

Dear students of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering,

today I would like to begin with an important request that concerns all of us significantly. So, even though this is a bit longer: please read it! At the moment, the final secondary school examinations (“Abiturprüfungen”) are taking place (or have already largely finished), and for those currently completing their Abitur, the phase of searching for the right degree program and the right place to study is also coming to an end, while enrolment is beginning. This is an extremely important topic for our faculty, because **declining student numbers** have also led to a decrease in our teaching capacity utilization. And, of course, the number of professorships a faculty requires is directly linked to that teaching capacity utilization. And if one considers that we will have to refill many professorships in the coming years while, at the same time, budget cuts are necessary... I think there is no need to elaborate further – the only thing that can really help us is **increasing enrolment numbers!** And this does not only concern us as lecturers, but also you as current students and, eventually, graduates of our faculty. At present, people “out there” in HR departments know that if you come from our faculty, you have been educated to become a top engineer. If the number of our graduates decreases (which, naturally, follows with some delay when enrolment numbers go down), the visibility and standing of the faculty will also decline, which may eventually affect hiring decisions in an increasingly competitive job market.

And at this point, there is really only one thing that helps: promotion! We are already doing a lot, but you could support us enormously! Students often tell me that a particular lecture or course was excellent. That is nice for us and certainly boosts morale, but it would be much more important if you shared that experience publicly. Use every opportunity you have: social media channels, promotion in schools – wherever possible – to spread such messages. If you post about a course or event you enjoyed, that has more impact than many of the things we as faculty can do ourselves. If your networks learn how exciting it is to study Mechanical Engineering at TUD, that is the best advertisement we could possibly get (and if there are things that are not going well, please tell me directly – that has the greater impact in that context 😊).

More specifically, the faculty launched a **TikTok channel** just a few hours ago, which you can find at <https://bit.ly/technikverliebt>. A lot is supposed to happen there over the next few days. If you would like to support us there: like, follow, comment! And you can also help us create content – we can provide the technical equipment for that.

If you would like to promote our programs at schools – and I know many of you already do – you can obtain the relevant materials from Mr. Sotero (sebastian.sotero@tu-dresden.de) or order them via <https://tud.link/nu1aaf> and pick them up at the SCS in the Förster Building.

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the DRESDEN-concept alliance.

If we all pull together, we really can make a difference, and even a 10% increase compared to recent years would already be a major success.

And now to the other important topics:

- The **examination dates** have been published online – currently still without room assignments and times – at <https://tud.link/gagksd> and are updated regularly.
- The **examination period** itself will run from Monday, 27 July, to Saturday, 22 August 2026.
- Most importantly, please keep the **registration deadlines** in mind, especially because the first registration phase will end in just a few days:
- **Phase 1: Monday, 18 May, to Monday, 2 June 2026** for:
 - Project assignment “Machine Elements” in MW-MB-14,
 - Coursework “Machines and Technologies for Textile Constructions” (computer-based comprehension test) in MW-MaTM-09,
 - Project assignment “Research Management in the Textile Industry” in MW-MaTM-12, as well as
 - Coursework “Numerical Methods in Fluid and Structural Mechanics” (short test) in MW-MB-LRT-05,
 - Project assignment and written examination “Conveying Technology” in MW-MB-AKM-25,
 - Written examination “General Microbiology” in MW-VNT-46.
- **Phase 2: Monday, 22 June, to Friday, 3 July 2026** for the **language examinations** themselves directly “with TUDIAS”, and extended for all language examinations within the various module contexts of the curriculum (MW-MB-07 / MW-VNT-04 / MW-WW-03; MW-MB-15, MW-VNT-18 or MW-WW-24) as an additionally required second registration until Monday, 13 July 2026 (registration information for languages: <https://tud.link/64hju8>).
- **Phase 3: Monday, 29 June, to Monday, 13 July 2026** for all examination components except those listed above.

As I already announced earlier, we will be receiving a **new** (and genuinely better) **examination and study regulation**, and I would like to provide information on that as well. The **information sessions** are currently planned for July 15, 2026 and October 14, 2026, both at 4:40 p.m. The location will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. One important point at this stage, simply because there are some strange rumours circulating: We are introducing new study and examination regulations for the Bachelor’s and Diplom degree programmes, and next year we will also be adding several Master’s programmes. However, this does not mean that anyone currently studying for a Diplom degree under the current regulations will no longer be able to continue doing so in the future! Students will simply continue their studies under the new Diplom regulations. The Master’s programmes will run in parallel.

That leaves me only with the traditional summer semester reminder:

- The raffle for passenger seats at the **15th TUD Campus Classics** on 13 June 2026 is currently underway. Registration for the raffle is available via the Campus Classics homepage at https://bit.ly/TUD-CC_Beifahrer.

That is all for today — I wish you a hopefully sunny weekend!

Yours

Stefan Odenbach