

Dear academic staff, dear colleagues,

As a supplement to my email of 1 April, I can now share with you this additional information:

The Bavarian state minister of science and the arts announced today that the summer semester lecture period will be scheduled as follows:

The lecture period for the 2020 summer semester will begin on 20 April 2020. The end of the lecture period at Bavarian universities will be pushed back until 7 August 2020.

This means that a degree of **flexibility** has been built into the lecture period, but this **does not mean that the lecture period will be extended by two weeks for each course**. However, those of you who are not in a position to provide the necessary online course formats in the first or second week of the semester can extend your courses by one or two weeks as required.

This semester's lecture period can only begin on 20 April through the implementation of web-supported teaching. Many subject areas have already put a great deal of effort into compiling various approaches and solutions to this challenge. There is also a range of collaborative offers of assistance that are being collected and made available by the deans of studies. On behalf of the university board of management, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for both.

We are aware that there are three particular areas that urgently require coordination between the federal government and the states - and presumably even changes to legal regulations:

- copyright issues as they pertain to instructors
- students and the Federal Training and Education Assistance Act (BAFöG) and
- research assistants and the laws pertaining to temporary academic employment (*Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz - WissZeitVG*).

We have communicated these concerns at the political level and will continue to represent the interests of our university's member groups.

I am very pleased to share with you state minister Bernd Sibler's words of gratitude:

„My sincere thanks go to you and also to the ongoing, intensive preparations being made. I am very much aware that the universities have been working for some time, at all levels and at full speed, to adapt to these unique - now established - parameters. The rapid development of comprehensive alternative teaching concepts with special attention to online teaching is a tremendous feat that I by no means take for granted.“

Take good care of yourselves and each other.

Best regards,

Godehard Ruppert