

10 July 2020

## Review and outlook

Dear students, Dear colleagues,

Before the summer break I would like to take the opportunity to contact you personally once again. I am pleased that we have all mastered the last few weeks well without friction. Hopefully a calmer time will come now.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all of you, students, lecturers and staff, for your exemplary mastery of the crisis. You have all contributed to making the 'virtual UAS Grisons' practically seamlessly functional. I would like to thank the students for accepting the challenges of the 'virtual UAS Grisons' and thus contributing to the successful completion of the spring semester. Initial technical or didactic difficulties were also mastered thanks to your feedback and support. I would also like to thank the lecturers, assistant lecturers and employees for their dedication to shifting from classroom to distance learning. I would also like to thank all employees who helped us to achieve very good registration figures for the autumn.

We were largely able to achieve our primary goal of ensuring the health of all members of the UAS Grisons. Government Councillor Dr. Jon Domenic Parolini also thanked the educational institutions in the canton in a letter: 'Thanks to your exceptional and outstanding commitment, we were able to overcome the crisis together. For this, you deserve my recognition and a big thank you'. I am impressed by what has been achieved. We managed the switch to the 'virtual UAS Grisons' without any loss of time. What is important now is that we can take this momentum, this drive, with us into the autumn semester. The results of the surveys on distance learning and personal communications from students are predominantly positive. We have also received many tips from which we can learn and which we can take with us for the future. Thanks also to all those who took the time to fill out the surveys.

Now it is a matter of creating security for the future. We want to clarify all open questions regarding the continuation of the study programmes as quickly as possible. At the end of next week, students, lecturers and staff will receive detailed information on how to continue in the autumn semester as well as on the key points for the repeat exams.

As the current infection figures show, the crisis is not over yet. Hygiene and protective measures continue to be crucial. Contact tracing must also be ensured in every case. I would like to remind you that the buildings of the UAS Grisons will remain closed until 31 August 2020. There are exceptions for students who can enter the premises on behalf of lecturers. Employees are granted access to the building by arrangement with their superiors.

The health of all members of the university remains the top priority. Let us take care of ourselves and each other. The measures adopted by the federal government and the cantons are to be implemented both at the UAS Grisons and privately. The summer holidays that lie ahead are different from what we are used to. Those in which we will be much more concerned. We have to find a balance between safety and well-being. The important thing is to find out how we can best relax. Because the past few extraordinary months have demanded a lot from us. If you are planning summer holidays abroad, remember that some countries are classified as risk countries and a 10-day guarantine is required upon your return.

With this in mind, I wish you a wonderful summer. Have a good rest, recharge your batteries and come back healthy. I look forward to continuing our journey together in hopefully less uncertain times.

Best regards,

Your Jürg Kessler
President and head of crisis management FORWARD

