

14 April 2021

### **A ray of hope – decisions will be communicated before the weekend**

Dear students, lecturers and colleagues,

Today, for the first time in a long time, we can look to the future with a ray of hope. Thanks to good protective measures as well as the successful testing and vaccination strategy of the past weeks, the Federal Council has announced various further relaxations. Restaurant terraces, cinemas or fitness centres will be reopened to a limited extent, cultural events will be permitted again and universities will be allowed to return to face-to-face teaching under certain conditions.

I am relieved and notice that a feeling of anticipation is spreading through me. But at the same time we realise that we must continue to be very careful and observe the protective measures. As a university of applied sciences, we want to meet the needs of our stakeholders and employees as best we can and protect their health. However, ensuring the success of our studies is also of great importance.

### **Complex decisions are made before the weekend**

Due to the latest regulations, we are confronted with various issues. In order to create the best conditions for everyone to successfully complete the semester and to offer the greatest possible planning security, we want to make the decisions that are now pending carefully. We will do this over the next two days within the framework of the measures that have already been determined and communicated.

The university management will decide on the next steps this Friday, 16 April 2021. We will communicate what effects the latest regulations will have on our UAS following this university management meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your patience. I can understand if the latest Federal Council decisions raise hopes – they do the same for me. Let us pave the way for a careful and gradual return to a new everyday life at the UAS with prudent decisions.

Warmest regards and stay healthy

Yours, Jürg Kessler

Head of Crisis Management, President