Dear students of the Faculty of Chemistry and Biochemistry,

What is the situation regarding the preparations for the summer semester? At the moment we are preparing online teaching material for the upcoming lectures, at least for the first few weeks. We want to ensure that it will be a productive summer semester and that you have the opportunity to earn sufficient credit points.

How you will get the teaching material? Either via Moodle or SciBo, this will be announced in due time.

When will we be able to gradually return to normal teaching activities on site? We do not know at present. The Rectorate cannot give a binding answer to this question, even if there is some cause for optimism.

Special attention will be paid to the larger practicals of the Bachelor’s degree. These will not be possible without taking advantage of the lecture-free time; for preparative practicals, corresponding block courses are planned anyway.

Research practicals and also Bachelor theses depend on when research can be restarted. Low-contact models have been proposed by the faculty and are waiting to be approved.

You as a student also face a particular challenge at this time, starting with disciplined self-study at home, perhaps initiating creative learning groups via Skype or Zoom. Perhaps it would also advisable to tackle one or the other lecture from a higher semester in order to achieve your 30 credit points, in the event that a practical does in fact need to be cancelled for the time being.

The 2nd semester chemistry students can of course take the “Introduction to Biochemistry” from the 4th semester, perhaps also the “Basics of Technical Chemistry”. “Statistical thermodynamics” from the 6th semester is also an option; you don’t have to have heard “Macroscopic Thermodynamics” first. For corresponding lectures in the Biochemistry course, which you can start earlier than planned, please consult the Biochemistry course guidance.

Good luck and do not let the circumstances get you down,

Gerald Dyker
Dean of Studies Chemistry/Biochemistry