

Dear university members,

from today on our university building is finally open again for individual artistic lessons: Students and teachers can meet again directly and not only via Zoom or Skype. This is a major step on the long way back to normal. However, our “new normality” still takes place under restrictions of infection protection. State law continues to apply, and unfortunately it’s still a long way from the free university life of the pre-Corona period.

Principles for returning to classroom instruction

In order to make face-to-face classes possible under the given conditions, we have agreed on the following principles:

- Individual classes will only take place in main artistic subjects.
- The principle of mutual voluntariness applies: teachers and students both have to agree.
- Teaching follows a fixed schedule (so that, in case of a new infection, we definitely know who was in contact with whom).
- Teachers and students register when they enter the building. Students show their student ID.
- Mouth and nose protection is worn in the hallways.
- After class, you will leave the building. Unfortunately, it is still not the social meeting point and gathering area from before.
- The administration corridors are taboo and should not be entered. The employees can be reached by phone or email.

Corona crisis relief fund

Aid applications were decided for the second time last week. In addition to the private donations of € 16,321, with which students and lecturers are supported, € 8,800 in emergency aid from the Ministry of Education, which is particularly intended for international students in need, was also awarded in this round. Many thanks to all donors! Special thanks also go to Stephan Imorde as the initiator and organizer of this aid campaign, as well as Dagmar Gatz, Yvonne Wasserloos, Marit Fiedler, Deborah Seele and Fabian Zühlke, who are involved in processing and deciding.

Problems with hmt mails

In the past weeks there have been blatant problems with the hmt mails. We all know the problem and we are all annoyed by it! Especially in times when we cannot even agree on the floor radio, we have to be sure that our mails arrive reliably and find their addressees. At the end of the winter semester, we had already decided to run the hmt-mails on the server of the University of Rostock in the future. The preparatory discussions have taken place, the technical transfer to the server of the university alone is not so easy to accomplish. We kindly ask you to be patient: we will push for a quick implementation on the basis of the latest problems.

Online Teaching Survey

The online teaching survey that has taken place in the past two weeks has ended. A total of 331 teachers from four universities are involved (in addition to Rostock, the Berlin

University of the Arts and the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music as well as the Hamburg University of Music and Drama). From our university 125 members of the teaching staff completed the survey. First results will be available later this week and will be published on the website. We are also planning to ask students about their experiences with online teaching in June and hope for an equally high level of participation.

When will there be concerts and theatre projects at the hmt again?

In order to soon have public stage life with concerts and theatre projects in the Katharinensaal, the stage staff is developing a concept of how performers and audiences can meet again in live performances under the conditions of infection control. To do this, however, it is necessary to limit the audience significantly. Therefore, all future events in the Katharinensaal will also be broadcast online as a live stream on the Internet.

Hybrid solutions also for large courses in the winter semester

We are also aiming for hybrid solutions of this type (as a mixed form of presence and online offer) in the coming winter semester for larger classes with more than 15 participants. The lecturer meets with some of the students in the university building, while the rest of the students follow the course at home in an online stream. In the following week, those present change so that everyone can enjoy classroom teaching over the semester.

Additional concert and performance opportunities in the summer weeks

The city of Rostock is planning additional cultural events in public space for the summer weeks ahead. It is the idea of the mayor Claus Ruhe Madsen to build small open-air stages instead of the cancelled major events (such as the Hanse Sail and the Warnemünder Woche) in order to bring cultural life back to the city. We have already agreed to participate with our university and are waiting for creative ideas from you. If you are staying in Rostock over the summer and would like to perform, please contact Marc Letzig as Vice-Rector for artistic projects (Marc.Letzig@hmt-rostock.de).

Warm greetings to everyone and see you soon in the hmt

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oliver Krämer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Oliver" on the top line and "Krämer" on the bottom line.

Prof. Dr. Oliver Krämer
Acting Rector