

Dear students of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering,

Over two weeks of extremely intensive preparation are behind us. We have worked on such comprehensive online concepts that we can say with a broad grin - of the 666 courses to be offered in mechanical engineering this summer semester, only 4 are cancelled.

And that means: **On Monday we will start the biggest field test in online teaching ever!**

There is no question that this will be exciting. And it goes without saying that we will certainly have to make adjustments in some places during the first few days. Nevertheless: For exercises, rooms have been set up in the matrix, streaming attempts have been made (and have worked super well), lecture videos have been prepared and made available in the Opal, PowerPoint lectures with sound have been recorded - a huge box full of possibilities has been created, which offers us - even if any idea doesn't work out quite as we thought - alternatives and backups.

At the same time, teachers in mechanical engineering and beyond have established close networks throughout TU Dresden, exchanging ideas and sharing experiences. Quite honestly: This is a really good feeling in these difficult times!

Yesterday I sat together with the representatives of the FSR for a long time (virtually of course ;-)) and we intensively searched for possible problems and discussed solutions. Just one example: The question, what happens if you can't follow a live stream because of a bad online connection? The answer: We will try to record all online streams and thus make them available for nightly downloads, i.e. at times when the traffic on the net decreases a bit.

Furthermore, if you have questions or concerns about the whole situation with regard to the teaching in these weeks, please send them to [kummerkasten-mw@tu-dresden.de](mailto:kummerkasten-mw@tu-dresden.de) and use your TUD mail address without exception (in contrast to the normal use of the Kummerkasten). And of course I would also be interested in the next week: What are your experiences with the first events that have been run. Did it work, what was good and where was it a little bit tricky...

We will continue to prepare everything in such a way that you get a decent semester! And who knows - maybe in a few years we will find out that it was a very strange semester, but maybe it was one of the very special ones, which will be especially - and I hope positively - remembered...

Stay healthy!

Stefan Odenbach

P.S.: At the moment there is such a false report on the net that the semester would be postponed after all. Simply wrong! You can also read about it here <https://www.kmk.org/presse/pressearchiv/mitteilung/kmk-sommersemester-2020-findet-statt.html> and here <https://tu-dresden.de/tu-dresden/gesundheitsmanagement/information-regarding-covid-19-coronavirus-sars-cov-2/tud-corona-ticker>. See you on Monday (with me personally only on Tuesday) online in Mechanical Engineering!