Dear students of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering,

actually, I didn't want to write this email until the evening, and mainly to say thank you because the emails - with very few exceptions - worked really well, and also to wish everyone a good start to the summer semester. But - first things happen differently and secondly than you think 😊.

If you drove into university this morning in the driving snow, you already had a bit of trouble getting into the mood for the summer semester. But it gets a lot worse than the little bit of snow made you fear.

A few minutes ago, I received a determination from the Prorector for Education in which **all attendance events** (except for those that require attendance due to the nature of the acquisition of competences, i.e. internships etc.) are prohibited at least until Whitsun.

I admit that this is a serious setback, but nevertheless (and even though I myself am sitting at my desk right now with the corners of my mouth hanging down): **Don't lose heart**, stay on the ball in this third digital semester in your studies! We in the faculty will do everything we can to offer you the full programme, even if it will be another semester with at least partial “teaching without a lecture hall”! Take advantage of it!

Please inform yourself in the Opal courses about the way the events will now take place - although this will not be written everywhere already, because the teachers have also only known about this change for a few minutes.

So much for now,

stay healthy and
stay on the ball!

Stefan Odenbach

Dresden, 12. April 2021