

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

University of Tübingen





Dear Reader,

I am pleased to present the University of Tübingen's annual report for the first time since I became University President in October 2022. It showcases our many activities in research and teaching, our international ties and organization. Much of the contents of this report, as well as the underlying successes, were initiated and developed by my predecessor, Professor Dr. Bernd Engler. So this report also reflects his initiatives to a large extent and once again underscores his wide-ranging achievements in his 16 years at the helm of the University.

My first months as President were characterized by the many conversations I had with researchers, students and members of the administration, with members of the elected bodies as well as many people who support and promote the University of Tübingen in society, politics and business.

At the same time, all the University's important decision-making processes have continued uninterrupted. For the President of a highly respected research university with connections around the world, there is no grace period and only a very short time in which to become

familiar with the relevant processes and to find answers to the challenges ahead. The rapidly rising costs (not only) in the energy sector, the sustainable and climate-friendly development of the University of Tübingen, and the launch of the next round of the German government's Excellence Strategy are just a few outstanding examples.

Essential to my understanding of the office of President is the conviction that the University can only thrive if many people contribute to its success – both those who fill the University with life every day, as well as those who follow and support it from the outside. For this reason, both internal and external communication is very important to me. We have already laid the foundations for increased communication. Further steps will follow in 2023, not only with an eye to the current members of our University, but also with regard to former researchers and alumni as well as the large circle of our friends.

I hope you enjoy reading this annual report

Professor Dr. Karla Pollmann, President

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2022 IN FIGURES



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28,366
students enrolled

— including

>> page 51

4,165
international students

>> page 61

4,649
degrees completed

— including

>> page 61

63 %
degrees completed by women

3

Clusters of Excellence

>> page 10

7,932
employees

>> page 62

770.1
million euros overall budget
including

>> page 62

300,1 (39%)
million euros third-party funding

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31
ERC Grants

>> page 21



RESEARCH

EXPLORING NEW FIELDS

The University of Tübingen's Excellence Strategy seeks to further expand research with great potential and to open up new fields of study at interdisciplinary interfaces. New centers for research in digital education, science communication, cognitive science, and in biomedical informatics, bear witness to these efforts. The long-term funding of existing centers in the fields of artificial intelligence and of neuroscience, namely the Tübingen AI Center and the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research, also contributes to the University's attractive research landscape.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

As one of Germany's Universities of Excellence, the University of Tübingen receives special funding for further development in terms of strategic projects, personnel and structure from 2019 to October 2026. Success in the German government's Excellence Strategy funding line was made possible by the establishment in 2018 of three successful clusters of excellence in the fields of machine learning, microbiology and infection research, and oncology, immunology and imaging. This makes approximately 14 million euros of additional excellence funding available to the University overall each year to the end of 2025, plus proportional funding for ten months of 2026.

This funding enabled the University to set up an emergency fund for Ukrainian researchers in March 2022 in response to the war in Ukraine. Initially, it supported 17 people on the Research@Tübingen program. By the end of the year, the number of Ukrainian researchers sponsored via various sources had risen to 36.

Excellence funding continued to be put to good use in 2022; new research groups and professorships were established in strategically important areas such as archaeology, religious studies, geosciences, history, clinical research, and plant biology. The researchers involved bring new topics to the University's core research areas and support emerging cluster

initiatives with a strong potential for success in the next round of the Excellence Strategy.

In terms of internationalization, the College of Fellows – launched in 2021 – has become established as an interdisciplinary forum for networking activities among international visiting scholars. The New Horizons Fellowship, which brings innovative international scholars to Tübingen, hosted Professor of Comparative Theology and Hermeneutics of Interreligious Dialogue Marianne Moyaert from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam at the Tübingen Campus of Theologies, Professor Nicola Suthor from Yale University at the Institute of Art History, and in Medicine, welcomed Professor Mikhail



Shapiro from the California Institute of Technology at the Werner Siemens Imaging Center.

The University's international network and visibility are also boosted in the long term by funding formats such as the Teach@Tübingen and Research@Tübingen scholarship programs, which bring in international perspectives; as well as by Seed Corn Funds and the activities of the Tübingen Research Alumni Center (TRACe). Furthermore, the Global Awareness Education program for students uses hybrid project-based learning, giving students the opportunity to acquire intercultural competence and problem-solving skills for the environmental and social challenges of our time.

College of Fellows hosts first international scholars

The College of Fellows at the University of Tübingen had its official opening in April 2022. The College offers international visiting scholars a forum for academic exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration in Tübingen. It is an independent research institution led by Dr. Niels Weidtmann and receives Excellence Strategy funding as part of the University's internationalization strategy.

The College of Fellows is open to all international guest researchers who have completed a doctorate and are staying at the University of Tübingen. One event format is the thematic focus group, in which the fellows work with Tübingen researchers on academic and social questions and discuss them with a larger audience. 2022's summer lecture "The multiple births of naturalism" by the French anthropologist Professor Philippe Descola – part of a focus group workshop – met with great interest. The CIN Dialogue, organized in collaboration with the Center for Integrative Neuroscience, was also well received. It featured a conversation between Eva Illouz, Professor of Sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and neuroscientist Professor Larry Young from Emory University in Atlanta, USA, on the subject of "Love in Culture and the Brain."

SUCCESS IN THE RANKINGS

In the **Times Higher Education** (THE) World University Rankings 2023, the University of Tübingen was placed 86th in comparison with the world's best universities. Tübingen was ranked 91st in the "Research" section. THE surveys 1,799 universities in 104 countries for the rankings, which were published in October 2022. Among the 51 universities surveyed in Germany, Tübingen took fifth place alongside the Humboldt University in Berlin.

In the THE World University Rankings 2023 by subject, Education at the University of Tübingen leaped from 76th place in the previous year to 43rd place worldwide and took first place in Germany. The Life Sciences in Tübingen moved up five places to no. 57 worldwide and no. 5 in Germany. The Humanities took 29th place worldwide and third place among German universities.

In the **German ranking of the best universities for startups**, the University of Tübingen took third place in 2022, behind RWTH Aachen University and the Technical University of Berlin. This reflects the University's support for potential startups and commitment to technology transfer.

NEW CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

New Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry pools medical and informatics expertise

The Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Science jointly founded the Interfaculty Institute for Biomedical Informatics (IBMI), inaugurated at the end of June 2022. There is currently great potential for interdisciplinary research at the interface between bioinformatics and medical informatics.

Informatics has fundamentally changed research in the life sciences in recent decades. With advancing digitization and the ever-growing use of artificial intelligence, the entire field is facing new, fundamental challenges and opportunities. The new institution brings together competencies in

informatics, life sciences and medicine that have grown over many years. At IBMI, researchers deal with the entire spectrum of issues ranging from basic biological research to the transfer of research findings into clinical practice. IBMI's director is bioinformatician Professor Oliver Kohlbacher.

Research into education with electronic media in schools

Forms of teaching with digital media are increasingly used in schools and are set to enable promising innovations. The Tübingen Center for Digital Education, inaugurated in July 2022, steps up research into the potential innovations and their transfer into practice. The director of the new center is education researcher Professor Andreas Lachner. The center will receive a total of 1.35 million euros funding from the Stuttgart-based Vector Foundation over five years.

The center will test how digital technology can be used efficiently in the classroom. In biology classes, for example, the functioning of the human cardiovascular system can be demonstrated virtually on film. Predator-prey relationships in the animal kingdom can be examined virtually over time.

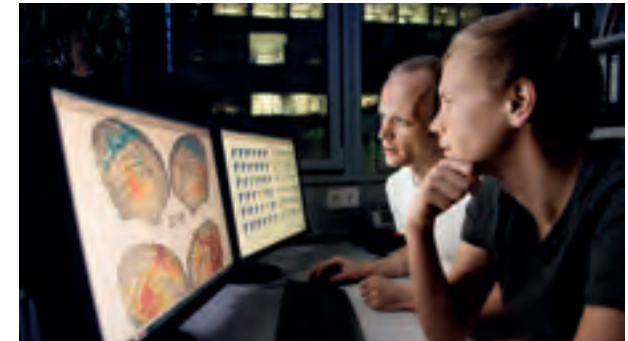
Lessons are thus expanded to include experiences that students could not get in reality. Teachers can use tablet-based tests to quickly check a student's progress. A critical approach to media can also be learned at school, making it clear to students where there are dangers when using social media and dealing with large amounts of data. The center will work with partner schools to transfer new findings into practice.

The center's partners include the Tübingen School of Education, the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media in Tübingen, the Hector Research Institute of Education Sciences and Psychology, the Dr. Eberle Center for Digital Competence, the LEAD Graduate School and the Department of Informatics at the University of Tübingen.





Living science: an event in the "Science Notes" series



Top right: all humans develop cognitive abilities. Yet the processes still provide many puzzles for science.

Communicating complex knowledge

Universities are increasingly required not only to conduct excellent research – they also need to communicate it effectively. In this context, science communication itself has become a focus of research. The University of Tübingen responded to this development in November 2022 by establishing a Center for Science Communication. Its director is Olaf Kramer, Professor of Rhetoric and Knowledge Communication at the Institute of Rhetoric.

The need for successful science communication is evident in the case of highly complex topics such as artificial intelligence and climate change. It was highlighted above all by the Coronavirus pandemic, in which society was split by the tension between political decisions and inherently contextu-

al scientific findings. Moreover, scientific news is now communicated via an increasing number of channels. The new interdisciplinary center will tackle a broad range of issues in this new field of research, analyzing informational paths and effects. Researchers from the fields of rhetoric, education, informatics, cognitive and media sciences, and psychology will collaborate. The center's cooperation partners include the University's Institute of Media Studies and the Hector Research Institute of Education Sciences and Psychology, as well as the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media (IWM).

Integrating Cognition Science expertise

The Cognitive Science Center (CSC) was opened in July 2022. It brings together the University's expertise in psychology, computer science, linguistics, neurobiology, neuroscience and philosophy. The center will coordinate research and teaching in the cognitive sciences, which examine how we learn, direct our attention, behave, interact with others, and understand the world. The researchers therefore study both human and animal behavior, and develop models and artificial systems to replicate such behavior. The Cognitive Science Center combines non-biological and biological sciences, the humanities and artificial intelligence, philosophy and physics, along with natural intelligence and machine learning. It is headed by Dr. Verena Seibold, with Professor Martin V. Butz, Professor Bettina Rolke and Dr. Gregor Hardiess as co-directors.

BUILDING ON SOLID FOUNDATIONS

State backs Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research

The Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research (HIH) at the University of Tübingen will receive permanent funding of two million euros per year from the state of Baden-Württemberg from 2022 onwards. The guarantee of the state funding and the further support of the non-profit Hertie Foundation will allow the institute to implement its plans to further develop its neuromedical research structures.

Founded in 2001, the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research was brought to life by an agreement between the Hertie Foundation, the State of Baden-Württemberg, the

University of Tübingen and its Medical Faculty, and the University Hospitals. The institute is headed by neurologist Professor Thomas Gasser. Together with the Neurological University Hospital, HIH forms the Center for Neurology. This structural link enables scientific findings to be rapidly and safely transferred into clinical practice so that patients can benefit directly from research.

In the future, the center will focus even more closely on developing strategies for the early detection and prevention of neurological diseases, as well as on rehabilitation. This will

include systems-based neuro-medicine and targeted, personalized medicine. The institute will also push ahead with digitization and the integration of machine learning and artificial intelligence methods.



The Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research building in Tübingen

Tübingen AI Center to get federal and state funding

The Tübingen AI Center is to receive institutional funding of nearly 20 million euros annually from Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the state of Baden-Württemberg as of July 2022. The Tübingen AI Center is a University institution which cooperates with the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems. The co-directors are Professor Matthias Bethge from the University of Tübingen and Professor Bernhard Schölkopf from the Max Planck Institute. The Tübingen AI Center is one of five federally-funded artificial intelligence competence centers in Germany.

The German government established the centers in 2018. Together with the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), the five AI centers are to establish a European and internationally competitive research network that will sustainably strengthen Germany as a location for research, teaching and technology transfer.

Under the motto "Machine Learning in the World," the Tübingen researchers pursue a wide range of issues, from new methods for machine learning and causal inference to the integration of intelligent systems into the broader socio-technological environment. The Tübingen AI Center pays close attention to the social implications of the increasing use of artificial intelligence, especially in research. The center is also committed to providing targeted support and attractive positions for early-career researchers.



Experimental model plants are raised in the greenhouses of the Center for Plant Molecular Biology.

TWO NEW TRANSREGIONAL COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTERS

The German Research Foundation (DFG) sponsors large interdisciplinary research programs at universities. These collaborative research centers are designed to run for up to twelve years. This enables researchers to work on demanding, complex, and long-term projects while contributing academically and structurally to the development of universities. In a conventional collaborative research center, one university pools its expertise in several fields.

Transregional collaborative research centers are jointly run and backed by two or three universities. This enables close cooperation between both the institutions and their researchers, as well as the sharing of resources. The University of Tübingen is participating in two new transregional collaborative research centers as of 2022.

Investigating the mechanisms of plant-microbe interaction

Microorganisms can play various roles when infecting plants; sometimes the infection leads to a symbiosis which benefits the plant by improving its supply of nutrients, while other infections can damage or even kill plants. In the new transregional collaborative research center, **Genetic Diversity Shaping Biotic Interactions of Plants**, biologists are investigating the molecular mechanisms that influence both beneficial and harmful plant-microbe interactions. The speaker is Professor Martin Parniske of LMU Munich. The co-speakers are Professor Rosa Lozano-Durán, Professor Eric Kemen, and Professor Thorsten Nürnberger, all from the Center for Plant Molecular Biology at the University of Tübingen. The Technical University of Munich is also a partner in the network, which will initially receive 12.2 million euros over four years.

The aim is to improve plant health in the long term with the help of new genetic resources, processes and tools. The research strategy envisions a new approach in which the natural genetic variation of organisms will serve as a source for useful discoveries and for describing the molecular mechanisms behind plant infection control. The researchers aim to explore genetic variants of both plants and microbes that can be used to improve symbioses or in a targeted defense against pathogens.

Doing the maths on many-particle quantum systems

Researchers in the new transregional collaborative research center **Mathematics of Many-Particle Quantum Systems and their Collective Phenomena** are investigating the mathematical foundations and regularities of many-particle quantum systems. The focus is on the mathematical analysis of models from condensed matter physics, in which the collective behavior of interacting particles leads to various observable phenomena. The speaker is Professor Christian Hainzl of the Mathematical Institute at the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich, and the co-speaker is Professor Stefan Teufel from the Department of Mathematics at the University of Tübingen. The network will receive 8.3 million euros in funding for an initial period of four years.

Although the mathematics of quantum models are well understood at the microscopic level, mathematical analysis reaches its limits at the macroscopic level – where collective phenomena such as magnetism and superconductivity are involved. The collaborative research network is seeking to better understand important correlations in the respective solid-state systems, thus improving numerical algorithms. The Institute of Science and Technology Austria (Klosterneuburg) is an external member in the network, and the Universities of Copenhagen and Zurich are associated members.

Collaborative research centers at the University of Tübingen

Title	Spokesperson	Duration
Different Aesthetics (SFB 1391)	Professor Dr. Annette Gerok-Reiter German Language and Literature	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2023
Robust Vision – Inference Principles and Neural Mechanisms (SFB 1233)	Professor Dr. Matthias Bethge Werner Reichardt Center for Integrative Neuroscience/Institute of Theoretical Physics	1 Jan. 2017 - 31 Dec. 2024
Molecular Coding of Specificity in Plant Processes (SFB 1101)	Professor Dr. Klaus Harter Center for Plant Molecular Biology	1 April 2014 - 31 Dec. 2025
ResourceCultures: Socio-cultural Dynamics in the Treatment of Resources (SFB 1070)	Professor Dr. Martin Bartelheim Institute of Prehistory and Medieval Archaeology	1 Oct. 2013 - 30 June 2025
Threatened Orders (SFB 923)	Professor Dr. Mischa Meier Institute of Ancient History	1 July 2011 - 30 June 2023

Tübingen participates in these transregional collaborative research centers

Title	Spokesperson	Duration
ANTIBIOTIC CellMAP – Cellular Mechanisms of Antibiotic Action and Production (SFB/TRR 261)	Professor Dr. Heike Brötz-Oesterhelt Interfaculty Institute of Microbiology and Infection Medicine	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2023
	Tübingen spokesperson	
Genetic Diversity Shaping Biotic Interactions of Plants (PlantMicrobe) (Transregio 356)	Professor Dr. Rosa Lozano-Durán, Professor Dr. Eric Kemen and Professor Dr. Thorsten Nürnberger Center for Plant Molecular Biology	1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2026
Mathematics of Many-Body Quantum Systems and Their Collective Phenomena (Transregio 352)	Professor Dr. Stefan Teufel Department of Mathematics	1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2026
Platelets – Molecular, cellular and systemic functions in health and disease (Transregio 240)	Professor Dr. Meinrad Gawaz Internal Medicine III, Cardiology	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2023
Liver Cancer – New Mechanistic and Therapeutic Concepts in a Solid Tumor Model (Transregio 209)	Professor Dr. Nisar Malek Internal Medicine I	1 July 2017 - 30 June 2022
The Skin as a Sensor and Effector Organ Orchestrating Local and Systemic Immune Responses (Transregio 156)	Professor Dr. Martin Röcken Department of Dermatology	1 July 2015 - 30 June 2023

DFG RESEARCH UNITS AND CENTERS OF ADVANCED STUDY

Several researchers working together on a common task may obtain DFG funding as a research unit, a clinical research unit, or a center of advanced study, depending on the disciplines involved. These units are funded for a period of usually eight years, and their innovative approaches often help to establish new methods and fields of study. 2022 saw the launch of two new DFG-sponsored research units in Tübingen.

After a waking phase the brain has vast amounts of information to process. Researchers are investigating which information gets stored long-term and the mechanisms involved.



Information processing during sleep

Sleep may look like a state of rest, but in fact, our brains are busy processing information while we sleep. In humans and in other animals, so much information is absorbed during waking hours that we need sleep time to sort and store it. In the new research unit **Information Abstraction During Sleep**, Tübingen researchers are investigating how memories are processed during sleep. Their findings may make it possible to find ways of improving sleep and its functions. With the internet and electronic devices, people are exposed to an ever-greater flood of information – more than we can process, let alone store. Professor Jan Born and his research team work on the assumption that sleep serves to reduce large amounts of information to its core content and to store it long-term as abstracted content. The researchers aim to find out which information is selected for storage in long-term memory and which mechanisms are involved in the abstraction process.

The research unit will initially receive funding of 6.75 million euros over four years. It is led by Professor Jan Born from the Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Neurobiology. The unit works closely with the Center for Integrative Neuroscience, the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research and the Tübingen University Hospitals' Child and Adolescent Psychiatry section.

Collective phenomena in quantum systems

The new research unit, **Long-range interacting Quantum Spin Systems out of Equilibrium: Experiment, Theory and Mathematics**, will investigate the unusual properties of quantum systems in which particles interact over long distances. The project focuses on basic research, yet opens up new applications in sensor and measurement technologies. The University of Tübingen scientists from the fields of theoretical physics, experimental physics, and mathematics are working with a colleague from the Institute of Electronic Structure and Lasers in Heraklion, Greece. Professor Igor Lesanovsky from the Institute of Theoretical Physics is heading the unit, which will receive initial funding of around four million euros over four years.

Quantum systems with long-range interactions exhibit extraordinary properties. Particles can exert forces on each other over long distances and thus tend to display collective behavior. Atomic gases can be used to create such systems at ultracold temperatures in the laboratory, enabling unique possibilities to generate and exploit novel quantum phenomena. The collaborating researchers expect to develop new approaches and methods that will advance the understanding of strongly correlated quantum matter. The research group builds on the Center for Quantum Science at the University of Tübingen's Department of Physics and provides a platform for interdisciplinary research for both advanced students and early-career researchers.

Tübingen research units

Institute	Title	Spokesperson
Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Neurobiology	Information Abstraction During Sleep (FOR 5434)	Professor Dr. Jan Born
Institute for Theoretical Physics	Long-range interacting Quantum Spin Systems out of Equilibrium: Experiment, Theory and Mathematics (FOR 5413)	Professor Dr. Igor Lesanovsky
Protestant Theology, Practical Theology	De/Sacralisation of Texts (FOR 2828)	Professor Dr. Birgit Weyel
Faculty of Catholic Theology, Medieval and Modern Church History	Being Catholic in West German society Semantics, Practices, and Emotions in West German Society 1965-1989/90 (FOR 2973)	Professor Dr. Andreas Holzem
Interfaculty Institute of Microbiology and Infection Medicine	The Autotrophy-Heterotrophy Switch in Cyanobacteria: Coherent Decision-Making at Multiple Regulatory Layers (FOR 2816)	Professor Dr. Karl Forchhammer
School of Business and Economics	Understanding the Behavior of Multinational Corporations in the Context of International Tax Institutions (FOR 2738)	Professor Dr. Georg Wamser
Department of Psychology	Modal and Amodal Cognition: Functions and Interactions (FOR 2718)	Professor Dr. Barbara Kaup
Center of Neurology and Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research	Epileptogenesis of Genetic Epilepsies (FOR 2715)	Professor Dr. Holger Lerche
Institute of Ancient History	Migration and Mobility in Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages (FOR 2496)	Professor Dr. Steffen Patzold
Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry	VIROCARB: Glycans Controlling Non-Enveloped Virus Infections (FOR 2327)	Professor Dr. Thilo Stehle
Translational Gastrointestinal Oncology	Targeting Therapeutic Windows in Essential Cellular Processes for Tumor Therapy (FOR 2314)	Professor Dr. Lars Zender
Senckenberg Center for Human Evolution and Palaeoenvironment and Institute of Linguistics	Words, Bones, Genes, Tools: Tracking Linguistic, Cultural and Biological Trajectories of the Human Past (FOR 2237)	Professor Dr. Katerina Harvati Professor Dr. Gerhard Jäger

EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL FUNDING

European Research Council grants are made to individual researchers conducting outstanding new academic work at various stages of their careers. Top independent researchers can obtain Advanced Grants of up to 2.5 million euros; Consolidator Grants of up to two million go to those with seven to twelve years of experience, and Starting Grants of up to a maximum of 1.5 million are awarded to outstanding early-career researchers. These grants are made over five years on the basis of excellent project ideas and an outstanding academic track record.

For the ERC's Synergy Grant funding format, two to four groups from different disciplines and locations combine forces for a joint project that can only be realized in a collaborative effort. They receive funding of up to 14 million euros for a maximum of six years.

At the University of Tübingen, the linguist Professor Harald Baayen and the philosopher Professor Klaus Corcilius each received an Advanced Grant in 2022; the molecular biologist Professor Rosa Lozano-Durán a Consolidator Grant, and the computer scientist and neuroscientist Professor Philipp Berens a Starting Grant. The chemist Professor Holger Bettinger and his research group are participating in a newly approved Synergy Grant.

Harald Baayen



Second Advanced Grant in a row for Linguistics

Professor Harald Baayen from the Institute of Linguistics received a second Advanced Grant, this time for his research project **Subliminal Learning in the Mandarin Lexicon**. In this project, Baayen assumes that written systems never completely represent spoken language. The goal of his research into the differences is to help facilitate second language learning. The grant brings in ERC funding of around 2.5 million euros for a period of five years. Baayen previously received an Advanced Grant for the project Wide Incremental Learning With Discrimination Networks, which ran from 2017 to 2022.

The starting point of Baayen's project is the observation that there are subtle regularities in spoken language that elude our awareness but play an important role in language acquisition and use. In Baayen's view, our perception of language is shaped by being filtered through our writing systems. Differences between written and spoken language are usually unproblematic for native speakers – for example, people with English as their native language understand the word "probably" even if it is pronounced "proolly." However, such discrepancies can make learning a new language more difficult.

Baayen explores the learning of Mandarin Chinese, a language in which different words can be made up of the same sounds but pronounced in different tones depending on their meaning. He will investigate in detail how Mandarin words are pronounced with a focus on the tone used. He will also explore how the writing system creates multiple levels of meaning. Using computer modeling, distributional semantics, and statistical analysis, he will investigate how form and meaning fit together, and will use the results to improve vocabulary learning methods for Mandarin Chinese as a second language.

Klaus Corcilius



Advanced Grant for a fresh take on Aristotle

Professor Klaus Corcilius from the Department of Philosophy was awarded an Advanced Grant for his research project **Text and Idea of Aristotle's Science of Living Things**. Its goal is a new overall interpretation of Aristotle's theory of mental phenomena. The ERC is funding the project with 2.5 million euros over five years.

Corcilius challenges the conventional approach to Aristotle's work "On the Soul" (De anima); he seeks to demonstrate that it is not primarily about the philosophy of mind, but rather about the definition of the first principle of a much more comprehensive science of living things in general. Corcilius and his team aim to show how "De anima" and Aristotle's related writings interact in the scientific explanation of the phenomena of living things, and to explain what Aristotle's science of living things has to say about the philosophy of mind.

The researchers will use modern textual criticism. The constitution of the text of "De anima" depends on the philosophical evaluation of alternative manuscript readings, so textual critics and philosophers will work together. The goals of the project are an improved text and a new, more philosophically informative perspective on Aristotle's theory of mental phenomena, providing a lasting foundation for philosophical and philological work on Aristotle's science of living things.

Rosa
Lozano-Durán



Plant virus project earns Consolidator Grant

Professor Rosa Lozano-Durán of the Center for Plant Molecular Biology secured a Consolidator Grant for her project, **Emerging Multifactorial Complexity at the Geminivirus-host Interface**. Lozano-Durán will develop a comprehensive overview of the interactions between plants and gemini viruses. The project is expected to help researchers develop new approaches to combat the viruses, which cause disease in crops worldwide. Lozano-Durán will receive about two million euros from the ERC for the project.

Viruses manipulate their host cells to replicate and spread. These manipulations proceed from the activity of proteins encoded in the virus, which should be limited by the small viral genome. How the activity of these few proteins leads to extensive reprogramming of the host cell has remained a mystery. In an earlier study, Lozano-Durán found that the tomato yellow leaf curl virus is significantly more complex than previously believed and is able to generate additional protein types, which can join together, allowing further functional adaptations. Lozano-Durán plans to combine different methods to visualize the processes at the virus-host cell interface with unprecedented resolution. This is expected to lead to both new theoretical and experimental approaches, and provide new concepts for plant disease control.

Philipp Berens



Starting Grant looks deep into the eye

Professor Philipp Berens from the University Hospitals' Research Center for Ophthalmology received a Starting Grant for his project, **Next Generation Mechanistic Models of Retinal Interneurons**. In the project, Berens will develop new models and algorithms to study amacrine cells, special neurons in the eye. The project will receive funding of about 1.5 million euros over five years.

The retina still presents puzzles for researchers. The amacrine cells in particular are cross-connected with the other nerve cell layers of the retina and form the main class of inhibitory cells. More than 60 types of amacrine cells are now known from the mouse retina; they differ, for example, in appearance, function and circuitry. To understand their role better, Berens and his team will develop a new kind of model that combines the respective strengths of two types of models: the detailed but abstract biophysical model of ionic currents during excitation and inhibition at the nerve cell membrane, and statistical models that fit measured data but lack reference to biological reality. To do this, Berens is taking advantage of recent advances in machine learning and computational neuroscience. The goal is to develop a toolbox to decipher the role of amacrine cells during the natural processing of visual information. A better understanding of the functions of the healthy eye can form the basis for new treatments for eye diseases.

Holger Bettinger



Synergy Grant for research into special ring-shaped carbon compounds

Professor Holger Bettinger of the Institute of Organic Chemistry is involved in a new Synergy Grant that will fund research into cyclacenes, a special class of ring-shaped carbon compounds. The coordinator of the new large-scale project, **Tackling the Cyclacene Challenge**, is Professor Michael Mastalerz from the Institute of Organic Chemistry at Heidelberg University. Professor Michael Gottfried from the Surface and Nano Sciences at the University of Marburg is also a partner in the project. With Synergy Grants, the ERC sponsors collaborative projects that, due to their complexity, require input from several researchers and their teams in order to achieve breakthroughs that could not be made in individual projects. The ERC is funding the project with eleven million euros over six years. Of this, around 3.1 million euros are earmarked for the work at the University of Tübingen.

Cyclacenes form tiny sections of carbon nanotubes. These compounds are of particular importance for potential applications, for example in organic electronics, due to their unique chemical, electronic and structural properties. Despite decades of effort, it has not yet been possible to produce them artificially, which is what the researchers now hope to achieve. Holger Bettinger will contribute his expertise in the chemistry of nanodimensional organic molecules and develop strategies for the stabilization of cyclacenes.

Current European Research Council Grants

Advanced Grants

Name	Project	Duration
Professor Dr. Harald Baayen, Institute of Linguistics	Subliminal Learning in the Mandarin Lexicon (SUBLIMINAL)	2022 – 2027
Professor Dr. Klaus Corcilius, Institute of Philosophy	Text and Idea of Aristotle's Science of Living Things (TIDA)	2022 – 2027
Professor Dr. Katerina Harvati-Papatheodorou, Institute for Archaeological Sciences	Our First Steps to Europe: Pleistocene Homo sapiens Dispersals, Adaptations and Interactions in South-East Europe (FIRSTSTEPS)	2022 – 2027
Professor Dr. Jan Born, Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Neurobiology	Sleep Balancing Abstraction and Forgetting of Memory (SleepBalance)	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Gerhard Jäger, Institute of Linguistics	Cross-Linguistic Statistical Inference Using Hierarchical Bayesian Models (CrossLingference)	2019 – 2024
Professor Dr. Klaus Scheffler, Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics and Radiology Clinic	Ultra-Fast, Spread-Spectrum Magnetic Resonance Imaging (SpreadMRI)	2019 – 2024
Professor Dr. Harald Baayen, Institute of Linguistics	Wide Incremental learning with Discrimination Networks (WIDE)	2017 – 2022

Consolidator Grants

Name	Project	Duration
Professor Dr. Rosa Lozano-Durán, Center for Plant Molecular Biology	Emerging Multifactorial Complexity at the Geminivirus-host Interface (GemOmics)	2022 – 2027
Dr. Sireen El Zaatari, Institute of Scientific Archaeology	Tracing Hominin Occupations of and Migrations through the Levant: Reviving Paleolithic Research in Lebanon (REVIVE)	2021 – 2026
Professor Dr. Claudia Lengerke Internal Medicine II – Haematology, Oncology, Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology	Targeting Leukemia by Modulating Hematopoietic Stem Cell Competitiveness (Hemstem)	2021 – 2025
Professor Dr. Michael Butter, English Languages and Literatures	Populism and Conspiracy Theory (PACT)	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Markus Siegel, Werner Reichardt Center for Integrative Neuroscience/ Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research	Neuronal Information through Neuronal Interactions (NINI)	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Holger Zellentin, Institute for the Study of Religion and Jewish Studies	The Qur'an as a Source for Late Antiquity (QaSLA)	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Eric Kemen, Center for Plant Molecular Biology and Interfaculty Institute of Microbiology and Infection Medicine	Knowledge based Design of Complex Synthetic Microbial Communities for Plant Protection (DeCoCt)	2019 – 2024
Professor Dr. Katerina Harvati-Papatheodorou, Institute for Archaeological Sciences	Human Evolution at the Crossroads (CROSSROADS)	2017 – 2022

Starting Grants

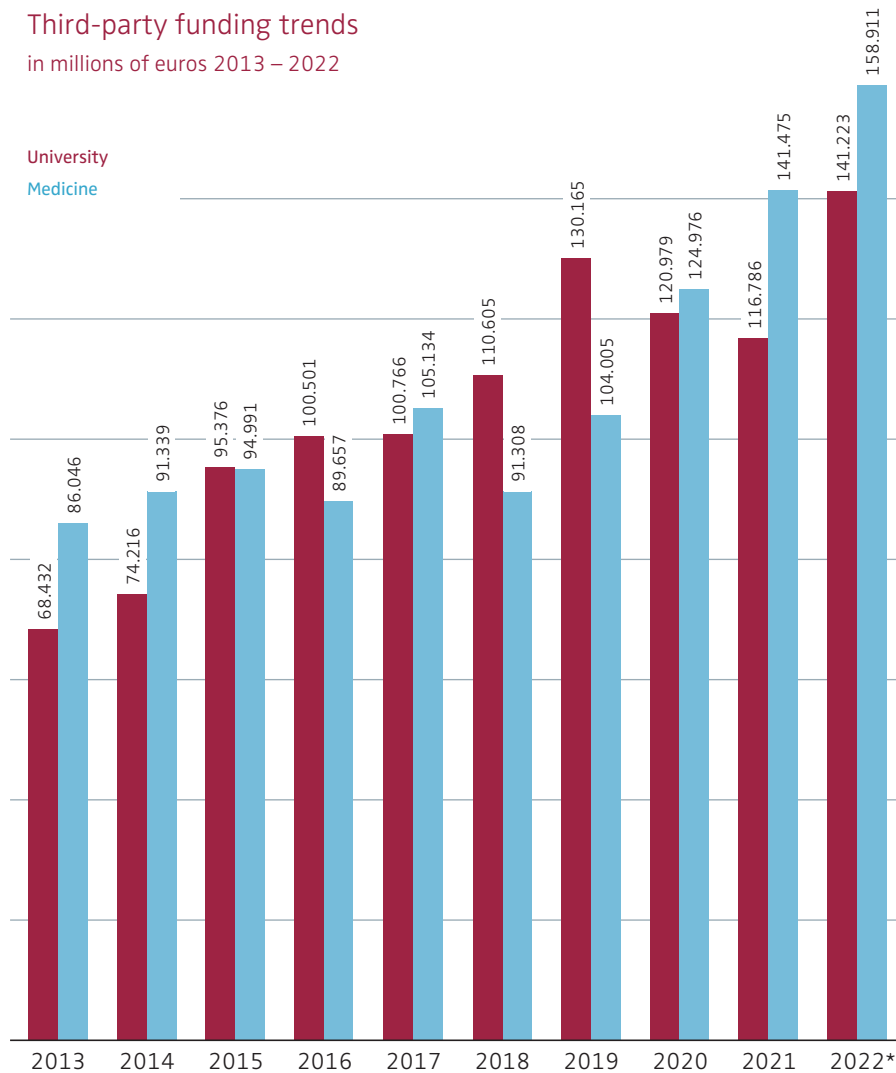
Name	Project	Duration
Professor Dr. Philipp Berens, Research Center for Ophthalmology	Next Generation Mechanistic Models of Retinal Interneurons (NextMechMod)	2023 – 2027
Dr. Judith Feucht, University Hospitals	Senolytic CAR T Cells as Novel Therapeutic Concept for Solid Tumors and Senescence-associated Diseases (CARsen)	2021 – 2026
Dr. Christoph Ratzke, Interfaculty Institute of Microbiology and Infection Medicine	Bugs as Drugs: Understanding Microbial Interaction Networks to Prevent and Treat Infections (BugDrug)	2021 – 2026
Dr. Suayb Üstün, Center for Plant Molecular Biology	Utilizing Diversity to Decipher the Role of Autophagy in Plant-Microbe Interactions (DIVERSIPHAGY)	2021 – 2026
Professor Dr. Andreas Geiger, Department of Informatics	Learning Generative 3D Scene Models for Training and Validating Intelligent Systems (LEGO-3D)	2020 – 2025
Dr. Christina Schwarz, Research Center for Ophthalmology	Exploring Visual Processes with Two-Photon Ophthalmoscopy (TrackCycle.2P)	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Zeynep Akata, Department of Informatics	Deeply Explainable Intelligent Machines (DEXIM)	2019 – 2024
Dr. Marcus Scheele, Institute of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry	Coupled Organic Inorganic Nanostructures for Fast, Light-Induced Data Processing (COINFLIP)	2019 – 2024
Professor Dr. Marcello Porta, Department of Mathematics	Macroscopic Behavior of Many-Body Quantum Systems (MaMBoQ)	2019 – 2024
Professor Dr. Philipp Hennig, Department of Informatics	Probabilistic Automated Numerical Analysis in Machine learning and Artificial intelligence (PANAMA)	2018 – 2023
Dr. Chang Liu, Center for Plant Molecular Biology	Chromatin Packing and Architectural Proteins in Plants (CHROMATADS).	2018 – 2022
Dr. Radu Iovita, Early Prehistory and Quaternary Ecology	A Silk Road in the Palaeolithic: Reconstructing Late Pleistocene Hominin Dispersals and Adaptations in Central Asia (PALAEOSILKROAD)	2017 – 2022
Dr. Claudio Tennie, Institute of Prehistory and Medieval Archaeology	Do Early Stone Tools Indicate a Hominin Ability to Accumulate Culture? (STONECULT)	2017 – 2022

Synergy Grants

Name	Project/ Partner	Duration
Professor Dr. Holger Bettinger, Institute of Organic Chemistry	Tackling the Cyclacene Challenge (TACY)/University of Heidelberg	2023 – 2028
Professor Dr. Martin Giese, Werner Reichardt Center for Integrative Neuroscience/ Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research	How Body Relevance Drives Brain Organization (RELEVANCE)/KU Leuven, Maastricht University	2020 – 2025
Professor Dr. Ulf Ziemann, Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research/ Neurology	Connecting to the Networks of the Human Brain (ConnectToBrain)/Aalto University, Finland	2019 – 2025

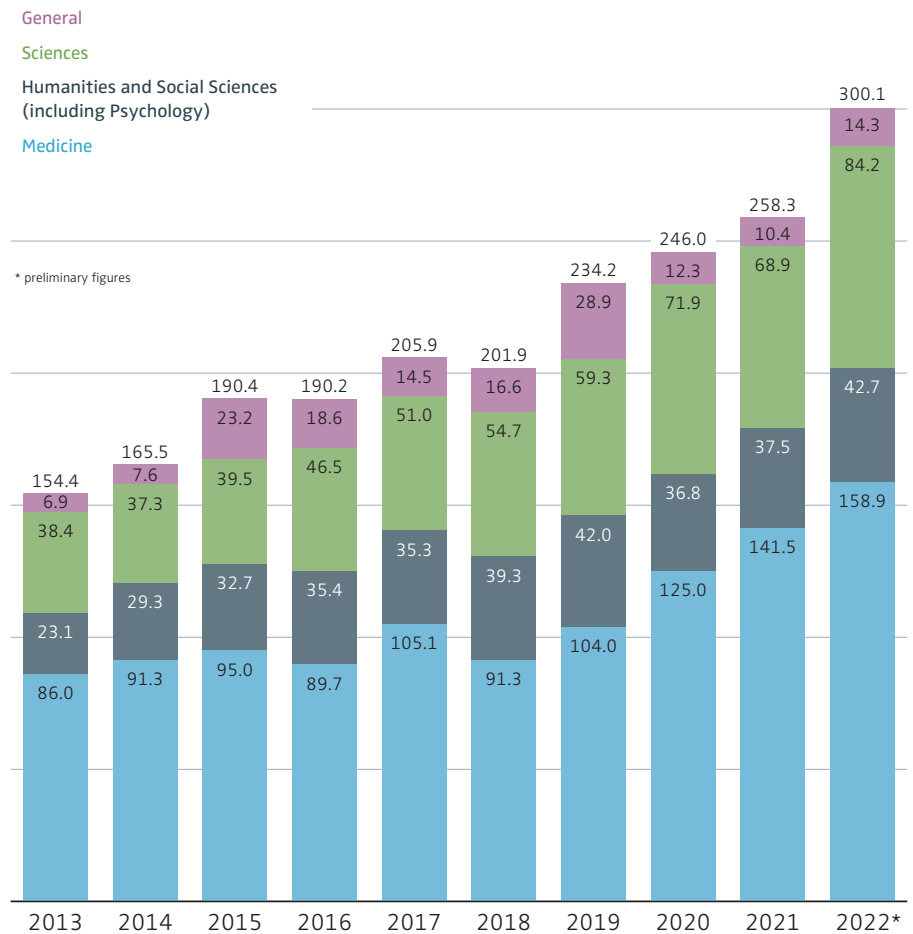
THIRD-PARTY FUNDING

Third-party funding trends
in millions of euros 2013 – 2022



Third-party funding in the Sciences, Humanities and Medicine,
and general income

in millions of euros, 2012 – 2021





Sources of third-party funding in millions of euros 2013 – 2022

2022:

German Research Foundation (DFG): 90.5 m euros

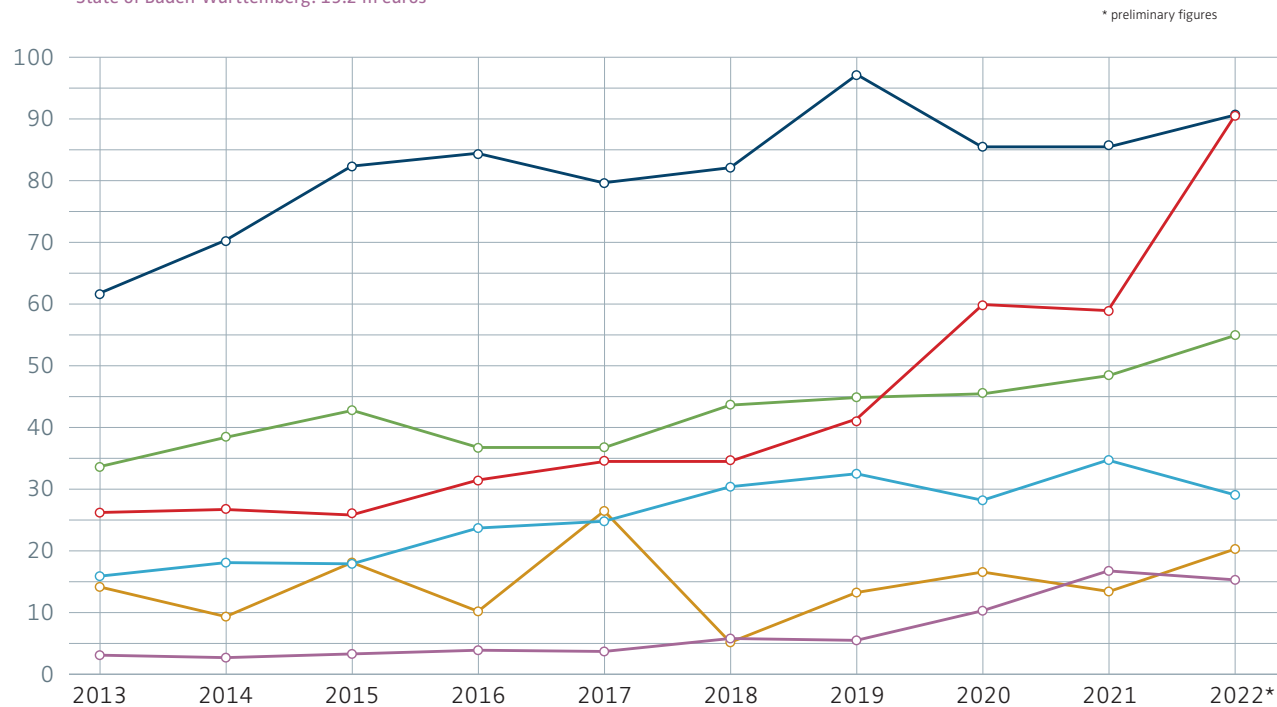
German Government: 90.4 m euros

Foundations, endowments etc.: 54.8 m euros

Business: 29.0 m euros

EU: 20.2 m euros

State of Baden-Württemberg: 15.2 m euros



RESEARCH NEWS

Given the shortage of teachers in Germany and around the world, people who originally completed a different training program are often admitted to teach in schools. But these **teachers without formal teaching qualifications are often less satisfied in their work** than their conventionally-trained colleagues. This was the finding of a study by education researcher Dr. Tim Fütterer using data from the 2015 and 2018 PISA surveys. Around 125,000 teachers from 13 countries with an average of 16 years of professional experience reported on their job satisfaction. The study indicated that lateral-entrant teachers need support during the transition phase, for example through mentoring and networking initiatives.

Excavations in ancient Athribis, about 200 kilometers north of Luxor in Egypt, revealed a rare find of more than 26,000 inscribed **clay shards documenting life in Ancient Egypt**. About 2,000 years ago, the fragments of vessels known as ostraca served as writing material. On them, Egyptologist Professor Christian Leitz and his team discovered lists of names, documentation of transactions involving food and everyday objects, and written work from an ancient school. Around 80 percent of the pottery shards are inscribed in demotic, the common administrative script in the Ptolemaic and Roman periods. The archaeologists also found ostraca with Greek script as well as hieratic, hieroglyphic and – much



Pictorial ostraca showing (left to right): a baboon and an ibis, the two sacred animals of Thoth, the god of wisdom; an account of offerings - money, wine, castor oil, wheat, and barley - for the goddess Repti; and a child's drawing from the end of the Ptolemaic period



The size of the new dinosaur compared with a man of average height



Franziska Willems working in the Tübingen Herbarium

rarer – Coptic and Arabic inscriptions. Pictorial ostraca show animals such as scorpions and swallows; and also humans, gods, and geometric figures.

The main cause of Alzheimer's disease is believed to be the buildup of beta-amyloid proteins in the brain. These plaques begin to form at least twenty years before the first symptoms of dementia appear, suggesting that **treatment to combat the protein deposits which cause Alzheimer's must begin early**. Findings from a research team led by neuroscientist Professor Mathias Jucker now indicates the disease may develop in two phases. If the plaques are reduced with medication in their early stages, the degradation of nerve cells can be stopped. In later stages, this treatment achieves much less. In this second phase, neurodegeneration progresses to a large degree independently of plaque formation. The turning point between the two phases is about ten years before the first symptoms appear. The period during which treatments directed against beta-amyloid plaques are most effective thus appears to end earlier than previously thought.

A new study of bones preserved in the Tübingen Palaeontological Collection has revealed a **previously unknown genus and species of dinosaur**. Dubbed *Tuebingosaurus maierfritzorum*, the dinosaur lived about 203 to 211 million

years ago in what is now southwest Germany, and was a herbivore. The species resembles the large long-necked dinosaurs, the sauropods. Paleontologists Dr. Omar Rafael Regalado Fernandez and Dr. Ingmar Werneburg identified the new species from the analysis of a partial skeleton found in 1922 in Trossingen.

The **lightest neutron star known so far** is located in the center of the supernova remnant HESS J1731-347. Astrophysicists Dr. Victor Doroshenko, Dr. Valery Suleimanov, Dr. Gerd Pühlhofer and Professor Andrea Santangelo discovered the unusual object with the help of X-ray telescopes in space. According to calculations by the research team, it has only about half the mass of a typical neutron star. It may be an even more exotic object, a star made of quark matter. The team earlier determined that the object is physically connected to another star, which bathes the dust envelope around the neutron star in infrared light.

Dr. Franziska Willems and Professor Oliver Bossdorf from the Institute of Evolution and Ecology at the University of Tübingen, working with Professor J. F. Scheepens at the University of Frankfurt, showed that **early-flowering plants in European forests today start blooming on average a week earlier** than they did a hundred years ago. The researchers used data from herbarium specimens covering more than a

century for a study using a new method of geospatial modeling. This also allowed the team to prove that the earlier flowering of wild plants is linked to climate warming. The study showed that, on average, plants such as dewberry, wild garlic, and wood sorrel bloomed more than six days earlier now than at the beginning of the last century. These changes correlate closely with warmer spring temperatures. However, premature blooms may be damaged by late frost, or miss the insects needed for pollination.

Humans have used bear skins for at least 300,000 years to protect themselves from the cold weather. This is indicated by cut marks on the metatarsal and phalangeal bones of a cave bear discovered at the Old Paleolithic site in Schöningen, Lower Saxony. Professor Nicholas Conard, Ivo Verheijen and Dr. Jordi Serangeli analyzed the fine and precise cut marks, which are the result of the careful stripping of the fur. Since there is hardly any meat to be gained from paw and foot bones, the skimmers must have been after the fur. A bear's winter coat consists of both long outer hairs which form a protective layer, and short, dense hairs, which provide excellent insulation. Early humans could only ensure their survival by hunting animals and using their skins to keep warm. Obtaining bear skins may be one of the oldest adaptations by early humans to the climate in Northern Europe.

PROMOTING EARLY-CAREER RESEARCHERS

Integrating research into patient care

The Faculty of Medicine and the Tübingen University Hospitals have obtained 2.3 million euros of funding over three years from the German Research Foundation for a new Tübingen program called **Medical Innovation through Interdisciplinarity**. The program aims to improve the compatibility of patient care and research activities in the daily routine of physicians during their residency training. 24 researching physicians – known as clinician scientists – may apply for the funding. The spokesperson for the new program is Professor Claudia Lengerke, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Medical Director of Internal Medicine II at the University Hospitals.

Academic research is an elementary building block of progress in medicine. Therefore, clinically active doctors should also be involved in basic research. In this way, new diagnostic and therapeutic procedures can be developed and transferred into clinical practice quickly and safely so that patients can benefit from them. The DFG program seeks to make research activities more compatible with specialist training.

*Program spokeswoman
Claudia Lengerke (left),
speaking with a senior
physician and a doctor in
advanced training*

The Tübingen program is interdisciplinary. Participants will address issues in the focus areas of oncology, neuroscience, diabetes and vascular medicine and link them with imaging, immunology, medical technology and data science/artificial intelligence. Clinician scientists will work on translational research projects in close coordination between clinical departments and research laboratories.

Two new research training groups in Medicine

In the new international research training group **Women's Mental Health Across the Reproductive Years**, the relationships between hormonal transition phases and women's mental health will be investigated. It is a joint research training group between the University of Tübingen and the Swedish University of Uppsala and is headed by Professor Birgit Derntl, research group leader at the University Depart-



ment of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy in Tübingen. The group will be funded with around seven million euros for a period of five years.

Physical and mental health often depends on hormonal influences. Women in particular go through multiple hormonal transition phases. These can potentially have an impact on women's cognitive and emotional abilities, brain plasticity, and (physical and mental) health. During these transitional phases, the risk of mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety disorders can increase significantly. To shed more light on these interrelationships, researchers from various disciplines are working together on these issues. One focus is on clinically relevant aspects. The researchers will test hypotheses on women's mental health with a focus on the influence of sex hormones. In the long term, the work is expected to lead to improvements in the prevention, detection and treatment of mental illnesses in women. In the qualification program, early-career researchers in Tübingen will benefit from interaction with their Swedish colleagues.

The research training group **Non-Canonical G Protein Dependent Signaling Pathways: Mechanisms, Functions, Consequences** began providing comprehensive interdisciplinary training to doctoral students in pharmacology in October 2022. Given Germany's rapidly aging population, the group will focus on diseases that occur more frequently with increasing age, such as diabetes mellitus, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases. Signaling pathways in the human body's cells control the biological processes associated with these diseases; crucially, they can be exploited therapeutically by pharmacological agents. The group is led by Professor Bernd Nürnberg, head of the Department of Pharmacology, Experimental Therapy and Toxicology at the University Hospitals. It will receive funding of 5.3 million euros for a period of five years.

G protein-coupled receptors on cells are of paramount importance. Although these currently account for only twelve percent of all drug targets, one in three drugs attacks them, and their therapeutic potential is far from exhausted. Here, non-canonical G-protein-regulated signaling pathways play a special role, as they guide the biological processes of disease development. The research training group aims to shed light on the unknown mechanisms and functions of these signaling pathways. From this, new treatment strategies may be developed. These can be precisely tailored to individual patients.



The new research training group will investigate non-canonical G protein-dependent signaling pathways associated with numerous diseases.

Research training groups

Title	Spokesperson	Duration
Non-canonical G Protein Signaling Pathways: Mechanisms, Functions, Consequences (GRK 2816)	Professor Dr. Dr. Bernd Nürnberg Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology	1 Oct 2022 - 30 September 2027
Women's Mental Health Across the Reproductive Years (GRK 2804)	Professor Dr. Birgit Derntl Psychiatry and Psychotherapy	1 Jan. 2023 - 31 Dec. 2027
Research training group Stuttgart – Tübingen Intraoperative Multi-sensor Tissue Identification in Oncology (GRK 2543)	Professor Dr. Oliver Sawodny University of Stuttgart	1 Jan. 2020 - 31 Dec. 2024
	Professor Dr. Arnulf Stenzl University of Tübingen, Faculty of Medicine	
cGMP: From the Bedside to the Laboratory Bench (GRK 2381)	Professor Dr. Robert Feil Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry	1 July 2019 - 31 Dec. 2023
MOMbrane: The Multifaceted Functions and Dynamics of the Mitochondrial Outer Membrane (GRK 2364)	Professor Dr. Doron Rapaport Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry	1 April 2018 - 30 March 2027
Research training group Mannheim – Freiburg – Heidelberg – Koblenz-Landau – Tübingen Statistical Modeling in Psychology (SMiP) (GRK 2277)	Professor Dr. Thorsten Meiser University of Mannheim	1 Oct 2017 - 30 September 2026
	Professor Dr. Mandy Hütter Professor Dr. Rolf Ulrich University of Tübingen, Faculty of Science	
Research training group Frankfurt – Tübingen Doing Transitions – The Formation of Transitions over the Life Course (GRK 2105)	Professor Dr. Andreas Walther University of Frankfurt am Main	1 Jan. 2017 - 31 Dec. 2025
	Professor Dr. Barbara Stauber University of Tübingen Economics and Social Sciences	
Ambiguity – Production and Reception (GRK 1808)	Professor Dr. Matthias Bauer Humanities	1 Oct 2013 - 30 September 2022

Doctorates completed in 2021-22

Faculty	2021-22 Doctorates	
	female	male
Faculty of Protestant Theology	2	5
Faculty of Catholic Theology	3	6
Faculty of Law	11	12
Faculty of Medicine	209	153
Faculty of Humanities	36	32
Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences	20	17
Faculty of Science	117	133
Total	398	358
	756	

As of 23 February 2023

GOTTFRIED WILHELM LEIBNIZ RESEARCH AWARD FOR LARS ANGENENT

Habilitations completed in 2022

Faculty	2022 Habilitations	
	female	male
Faculty of Protestant Theology		2
Faculty of Catholic Theology	1	
Faculty of Medicine	5	10
Faculty of Humanities	4	5
Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences		1
Faculty of Science	4	4
Total	14	22
	36	

As of 23 February 2023



Lars Angenent

Environmental biotechnology Professor Lars Angenent of the Geoscience Department was awarded the German Research Foundation's Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize for 2023. He receives 2.5 million euros for his work in the areas of power-to-gas and power-to-protein – alternative production methods for gas and proteins. Angenent is a pioneer in this field, which offers promising solutions to help limit global warming and build a sustainable food, chemical and energy economy. The Leibniz Prize is Germany's most prestigious research award. Winners can use the prize money for their research for up to seven years.

Angenent sees carbon as a central resource with a fundamental role in all areas of life. Captured in organic waste, carbon appears useless; and as waste gas it is even harmful in the form of carbon dioxide as it contributes to global warming. However, the carbon in such compounds can be recycled into usable materials through the use of energy – ideally from renewable sources. For these processes, Angenent uses microbes that take a wide range of metabolic pathways. For example, special fermentation plants can use carbon dioxide and hydrogen to produce methane, a gas used for heating. In the future, microbes could be used to recycle plastics or to produce food, bypassing agriculture and animal husbandry. Gradually, by tapping into the great potential of microbes, processes in food production or the chemicals industry could be organized into increasingly sustainable cycles. Angenent has also successfully applied his research in two start-up companies.

Lars Angenent, born in 1969, studied environmental sciences at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and received his PhD in Environmental Engineering from Iowa State University, USA, in 1998. After various prestigious appointments in the United States, Angenent came to the University of Tübingen on a Humboldt Professorship in 2016; since 2019, he has also been a Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Biology in Tübingen.



ENDOWMENTS



ADVANCING THE UNIVERSITY

Prizes, people, projects, or an entire institute – private sponsorship can take many forms. The important themes of 2022 included artificial intelligence and neuroscience, imaging techniques in medicine, and digitization. The goals vary – from strengthening basic research to developing new medical treatments. But in each case, the sponsor's commitment helps to advance the University.

THE UNIVERSITY STEPS UP AI RESEARCH

Hector Foundation sponsors ELLIS Institute

In January 2022, the Hector Foundation pledged 100 million euros to establish a European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS) in Tübingen. The state of Baden-Württemberg will add another 25 million euros for the building and administration. The laboratory will form part of the Cyber Valley artificial intelligence (AI) research consortium.

This generous sponsorship is expected to attract top international researchers in the field of artificial intelligence. They will find outstanding research conditions, the greatest possible freedom, and attractive and flexible conditions. Professor Bernhard Schölkopf, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems in Tübingen, will preside over

the ELLIS Institute as founding director. The institute will be located in the new Cyber Valley Campus in Tübingen's Obere Viehweide Technology Park.

The goal of these joint efforts is to establish Tübingen – and Baden-Württemberg – as a leading location in artificial intelligence. AI is vital for investigating and understanding complex socio-technological interrelationships. In the future, AI systems will play a key role in many areas of research, from medicine to production processes to climate protection, from transportation systems to astronomy.

The ELLIS initiative seeks to sustain the competitiveness of European AI by pooling the expertise of top researchers in machine learning and related fields across the continent.

Established in late 2018, the ELLIS initiative has quickly grown into a pan-European network comprising 35 research units at institutions in 14 countries, including four in Baden-Württemberg – Freiburg, Heidelberg, Stuttgart and Tübingen. So far, 14 ELLIS research programs have been established, as well as a European PhD program that started in September 2020. With these and other initiatives, the members of the ELLIS network promote excellence in basic research and beneficial AI.

The Hector Foundation, established by Josephine and Dr. h. c. Hans-Werner Hector, has supported the University of Tübingen for many years. It also sponsors the Hector Institute of Education Sciences and Psychology, which was founded in 2014.

The ELLIS Institute in Tübingen will be an important hub in the ELLIS network carrying out research into artificial intelligence.

The Werner Siemens Imaging Center's cutting-edge research in the field of molecular and functional imaging is helping to develop many other areas, particularly clinical research.

Werner Siemens Foundation underlines commitment to the Imaging Center

The Swiss Werner Siemens Foundation has pledged 18.4 million euros over ten years to the Werner Siemens Imaging Center at the Faculty of Medicine. Starting in 2024, the funds will support the center's leading international research in molecular and functional imaging. The Werner Siemens Foundation has provided outstanding support for the field of imaging in Tübingen since 2006 by funding an endowed professorship, doctoral colleges, and the Imaging Center's new building and equipment.

The Werner Siemens Imaging Center, established in 2008, is headed by Professor Bernd Pichler. It has evolved into an internationally-connected research institute that brings together under one roof the fields of multimodal imaging and the use of imaging probes, as well as data analysis development supported by artificial intelligence.

For example, researchers at the center have advanced the combination of positron emission tomography (PET) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Hybrid imaging allows doctors to simultaneously get information on functions, such as metabolism, and on the structures of healthy or diseased tissue in a single physical examination. Coupled with

the development of radioactive "tracer" substances which outline the processes of the patient's immune system, these technologies have enormous potential, particularly in the planning and control of tumor treatments.

Imaging techniques are also used in the further development of cancer immunotherapies such as CAR T-cell therapy. In this innovative treatment, doctors modify the patient's own immune cells so that they are able to recognize and fight cancer cells in the body. Yet the method becomes less effective over time. Microscopic imaging at the level of individual cells will help explain why the modified immune cells lose part of their function and how the efficiency of the treatment could be increased. Research is also being conducted into imaging technologies and novel tracers which can detect and describe neurodegenerative and infectious diseases at an early stage.

The Werner Siemens Foundation was established in 1923 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, by the daughters of Carl Siemens, the brother of the inventor, electrical engineer and entrepreneur Werner von Siemens. The foundation supports innovative research projects as well as young talent in technology and the sciences.



ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

Field	Name	Sponsor
Faculty of Law		
Artificial Intelligence Law	Professor Dr. Michèle Finck, LL. M.	Carl Zeiss Foundation
Faculty of Humanities		
Modern Taiwan Studies	Professor Dr. Yuchin Tseng	Education Ministry of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
Music	Professor Dr. Matthew Gardner	Mainz Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences		
Financial Literacy and Economic Didactics	Professor Dr. Taiga Brahm	Dieter von Holtzbrinck Foundation
Educational Effectiveness/Educational Trajectories	Professor Dr. Richard Göllner	Hector Foundation
Ethics of Globalisation	Professor Dr. Claus Dierksmeier	Karl Schlecht Foundation
Faculty of Medicine		
Preclinical Imaging of the Immune System	Professor Dr. Bettina Weigelin	Adolf Leuze Foundation
Functional and Metabolic Brain Imaging	Professor Dr. Kristina Herfert	Carl Zeiss Foundation
Transfusion Medicine	Professor Dr. Tamam Bakchoul	DRK-Blutspendedienst and Baden-Württemberg-Hessen gGmbH
Molecular Mechanisms in Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD)	Professor Dr. Simon Clark	Helmut Ecker Foundation
Neurodegenerative Diseases	Professor Dr. Thomas Gasser	Hertie Foundation
Computational Sensomotrics	Professor Dr. Martin Giese	Hertie Foundation
Cell Biological Foundations of Neurological Diseases	Professor Dr. Mathias Jucker	Hertie Foundation
Functional Neurogenetics	Professor Dr. Philipp Kahle	Hertie Foundation
Neurology/ Epileptology	Professor Dr. Holger Lerche	Hertie Foundation
Clinical Neurogenetics	Professor Dr. Ludger Schöls	Hertie Foundation
Ubiquitin Signaling in Cancer	Professor Dr. Nikita Popov	Ludwig Hiermaier Foundation
Experimental Senology	Professor Dr. Markus Hahn	Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development
Clinical Pharmacology	Professor Dr. Matthias Schwab	Robert Bosch Foundation
Occupational and Social Medicine	Professor Dr. Monika Rieger	Association of Metal and Electronic Industries Baden-Württemberg (Südwestmetall)
Preclinical Imaging and Imaging Technology	Professor Dr. Bernd Pichler	Werner Siemens Foundation
Faculty of Science		
Philosophy and History of Science	Professor Dr. Reinhard Kahle	Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Endowed Professorship of the Udo Keller Foundation Forum Humanum
Continual Learning and Multimodal Datastreams	Professor Dr. Gerard Pons-Moll	Carl Zeiss Foundation
Didactics of Chemistry (Tübingen School of Education)	Professor Dr. Stefan Schwarzer	Gips-Schüle Foundation
Machine Learning	Professor Dr. Matthias Hein	Robert Bosch GmbH
Didactics of Physics (Tübingen School of Education)	Professor Dr. Jan-Philipp Burde	Vector Foundation

SPONSORSHIP FOR SPECIALIST MEDICAL RESEARCH

Fellowship program with Boehringer Ingelheim

The University of Tübingen and the biopharmaceuticals company Boehringer Ingelheim have jointly established a fellowship program for postdoctoral researchers in the fields of artificial intelligence and data science. Three to five fellowships will be awarded each year to highly talented researchers for a period of up to three years.

The University and Boehringer Ingelheim will define research topics at the interface of health and artificial intelligence applications. By harnessing artificial intelligence and data science, the goal is to make medical advances which improve patients' lives, to shorten treatment times, and to transfer basic research results into practice quickly and safely. The University is also raising its profile in a research area of increasing importance – the use of artificial intelligence in medicine and the life sciences.

The fellows in the joint program will conduct research at the University of Tübingen, benefiting from the University's extensive experience and rapid growth in the fields of artificial intelligence and data science, and medical research. They will also have the opportunity to work closely with Boehringer Ingelheim's scientists, specialists and executives, both locally and globally.

Researchers and the PCH2 patients' association are working together (from left): pediatrician Ingeborg Krägeloh-Mann, patient Jonas with nurse, senior physician Samuel Gräschel, study director Simone Mayer, patient Felix with his father, Axel Lankenau

Seeking treatments for PCH2

The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, a charity launched by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Dr. Priscilla Chan, is funding a project to research the rare neurological hereditary disease PCH2 with a total of 1.93 million euros over a period of four years. Pontocerebellar hypoplasia type 2, or



PCH2 for short, causes severe developmental disorders in children and is associated with a limited life expectancy. Seeking a treatment for the disease, researchers from the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research (HIH) and the Tübingen University Hospitals and the Freiburg Medical Center have joined forces with the parents' association Elterninitiative PCH-Familie.

In the PCH2cure project the research team works closely with affected families. The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative not only supports the research; some 387,000 euros of funding goes directly to the association. The study is headed by Dr. Simone Mayer of the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research.

PCH2 patients live with severe impairments. The disease is caused by a genetic defect that prevents certain parts of the brain from developing normally. Doctors can only treat the symptoms, such as the children's extraordinary irritability and restlessness, as well as their seizures. There is currently no treatment that addresses the cause of the disease. Researchers on the project will use special cell cultures to investigate PCH2. Simone Mayer and her team have developed these "brain organoids" from the skin cells of several patients. Organoids are three-dimensional cell cultures that closely resemble natural tissue. They can be used to reconstruct the dysfunctions in PCH2 and gain new insights into the mechanisms of the disease. In addition, modern imaging is also used to examine brains of affected individuals and to analyze the disease at a systems level.

Investigating how nerve cells change with age



The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative is also donating around 1.6 million euros to fund another Tübingen-led research project on the aging of nerve cells in the brain and the resulting susceptibility to neurodegenerative diseases. The project is coordinated by the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research (HIH), the German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases, and the University of Tübingen. The study is led by Dr. Deborah Kronenberg-Versteeg. Also participating are the research groups of Dr. Thomas Wuttke at HIH and the University of Tübingen, and Dr. Henner Koch at the University Hospital RWTH Aachen.

The health of nerve cells is closely linked to the surrounding auxiliary cells, known as glial cells. It is unclear what role glial cells play in age-related diseases. In the new project, the researchers will test the hypothesis that neuronal dysfunctions are primarily caused by changes in glial cells. They will investigate the interactions between the different brain cell types during aging and will seek to discover why neurons become susceptible to age-related malfunctions and diseases.

If patients consent, the research team will use tissue removed during operations such as the removal of a deep-seated brain tumor or epilepsy center. This tissue is then cultured in the laboratory with clumps of misfolded proteins that cause pathological changes in the nerve cells – as in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease. In this way, the research team can follow the processes in detail at the molecular and cellular level. The team established this method as part of a pilot study also funded by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative.

Deborah Kronenberg-Versteeg heads the aging and disease of neurons research project.

VECTOR FOUNDATION PROMOTES RESEARCH INTO DIGITAL EDUCATION

The new Tübingen Center for Digital Education at the University of Tübingen will receive a total of 1.35 million euros in funding from the Stuttgart-based Vector Foundation over a period of five years. The center will focus on innovative forms of teaching using digital methods. In collaboration with schools, the researchers will be looking at ways to transfer new findings into practice. The head of the center is Professor Andreas Lachner from the Institute of Education Science. The center’s partners include the Tübingen School of Education, the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media in Tübingen, the Hector Research Institute of Education Sciences and Psychology, the Dr. Eberle Center for Digital Competence, the LEAD graduate school, and the Tübingen department of Informatics.

The University of Tübingen is well positioned in education, media and computer science. The Vector Foundation’s funding will enable the University to play a key role in researching various perspectives on digitization in the future – as it has done in the field of artificial intelligence.

The Vector Foundation was established in 2011 by the founders of Vector Informatik GmbH, Eberhard Hinderer, Martin Litschel, and Dr. Helmut Schelling. The foundation supports projects in research and education – particularly in science, technology and mathematics – in the state of Baden-Württemberg.

VOLKSWAGEN FOUNDATION GRANTS RESEARCHERS FREE REIGN



Marlen Fröhlich

In 2014, the Volkswagen Foundation launched the Freigeist Fellowships for sponsoring highly creative postdocs with funding of up to 2.2 million euros over a maximum of eight years.

In the last round of the program, **Dr. Marlen Fröhlich** from the Institute for Scientific Archaeology was selected as a Freigeist Fellow in April 2022. For her project “Pathways to language: the role of communicative plasticity in joint action coordination” initially she will receive 1.3 million euros over a period of five years, with the option to extend for a further three years.

Fröhlich’s research topic is not easily categorized; she wants to know how language first originated. “Language is at the core of being human. It distinguishes us from animals; it is also absent in our closest living relatives, the great apes,” she says. She studied Biology in Berlin and earned her doctorate at the Max Planck Institute in Seewiesen, studying gestural communication in chimpanzees and bonobos. In 2022, she moved from the University of Zurich to Tübingen.

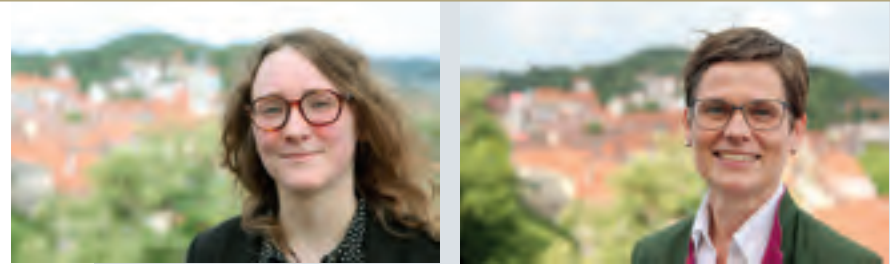
School education using electronic media is becoming increasingly important. The knowledge gained in this area at the new Center for Digital Education will be put into practice in schools.

Fröhlich thinks that language probably evolved to enable coordinated actions, such as hunting large animals or raising offspring together. This kind of adaptability in communication was likely present in the common ancestors of humans and apes. With the Freigeist grant, she plans to spend the next few years researching the communication systems – and their flexibility – of free-ranging and zoo-dwelling apes, as well as humans in large, industrialized and small hunter-gatherer societies. Her methods include systematic observations and experiments.

She approaches the project with a lot of creativity – and the courage to risk failure. The special thing about the Freigeist grant is that the researchers have to be convincing personalities. “You’re allowed to run into a dead end sometimes and take a new direction for your research goal,” says Fröhlich. “That’s completely different from the usual format of research grants, where you have to work through the original proposal point by point.”

The grant will allow Fröhlich to establish her own research group, and she is looking forward to collaborating with a number of different disciplines at the University.





PRIZES, PROJECTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The third **Barbara Scholkmann Prize for Historical Archaeology** was shared by Katja Grüneberg-Wehner and Dr. Luisa Radohs in 2022. With this prize, Medieval Archaeology at the University of Tübingen and its association honor theses that break new ground in Historical Archaeology. The prize is endowed with 2,000 euros. Grüneberg-Wehner, a research assistant at the Saxony-Anhalt State Heritage Office, was hon-

ored for her University of Kiel thesis on sacral construction, everyday church life and funerary customs in a rural parish on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Radohs, a trainee at LWL-Archäologie für Westfalen, received the prize for her thesis, "Urban Elite Culture. A Survey and Methodological Study of Aristocracy and Civic Elites in Trading Towns of the Southwestern Baltic (12th-14th centuries)" completed at Aarhus University.

The newly-created **Barbara Scholkmann Sponsorship Award** for the best Bachelor's or Master's thesis went to Elke Sichert for her Master's thesis at the University of Marburg which dealt with medieval and early modern glass found in Frankfurt. The award's patron is Professor Barbara Scholkmann, Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Tübingen until 2007.



The Tübingen **Early Prehistory and Quaternary Ecology Prize** went to Dr. Lucía Cobo-Sánchez of Madrid University in early February. In her thesis, Cobo-Sánchez addressed the controversial questions of the extent to which people ate meat almost two million years ago and how they obtained it. As the basis for her work, she used the exceptionally well-preserved David's Site at Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania, which she helped excavate. Based on the bones of ungulates, traces of their processing by humans, and spatial distribution, she analyzed the site, supported by the use of artificial intelligence. Cobo-Sánchez showed that small to medium-sized prey were brought to the site whole and dissected there with the help of numerous stone tools. The hunters returned repeatedly over one or two years.

Lucía Cobo-Sánchez during excavations at Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania (left).

Luisa Radohs
Katja Grüneberg-Wehner
(from left)

They also transported large quantities of stone there to make tools. Cobo-Sánchez considers this social behavior to be clearly different from that of other primates as well as modern humans. The prize for prehistory and Quaternary ecology, which is endowed with 5,000 euros, is sponsored by the mineral water brand EiszeitQuell and was awarded for the 24th time in 2022.

The University of Tübingen raised 200 **Deutschlandstipendium** scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year. The students thus sponsored receive 300 euros per month, half of which is provided by private donations and half by the German government. With this commitment, the sponsors seek to ensure that particularly high-achieving and socially committed students can realize their potential. Key spon-

sors include the Universitätsbund Tübingen e. V., Amazon Deutschland Services, the TL Foundation, the Vector Foundation, and Santander Universitäten Deutschland. Numerous alumni and regional businesses also contribute to this scheme which benefits promising students.

The Stuttgart-based **Karl and Anna Buck Foundation** promotes research in Chemistry at the University of Tübingen. Funding is provided for positions or research equipment. In the 2022 funding round, the project “3D-printed PEEK microreactors for the synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals” by doctoral student Florian Menzel from the research group led by Dr. Jochen Neumaier at the Institute of Organic Chemistry was selected. The project will be funded with 120,000 euros over a period of three years. The Karl and Anna Buck Foundation has been promoting scientific research since 2000. It was established by Karl Buck, founder of the Buck Chemie chemicals company.



Ceremony for the awarding of Deutschlandstipendium grants in May 2022 at Hohentübingen Castle



PARTNERSHIPS

MUTUAL SUPPORT

Global warming, war, and other crises are presenting higher education with challenges that no university can tackle alone. This makes it all the more important to cultivate existing ties and to establish new partnerships. In Europe, large alliances of research-intensive universities are pursuing common goals and closer cooperation. The CIVIS alliance is continuing to build its vision of a European university – while also opening up to non-European partners.

EUROPEAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES UNDERSCORE A GLOBAL APPROACH

In April 2022, three major European university networks agreed on principles for cooperation within Europe and worldwide. They emphasized that global challenges demand effective cooperation between research-intensive universities around the globe. They are **the Guild of European Research Universities**, the German U15 – both of which Tübingen is a founding member – and the network of French higher education institutions, Udice.

Since its founding in 2016, a total of 21 European institutions have joined the Guild. One of the network's main goals is to contribute to the research policy of the European Union. These universities also work together to counteract political and social division in Europe.

The **German U15**, founded in 2012, is an association of fifteen large universities in Germany which are strong in research and in medicine, with a full range of subjects except for engineering. Among its core tasks, the U15 seeks to enable strong basic research in the long term, to offer students research-informed teaching and to transfer knowledge to society, politics, and business.

The French university group **Udice** – Universités de Recherche Françaises – brings together ten leading French research-intensive universities, nine of which have won awards in France's excellence initiative.

The three networks emphasized that:

- international cooperation is indispensable for the progress of knowledge, and benefits humanity as a whole;
- research-intensive universities are ready to help prevent risks associated with international cooperation;
- international academic cooperation between research-intensive universities is an important diplomatic tool;
- European programs to promote academic and scientific cooperation must contribute to making Europe more attractive and open to cooperation with the whole world;
- Research-intensive universities are one of the pillars of European development and technological leadership;



CIVIS is an alliance of 11 European universities from Aix-Marseille, Athens, Bucharest, Brussels, Madrid, Rome, Stockholm, Tübingen, Glasgow, Salzburg, and Lausanne

CIVIS ALLIANCE CONTINUES TO GROW

Start of second funding round

- international cooperation in research and higher education is essential for the sustainable and balanced development of all regions of the world.

The agreement on principles of international research cooperation followed Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The Guild, the German U15, and Udice referred to the Bonn Declaration on Freedom of Academic Research adopted by the Conference of Ministers on the European Research Area in Bonn in October 2020, the European Commission's Communication on a Global Approach to Research and Innovation of May 2021, and several other declarations on freedom of research and research cooperation.

The European university alliance **CIVIS – A European Civic University**, of which the University of Tübingen is a founding member, receives a total of 14 million euros for another four years in its second funding phase, which started in October 2022. This was announced in July 2022 by the European Commission, which has been funding CIVIS as a "European University" under the Erasmus+ program since 2019. The initial eight CIVIS member universities have been joined by three more, most recently the University of Lausanne in 2022. Under the umbrella of CIVIS, a multi-university campus for more than 500,000 students and employees in research, administration and technology is being created. CIVIS focuses on outstanding teaching and civic engagement, which also provide impetus for research and innovation.

All CIVIS members are research-intensive universities with a broad range of subjects. CIVIS seeks to address challenges facing society. The focus is on the five areas of environment and climate protection; health; democracy and cultural heritage; sustainability and inclusive mobility; as well as digital and technological change. Thematic hubs have been established in these areas, in which researchers dedicate themselves to the respective challenges across countries and disciplines.

In the second funding phase, the interdisciplinary hubs are to be expanded to further improve education services and social engagement. The multi-university campus also seeks to increase the mobility of students and employees and to develop the potential of a virtual campus, with joint degree programs planned.

Partnership agreement with African universities

CIVIS is building a strategic partnership with six African universities. To this end, an agreement was signed in March 2022 during the three-day CIVIS conference, New Horizons for the European-African Partnership, at Aix-Marseille Université. CIVIS members emphasized that the organization remains open to global partnerships.

In addition to the CIVIS members, the signatories of the agreement to strengthen Africa-EU relations and cooperation in the Mediterranean region are Université Hassan II de Casablanca in Morocco, Université de Sfax in Tunisia, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar in Senegal, Makerere University in Uganda, University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, and Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Mozambique. The partnership is to be a catalyst for higher education that is oriented towards current challenges, as defined in the CIVIS hubs.

The agreement also aims to contribute to student mobility beyond Europe, bringing more students from around the world to European universities. It supports equal research partnerships as envisaged in the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union (EU) and the African Union (AU) on an EU-AU Innovation Agenda.

University of Lausanne joins CIVIS

As the eleventh member and the first from Switzerland, the University of Lausanne was admitted to CIVIS in October 2022, after the European Commission lifted the restriction limiting membership to institutions in EU countries. As a non-EU member, Switzerland does not receive funding from the EU's Erasmus+ program. The Swiss government provides funding to support Swiss higher education institutions that join European university networks.

More than 17,000 students from almost 130 nations are enrolled at the University of Lausanne; a total of around 4,400 employees work there. The university has developed particular strengths in oncology, forensic science, digital humanities, and sports science.



Aerial view of the University of Lausanne campus (top)

The Synathlon Building at the University of Lausanne (bottom)

Lausanne has become the most recent member of CIVIS, and the first from outside the European Union.

BRAZIL CENTER BECOMES LATIN AMERICA CENTER

In July 2022, the Baden-Württemberg Brazil Center at the University of Tübingen expanded its support for research collaborations to countries throughout Latin America. In the new Baden-Württemberg Brazil and Latin America Center, the number of partnerships supported will increase from twelve to a total of 29. Initially, the regional expansion will affect Tübingen partner universities in Argentina, Chile, Peru, Colombia and Mexico. Like its predecessor, the new center works on behalf of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts, and the University of Tübingen. The former directors of the Brazil Center, Professor Stefan Laufer of the Pharmaceutical Institute and the Vice-President of Research and Innovation, Professor Peter Grathwohl, will continue their activities in the new center, which is managed by Dr. Martina Schulze.

By participating in international events and appearances in Latin America, the center represents the University of Tübingen in the region. The center provides Portuguese courses for German and international students, as well as group excursions and fieldwork; these often include a visit to the Pró-Mata research station in Rio Grande do Sul. The station was built in the Atlantic Araucaria forest to enable research into the coastal rainforest. It is run jointly by the Pontifical



The Brazil and Latin America Center team (left to right): public relations manager Ana Calegari, language teacher Julia Friese, Hispanoamerica research coordinator Esteban Morera Aparicio, coordinator Martina Schulze, administrator Gisele Lenz, director Stefan Laufer, Brazil research coordinator Marcia Goettert and language teacher Raquel de Souza Koch

Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PURCS) and the University of Tübingen.

Since 2022, the Baden-Württemberg Brazil and Latin America Center has offered the Tübingen Science Bridge program, in which top female researchers present their projects in monthly online lectures, as well as the Tübingen Research

Takeoff program, which also provides financial support for initiating new research collaborations in line with the university's excellence and internationalization strategy. The center also organizes the German-Brazilian Symposium on Sustainable Development, which takes place every two years, alternating between Germany and Brazil.

CYBER VALLEY MANAGEMENT REORGANIZED

The Cyber Valley research consortium in the field of artificial intelligence went under new management in 2022 in the form of Cyber Valley GmbH. This limited-liability company was founded by the shareholders, i.e., the State of Baden-Württemberg (51 percent) and the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science e. V. (49 percent). Its purpose is to strengthen, develop and publicize Cyber Valley with its locations in Stuttgart and Tübingen as an innovation campus for artificial intelligence and robotics with strong international appeal, and to network the players with each other and with third parties.

Cyber Valley GmbH will take on management, marketing, and support tasks. It is mainly financed by the state of Baden-Württemberg. Rebecca C. Reisch became the first managing director of Cyber Valley GmbH on June 1, 2022. In addition to promoting top scientific research and talent and raising the profile of the Stuttgart-Tübingen region, Reisch intends to focus on innovation and entrepreneurship.

Cyber Valley was founded in 2016 in a joint initiative by science, industry and the state of Baden-Württemberg to

create a leading international research location in the field of artificial intelligence, machine learning, computer vision and robotics. The founding partners in the Cyber Valley Initiative were the state of Baden-Württemberg, the Max Planck Society with the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, the universities of Stuttgart and Tübingen, as well as Amazon, BMW AG, IAV GmbH, Mercedes-Benz Group AG, Porsche AG, Bosch GmbH and ZF Friedrichshafen AG. In addition, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft has been a Cyber Valley

partner since 2019. Cyber Valley is supported by the Christian Bürkert Foundation, the Gips-Schüle Foundation, the Vector Foundation and the Carl Zeiss Foundation.

A Cyber Valley Campus is being built in the Tübingen Technology Park in close proximity to the Max Planck Institutes. The state government in Stuttgart pledged up to 180 million euros for the construction of the campus at the end of 2021. The foundation stone for the first of three planned new buildings was laid in June 2022.

A robot functions as a sports training partner in the laboratories of the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems in Stuttgart, a Cyber Valley member



KEY RESEARCH PARTNERS IN GERMANY

Associated institutes

SHEP – Senckenberg Center for Human Evolution and Palaeoenvironment

Institute for Applied Economic Research

NMI – Natural and Medical Sciences Institute

Global Ethics Institute

Further important partners

Bernstein Network for Computational Neuroscience (Freiburg)

DKTK – German Consortium for Translational Cancer Research

Dr. Margarete Fischer-Bosch Institute for Clinical Pharmacology (Stuttgart)

DZD – German Center for Diabetes Research

DZIF – German Center for Infection Research

DZNE – German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases, member of the Helmholtz Association

DZPG – German Center for Mental Health (in planning)

F.A.T.K. – Institute for work, technology and culture (Tübingen)

Forschungszentrum Jülich research center, member of the Helmholtz Association

Friedrich Miescher Laboratory, Max Planck Society (Tübingen)

Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (Leipzig-Halle)

Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research (Tübingen)

IDGL – Institute of Danube Swabian Studies (Tübingen)

IGB – Fraunhofer Institute for Interfacial Engineering and Biotechnology (Stuttgart)

IWM – Knowledge Media Research Center, member of the Leibniz Association

IZST – Inter-university center for medical technology, University of Stuttgart

MFO – Mathematics Research Institute (Oberwolfach), member of the Leibniz Association

Max Planck Institute for Biology (Tübingen)

Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics (Tübingen)

Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems (Stuttgart/Tübingen)

REQUEST – Institute of rehabilitation research, quality development and structural analysis in disabled support (Tübingen)

Senckenberg Nature Research Society (Frankfurt am Main)

State seminary for didactics and teacher training (Tübingen)

University of Applied Forest Sciences (Rottenburg)

Werner Siemens Foundation

ZEM – Center for Nutritional Medicine Tübingen – Hohenheim, University of Hohenheim



TEACHING AND ORGANIZATION

RETURN TO CAMPUS

After two years of restrictions due to the pandemic, students gradually returned to the lecture halls and classrooms, wearing medical masks and maintaining a safe distance to prevent infection. Falling infection rates meant these measures could be eased over the course of the year. The University had a change of leadership in October 2022; Professor Karla Pollmann took over as President upon the retirement of Professor Bernd Engler.

INITIATIVES IN TEACHING

Successful internationalization reflected in enrollments

More international students were enrolled at the University of Tübingen in the winter semester 2022/23 than ever before – 4,165 students from abroad. The proportion of international students was 14.7 percent. The total number of enrollments increased slightly – by 207 students or 0.7 percent. Yet there were signs of a decline in new enrollments overall. This is likely due to the general demographic shift in German society.

The University develops a mission statement for teaching

The University of Tübingen has developed a mission statement specifically for teaching. Professor Karin Amos, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Studies, who initiated the work, presented the mission statement in February 2022. It provides orientation and quality management guidelines for continuous improvement of courses offered at the University.

The integration of research into teaching enables students to apply their academic knowledge in an independent and innovative way. Students are introduced to research and en-

couraged to conduct research in their field of study. Furthermore, lecturers encourage students to regard their studies in the wider context of our pluralist, democratic society – particularly in the training of future schoolteachers.

The University of Tübingen has a tradition of building bridges between the disciplines and maintains an emphasis on ethics as an integral part of academic work. This promotes a critical and reflective approach to knowledge – an essential aspect of research-based teaching.



The DocLab helps train medical students' essential skills.

Student numbers at a glance

Enrollments	Total	Female students		International students	
		Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Winter semester 2022-23	28,366	16,804	59.2 %	4,165	14.7 %
New enrollments	5,035	3,040	60.4 %		

By faculty or institution	Winter semester 2022-23
Protestant Theology	433
Catholic Theology	151
Law	2,185
Medicine	4,499
Humanities	7,208
Economics and Social Sciences	4,837
Science	8,668
Islamic Theology	150
Leibniz Kolleg	53

Faculty of Medicine integrates its training programs

The Tübingen Institute for Medical Education (TIME), founded in mid-2022, brings together all the existing medical teaching courses run by the Faculty of Medicine and Medicine-related study programs, as well as relevant courses run by the University Teacher Training unit. TIME is headed by the Professor of Medical Education, Anne Herrmann-Werner. The new institute incorporates the previous Competence Center for University Didactics in Medicine and the DocLab training center. Since 2011, students of medicine and related programs have been learning practical medical skills here – from taking blood to holding difficult conversations with patients. The Competence Center also offers qualification courses and further

training for teaching staff, providing support in the areas of professionalization, the development of early-career scientists, and networking.

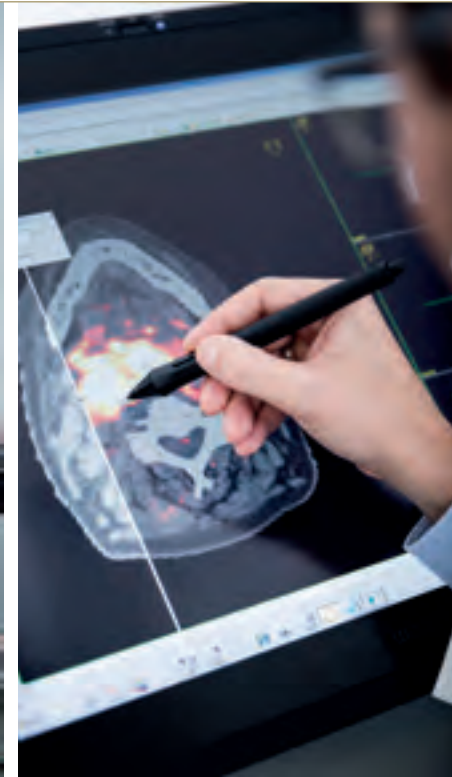
The research project “Tübingen AI Center for Physicians” (TüKITZMed), which started in December 2021, has also been incorporated into the new institute. Funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research, it develops teaching formats in the area of artificial intelligence in Medicine, in collaboration with the Faculty of Science. The courses introduce students to basic concepts and methods in artificial intelligence, enabling them to use and interpret AI applications in practice.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Master's program combines AI and radiation sciences

At the University of Tübingen, the Artificial Intelligence in Medical Radiation Sciences program was launched in winter semester 2022/23 – the first of its kind in Germany. In the new program, students will be trained both in specialized areas of medical radiation sciences and in artificial intelligence methods. This includes aspects of radiation therapy, non-invasive imaging, and tumor and radiation biology, as well as machine learning and computer vision. The Master's program is coordinated by the Faculty of Medicine and paves the way for a deep understanding of scientific data, its analysis and visualization.

Artificial intelligence methods are used, for instance, in cancer treatment, where they help doctors to evaluate complex data and to suggest the best treatment options. The knowledge acquired in this Master's profile may be used to optimize imaging ahead of radiation treatments, to contour organs and tumors using a deep-learning process, and to better control radiation treatments. Graduates can also contribute to the development of individualized diagnostic and treatment procedures using artificial intelligence.



The new program will qualify students for a range of complex tasks including the control and further development of radiation treatments.

Drug therapy safety as a Master's profile

A new interdisciplinary program in pharmaceuticals safety was launched in winter semester 2022/23 jointly by the universities of Bonn, Heidelberg, and Tübingen. The universities are receiving around 300,000 euros from the German Ministry of Health to develop the program, which is coordinated by the University of Bonn. For practicing professionals, it may be completed part-time over four semesters.

Medications are helpful for many diseases – but the more they are used, the higher the risk of adverse reactions. To

prevent harm, the medication process must be optimized. The program addresses this need by training specially qualified personnel from various professional groups.

Each of the three participating universities contributes its expertise in various subjects, especially pharmacy, medicine, and nursing. Tübingen's participation is coordinated by Professor Cornelia Mahler from the Department of Nursing Science at the University Hospitals. The Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices is a partner in the project.

Nancy Hüniger,
new head of
the Studio
Literature and
Theater



Certificate program for teachers of gifted children

At schools, children with varying cognitive abilities, interests and needs come together. For teachers, it is a great challenge to recognize gifted students and to take their abilities into account. To develop skills in dealing with gifted children, the Hector Research Institute of Education in 2022 introduced the certificate program "Promotion of Giftedness and Development of Potential" in cooperation with the Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education (DIPF) and the ZSL Center for Teacher Training. Fees are charged for participation in the 20-month program; for working professionals, the course may be studied part-time, with some classes held online. The program is aimed at teachers, school administrators, and counsellors. It was made possible by a grant from the Hector Foundation II, which also awards scholarships for participants.

New director of the Studio Literature and Theater Studio

The poet Nancy Hüniger has headed the Studio Literature and Theater at the University of Tübingen since winter semester 2022/23. She succeeded the writer Dagmar Leupold, who had been responsible for the University's creative writing program since 2004.

The Studio Literature and Theater, established in 1997, is open to students of all disciplines. In the studio, they can devote themselves to all aspects of creative writing, from discussing initial attempts to performing their own work on stage.

Nancy Hüniger, born in Weimar, studied fine arts at the Bauhaus University in Weimar and then devoted herself entirely to literature. Her publications include *Ein wenig Musik zum Abschied wäre trotzdem nett* (2017), and *4 Uhr kommt der Hund. Ein unglückliches Sprechen* (2020).

UNIVERSITY PRIZES

Teaching Prize for international Mathematics seminar

The University of Tübingen's 2022 teaching award went to Professor Rainer Nagel of the Department of Mathematics for his international internet seminar on evolution equations. For 25 years, Nagel has been combining various formats within this seminar. Students from currently 120 universities worldwide work together on annually changing topics.

The schedule alternates online phases with in-person classes. From October to February, a "virtual lecturer" teaches the necessary basic knowledge in an online course – supplemented by exercises, online meetings with other participants, and support from local coordinators. From March to June, small groups are formed of members from different universities to work on key topics. The results are presented in June during a one-week on-campus workshop, in English.

The Teaching Prize is awarded annually for innovative teaching formats or for special commitment to teaching, and is endowed with 2,500 euros.



Mindful Science initiative wins Student Commitment Prize

The 2022 Student Commitment Prize went to the Mindful Science initiative in the Neurosciences, in which PhD students offer low-threshold formats such as lectures and “mental health walks”, which provide opportunities for contacts and conversations.

The initiative, launched by former students – now doctoral candidates – Marleen Veit and Morgan Hess, arose from the pandemic years. A survey they conducted among Neuroscience students revealed that the majority of respondents had struggled with mental health problems at some point. 25 percent also said they did not know of anywhere to get support. On this basis, a committed group of students and doctoral researchers took action; they have been offering regular formats providing low-threshold support to fellow students since 2021. In hybrid lectures (“Growing up in Science”), Neuroscientists talk about their careers, including unexpected difficulties, and lessons learned.

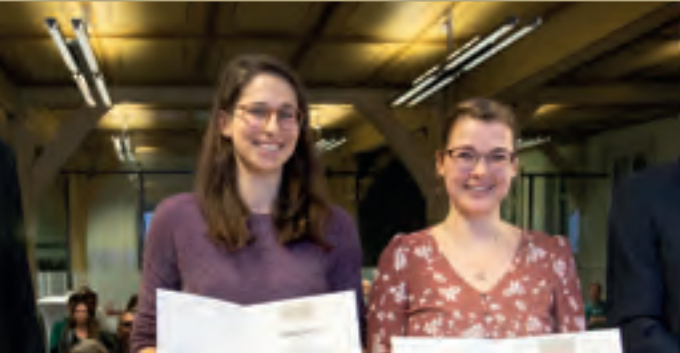


Members of the Mindful Science initiative accept the special award for Student Commitment (left to right): Marleen Veit, Morgan Hess, Kirsti Brandes, Nina Gottschewsky and Valentina Romagnano.

Six Sustainability Prizes for student theses

The University of Tübingen awarded its Sustainability Prizes for the twelfth time in November 2022. Awards are given for outstanding Bachelor’s and Master’s theses dedicated to a sustainable development topic. The University’s Executive Vice-President, Dr. Andreas Rothfuss, presented three prizes each for Bachelor’s and Master’s theses.

Hanna Disch from Cognitive Science, Anne Krehl from Biology and Nike Andrea Macht from Environmental Science received the awards for their Bachelor’s theses. The selected Master’s theses were written by Alexandra Riegger, a trainee teacher for Mathematics and Chemistry, Tatjana Tull from Evolution and Ecology, and Carolin Walper from Environmental Geography.



Bachelor's award winners (left to right): Nike Andrea Macht, Hanna Disch and Anne Krehl; and Master's award winners Tatjana Tull and Carolin Walper

Since 2011, the University of Tübingen has awarded the Sustainability Prize annually for works that develop solutions for a globally just and sustainable development of our society from an ecological, economic, and social-cultural perspective. The prize is endowed with 300 euros each for Bachelor's theses and 500 euros for Master's theses.



The sociologist Armin Nassehi at the 2022 Sustainability Lecture

The keynote speech at the award ceremony, the Sustainability Lecture, was given by sociologist Professor Armin Nassehi. In his lecture, "Climate, War, Corona: The Overstrained Society," explained the value there is in analyzing current crises from a sociological perspective.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

German Academic Exchange Service support

After the pandemic-related slump in international mobility in 2020, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) recorded a significant increase in funding for international exchange and international collaborations at the University of Tübingen in 2021, the most recent year for which figures are available. At around 6.348 million euros, total DAAD funding in 2021 was almost 2.5 million euros higher than in 2020.

The increase was due primarily to three Tübingen projects funded over several years in the new program lines "Global Centers for Pandemics and Health" and "Global Centers for Climate and Environment." In 2021, a total of more than 1.5 million euros from DAAD funds went into these projects.

Funding of exchanges had not returned to pre-pandemic levels. However, the total funding amount for 2021 in this area was back up at around 1.8 million euros.

Baden-Württemberg Foundation exchanges

The Baden-Württemberg Foundation has been funding exchange programs between Baden-Württemberg universities and their partner institutions outside Europe since 2001. The scholarships are open both to students from partner institutions abroad who come to Tübingen, and to Tübingen students seeking to study outside Germany.

For Tübingen exchange students, the Baden-Württemberg Foundation offered extra sponsorship for the first time in 2022 to mitigate social differences. A total of 109 students received regular funding from the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM program. In addition, the foundation provided an emergency fund for refugee students from Ukraine.

The foundation particularly supports exchanges with partner universities in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific (ACP countries), as well as with Least Developed Countries, via its Regional Development Component (REK), introduced in 2017. In 2022, twelve doctoral candidates and students from Senegal, South Africa, Egypt, Cameroon, Tunisia, and Ethiopia received REK scholarships to study in Tübingen.

The University of Tübingen and its international partners

The University of Tübingen maintains regular exchange programs with some 260 institutions of higher education around the world.

In East Asia, the University of Tübingen maintains two branches, the Center for Japanese Studies at Dōshisha University in Kyoto, and the Tübingen Center for Korean Studies at Korea University in Seoul. Within the framework of the Erasmus program, the University cooperates with more than 380 universities inside and outside Europe on the basis of more than 900 Erasmus agreements. Faculties at the University maintain some 120 agreements with institutions across Europe and farther afield.

The University of Lausanne joined the European University Alliance CIVIS as a further member in 2022. The alliance now comprises eleven universities, including the University of Tübingen.

Tübingen is also one of seven partners in the Matariki Network of Research Universities.

In many parts of the world, restrictions due to the Coronavirus pandemic were eased or lifted altogether in 2022; this was reflected in a significant increase in the number of exchange students. The number of Tübingen students going abroad in 2022 rose from just under 700 in the previous year to more than 1,300. The number of students coming to the University of Tübingen from abroad also increased significantly, to more than 850.



University of Tübingen branches

Tübingen Center for Japanese Studies,
Dōshisha University - KYOTO
Tübingen Center for Korean Studies,
Korea University - SEOUL

North America

Canada

University of Alberta - EDMONTON, ALBERTA
McGill University - MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC
McMaster University - HAMILTON, ONTARIO
Ontario Colleges and Universities - ONTARIO
Université Laval - QUÉBEC, QUÉBEC
Mount Allison University - SACKVILLE, NEW BRUNSWICK

United States of America

University of Alaska - FAIRBANKS, AK
Northern Arizona University - FLAGSTAFF, AZ
Arizona State University - TEMPE, AZ
California State Universities - CA
University of California San Diego - SAN DIEGO, CA
University of Denver - DENVER, CO
Connecticut State Universities and Colleges - CT
Yale University - NEW HAVEN, CT
Georgetown University - WASHINGTON, D.C.
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa - HONOLULU, HI
Butler University - INDIANAPOLIS, IN
Valparaiso University - VALPARAISO, IN
Bellarmine University - LOUISVILLE, KY
Louisiana State University - BATON ROUGE, LA
University of Massachusetts - BOSTON, AMHERST, MA
Boston College - BOSTON, MA
Tufts University - MEDFORD, MA
Washington College - CHESTERTOWN, MD
University of Maryland - COLLEGE PARK, MD
University of Michigan - ANN ARBOR, MI
Western Michigan University - KALAMAZOO, MI
University of Missouri - COLUMBIA, MO
Washington University - ST. LOUIS, MO
Montana State University - BOZEMAN, MT
North Carolina State Universities - NC
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - CHAPEL HILL, NC
Princeton Theological Seminary - PRINCETON, NJ
Hobart and William Smith Colleges - GENEVA, NY
State University of New York - STONY BROOK, NY
Oregon University System - OR
Reed College - PORTLAND, OR
Temple University - PHILADELPHIA, PA
College of Charleston - CHARLESTON, SC
University of Tennessee - KNOXVILLE, TN
Rhodes College - MEMPHIS, TN
Texas A & M University - COLLEGE STATION, TX
University of North Texas - DENTON, TX
University of Washington - SEATTLE, WA

Latin America

Argentina

Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina - BUENOS AIRES
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba - CORDOBA

Brazil

Univates em Lajeado - LAJEADO
Universidade Federal Fluminense - NITEROI
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul - PORTO ALEGRE
P.U.C. do Rio Grande do Sul - PORTO ALEGRE
Universidade Federal de Pernambuco - RECIFE
USP Campus Universitario Ribeirão Preto - RIBEIRÃO PRETO
Universidade de Santa Cruz do Sul - SANTA CRUZ
Universidade Federal de Santa Maria - SANTA MARIA
Universidade de São Paulo - SÃO PAULO

Chile

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile - SANTIAGO
Universidad de Chile - SANTIAGO

Ecuador

Universidad San Francisco de Quito - QUITO

Colombia

Universidad de los Andes - BOGOTÁ
Universidad Icesi - CALI

Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana - CIUDAD DE MEXICO
El Colegio de México - CIUDAD DE MEXICO
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México - CIUDAD DE MÉXICO
Universidad de Guadalajara - GUADALAJARA
Universidad de Guanajuato - GUANAJUATO
Universidad de Monterrey - MONTERREY
Universidad de las Américas - PUEBLA
Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla - PUEBLA

Peru

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú - LIMA
Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola (USIL) - LIMA

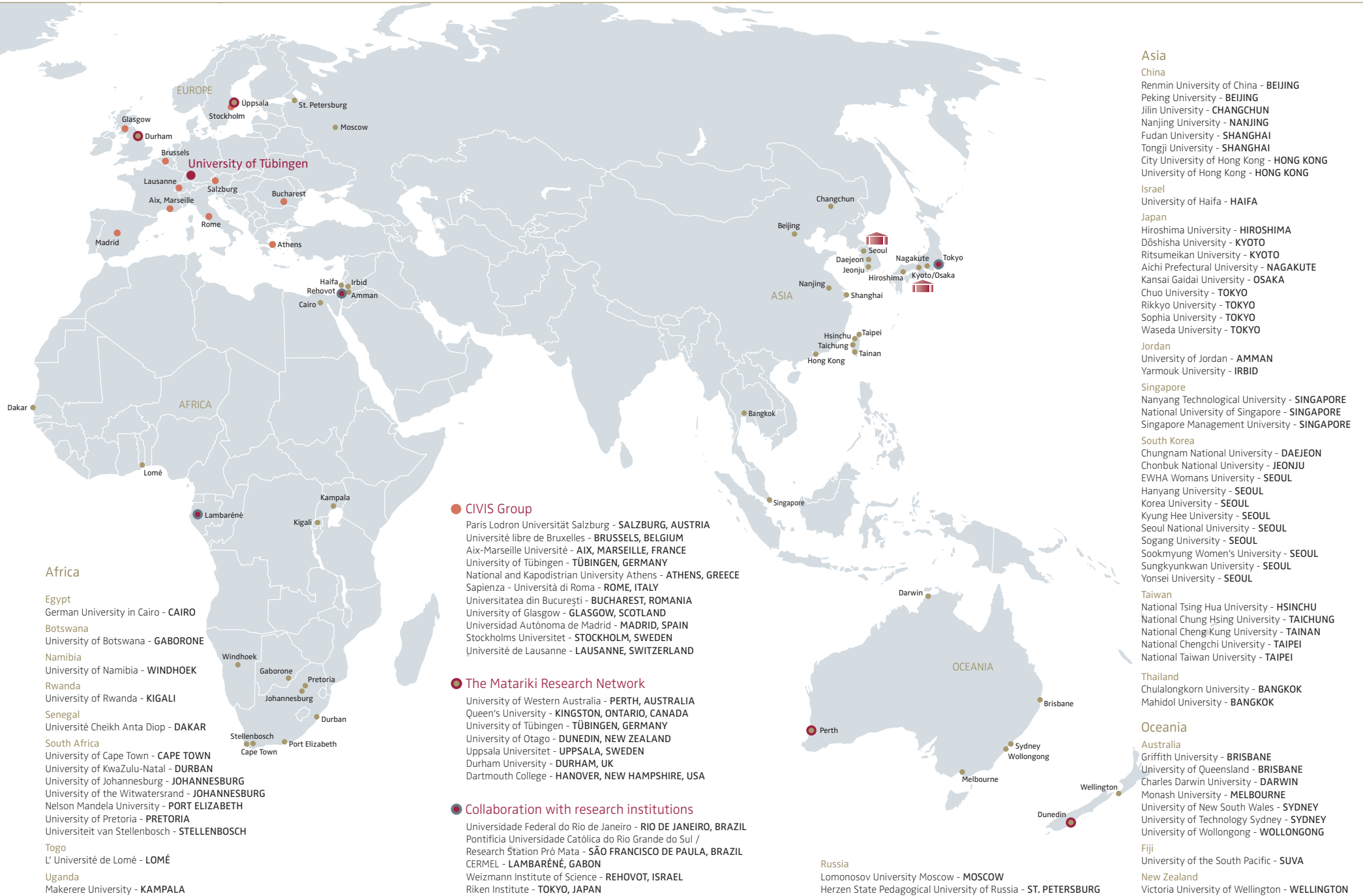
Uruguay

Universidad de Montevideo - MONTEVIDEO

Venezuela

Universidad de los Andes - MÉRIDA





Africa

- Egypt
German University in Cairo - CAIRO
- Botswana
University of Botswana - GABORONE
- Namibia
University of Namibia - WINDHOEK
- Rwanda
University of Rwanda - KIGALI
- Senegal
Université Cheikh Anta Diop - DAKAR
- South Africa
University of Cape Town - CAPE TOWN
University of KwaZulu-Natal - DURBAN
University of Johannesburg - JOHANNESBURG
University of the Witwatersrand - JOHANNESBURG
Nelson Mandela University - PORT ELIZABETH
University of Pretoria - PRETORIA
Universiteit van Stellenbosch - STELLENBOSCH
- Togo
L' Université de Lomé - LOMÉ
- Uganda
Makerere University - KAMPALA

CIVIS Group

- Paris Lodron Universität Salzburg - SALZBURG, AUSTRIA
- Université libre de Bruxelles - BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
- Aix-Marseille Université - AIX, MARSEILLE, FRANCE
- University of Tübingen - TÜBINGEN, GERMANY
- National and Kapodistrian University Athens - ATHENS, GREECE
- Sapienza - Università di Roma - ROME, ITALY
- Universitatea din București - BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
- University of Glasgow - GLASGOW, SCOTLAND
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - MADRID, SPAIN
- Stockholms Universitet - STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
- Université de Lausanne - LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND

The Matariki Research Network

- University of Western Australia - PERTH, AUSTRALIA
- Queen's University - KINGSTON, ONTARIO, CANADA
- University of Tübingen - TÜBINGEN, GERMANY
- University of Otago - DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND
- Uppsala Universitet - UPPSALA, SWEDEN
- Durham University - DURHAM, UK
- Dartmouth College - HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA

Collaboration with research institutions

- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
- Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul / Research Station Pró Mata - SÃO FRANCISCO DE PAULA, BRAZIL
- CERMEL - LAMBARÉNÉ, GABON
- Weizmann Institute of Science - REHOVOT, ISRAEL
- Riken Institute - TOKYO, JAPAN

Asia

- China
Renmin University of China - BEIJING
Peking University - BEIJING
Jilin University - CHANGCHUN
Nanjing University - NANJING
Fudan University - SHANGHAI
Tongji University - SHANGHAI
City University of Hong Kong - HONG KONG
University of Hong Kong - HONG KONG
- Israel
University of Haifa - HAIFA
- Japan
Hiroshima University - HIROSHIMA
Dōshisha University - KYOTO
Ritsumeikan University - KYOTO
Aichi Prefectural University - NAGAKUTE
Kansai Gaidai University - OSAKA
Chuo University - TOKYO
Rikkyo University - TOKYO
Sophia University - TOKYO
Waseda University - TOKYO
- Jordan
University of Jordan - AMMAN
Yarmouk University - IRBID
- Singapore
Nanyang Technological University - SINGAPORE
National University of Singapore - SINGAPORE
Singapore Management University - SINGAPORE
- South Korea
Chungnam National University - DAEJEON
Chonbuk National University - JEONJU
EWha Womans University - SEOUL
Hanyang University - SEOUL
Korea University - SEOUL
Kyung Hee University - SEOUL
Seoul National University - SEOUL
Sogang University - SEOUL
Sookmyung Women's University - SEOUL
Sungkyunkwan University - SEOUL
Yonsei University - SEOUL
- Taiwan
National Tsing Hua University - HSINCHU
National Chung Hsing University - TAICHUNG
National Cheng Kung University - TAINAN
National Chengchi University - TAIPEI
National Taiwan University - TAIPEI
- Thailand
Chulalongkorn University - BANGKOK
Mahidol University - BANGKOK

Oceania

- Australia
Griffith University - BRISBANE
University of Queensland - BRISBANE
Charles Darwin University - DARWIN
Monash University - MELBOURNE
University of New South Wales - SYDNEY
University of Technology Sydney - SYDNEY
University of Wollongong - WOLLONGONG
- Fiji
University of the South Pacific - SUVA
- New Zealand
Victoria University of Wellington - WELLINGTON

- Russia
Lomonosov University Moscow - MOSCOW
Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia - ST. PETERSBURG

CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Karla Pollmann becomes University President

Professor Karla Pollmann took office as President of the University of Tübingen on October 1, 2022. She is the first woman to lead the University in its more than 500-year history. Pollmann succeeds Professor Bernd Engler, who was president from 2006 until the end of September 2022.

The new president will build upon the successful developments at the University during Professor Bernd Engler's tenure. One of the most important tasks ahead is securing Tübingen's long-term status as one of the German government's Universities of Excellence. Pollmann says she will also emphasize the further development of high-quality teaching and will approach this task in dialogue with the students.

Ensuring a smooth transition in University leadership are the other members of the President's Office: Professor Karin Amos, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Studies, Professor Peter Grathwohl, Vice-President for Research and In-

novation, Professor Monique Scheer, Vice-President for International Affairs and Diversity, and Dr. Andreas Rothfuss as Executive Vice-President.

Karla Pollmann, who was born in Tübingen, was from 2018 to 2022 Professor of Classics and Theology at the University of Bristol, where she was also Dean of the Faculty of Arts and a member of the University Executive Board. She studied Greek, Latin, Theology and Education in Tübingen, Munich, Cambridge, and Bochum – where she received her doctorate in Classics in 1990. From 1990 to 1994 she worked at the University of Bielefeld and then at the University of Konstanz until 1995. In 1994 she completed her habilita-



President Karla Pollmann

tion thesis at the University of Konstanz and the following year moved to the University of St Andrews in Scotland as a lecturer in classical literature. In 2000, Pollmann was appointed to a professorship there.

Pollmann's research focuses on early Christianity, interactions of religious and ancient classical thought, and questions of exegesis, hermeneutics, and the reception of antiquity and early Christianity through the centuries. In 2020, she received a Humboldt Research Award.

President's Office (from left): Karin Amos, Peter Grathwohl, President Karla Pollmann, Andreas Rothfuss and Monique Scheer



Friedrich List Medal for outgoing president

The outgoing president, Professor Bernd Engler, received the Friedrich List Medal, the highest award of the Reutlingen Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK), for his services to the development of the University. The award was presented to him during the IHK plenary meeting in July

2022. The medal goes to persons who have rendered outstanding services to the Neckar-Alb region and its economy over many years.

Bernd Engler, Professor of American Studies, led the University of Tübingen for 16 years. During this time, the University grew strongly, was able to raise its research profile in many areas, and positioned itself well in international competition. In 2012, Tübingen achieved the coveted excellence status for the first time, successfully retaining it in 2019.

Important foundations for this development were laid in the preceding years through the implementation of new management structures in the large faculties with full-time deans, as well as through the University's stronger networking with outside institutions such as the Tübingen institutes of the Max Planck Society, the Helmholtz Association, and the Leibniz Association. Under Engler's aegis, the University was also a driving force in the Cyber Valley Initiative, which helped to develop the Stuttgart-Tübingen region into a leading international location for the research and development of artificial intelligence.

Bernd Engler (born 1954) studied German, English, and Philosophy at the University of Freiburg, where he also completed his doctorate and habilitation. After working at the University of Sussex (UK), the Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, USA), and the University of Massachusetts (Amherst, USA), he was appointed a Professor of American Studies at Tübingen in 1992. He became President on 1 October 2006.



Baden-Württemberg Science Minister Petra Olschowski (left) congratulates the new University President, Karla Pollmann, and bids farewell to the previous President, Bernd Engler



Ansgar Thiel

New leadership at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences

Professor Ansgar Thiel, director of the Institute of Sports Science since 2010, was elected Dean of Economics and Social Sciences in January 2022.

Thiel, born in 1963, received his doctorate from the University of Bielefeld, also completing his habilitation there. After a professorship in sports sociology at the Chemnitz University of Technology, he was appointed to the University of Tübingen in 2004 and has since held the professorship in Sports Science with a focus on social and health science issues.

The outgoing Dean, Josef Schmid, was Professor of Political Economy and Comparative Policy Analysis at the University of Tübingen from 1998. He assumed the office of Dean when the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences was established in 2010 and held it until his retirement in 2022.

Cyber Valley campus takes shape

The foundation stone was laid in June 2022 for the first of three planned new artificial intelligence research buildings. The new Cyber Valley I building is to mark the start of further expansion of the Cyber Valley AI research consortium in Tübingen. It will provide 6,500 square meters of space for research and teaching in computer science, AI, and robotics. The state of Baden-Württemberg is investing around 61 million euros in the new building. In conjunction with two other planned buildings and one already constructed, a dedicated Cyber Valley campus is to be created in the Tübingen Science and Technology Park.

The new Cyber Valley I building will be as climate-neutral as possible, with high energy efficiency and extensive use of renewable energy. The building is slated for completion at the end of 2024.



Artist's impression of the Cyber Valley I research building at the Tübingen Science and Technology Park

Rising number of women professors

The University of Tübingen has grown considerably in recent years. As the number of professors has increased, the University has sought to attract more women to careers in academia. From 2012 to 2022, the proportion of female full professors rose from 10.6 percent to 26.2 percent. The proportion of female junior professors with tenure track has gone up from 25 percent in 2012 to currently 45 percent (i.e. from 2 out of 8, to 9 out of 20 junior professors with tenure track over ten years).

Of the 4,649 degrees obtained at the University in 2022, 63 percent were completed by women. Yet just a little over one quarter of full professors are women. Measures like the Athene Mentoring Program aim to change this. Starting at the undergraduate level, step by step up to professorship, women pass on their experience and benefit from that of their seniors. A new series of Science and Career Talks, in which successful female researchers provide insights into their fields and careers, also focuses on female role models.



Full Professors at the University of Tübingen

Updated: 30 June 2022

Faculty or institution	Full professors in 2022		
	total	female	% female
Protestant Theology	14	3	21.4
Catholic Theology	12	3	25.0
Center of Islamic Theology	6	2	33.3
Law	22	4	18.2
Medicine	119	26	21.8
Humanities	88	40	45.5
Economics and Social Sciences	59	14	23.7
Science	166	35	21.1
Knowledge Media Research Center (IWM)	6	2	33.3
Central institutions	4	1	25.0
Total	496	130	26.2

UNIVERSITY FINANCES

With all faculties including Medicine, the University of Tübingen had a budget of 770.1 million euros in 2022. The biggest financial challenge in 2022 was the sharp rise in energy costs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent price hikes for oil and gas. The University uses some 100,000 megawatt hours of energy annually – as much as an entire town – with heating and electricity each accounting for about half. Price controls introduced by European policymakers, and support for universities from Germany's federal and state governments helped to mitigate what was a vastly increased energy bill.

Even before the energy crisis of 2022, the University of Tübingen was facing major problems with the condition of its buildings. The University is spread over around 180 buildings – some of them centuries old, and many others planned and built before the oil crisis of 1973. The cost of managing them is correspondingly high, in part because they lack the insulation and energy-saving features used today.

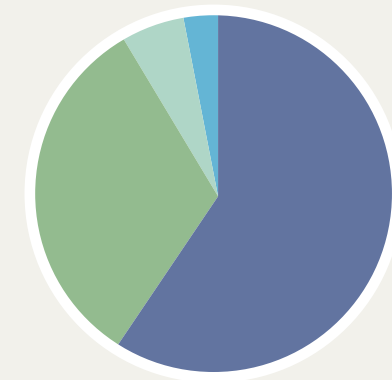
The state government has pledged to invest more in the refurbishment of existing buildings in the coming years; however, this process is likely to take decades. New buildings and renovations at the University have cost some 40 to 55 million euros annually in recent years. However, the renovation and modernization backlog is set to cost around 1.1 billion euros.

Furthermore, the University's success in the Excellence Initiative has seen the number of employees grow by more than 60 percent in the past decade and a half. Increased research requires increased computing power, with powerful computer systems needed in all disciplines – as well as for libraries and administration. This too pushes up energy and infrastructure costs.

The University of Tübingen will be working with other institutions of higher education towards effective policies at all levels of government aimed at upgrading infrastructure and reducing energy costs – to ensure the University can continue its outstanding research and teaching.

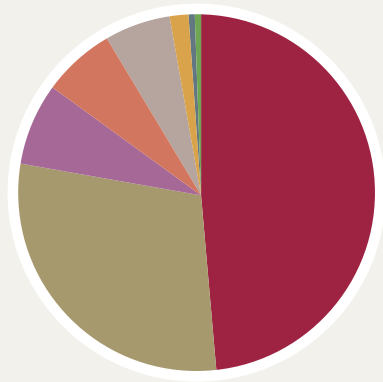
University budget excluding Medicine

Revenue 2022 (441.8 million euros)*



- State subsidies
236.0 m euros (59.5%)
- Third-party funding
141.2 m euros (32%)
- Allocated state funding
25.1 m euros (5.7%)
- Other
12.5 m euros (2.8%)

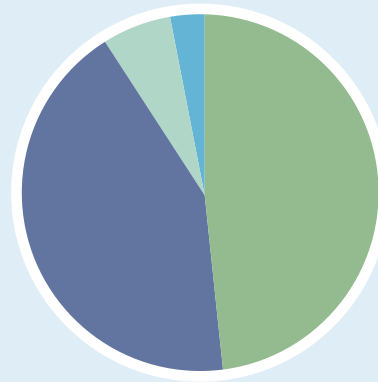
Expenditure 2022 (426.8 million euros)*



- Staff
208.2 m euros (48.8 %)
- Third-party funding
124.3 m euros (29.1%)
- Teaching and research (incl. University Library and IT Center)
31.3 m euros (7.3%)
- Operating buildings (incl. rents)
26.6 m euros (6.2%)
- Baden-Württemberg Economics Ministry funding
25.1 m euros (5.9%)
- Other
6.7 m euros (1.6%)
- Setup funding
2.5 m euros (0.6%)
- Subsidies for building works
2.1 m euros (0.5%)

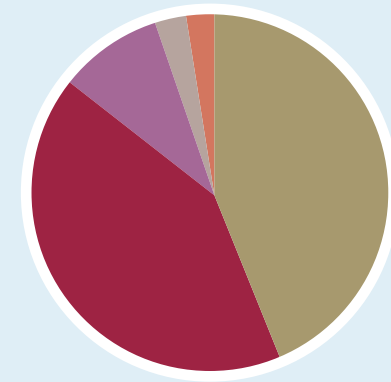
Faculty of Medicine

Revenue 2022 (328.3 million euros)*



- Third-party funding
158.9 m euros
- State funding
139.5 m euros
- Other
20.6 m euros
- State funding for investments
9.3 m euros

Expenditure 2022 (315 million euros)*



- Third-party funding
138.3 m euros
- Staff and operating costs
131.3 m euros
- Other
28.8 m euros
- Investments via state funding
9.3 m euros
- Investments via third-party funding
7.3 m euros

* preliminary figures

Mythos Troia

Die wichtigste Quelle „Troia“, das heißt der Hügel einer antiken Siedlung und die archaische Grabungsstätte „Troia-Palastlager“, wurde 1998 von 2002 restauriert. Sie befindet sich im Zentrum der heutigen Stadt und zählt zu den bekanntesten Ausgrabungsstätten.

Was es andere über antiken Mythos und kaum eine andere als richtig viele der Menschen dortig erzählt haben sie können. Bei der Schlacht des Troischen Krieges. Die Sage berichtet aber, was eine tröstliche Geschichte oder ein erfolgreicher Versuch zu feste schenken müssen. Sich bekämpfende Soldaten, die schlössen Frau, mutige Helden, unerbittliche Feindkämpfer, persönliche oder erbitterter Krieg, hinterher und weiter ist.

Diese Siedlung zeigt, wie sehr sich diese antike Erzählung mit guter Gedächtnis, die schönsten Szenen des klassischen Mythos und mit der späteren „Entdeckung Troias“ durch Heinrich Schliemann durch die Kulturgeschichte hinweg in einen festen und sich entwickelnden Prozess entwickelte.



Mythos Troia

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CELEBRATING KNOWLEDGE

NEW MEETINGS

Cultural life at the University got back into swing following more than two years of restrictions imposed as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Children's University, for example, was back in time for its 20th birthday. Anniversary celebrations and award ceremonies skipped due to the COVID restrictions were held retrospectively, and new events were added. Furthermore, the new format of the Science & Innovations Days provided opportunities for the public to meet and talk with researchers at the University.

OPEN DOORS AT THE SCIENCE & INNOVATION DAYS

The University of Tübingen, the Max Planck Institutes, Cyber Valley, the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media, and the Technology Promotion Reutlingen-Tübingen banded together to invite the general public to the Tübingen Science & Innovation Days in June 2022. The focus of the four-day program was on communication about new fields of research and the state-of-the-art buildings going up in and around Tübingen. The program offered interactive events, lectures, workshops, and walks around the campus for visitors of all ages.

The doors were open at the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media, the Tübingen Max Planck Institutes, the Friedrich Miescher Laboratory, Cyber Valley, and the University Archives. Visitors took part in tours, exhibitions and hands-on activities on the topics of genetics, evolution, brain research and artificial intelligence.

Discussions on climate change and social cohesion in times of crisis were also very well received. For young researchers

aged seven to twelve, there was a wide range of activities to take part in at the Children's University Research Day.

The Science & Innovation Days concluded with Science Notes, an event at which the audience was able to virtually follow a glaciologist on an Antarctic expedition, to hike across the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean with a journalist, and, with a paleontologist, to accompany early humans as they took their first steps.



FOUR KEY ANNIVERSARIES

Carla Cederbaum receives Tübingen Prize for Knowledge Communication



As part of the Science & Innovation Days, the Tübingen Prize for Science Communication 2022 was awarded to mathematician Professor Carla Cederbaum. The 41-year-old received the Euro 10,000 prize for her continuous efforts to communicate mathematics to both children and adults. The jury said her lectures, workshops, and popular science publications make her an ambassador for a discipline whose applications are increasingly permeating the modern world. Cederbaum succeeds in communicating complex mathematical problems with particular clarity, vividness, and relevance to everyday life, according to the jury.

The Tübingen Prize for Science Communication was established in 2020 to motivate researchers at the University of Tübingen to enter into a dialogue with society about their methods and findings.

Silver jubilee for Museum at Hohentübingen Castle

The Museum of Ancient Cultures at Hohentübingen Castle marked its 25th anniversary in 2022. It is part of MUT, the Museum of the University of Tübingen, and celebrated its jubilee with a special exhibition focusing on the history of excavations of the Homeric city of Troy. The Museum of Ancient Cultures worked closely with the Tübingen Troia Research Project, which has existed for 35 years, to create the "Troia, Schliemann and Tübingen" exhibition.

The exhibition not only focused on Heinrich Schliemann's original excavations in Troy and Mycenae, but also on the more recent work by Tübingen archaeologists. It incorporated formats such as 3D visualizations and photogrammetric reconstructions. The hands-on exhibition "Troia for Kids" was part of a broad museum education program. The exhibition's accompanying catalogue is the latest in the series of MUT publications, now comprising 25 volumes.

The Museum of Ancient Cultures has carried out groundbreaking work in the curatorship of artefacts such as its spectacular Ice Age figurines. Since its opening in 1997, the Museum of Ancient Cultures has welcomed 30,000 to 60,000 visitors each year; and it stages regular interdisciplinary exhibitions, showcases current research and student projects, and for several years has documented the results of the University's Invited Artist Program.

The MUT, headed by Professor Ernst Seidl, has also made accessible the scientifically important historical sites of the Bohnenberger Observatory and the "palace kitchen" laboratory in Hohentübingen Castle.

A view of the "Troia, Schliemann and Tübingen" jubilee exhibition at Hohentübingen Castle



Center of Islamic Theology celebrates first decade of religious studies

The Center of Islamic Theology (ZITh) at the University of Tübingen was the first of its kind at a German university when it was founded in 2011. Teaching began in the winter semester of 2011-12, with 24 students enrolled in a Bachelor's program in Islamic Theology. Today's courses qualify

students for a teaching position at high schools, for a chaplaincy in hospitals, or for an academic career. By 2022, the number of students had increased to more than 200, two-thirds of whom were women. The center is headed by Professor Erdal Toprakyan. One of its main tasks is to anchor Islamic Theology within the German academic system.

The center's six professorships employ 40 people, including 25 doctoral students and postdocs. The center now offers six study programs: Islamic Theology as a Bachelor's degree; Islamic Religious Education for teachers as a Bachelor's and a Master's de-

gree; two further Master's programs: Islamic Theology in the European Context and Islamic Practical Theology for Chaplaincy and Social Work; and the Interfaith Studies Master's degree program developed in cooperation with the Faculty of Catholic Theology and the Faculty of Protestant Theology. In the winter semester of 2022-23, Islamic Theology was added as a major and minor subject for Bachelor's degree students.

The Center was founded on the recommendation of the German Science Council to include the Islamic faith in German institutions, since Germany is home to some four million Muslims. The center is assisted in confessional issues by an advisory board of seven members, as Christian churches assist the faculties of Theology. In 2023, the center will move to a new building next to the Faculties of Protestant and Catholic Theology, creating a Campus of Theologies.



At the anniversary celebration (left to right): Abdulrahman Al Salmi from the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs of Oman, Aid Smajić from the Faculty of Islamic Studies at the University of Sarajevo, Gürcan Mert, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Center for Islamic Theology, the Tübingen religious scholar Stefan Schreiner, Petra Olschowski of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts, Tübingen University President Bernd Engler, and the director of the Center for Islamic Theology Erdal Toprakyan

LEAD Network marks 10 years of education research

The LEAD research network at the University of Tübingen celebrated its first decade with a three-day anniversary conference in October 2022. Researchers from twelve disciplines discussed topics in empirical education research and education psychology – including digitization in schools, the importance of robust scientific findings for school development, and the dialogue between researchers, schools, and the public.

The acronym LEAD stands for Learning, Educational Achievement, and Life Course Development. The LEAD research network started life as a graduate school in 2012 under the German government's Excellence Initiative. From 2016, the graduate school expanded into a research network that today unites more than one hundred researchers from twelve disciplines and more than ten nations. Since 2022, LEAD has been headed jointly by Professor Ulrich Trautwein, Director of the Hector Institute for Education Science, Professor Kou Murayama from the same institute, and Professor Ulrike Cress, Director of the Leibniz Institute for Knowledge Media in Tübingen.

By 2022, 86 people had successfully completed their doctorates within the network. LEAD integrates research from disciplines such as education, psychology, informatics, mathematics, economics, sports science, and child and adolescent psychiatry.



Celebrating 20 years of the Tübingen Children's University (left to right): Michael Seifert, former head of the University press office, Ulla Steuernagel and Ulrich Janssen of the Schwäbisches Tagblatt newspaper, and the University's Vice-President of Student Affairs and Studies, Karin Amos

Tübingen Children's University inaugurated 20 years ago

The Tübingen Children's University was launched in 2002 by the Schwäbisches Tagblatt newspaper and Michael Seifert, then head of the University's press office. It was the beginning of a success story which has been copied throughout the world. In this new event format at universities, children between the ages of seven and twelve come to lectures specially designed for them. The first Children's University lecture in Germany was given by Tübingen geoscientist, Professor Gregor Markl, on the topic "Why do volcanoes spit fire?" There are now around 360 children's universities in more than 41 countries around the world. They help to get children excited about science and research. In addition to the lectures, the University of Tübingen offers an annual

Children's University Research Day, when children can do hands-on research in workshops on a wide range of topics.

In 2022, the Children's University was able to re-start just in time for its 20th anniversary, following a hiatus due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Four child-friendly lectures again attracted many young visitors who wanted to find out why rivers need to flow freely or why a German shepherd is different from a dachshund. Complex issues are explained in language suitable for children – who can also ask questions. The young students receive a student ID and a children's university diploma at the end – and can thus get a taste of university at an early age.



Doris Dörrie's costume brought to mind a character from a famous story when she gave the 2022 Media Lecture.

PROMINENT GUESTS

Doris Dörrie gives Tübingen Media Lecture

As the 17th Tübingen Media Lecturer, author and filmmaker Doris Dörrie immediately secured the audience's attention when she appeared in May 2022 wearing a red Spider(wo)-man costume. Dörrie enthralled the audience with her talk on the power of stories, which she said are everywhere in human life. People love stories, constantly tell each other stories, and can discover causal chains even in a simple pair of juxtaposed terms, she said, adding that we always pick the combinations that make the most interesting tale. This trick is not only used in films; it is also employed in advertising, politics, and business. This is how narratives are constructed, according to Dörrie – little is said, but combinations are offered, and we build the story ourselves. This is also how populism and propaganda work.

Dörrie pointed out that, with the help of stories, people explain the world to themselves – or lie about it. Our brain constructs a fiction which we believe to be reality. If stories disappeared, we would be unable to cope. Stories give us hope for meaning and the promise of change – possibly for the better.

Doris Dörrie is a professor at the Munich University of Film and Television. She has received more than 30 honors and awards and is best known internationally for her Oscar-nominated comedy *Männer/ Men* (1985). The Tübinger Media Lecture is sponsored by the University of Tübingen, the Institute of Media Studies, and the broadcaster SWR.

Invited artist makes drawings with light

Japanese light artist Takehito Koganezawa came to Tübingen in summer 2022 as the fourth guest in the University of Tübingen Invited Artist Program. In this program, internationally renowned and innovative artists are invited to Tübingen to provide students with insights into contemporary art. Takehito Koganezawa represents a completely new understanding of the nature of drawing. He sees it as animated, ephemeral, and intangible. He implemented this form with students in a workshop. The results were captured for the public presentation "Drawing in Motion" at the Museum of the University of Tübingen. The exhibition was on view at Hohentübingen Castle from August 20 to October 3, 2022.

Artist Takehito Koganezawa works with light – here in the darkness of the Vogelherd Cave, where some of the world's earliest art has been found.



Guests at the Tübingen Writers' Lectureship (left to right): Ingo Schulze, Alida Bremer, organizer Dorothee Kimmich, Dževad Karahasan and Naser Šećerović



Tübingen Writers' Lectureship reflects on political upheaval

The 35th Tübingen Writers' Lectureship in November 2022 featured Ingo Schulze and Dževad Karahasan. Ingo Schulze was born in Dresden in 1962 and lives as a writer in Berlin. Dževad Karahasan, born in 1953 in Duvno in the former Yugoslavia, lives as a writer in Graz and Sarajevo. Each of them spent an evening talking about their writings, their choice of topics, and the significance of their own experiences after the collapse of East Germany and after the war in Bosnia, respectively. For both, these experiences, as personal as they are political, are not only part of their past, but also the basis of their creativity, imagination, and writing today.

The Tübingen Writers' Lectureship is sponsored by the Würth Foundation and Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. It has been held annually since 1996 and has been coordinated by Professor Dorothee Kimmich since 2005. Authors are invited to hold public lectures and workshops for students.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

The Lucas Prize

The historian, Judaist, and scholar of religion and literature **Maren Niehoff** received the Faculty of Protestant Theology's Dr. Leopold Lucas Prize in May 2022. Niehoff is Max Cooper Professor of Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She received the award for her interdisciplinary approach to questions of the relationship between Judaism, Christianity, and Greco-Roman culture. The prize is endowed with 50,000 euros and is the biggest prize bestowed by the University of Tübingen.

Maren Niehoff has done extensive research on Philo of Alexandria and on Jewish biblical exegesis. According to the jury, she has demonstrated how cultural transfer processes take place and what effects they can have. Niehoff's widely acclaimed monograph *Philo of Alexandria: An Intellectual Biography* was described as a lesson in the methodically precise interweaving of the life and writings of an ancient author.

The 2022 Dr. Leopold Lucas Prize for early-career researchers, endowed with 20,000 euros, went to Dr. **Friederike Portenhauser** for her thesis in Protestant Theology entitled *Personale Identität in der Theologie des Paulus (Personal Identity in the Theology of Paul; HUTH 79)*.

The Dr. Leopold Lucas Prize goes to individuals who have made a major contribution to greater tolerance and better relations between people and between nations, and who have helped to promote a philosophy of tolerance. The prize was established in 1972 in memory of the Jewish scholar and rabbi Dr. Leopold Lucas, who was killed in Theresienstadt concentration camp in 1943.



Top:
Lucas Prize laureate in 2022, Maren Niehoff (left) and the Dean of Protestant Theology, Birgit Weyel

Left:
Friederike Portenhauser won the 2022 Lucas Prize for early-career researchers.



Linda Woodhead and Adam Seligman were selected for the Lucas Prize in 2020.



Catch-up award ceremonies

The Dr. Leopold Lucas Awards for 2020 and 2021 were also presented at the awards ceremony in May 2022. These presentations had been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The 2020 Dr. Leopold Lucas Prize was awarded equally to **Linda Woodhead** (UK) and **Adam Seligman** (USA) in a tribute to two different yet essentially interrelated approaches to today's relationship between religion and society.

Professor Adam B. Seligman conducts research at Boston University's Institute on Culture, Religion & World Affairs and is active primarily in Israel and the United States. His work focuses on the place of religion in a pluralist society. He traverses the field between conventional religious competencies – ritual, tradition, and trust – and the need for mutual respect in a multi-religious society. Against this background, he engages in contemporary debates about religion and tolerance.

Linda Woodhead, professor of the Sociology of Religion at Lancaster University, examines the relationship between

modern religiosity or the renunciation of religion and the declining Christianity of Europe and Britain. She develops a broad view of very different religious phenomena which is rarely ventured in light of the diversity and complexity of religions.

The 2021 Dr. Leopold Lucas Prize went to the philosopher **Bernhard Waldenfels**, honoring his exploration of how we identify and understand what is foreign to us. Bernhard Waldenfels, born in 1934, is an emeritus professor of Philosophy at the Ruhr University in Bochum. He is a key author in the field of contemporary phenomenology. His work is mainly devoted to the development of a "phenomenology of the foreign." The jury said he met "the challenge of developing a phenomenological discourse that can be used to grasp the extent to which the foreign reveals itself in an authentic way in the unstable and pluralistic terrain of experience, and thereby remains recognizable."

Waldenfels is a key figure in contemporary philosophy. His work is explicitly and in an original way dedicated to the project of a genuine dialogue between nations and coun-

Bernhard Waldenfels





Johannes Reich
Ruth Rebecca Tietjen



Leela Gandhi

Leela Gandhi receives Alfons Auer Ethics Award

tries, the jury said. The plurality of areas in which the foreign reveals itself prompts Waldenfels not to limit himself merely to the results of phenomenological research in a narrow sense. Rather, he expands his research to fields such as social philosophy, political philosophy, law and ethics, ethnological discourse, as well as psychology and psychoanalysis, according to the jury.

The Dr. Leopold Lucas Prizes for early-career researchers in the years 2020 and 2021 were also presented retrospectively.

They went to the Catholic theologian Dr. **Johannes Reich** for his thesis “Das Ideal der Heiligkeit und Gottes Beistand. Ein moral-theologisch bedenkenswerter Aspekt in den Ethikvorlesungen und der Religionsschrift I. Kants” (“The ideal of holiness and God’s succour. A morally-theologically noteworthy aspect in the lectures on ethics and in the writing on religion by I. Kant”) and to the philosopher Dr. **Ruth Rebecca Tietjen** for her thesis “Am Abgrund. Philosophische Theorie der Angst und Übung in philosophischer Freiheit” (“At the abyss. A philosophical theory of fear and exercise in philosophical freedom”).

In November 2022, Brown University literature and cultural studies professor Leela Gandhi received the Alfons Auer Ethics Prize from the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Tübingen. With this award, the faculty honored her innovative work on postcolonial ethics and political theory. The prize is endowed with 25,000 euros.

Based on the approaches of her great-grandfather, the civil rights leader Mahatma Gandhi, Leela Gandhi developed a creative ethic that works critically and constructively on new forms of non-violence and on overcoming the damage that colonialism left behind even in postcolonial worlds.

The jury said that Leela Gandhi elaborates a postcolonial theory which theology has to face; if theological ethics are truly to live up to their claim of an inclusivity covering all people at all times, it is important that it hears the postcolonial critique of its own colonialism.

Leela Gandhi, who was born in Mumbai, has been researching and teaching as the John Hawkes Professor of Humanities and English at Brown University, Rhode Island, USA, since 2014. She received her PhD from Balliol College, Oxford University, and has taught at the University of Chicago, La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia, and at the University of Delhi. She is a senior fellow at the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University.

The award is dedicated to the theologian Alfons Auer (1915-2005). He was founding director of the Catholic Academy of the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart (1951-1953) and professor of moral theology first at the University of Würzburg (1955-1965), then at the University of Tübingen (1966-1981). The prize was sponsored by the entrepreneur Siegfried Weishaupt, managing partner of Max Weishaupt GmbH, on Auer’s 100th birthday.

Leela Gandhi’s keynote speech is available at [https:// uni-tuebingen.de/de/241747](https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/241747)

Hans Bausch Media Prize for Study on Information Literacy

Also in May 2022, the sociologist Dr. Anna-Katharina Messmer, Alexander Sangerlaub, director of the “futur eins” think-tank, and Leonie Schulz of the polytix strategic research agency received the Hans Bausch Media Award from broadcaster SWR for their study on the information literacy of Germans, published in March 2021. The prize is awarded in close cooperation with the Institute for Media Studies at the University of Tubingen and is endowed with 5,000 euros.



In their study, the team investigated how well test subjects could recognize disinformation and classify sources – an essential skill for forming opinions in times of media change. The more than 4,000 Internet users surveyed in Germany mostly yielded mediocre to poor scores in almost all fields when it came to recognizing the differences between information and disinformation, advertising, news and commentary. The team therefore calls for better training in this area both in schools and for adults.

The jury of the Hans Bausch Media Award considered the study a highly successful contribution to the debate on social responsibility in online public spheres. The recommendations for action were not only directed at citizens, but also raised questions about the importance of public broadcasting, journalism, media education for all age groups, the role of political decision-makers and the regulation of platforms. The non-profit Hans Bausch Media Prize Foundation serves to promote knowledge, research and innovation in the media sector. The prize is awarded annually for an academic work in the German-speaking world.

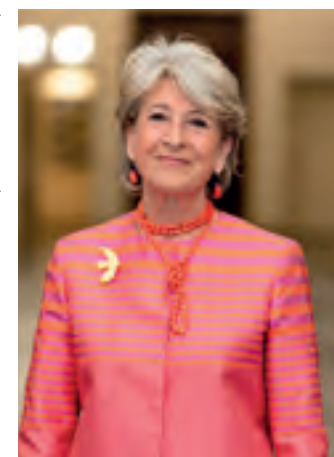
The three winners of the Hans Bausch Media Prize (left to right): Leonie Schulz, Anna-Katharina Messmer and Alexander Sangerlaub

DR. URSULA SCHWITALLA BECOMES LATEST HONORARY SENATOR

The University confers honorary senatorships on persons who have given special services to academia, research, art, culture, or social cohesion – particularly on Germany’s higher education stage. The art historian Dr. Ursula Schwitalla was appointed in May 2022.

She is the organizer of the outstanding lecture series Architektur Heute (Architecture Today), which has been running at the University of Tubingen for more than thirty years. She is an initiator of the University’s Invited Artist Program, which invites international artists to teach at Tubingen.

Ursula Schwitalla studied history, geography, politics, and art history at the Universities of Tubingen and Vienna, and received her doctorate in art history at the University of Tubingen. Her career has included working as a curator, art consultant, and lecturer at the Humboldt University Berlin as well as at the University of Tubingen.



Ursula Schwitalla

THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS HISTORY

University of Tübingen name debate

In July 2022, the University Senate voted down a motion by students to change the University's full name, Eberhard Karls Universität. The student council argued as early as 2020 that the two historical figures thus honored – Count Eberhard the Bearded (1445-1496) and Duke Karl Eugen of Württemberg (1728-1793) – were unsuitable as namesakes for a university in the 21st century due to their personal and political misconduct. Count Eberhard was accused of antisemitism, while Duke Karl Eugen was considered unsuitable because he sold his soldiers as mercenaries.

A working group of historians led by Professor Sigrid Hirbodian, head of the University's institute of regional history, had come to the conclusion earlier in 2022 that Count Eberhard's hostile attitude towards Jews could be proven from various contemporary documents. Among other things, Eberhard had decided not to extend existing residence permits for Jews living in Tübingen. With regard to Duke Karl Eugen von Württemberg, the working group pointed out that the ruler was responsible for the leasing or sale of Württemberg soldiers to foreign powers in order to secure additional revenue for the state treasury – behavior which was criticized even at the time.

However, the experts also pointed out that the policies and personal commitment of both men were crucial: for the foundation of the University of Tübingen in the 15th century,



Equestrian statue of Count Eberhard the Bearded, founder of the University of Tübingen

in the case of Eberhard, and the continued existence of the University in the 18th century, in the case of Karl Eugen.

The historians assessed the negative sides of both personalities as an expression of attitudes typical of the times, in which they did not differ greatly from their contemporaries. Count Eberhard founded the University of Tübingen in 1477. Duke Karl Eugen reformed the University in the 18th century and implemented essential innovations despite resistance from professors.

The Senate's decision to retain the University's name was preceded by months of intensive discussions in the University's committees. In addition, the University gave all its members and the public the opportunity to debate the pros and cons at a public event on July 5, 2022. As a result of this debate initiated by students, the University of Tübingen now seeks to examine its history more closely. Special attention will be paid to the constantly changing retrospective evaluation of historical events.

Database records Nazi victims in the Anatomical Institute of the University of Tübingen

During the Nazi era, 1,078 deceased people were handed over to the University of Tübingen's Anatomical Institute – without having given consent during their lifetime. Their names and data have now been recorded in a research database, the first of its kind at a German university. It was presented to the public in an online event on Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27, 2022. The biographical data of the people as well as all available information was compiled by the research project Gräberfeld X (Cemetery X), an initiative of the University and the City of Tübingen. The research project is headed by honorary professor and teaching fellow at the University, Professor Benigna Schönhagen.

The database offers new ways to find out about Nazi victims whose bodies were used at the Anatomical Institute. Questions that previously had to be researched individually can now be clarified with just a few clicks and using filter functions. For example, the database records how many executed prisoners, forced laborers or prisoners of war were delivered each year, what their names were, where they came from and when and where they had died. The data collection is intended to give the Nazi victims from Gräberfeld X a history again. The name Gräberfeld X refers to the area in Tübingen's city cemetery where the remains were buried which had been used for teaching and research purposes at the University of Tübingen's Anatomical Institute.

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