Update: Coronavirus regulations for employees – Employees-list-mail from Karsten Gerlof, 22 March 2022

Dear employees of the university,

On March 20, 2022, the amended version of the Corona Occupational Health and Safety Ordinance ("Corona-Arbeitsschutzverordnung") of the Federal Ministry of Labor (BMAS) came into effect. With this, the so-called "home office requirement" will end. Furthermore, the 3G principle (vaccinated, recovered, tested) for the workplace and the obligation to carry out the corresponding checks have been removed from the Infection Protection Act. You can, however, still make use of the testing facilities directly on the university campus. We would also like to appeal to those who have not yet been fully vaccinated to take up an offer of vaccination.

For the summer semester, the university aims to have **as high a percentage of face-to-face classes as possible**. In some cases, the higher student attendance on campus, starting at the latest at the beginning of the instructional period after Easter, will also require university employees to be present on campus to a greater extent. The pandemic is not over, however, and the university, as an employer, must take the necessary steps to reduce personal contacts that occur for operational reasons. The **option to work from home** will therefore continue to exist, especially for office work or comparable activities, but it will have to be re-evaluated in some cases with regard to the renewed need for on-site presence. Your supervisors will adjust the respective home office concepts accordingly, if necessary. The home office regulations agreed with the staff councils will continue to apply (for academic staff members see <u>Guidelines on Remote Work</u>, for employees in administrative and technical services see <u>Home Office Key Issues</u>).

The **Hygiene Concept** of the university will also continue to apply and is binding for everyone. Its latest version is available on the <u>COVID-19</u> info pages of the <u>UP</u>. The Hygiene Concept is to ensure safe university operations during the pandemic. However, this will only succeed with the help of all of you. Please follow all of the rules laid out in the concept as far as they pertain to your work environment. Essential key points such as the minimum distance and contact reductions must also be observed during work breaks and when moving about in order to keep the risk of infection to a minimum.

Brandenburg's new Ordinance on SARS-COV-2 Infection Protection Measures, which will apply up to and including April 2, 2022, will not initially lead to any significant changes for university operations. For example, the mask mandate for indoor areas of the university and the 3G principle (vaccinated, recovered, tested) for courses and examinations remain in place. The provision that persons employed in university teaching are entitled to emergency care for their children when daycare facilities are closed due to Covid also remains. The local public youth welfare agency must ensure this as a matter of priority.

You will receive further information in early April and also as it becomes available on the UP's COVID-19 info pages, in the category Information for employees.

Kind regards, Karsten Gerlof