Dear students of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering,

first of all, I would like to wish you all a good, healthy and hopefully soon more relaxed year. We will certainly have to struggle for many more weeks with the pandemic, with its effects on everyday life, but also on our everyday university life, and especially with "teaching without a lecture hall". Nevertheless, we as a faculty want to use all the means at our disposal to ensure that both the current winter semester and the coming summer semester can run successfully for you.

We are currently pretty close to the end of the winter semester and thus shortly before the examination period. At the moment, I cannot predict exactly how this will proceed - we are currently waiting for information from the university management with the specifications on the subject of attendance examinations. As soon as it is known what exams are feasible and in what form, we will inform you accordingly.

We hope that face-to-face examinations will also be possible, at least to a limited extent - with appropriate hygiene concepts, as we have extensive experience from the summer semester - because by far not all examinations can be moved into the digital space. But digital examination formats will also be used extensively, and at this point I would like to point out again that you should definitely take part in the test examinations that are offered. Digital exams are different in their implementation and you have to get used to the technology first!

In order to be able to take the exams at all - as you know - you first have to register for the exams. Mrs. Herzog-Schaudick already sent out an email at the beginning of the week, from which I would just like to point out the most important points:

- **Exam enrolment is still open for all until 24.01.21!**
- Please remember to also register for the exams for the subjects from the catalogue modules!
- There are still some problems with the catalogue modules because we have not yet received all the examination numbers from the central office. If any of the exams in the catalogue modules are not yet in the system, please check again at the end of next week. Everything should be there then.
- If an exam does not make it into the system in the end - use the registration form (and of course send it digitally to the examination office!).

Dresden, 8. Januar 2021
• Important for the 5th semester - you can only enrol in the modules of the specialisation if you have registered for the specialisation (https://tud.link/ty3k).
• Since an extremely large number of applications (specialisation, PO change, grade returns,...) were received during the shutdown, it will take some time until everything is processed. Please be patient and do not ask the Examinations Office (this only slows down the process).
• The current transition to the purely digital world naturally also applies to the Examinations Office. Therefore, please send applications etc. only by e-mail!
• The statement - everything digital - naturally also applies to the submission of theses and supporting documents. Here we have already returned to the concept we had in the hard lockdown in spring: You upload your thesis to OwnCloud at https://cloudstore.zih.tu-dresden.de/ (access with your ZIH login) and send the link to the thesis to your examiner in the examination office (for theses!) and the supervising university lecturer by the deadline. You then submit the print version as soon as there are copy shops again... Please keep this procedure in this form until we announce a different procedure here!
• There are some exceptions to the purely digital world in teaching - especially for practical exercises, but also for other courses that simply require presence. Please be sure to follow the instructions in the Opal courses! And always remember that participation is only permitted with mouth-nose covering!
• The Mechanical Engineering Learning Room has been active again since yesterday at https://matrix.tu-dresden.de/#/room/#Maschinenwesen-Lernraum-MW:tu-dresden.de - an important tool for preparing for the exam period!

So much for today, I wish you a good start into the last weeks of the semester.
Stay healthy!

Stefan Odenbach