



**Der Rektor** 

Dear colleagues,

Dear students,

At the end of the fifth week of our emergency operations mode, I would like to invite you to take a brief look back - and also to look ahead to the resumption of limited on-site teaching activities that will commence on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

On 6<sup>th</sup> April, our TU Dresden started with **virtual lectures**. With enormous commitment and dedication, thousands of people at TUD have converted more than 80 per cent of the teaching programmes into online formats, within a very short period of time. The technology also passed this stress test. This is a truly gargantuan task and, in comparison, the occasional technical issues are fairly minor after three weeks of operation. Nonetheless, we are constantly working on improvements.

I would like to express my gratitude to all who made this possible, and also to you as students who are so willing to engage in this unprecedented mode! Once again, I would like to assure all students that we will ensure fair and flexible study conditions as well as an examinability for all graded study task in this exceptional situation. Unusual times, require unusual measures.

A survey by the Vice-Rector for Academic and International Affairs addressed to all students and lecturers who have received the link to the survey by separate mail is running until 3<sup>rd</sup> May. We are asking for an active participation so that we can get a representative overview of where things are going well and where we still need to improve.

Since 20<sup>th</sup> April, we have been able to resume **limited laboratory-based research**, including the necessary operation of the associated workshops. You could find the details in the <u>circular letter</u> of the Vice-Rector for Research (https://tu-dresden.de/tu-dresden/gesundheitsmanagement/ressourcen/dateien/corona/rundmails/20200414\_Rundmail\_Wiederaufnahme-laborbasierte-Forschung\_de.pdf?lang=en).

On 4<sup>th</sup> May, a next step will follow: We want to resume limited on-site teaching activities (i.e. teaching events that require students ´physical attendance such as lab classes), but only in those cases where it is indispensable. Thus we will switch from the current emergency mode to a **restricted operation mode**. "Restricted" is the decisive term. We are still a long way from a form of normality, and I would to ask you all to bear this in mind in your personal behaviour. The details on teaching have already been communicated in the <u>circular letter of the Vice-Rector for</u> Academic and International Affairs (https://tu-dresden.de/tu-

dresden/gesundheitsmanagement/ressourcen/dateien/corona/tud-dokumente-intern/2020-04-21\_Uebergang\_Praesenzlehre\_EN\_TUD.pdf?lang=en).

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Kein Zugang für elektronisch signierte sowie verschlüsselte elektronische Dokumente.

**Guiding principles for all TUD regulations for teaching and research** (and thus also the supporting processes) are the stipulations of the Federal Government and the Free State of Saxony, such as the Saxon Corona Ordinance: <u>https://www.coronavirus.sachsen.de/download/SMS-SaechsCoronaSchVO-2020-04-</u>17.pdf

Numerous questions are linked to the above-mentioned steps, for which the University Executive Board, in coordination with the Crisis Management Team, has developed a <u>concept of</u> <u>measures</u> (<u>https://tu-dresden.de/tu-</u>

<u>dresden/gesundheitsmanagement/ressourcen/dateien/corona/tud-dokumente-intern/200423</u>-<u>Massnahmenkonzept\_DE\_final.pdf/at\_download/file</u> ) valid from 4<sup>th</sup> May that was sent it to the heads of the structural units by email on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

The **FAQs** on that website will be updated based on these recommendations for the phase starting on 4<sup>th</sup> May. There, you will always find the latest answers to frequently asked questions. As soon as the government agencies issue new regulations, we must adapt our own rules and procedures accordingly.

Please refer to the **information published** on TUD's <u>corona site</u> (<u>https://tu-dresden.de/corona</u>) and also to the comprehensive <u>information on teaching and studying during the</u> **pandemic** (<u>https://tu-dresden.de/studium/im-studium/coronavirus</u>). Only after carefully reading the above sites, contact the Corona hotline (<u>corona@tu-dresden.de</u>) or other service units such as the SCS if you cannot find an answer to your specific question on these pages. You are still obliged to check your email (TUD inbox) and the Corona homepage (<u>https://tu-dresden.de/corona</u>) twice a day.

On behalf of the University Executive Board, I would like to thank you all for your prudence, flexibility, and commitment in these challenging times! As difficult as it is for us to study and work, week after week, in this time-consuming and sometimes nerve-wrecking mode - please continue to observe the current regulations and hygiene instructions. Please use the small liberties and free spaces that have now been created with care, consideration, and a sense of responsibility.

I would like to wish you a relaxing - or if this is not possible - an efficient and effective weekend, lots of energy and most importantly – please stay healthy.

Best regards, Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. DEng/Auckland Hans Müller-Steinhagen Rector Technische Universität Dresden Mommsenstraße 11 01069 Dresden

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Für den Inhalt ist der Autor verantwortlich.

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Zielgruppe: alle Mitarbeiter/innen und alle Studierenden der TU Dresden