

Würzburg, 9 June 2020

MOBILITY in the Context of ERASMUS+ and with Faculty and University Partners

Dear Partners,

We hope that all of you are in good health and coping with the unprecedented situation that the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has placed us all in. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the current position of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Würzburg on mobility of students and staff, with respect to both ERASMUS+ and our partnerships.

Like most of you we also find ourselves currently in the difficult position of having had to cancel all mobility for the summer semester of 2020. We have now received a number of requests from some of you and your students as to the coming winter semester of 2020/2021.

The situation at Würzburg Faculty of Medicine is as follows:

Until further notice, all face-to-face teaching has been cancelled, and where practicable replaced by online teaching and/or pre-recorded video lecture series. A very small number of courses offered as practical teaching are available to students adhering to the strict government guidelines and laws on hygiene and safety with respect to SARS-COV-2/COVID-19, so long as these courses do not involve any patient contact. Practical clinical rotations with workplace-based training are currently only available to students preparing for their final examinations in Würzburg and as a total exception to the current ruling. All other students, regardless of their nationalities and where they are currently matriculated, seeking to participate in such practical clinical rotations and placements are currently unable to do so. Examinations take place in person. While travel restrictions within the EU are expected to be lifted at least to a certain extent, be aware that at present and until further notice, a compulsory period of 14 days' quarantine is in force for all non-EU citizens entering EU states.

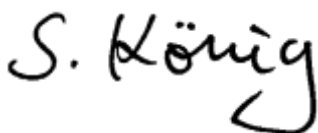
Our current and future position is determined by the laws and regulations of the State Government of Bavaria with respect to the pandemic, which in turn are based on the recommendations and legal requirements of the Federal Government in Berlin. They may change at short notice, and particularly if a second wave of CoViD-19 infections occurs in the autumn or winter of this year.

We therefore ask for your understanding that we are currently unable to provide specific information as to our teaching and mobility situation for the winter semester of 2020/2021 and beyond. The decision lies with your students as to whether they wish to come to Würzburg under these conditions, assuming that the legal requirements of our local and federal governments are fulfilled. Thus, while we are happy to receive nominations for the coming winter semester and beyond, we cannot guarantee at this point in time that your nominated students will ultimately be able to take up their studies at the University of Würzburg and if they can in which way. Please allow us to remind you that we probably can only offer online teaching and no practical workplace-based training. Examinations will however take place in person and not online. Students coming to Würzburg will also need to take into account any necessary quarantine period (currently 14 days). They will also need to have evidence of their immunization status with regard to measles and make an appointment with the hospital occupational medicine department (Betriebsarzt), as well as be prepared to undergo viral testing, including SARS-CoV-2.

Please be assured that we will inform you as soon as any change to the current regulations occurs. We do not expect this before the end of the summer semester and thus not before August 2020. Until then, we strongly recommend that your students and staff be cautious to engage financially in planning mobility.

For the time being and as an alternative, we are probing into the possibility of virtual exchanges as well as selected offers of virtual teaching to students unable to participate in mobility and will get in touch with you with suggestions soon.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and patience and wish that you all remain in good health.



Prof. Dr. Sarah König
Dean of Student Affairs



Prof. Dr. Jürgen Deckert
Vice Dean for Internationalization