Digital contact tracing and 3G rules – Employees-list-mail from Prof. Andreas Musil, 18 October 2021

Dear Sir or Madam, dear students, dear colleagues,

After we had to inform you on September 30 that contact tracing had to be suspended at Brandenburg’s higher education institutions until further notice, it has been reinstated since October 13 in the Third Ordinance on the Handling of SARS-CoV-2 (SARS-CoV-2 UmgV). For this purpose, the University of Potsdam now utilizes QRoniton, a digital tool for collecting contact data. All lecture and seminar halls as well as our libraries are now equipped with QR codes. All attendees (teaching staff, students, and other participants) must check in when they enter a room. The following steps are required to check in:

1. Scan QR code or access QRoniton: https://uni-potsdam.qroniton.eu
2. Log in as UP member or guest
3. Scan QR code of the room
4. Enter the duration of your stay and confirm your 3G status (vaccinated, recovered, tested).

Detailed documentation is available on the UP websites on QRoniton. You can find further usage scenarios there (e.g. check-in without smartphone) as well as information on data processing. In addition, I would also like to remind you of the central UP website on the coronavirus, where you can find the updated FAQs on studies and teaching for the winter semester 2021/22 as well as other current information.

As the current incidence rate is still above 35, participants in courses at universities and teaching staff are still required to carry test certificates, which are valid for three consecutive teaching days, or proof of vaccination or recovery (3G status) (Section 25 (2) in conjunction with Section 6 of the Thirs SARS-CoV-2 UmgV). Coronavirus self-testing with a signed confirmation (preferred template) of the negative test result can also serve as proof of your test status. As mentioned above, you can confirm that you carry documentation of your 3G status as part of the contact tracing procedure. Additionally, there will be random spot checks before and after courses and in libraries.

Another note on videoconferencing tools: We were able to renew the campus license for Zoom with due regard to data protection laws. Information on Zoom and alternative conference services of the DFN Association is available on the UP website on web meetings. Other tools (e.g. Jitsi, Discord, Microsoft Teams, or Cisco Webex) may not be used in the context of teaching and for the purpose of official communication at the UP, because they do not meet the requirements of our data protection laws.

As always, it is important to me to remind you of the upcoming vaccination dates at UP locations. I am glad that we were able to clarify that those who received a vaccine other than the ones authorized in the EU can also use these vaccination offers for over-vaccination. The prerequisite for this is at least a 28-day interval between the last vaccination and the new one as well as clarification of any other general framework conditions with the medical personnel carrying out the vaccination.
I wish you a successful start to the new semester, which will certainly require a great deal of commitment and flexibility from all of us again. At the same time, our efforts will surely be worth the while as we will finally be able to meet face-to-face again, bringing us a great deal closer to the ideal of what a university should be.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Andreas Musil
Vice President for Teaching and Studies