. Götz Pfander (Faculty of Mathematics and Geography), Prof. Dr. Bernward Schmidt (Faculty of Theology) and Prof. Dr. Frank Wießner (Faculty of Social Work). Prof. Dr. Thomas Hoffmann (Faculty of Languages and Literatures), Prof. Dr. Ute Meier (Faculty of Religious Education), Prof. Dr. Joost van Loon (Faculty of History and Social Sciences) and Prof. Dr. Rainer Wenrich (Faculty of Philosophy and Education) started into their second or third term of office as dean. Together with their vice deans, the deans of the faculties had a two-day meeting with the University Management and representatives of the Senate and University Council in order to discuss current developments at the KU and future projects and challenges. The heads of the departments and divisions of the University Administration provided the deans with information on staff development and financial management. The meeting also offered ample room for personal networking beyond the respective specialist fields. This meeting was the first event that was held in the new KU Conference Center in the Sollnau industrial area. The University Archive also moved to Sollnau and is now located on the first floor of a building which previously served as logistics center of the German Post. On the second floor there are rooms for conferences, workshops and continuing education offers of the KU.

Non-professorial academic staff elects new spokespersons

In its inaugural meeting, the Council of Non-Professorial Academic Staff at the KU elected its new spokespersons: For the first time in many years, the members reached the required quorum at the first attempt. The Council elected Dr. Robert Steinhäuser (1st spokesman) and Christiane Hoth (deputy) for the next two years.

Dr. Steinhäuser (Akademischer Rat auf Zeit at the Chair of Cognitive Psychology) and Ms. Hoth (research associate at the Professorship of Latin American History) want to promote a lively teaching and research culture at the KU in which the non-professorial academic staff fulfills its role as an important part of the university community. The Council of Non-Professorial Academic Staff shall be an open space for discussion about problems and worries and strengthen exchange between both KU locations. The spokespersons’ commitment also includes more systematic involvement of groups such as “external doctoral students”, who formally do not belong to the non-professorial academic staff directly but are very close to it.

The incumbents look forward to a fruitful collaboration within the Council and beyond and with the University Management as well as different departments and facilities at the KU.
Campus license for survey software “Qualtrics”

The KU has purchased a campus license for the software “Qualtrics”. “Qualtrics” is a cloud-based service that was designed particularly for empirical research projects.

In the past few years, the software has developed into one of the leading programs for online surveys and it fulfills the methodological requirements of high-profile academic journals. More than 2000 universities worldwide use the software, among them also many of the KU’s research partners in Germany and abroad. Using a uniform software facilitates collaboration in joint research projects within a chair’s research team, but also in interdisciplinary contexts and in collaborations with other institutions.

Purchase of the license is based on a joint initiative of the professors Dr. Katja Gelbrich, Dr. Elisabeth Kals and Dr. Max Götttsche which was also supported by several chair holders at WFI, PPF and GGF. The software can be used very intuitively, which means that also those who have not worked with “Qualtrics” before or only have very limited experience can create online surveys quickly and easily. No programming skills are required. The software offers more than 100 types of questions and predefined survey templates that can be selected in the Qualtrics Survey Tool and integrated into the own survey by using an easy drag and drop function. All users have access to training videos and a customer support team that is available 24/7. “Qualtrics” also allows users to implement complex research designs: Questions can be randomized, users can integrate filters or timers, can embed video and audio files and participants can be allocated to different experimental groups randomly. Advanced users can expand the wide variety of standard settings by integrating additional JavaScript or HTML modifications. Participants in the surveys can be invited directly via the program. Data collection is implemented reliably and smoothly. The collected data can be exported in many different formats or can be analyzed directly online. The campus license “Qualtrics” can be accessed via your internet browser. There is no need to install the program on your PC.

The newly acquired university license is available for an unlimited number of surveys and data sets and will be available for use from December 2019. It can be used for academic purposes by all KU employees and students.

Historian Sabine Ullmann elected to DFG review board

Prof. Dr. Sabine Ullmann, Professorship of Comparative Regional History and Early Modern History at the KU, has been elected to the history review board of the German Research Foundation (DFG) in the 2019 elections.

Approximately 150,000 researchers and scientists were entitled to vote for the new members of the 49 DFG review boards for the 2020-2023 term between October 21 and November 18, 2019. Overall, around 53,300 eligible voters cast their vote.

The review boards at the DFG evaluate funding applications for different research projects. They ensure that uniform standards are adhered to during the review process. Furthermore, they give advice regarding the further development and design of DFG funding programs. This means that these review boards are an important pillar in the system of academic self-government when it comes to allocation of grant funds by the DFG. The members of the review boards are elected by researchers for a four-year term. Depending on the specialization in their academic work, they will be responsible for one particular subject area. According to the preliminary election results, Prof. Dr. Sabine Ullmann, who has been a lecturer at the KU since 2006, will be one of the 12 members on the review board 102 for history.
New magazine on research projects

Just in time for the Dies Academicius, the KU will publish a new magazine: „forum Forschung“ focuses on research projects of KU scientists and researchers. With its 68 pages, the magazine is not intended as a directory of all ongoing projects but rather introduces a selection of research activities to the reader. It covers projects both by experienced scientists and early career researchers. Every edition focuses on another interdisciplinary thematic focus. The first issue deals with “emotions”. For example, the magazine outlines how KU psychologists carry out basic research on the relationship of emotion and cognition and how emotions are measured in the brain. “forum Forschung” was designed by the University’s Communications Department and will be distributed and displayed on Campus from December 3.

WFI celebrates 30th anniversary

On its Dies Oeconomicus, the Ingolstadt School of Management (WFI) has celebrated its 30th anniversary. The KU faculty in Ingolstadt opened its doors in November 1989 with 80 students and eight chairs – today, the WFI has 1000 students and 22 chairs. “The WFI is committed to a special responsibility, in particular in view of its specialization in business and economics and the role it takes in today’s times”, says KU President Gien. The combination of an interdisciplinary and international perspective with the Catholic profile provided for “wonderful dynamics”. Prof. Dr. Peter-Felix Tropschuh, chairman of the WFI-Förderkreis, encouraged the Ingolstadt School of Management to reinforce its symbiosis business administration, digitalization, ethics and psychology.

“We as citizens of Ingolstadt are so proud of this faculty”, emphasized Ingolstadt mayor Albert Wittmann. In his speech, he touched upon the historical development of the city as a university location. The first Bavarian university, which was founded in Ingolstadt in 1472, was relocated to Landshut in the year 1800. It was only 200 years later that the founding fathers of the WFI laid the foundation for “Ingolstadt’s second bloom as a university and science location”. By integrating required courses on business and corporate ethics, the WFI was able to stand out from the very beginning by simultaneously preserving the KU’s Catholic educational tradition.

New online portal for KU staff training offer

Since summer 2019, the KU has its own training platform for employees. The seminar offer of the Department of HR Development and Staff Training as well as the program for promotion of young researchers initiated by the Research Service Center can be found under: https://weiterbildung.ku.de The ILIAS platform is constantly developed further and also other facilities, such as the International Office, want to promote their offer via this portal in future. The offer can be accessed both via a list of seminars or in a more targeted approach by using the search interface.

There are still available places in one of the seminars: ‘Examination Law for Professors and Members of the Boards of Examiners’ held on February 12, 2020. You can register for the seminar via the new staff training portal. In addition, the Department of HR Development and Staff Training also offers an English course for professors that will be held on January 23 (3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) and January 24 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.). If you would like to register for this course, please contact jennifer.dobschenzki@ku.de.
Broaden your horizon with the ‘Studium.Pro’ offer

In the winter semester, the ‘Studium. Pro’ program will start with its new, extended offer. Students have the possibility to learn about the ethics of digital communication (e.g. fake news), fundamental questions on medical ethics and its limits, fundamental political issues and how these are dealt with in series in the age of Netflix; a lecture series will deal with topics on Latin America. This offer underlines the aim of Studium.Pro: Students (and lecturers) are encouraged to think outside the box and look beyond their own subject area. From an interdisciplinary perspective, they approach important social issues and enhance their individual profiles.

Just like for any other module, students can register for the Studium.Pro modules on KU.Campus.

There are several degree programs that have integrated the Studium.Pro offer in their examination regulations - among them the new Master’s degree programs in ‘Taxation’ and ‘Flight, Migration, Society’.

In the medium term, Studium.Pro will be implemented in all KU degree programs as an obligatory component. In this respect, the University has already come a long way: 18 degree programs have already firmly embedded the program in their curricula or agreed on its implementation. The module offer in all faculties is also continuously broadened. Currently, students in Eichstätt and Ingolstadt can choose from 25 different modules in the fields of Pro Discourse, Pro Horizons and Pro Society. These modules have a flexible teaching format: Within the Studium.Pro offer, students benefit from blended learning formats, online courses, lectures, entire lecture series, seminars or project courses. The offered modules are partly integrated into individual subject areas or have an interdisciplinary character, or they were specifically developed for the Studium.Pro program. The sub-categories of Pro Career and Pro International offer a broad spectrum of modules which, whilst they cannot be credited to the students’ course of studies, impart valuable key skills or prepare students for a semester abroad.

The covered range of topics is deliberately kept open and without content-related limitations. Also the organization of the modules is designed flexibly: Provided that there is a thematic correlation, also several professors may take over responsibility for the module together. The Studium.Pro managing board, which consists of Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač, Prof. Dr. Klaus Meier and Prof. Dr. Susanne Jochner-Oette, cordially invites all degree program coordinators, KU members and students to get in touch in case of questions. You can also contact the program coordinator Dr. Michael Winklmann:

michael.winklmann@ku.de.

More detailed information and the entire semester program is available at www.ku.de/studierende/studiumpro.

Winter semester highlights

Pro Discourse: The lecture series K’Universale (Mondays, 6:15 p.m.) approaches the topic ‘body’ and opens up an exiting discussion on “Body Creativity” with 13 renowned speakers. Their contributions discuss body images and body politics from a historical, social and cultural perspective and also involve gender issues and the topic area around power relations. Speakers will also include topics such as dance, fashion, prosthetics and reproductive medicine.

Pro Horizons: This section offers a new module on fundamental questions in medical ethics and its limits held by Dr. med. Andreas Sarropoulos (senior physician at the hospital in Ingolstadt).

Pro Society: In the project seminar “Changemaker”, students develop a project outline for the formation of a social enterprise.
KU anniversary: save the dates

In 2020, the KU will celebrate its 40th anniversary. The program for the festive year is slowly starting to take shape. Please make sure to pencil in the most important dates: Open Day on April 25, big Anniversary Hofgartenfest on July 9, Alumni Day on July 10 and Dies Academicus on November 25. A more detailed list of dates will follow shortly.

University Teaching Day on January 15

The 40th KU anniversary in 2020 means taking a look back, taking a look ahead and taking a pause to reflect in a time of transition. With this motif, the anniversary year offers the perfect opportunity for the University Teaching Day on January 15. It deals with the topic of transition and transformation of teaching and learning spaces. All teaching staff at the KU is invited to attend: Professors, non-professorial academic staff and contract lecturers. Participants can look forward to interesting contributions of renowned experts: Prof. Dr. Simone Kauffeld from the Institute of Psychology (TU Braunschweig) will open the event with her keynote on new approaches to teaching and learning. Prof. Dr. Chad Hoggan from North Carolina State University will hold the workshop “Transitions and Transformations of Learners at Universities”. In addition to specialist input, there will be presentations on novel teaching concepts developed by the KU Teaching Lab and participants will have the possibility to exchange opinions on good teaching at the KU and how it can be developed further. Please register for the event by Jan 7, 2020, to ida.graf@ku.de.

New Alumni and Fundraising officer

Since October 1, Dr. Olaf Jelinski is the new head of Alumni and Fundraising at the KU. His tasks include the development of a strategy for alumni and fundraising management, and operational structuring and implementation of central alumni and fundraising activities at the KU. In addition to existing alumni associations on degree program and faculty level, also interdisciplinary offers for KU graduates shall be expanded. Furthermore, Olaf Jelinski is responsible for maintaining and tending to the KU network and relationships to sponsors and institutions that provide financial support. Olaf Jelinski holds a doctoral degree in political science. In addition, he also studied communication science and economics in Greifswald, Sweden and Finland. For many years, he has worked in communications, marketing and sponsoring departments in the aerospace industry as well as in federal and state authorities. He lives in Eichstätt with his family.

Staff change in HR department

On September 1, Karin Kundinger started her position in Department I/2: HR Services for university lecturers and academic staff in the KU’s HR department. She will be responsible for all questions and issues regarding research staff at the KU, which includes professors and lecturers as well as Akademische Räte and research associates. Karin Kundinger has been an employee at the KU since October 1989 already: She started off in the field of HR in the University administration and was later employed in the division for third-party funding matters. For the last 19 years, Karin Kundinger then worked in the Foundation administration. Now, she transferred back to a position in the University administration. She looks back on a wealth of experience gathered in different positions at the KU and the Foundation and is looking forward to new and interesting tasks.
Pictures for presentations and written assignments

All KU students and employees will have continued access to the picture data base Colourbox free of charge also in future. In order to gain access, you have to register at www.colourbox.de/education using your KU e-mail address and the code 2408805208647. You can then download photos and pictures for presentations or written assignments. However, this subscription does not include publication of the pictures in print or online material. If you are a member of the KU and would like to publish Colourbox photos, for example on a website of the KU, please contact the Department of Communication and Marketing.

Funding for the Kapuzinergarten

KU students have been cultivating the Kapuzinergarten, which is also home to the KU bees, near the Ostenstraße in Eichstätt since 2010. Now, a student group has obtained funding for their projects with the support of “Mensch in Bewegung”: The Federal Environment Ministry will support the “Eichstätt climate garden” for two years in the context of a climate protection program. A project officer’s position was created with the intention to expand on educational work. Hannah Lachmann, graduate of the Master’s program in Education for Sustainable Development (BNE) will be employed as project manager and will plan different events and workshops. It is envisaged to make the garden accessible for the general public.

Theater flat rate for KU students

Also in this winter semester, KU students are invited to visit performances of the Stadttheater Ingolstadt for free. All students receive free entrance upon presentation of their KU.Card – subject to availability of vacant places – to all performances of the Stadttheater in the Großes Haus, the Freilichttheater (open air) and the Kleines Haus. The following performances are excluded from the offer: New Year’s Eve, premieres, guest performances and special performances.

Tickets can be ordered at the earliest three days before the respective show. Please collect the tickets at the box office at the latest thirty minutes before the performance starts – otherwise your reserved tickets will be made available for open sale. Tickets may not be passed on to third parties who are not KU students. Please present your KU.Card upon request. In order to be able to reserve tickets, you have to complete a one-time registration using an online contact form that is available here: https://theater.ingolstadt.de/karten-abos/studenten.

Please state your customer number allocated to you upon registration when collecting the tickets.

This theater flat rate for KU students was initiated by the Student Representatives Council and is financed by tuition fee compensation.

Tips for garbage separation at the KU

The KU has already come a long way in connection with its sustainability commitment. It is the first and to date only university in Germany that bears the EMAS-Plus certificate. The topic area of sustainability also includes garbage avoidance and conscientious garbage separation. To this end, the responsible sustainability officers at the KU and the Facility Management have now developed a new concept for increasing the recycling rate at the KU even further.

Amongst others, the concept provides for an expansion of garbage separation systems in the corridors further in order to shorten the distances to garbage stations. In future, there will only be paper waste bins in the employees’ offices. Residual waste and packaging for the yellow bag must be disposed of in the separation systems in the corridors. For organic waste, there will be corresponding separation systems in the kitchens. Employees who want to keep a waste bin for residual waste in their office should mark it accordingly and empty it regularly themselves.

This measure will be implemented step by step. The KU website provides a German-language overview of and additional information regarding the garbage management system at the KU: www.ku.de/fileadmin/19081101/intern/Abfallentsorgung_Rev1.pdf.