

Facts and figures. President's report

**Digital
European
Sustainable**

The University of Passau in academic year 2020–21

President's foreword

Dear friends,
sponsors and
members of the University,



Much has happened in the past academic year. This report renders visible the many steps in which our University continues to develop. If I were to name one defining feature of this journey, it would be the Free State of Bavaria's impressive investment in research and teaching. With the High-Tech Agenda (HTA), the University of Passau is also experiencing a huge boost. More than 50 new staff positions—including 25 professorships—will allow us to grow significantly. We have an extraordinary opportunity to shape the course of academic education and research in our City of Three Rivers in a way that will allow us to master the challenges of tomorrow. We also see this as a mandate to work on our key priorities in a bolstered formation: Digitalisation, Europe, Sustainability. These topics are interwoven in many ways. We, therefore, are deploying our particular aptitude for interdisciplinary cooperation and networking. This is being maintained and expanded both in-house between the faculties, and with non-University stakeholders.

The Bavarian Ministry of Science and Research actively supports our strategy for greater research strength through the reinforcement of available personnel. We will thus be able to enhance our chances for national and European research funding. As a particular (and visible) source of proof underscoring the importance accorded to Passau as an academic location, a new University centre complete with multifunctional event hall is being built on the Spitzberg site. The State of Bavaria is investing roughly EUR 100 million in the creation of a future architectural and cultural link between the campus and the city. The competition for the design commissioning kept us busy for more than two years. Now, the die is cast and we are good to go!

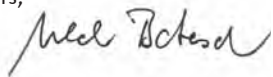
All our efforts were (and are currently being) channelled into producing results under the aggravating conditions of the pandemic. The virus has affected us, but not brought us to our knees. The involuntary changeover to a virtual teaching operation has been characterised by fantastic success. Everyone pulled together here and made the improbable possible: students, lecturers, technical and administrative staff. What has happened here can only be acknowledged in sheer amazement. Research, teaching and, with that, all the processes from enrolment to examination continued without interruption. We have all learned from mistakes, setbacks and numerous successes along the way. And so, in fact, there was no standstill at our University. It is with gratitude and pride that I am able to report this today. At this stage, we will examine and decide which new elements can permanently complement our teaching and learning formats. The technical prerequisites have been created and will be expanded further. The expertise brought to the table by all those involved has been expanded, and continues to be developed.

With the series entitled “The Idea of a University—Today (in Passau)”, we have also set about sounding out and discussing the requirements and opportunities of the upcoming Higher Education Innovation Act for our institution. Prominent external experts have entered into dialogue with our professors. Our discourse will continue and intensify in the coming months.

Many details of our work can be found on the following pages. It helps us enormously if you take some time to look at our report. Yes, we did it! And it is in this spirit that we will continue. We thank you for all your benevolent support and guidance and look forward to taking the next steps together.

We hope you enjoy reading our report!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Botos". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Visit our website for comprehensive information about the University of Passau: www.uni-passau.de/en.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Target agreements 2019–22

The University of Passau has prepared itself for the renewal of agreements on objectives with the Bavarian State Ministry for Science and the Arts with a cross-faculty strategy process. With the agreements on objectives for 2019–22, which were signed in the summer semester of 2019, the Free State of Bavaria assures the University of Passau and all state universities in Bavaria of reliable financial framework conditions for a period of four years. At the same time, the higher education institutions undertake to guarantee the required education capacities, to systematically develop the quality levels in its teaching and to expressly pursue further targets set in the Innovation Pact, such as internationalisation and gender equality.

The challenges of the Corona semester

During the reporting period, the University again had to step up and face the challenges posed by the coronavirus. The technical achievements alone that were necessary, in order to move a large part of university life into the digital realm, are outstanding. The figures from the Centre for Information Technology and Media Services speak for themselves here:

Zoom:

Winter semester 2020–21

- 135,000 meetings
- 1 million participants
- 525 webinars

Summer semester 2021

- 125,000 meetings
- 770,000 participants
- 558 webinars

The most active month was January 2021 with an average of 1,500 meetings and 10,000 participants per weekday.

The video recordings comprise a data volume of 1,126 gigabytes.

Vimeo:

Winter semester 2020–21: 371,000 videos played (78 terabytes of data)

Summer semester 2021: 313,000 videos played (57 terabytes of data)

Online exams with Klaus Online:

Winter semester 2020–21: 400 online exams

Summer semester 2021: 420 online exams

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

The Idea of a University—Today (in Passau)

Against the backdrop of the upcoming reform of higher education law in Bavaria (through the so-called “Bavarian Higher Education Innovation Act”), the University of Passau has been intensively examining its path into the future: from January to June 2021, the series “The Idea of a University—Today (in Passau)” took place with a high-calibre line-up of external speakers and “shout-outs” supplemented by internal responses and discussions.



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

External speakers

Professor Herfried Münkler
Professor Ulrike Beisiegel
Professor Ernst von Weizsäcker
Professor Horst Bischof
Professor Micha Teuscher
Professor Richard Münch
Professor Eva Horn
Professor Ernst R. Tamm
StM Bernd Sibler
Professor Wolfgang A. Herrmann
Professor Doering-Manteuffel
Professor Uwe Schneidewind
Professor Gesine Schwan
Professor Manfred Broucker
Simon Pagany and Matthias Eckmann*)
Professor Thomas Girst, BMW Group
Professor Marina Münkler
Dipl.-Inf. Alexander von Gernler, Vice-President of Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V.

Internal participants

Professor Hans-Georg Dederer
Professor Andreas König
Professor Anna Henkel
Professor Jörg Fedtke
Professor Tomas Sauer
Professor Carolin Haeussler
Professor Florian Töpfl
Professor Michael Grimm
Professor Heinrich Oberreuter
Professor Karsten Fitz
Professor Brigitte Forster-Heinlein
Professor Martina Padmanabhan
Professor Christian Thies
Professor Barbara Zehnpfennig
Sophia Rockenmaier and Lorena Puqja
Professor Birgit Beumers
Professor Hannah Schmid-Petri
Professor Hermann de Meer

*) First and acting Student Vice President of Zeppelin University, respectively; Sophia Rockenmaier and Lorena Puqja offered the response on behalf of the Passau Student Parliament.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Senate (at the end of summer semester 2021)

Representatives for the professoriate:

- Professor Karsten Fitz (Chair)
- Professor Franz Lehner (Deputy Chair)
- Professor Kai von Lewinski
- Professor Thomas Müller-Gronbach
- Professor Ursula Reutner
- Professor Tomas Sauer

Representatives for academic staff:

Dr Markus Beham

(Deputy Representative: Patrick Urlbauer)

Representatives for academic support staff:

Stefanie Dallmeier (Deputy Representative: Dr Robert Offinger)

Student representatives:

- Jonas Michalczyk
- Lorena Puqja

Women's representative: Professor Andrea Sieber

Deans (at the end of summer semester 2021)

Faculty of Law:

Dean: Professor Urs Kramer

Vice Dean: Professor Jörg Fedtke

Dean of Studies: Professor Frank Bayreuther

Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems:

Dean: Professor Jan Hendrik Schuman

Vice Dean: Professor Andreas König

Dean of Studies: Professor Sebastian Krautheim

Faculty of Arts and Humanities:

Dean: Professor Malte Rehbein

Vice Dean: Professor Oliver Hahn

1st Dean of Studies: Professor Lucia Krämer

2nd Dean of Studies: Professor Julia Ricart Brede

Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics:

Dean: Professor Tobias Kaiser

Vice Dean: Professor Ignaz Rutter

Dean of Studies: Professor Matthias Brandl

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

University Executive

President: Professor Ulrich Bartosch

Vice President (International Affairs & Diversity): Professor Christina Hansen

Vice President (Academic Infrastructure & IT): Professor Harald Kosch

Vice President (Studies, Teaching & Ethics): Professor Bettina Noltenius

Vice President (Research): Professor Robert Obermaier

Head of Administration: Dr Achim Dilling

University Women's Representative: Professor Andrea Sieber

Commissioner for System Accreditation and Internal Integration with the Cross-Functional Task of Sustainability: Professor Werner Gamerith



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

University Council

In the reporting period, the following external members sat on the University Council:

- Professor Ulrike Beisiegel, former President of the University of Göttingen
- Professor Ruth Breu, University of Innsbruck, Institute of Computer Science
- Dr Natascha Eckert, Siemens AG, Munich
- Nora-Eugenie Gomringer, Director of the International House of Artists Villa Concordia in Bamberg
- Professor Sigmund Gottlieb, Editor-in-Chief (retired), Bayerischer Rundfunk
- Dr Karl Huber, President (retired) of the Higher Regional Court and Bavarian Constitutional Court in Munich
- Walter Keilbart, Managing Director (retired) of the Lower Bavarian Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the BLM Media Council
- Professor Martin Selmayr, Head of the Representation for the European Commission in Austria, as of 1 May 2021
- Simone Tucci-Diekmann, Passauer Neue Presse GmbH, Passau
- Dr Alexander Wißpeintner, Micro-Epsilon Messtechnik GmbH & Co KG

The University Council is chaired by Walter Keilbart; Deputy Chairman and Chairman of the Senate is Professor Karsten Fitz.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Passau International Centre for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies (PICAIS)

PICAIS is the University's central, cross-project platform for academic excellence and interdisciplinary research and convergence. It has funded research aligned with the University of Passau's strategic thematic priorities since the summer semester of 2021. Issuing two calls for proposals every year, PICAIS provides financial and infrastructural support for innovative ideas for interdisciplinary projects and courses. The centre is dedicated to networking activities and supporting early career researchers. It integrates visiting researchers of international standing from Germany and abroad into the University's academic landscape. The aim is to provide a lively platform for collaboration and exchange with renowned international researchers and to establish a unique culture of collegial, transparent, open-minded and cross-disciplinary cooperation. In addition, PICAIS plays a pivotal role as an interface between academia and society, promoting dialogue between researchers and social, economic and cultural stakeholders in our networked society.

As it has an important supporting role for early career researchers, PICAIS cooperates closely with the University's Graduate Centre and other organisations to provide budding academics with networking opportunities.

The PICAIS Board includes the Vice President for Research and the University's Women's Representative. Utilising a collegial leadership format, it is headed by Professors Daniela Wawra and Michael Grimm. External members include Professors Ulrike Beisiegel, Horst Bischof and Herfried Münkler. The delegates from the faculties are Professors Moritz Hennemann, Sebastian Martens, Andreas König, Jan Krämer, Malte Steinbrink, Sandra Huebenthal, Hermann de Meer and Fabian Wirth.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Junior research groups

BMBF Early Career Researchers Support for AI projects: “CAROLL: Computer-aided rhetoric in social media and law”, Professor Jelena Mitrovic, Chair for Data Science, funding term: 2020–24

Emmy Noether Early Career Researchers Group “Mediating (semi-)Authoritarianism. The Power of the Internet in the post-Soviet World”, Professor Florian Töpfl, Chair of Political Communication with a focus on Eastern Europe and the Post-Soviet Region, funding term at the University of Passau: 2020–21



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

BayWISS collaborative research groups

- **Communication | Media:** network with Neu-Ulm University of Applied Sciences and Universität der Bundeswehr München under the direction of the University of Passau. Principal Investigator at the University of Passau: Professor Oliver Hahn
- **Economics:** network with numerous participating Bavarian universities.
Contact person at the University of Passau: Professor Dirk Totzek
- **Digitalisation:** network of Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, OTH Regensburg and Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt with the participation of the University of Passau. Contact person at the University of Passau: Professor Tomas Sauer
- **Life Sciences and Green Technologies:** association with Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences, the University of Bayreuth and the Deggendorf Institute of Technology with the participation of the University of Passau.
Contact persons at the University of Passau: Professors Dieter Anhuf (until 31 March 2021) and Christine Schmitt (from 1 April 2021)
- **Social Transformation:** network of Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, HAW Landshut and Katholische Stiftungshochschule München with the participation of the University of Passau.
Contact person at the University of Passau: Professor Horst-Alfred Heinrich

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Funding for habilitation qualifications and doctorates

The habilitation fund, established in 2020 as an financial support instrument for the University's habilitation candidates, was revised in 2021. In 2020, six habilitations were successfully concluded. Newly introduced components included thesis proposal funding and the peer programme "NaWi" for starting a doctorate.

Tenure track

The University of Passau offers tenure-track professorships as a separate career path alongside the traditional appointments procedures. Assistant professorships are advertised with a tenure option. One assistant professorship was filled in the reporting period.

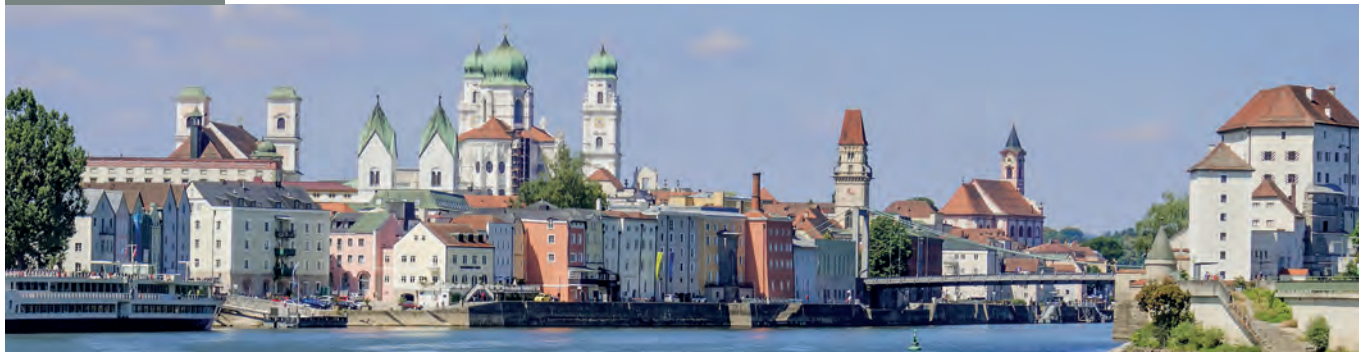
Doctoral study: DFG Research Training Groups (RTGs)

DFG RTG 1681/2 "Privacy and Digitalisation", 2012–21
Spokespersons: Professors Kai von Lewinski and Hans Krah
The research training group came to a conclusion in the reporting period.

A new DFG RTG was incepted on 5 November 2021:
DFG Research Training Group 2720/1 "Digital Platform Ecosystems (DPE). Digital platform-based value creation and its implications for data exchange, organisation and socio-economic development". The spokespersons are Professors Jan Krämer and Andreas König, the funding term is 2022–27.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Focus on Europe



Passau is situated at the border triangle of Germany—Austria—Czech Republic in the heart of Europe. In 2021, the focus was rendered particularly visible when the University celebrated a Europe Day together with Minister of State Melanie Huml and MEP Manfred Weber.

The interconnectedness of the three key focal themes was repeatedly exemplified by conference topics such as “Smart Data and Health in the Future—For Europe” (Digital Symposium by *Neuburger Gesprächskreis* on 7 May 2021).

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Focus on sustainability



The University can boast many individual activities and research projects related to sustainability, often at our students' initiative. One example of such a project is the urban gardening demonstration garden, which was opened on the grounds of the University on 21 June 2021. It is the first of its kind in the administrative district of Lower Bavaria and one of only seven such gardens in all of Bavaria.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Focus on digitalisation



The University of Passau is a member of the Internet and Digitalisation Network of East Bavaria (INDIGO), founded in 2014 by the six East Bavarian universities—the universities of applied sciences Amberg-Weiden, Deggendorf, Landshut and Regensburg and the universities of Passau and Regensburg.

INDIGO aims to permanently establish and develop the eastern Bavarian region as a place of excellence for science as well as for successful, high-performance business enterprises in the areas of internet and digitalisation.

Example of INDIGO activities: INDIGO workshop on IT-security research held on 5 July 2021



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Current rankings

World University Ranking 2022:

For the fifth consecutive time, the University of Passau was placed in the top quarter of universities around the globe in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Ranking. The University has continuously held this high level since it first participated in 2018. In the current ranking, the University of Passau is ranked 351-400. Among the 50 German universities participating in the ranking, the University of Passau is ranked 35th; throughout Bavaria, it continues to be ranked 5th. This is particularly pleasing in light of the fact that the scope of participants has grown by over 50 percent in the past 5 years to now include 1,662 universities.

Impact Ranking 2021:

In terms of teaching quality, the University of Passau is among the best 10 percent of universities worldwide. The University of Passau again performed very satisfactorily in the third THE Impact Ranking, which evaluates universities' performance against goals and indicators for sustainable development. The University achieved 99th place out of 1,154 participating universities in the area of 'Quality Education'. The University of Passau also attained top scores (best 20 percent worldwide) in the areas 'Reduced Inequalities', 'Gender Equality' and 'Sustainable Cities and Communities'. Equality, family-friendliness and sustainability are strategically relevant for the University—and the appreciation and visibility gained are a validation of our efforts and commitment.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Current rankings

Young University Ranking 2021:

The University of Passau has achieved another considerable success in the Young University Ranking 2021: At 33rd place, it is among the world's leading ten percent of young universities founded in the past 50 years for the fourth year in a row. This top position of the University of Passau is all the more remarkable when one considers that the number of competitors has yet again grown significantly: while 414 universities had taken part in the previous year, this figure rose to 475 by 2021. The University of Passau is ranked fourth in Germany.

THE Subject Rankings 2021:

The University of Passau can also report gratifying results in the THE Subject Rankings 2021. For the second time in a row, three departments reached top places in the international comparison. Computer Science performs outstandingly well and continues to rank 151–175 in a field of 827 universities. This is all the more remarkable as the participation figure has once again risen significantly. The University of Passau with its computer science faculty is ranked 12th in Germany and fourth in Bavaria. The University's two other departments that qualified for the Subject Ranking are also great successes: Social Science ranks in the 501–600 group and Business and Economics even ranks among the best 251–300 departments.

THE Subject Ranking 2022 for Computer Science:

In the 2022 THE Subject Ranking for Computer Science, the University of Passau has defended its excellent ranking among the best 20 percent worldwide. Among Bavarian universities, it is listed in fourth place.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

AI Initiative, High-Tech Agenda, Medical Campus



As part of the Bavarian high-tech agenda, the University will receive new professorships, further staff positions and some EUR 5.4 million in material resources to strengthen research and expand computer science at the University—around 400 new study places are to be created in the discipline of computer science. In addition, the State of Bavaria is financing the construction of the International Centre for Scholarship and Science at the Spitzberg site in Passau.

“With this fundamental expansion measure, we are rendering visible the comprehensive strategic continuous development and honing of the University’s profile.”
(Science Minister Bernd Sibler at the High-Tech Summit at the University of Passau in July 2021).

Within the framework of the Bavaria-wide AI competition, the University of Passau has succeeded in acquiring three of a total of 50 professorships. These range topically from research on explainable-AI-based operational information systems, to AI engineering and artificial intelligence in criminal law—here, the focus is on legal issues surrounding the topic of autonomous driving.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

New professorships—High-tech Agenda and AI Initiative

A number of appointment procedures were initiated across all four faculties to fill professorial positions created by the Bavarian high-tech agenda (W1–3 denote pay grades):

Faculty of Law:	two W2 professorships one W3 professorship
Business, Economics & Inf. Systems:	three W3 professorships
Arts and Humanities:	four W3 professorships
Computer Science and Mathematics:	four W1 professorships eight W3 professorships



Wi-Fi expansion

In the current reporting period, the expansion of the University of Passau's internet infrastructure continues to make progress following the approval of the major equipment application by the DFG and the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts in the winter of semester 2018–19. A total of approximately EUR 1.5 million is available for this purpose from federal and state funds as well as the University's own resources—one of the largest projects to expand academic infrastructure in recent years, which will triple the number of access points.

FREDI

The Research Centre for Law and Digitalisation (FREDI) is another example of the special connection that exists between law and digitalisation in Passau. Among other things, the centre is organising a conference on Global Data Strategies at the University of Passau (20 and 21 September 2021).

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Challenges: AI Initiative, Bavarian high-tech agenda, medical campus



The Passau Institute of Digital Security (PIDS) was founded in February 2020. As an institution of the University of Passau and successor to the Institute of IT Security and Security Law (ISL), PIDS has a distinctly interdisciplinary orientation, generating research that encompasses questions and methods from the technical, economic and legal domains. Within PIDS, academics from all faculties of the University collaborate on innovative solutions for cyber security.

Around EUR 700,000 in extra funding for the “KIMoNo” project, which is concerned with AI-based, multi-type optimisation of mobility in rural areas, was handed over by Federal Transport Minister Andreas Scheuer to President Professor Ulrich Bartosch (pictured). The additional funding focuses, in particular, on the use of intelligent drones to improve medical care in rural areas (September 2021).

Passau’s Chair of Data Science (Professor Michael Granitzer) and FORWISS Institute (Professor Tomas Sauer) are involved in the project, cooperating with the Fraunhofer Development Center for X-Ray Technology (EZRT), a division of the Institute for Integrated Circuits (IIS) with locations in Fürth, Würzburg, Deggendorf and Passau. The project team is also collaborating with the CTMT application centre at Deggendorf Institute of Technology.

Lower Bavarian medical campus

The University of Passau actively participated in the feasibility studies of the University of Regensburg and the Technical University of Munich, and confirmed its willingness to participate in the medical education project.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Good research practice

Based on the new code set out by the German Research Foundation (DFG) to ensure good research practice and its required implementation at the University of Passau by July 2022, a ten-member steering committee is currently developing new statute content as guidelines for good research practice. Under the leadership of the Vice President for Research, Professor Robert Obermaier, representatives of the four faculties, the Ethics Committee, Research Services Division, Graduate Centre, Legal Division and the local ombudsperson are drawing up a contemporary and comprehensive set of statutes that lay down the rules for good research work and the procedure for dealing with research-related misconduct.

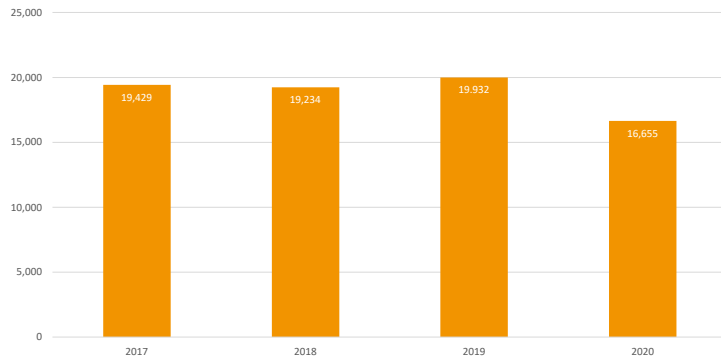
Research data management

The professional and responsible handling of research data is essential for scientific work and an important part of good research practice. Under the leadership of the Vice President for Academic Infrastructure and IT, Professor Harald Kosch, representatives of the Academic Support Services are working together with researchers at the University to develop a research data policy within the framework of the Research Data Working Group, which was established at the beginning of 2021 based on the DFG guidelines for handling research data and ensuring good research practice. The Research Services Division, University Library and Centre for Information Technology and Media Services (ZIM) offer initial advice and support on the topic of research data management and, on the basis of the exchange within the Research Data Working Group, successively develop their advisory and service offerings further in line with the needs of researchers.

University Research Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee dealt with a total of four applications during the reporting period and found them to be without cause for objection. As part of the lecture series on topics related to research and ethics, academic representatives of the University of Passau have, at present, already been invited to a third guest lecture. In June 2021, we were privileged to welcome Johannes Fritsch from the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, who gave a lecture on handling security-relevant research.

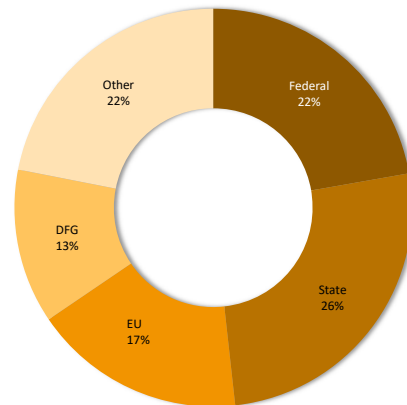
Intake of external funds over time (EUR '000)



The bar chart shows the development of acquired external funds in recent fiscal years. These are earmarked for specific projects and usually paid out over the subsequent years.

External income in 2020 by funding source (%)

“Other” external income consists of income from research associations, foundations and direct research contracts from companies and industry.



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Externally funded projects—overall assessment

In the reporting period, a number of externally funded projects were newly approved, three by Bavarian State Ministries, five by German Federal Ministries, seven by the German Research Foundation (DFG), six by the Bavarian Virtual University (vhb), two by the 8th Research Framework Programme of the European Union (Horizon 2020) and six by other funding sources.

On balance, however, far more externally funded projects were carried out at the University of Passau during the reporting period. Of these, 33 were funded by Bavarian State Ministries, 24 by German Federal Ministries, including 16 by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), 38 by the DFG, 15 by the vhb and 20 by the European Union.

Selected projects with European funding (sorted alphabetically by acronym)

CONCORDIA: Consortium project funded by the EU in the 8th Research Framework Programme “Horizon 2020”, principal Investigator at the University of Passau: Professor Stefan Katzenbeisser, 2019–22

denk.mal digital: Consortium project coordinated by the University of Passau and funded by the EU in the programme “Objective ETZ Free State of Bavaria-Czech Republic 2014–20 (INTERREG V)”, Principal Investigator at the University of Passau: Professor Andreas Michler, 2020–22

REnergetic: Consortium project funded by the EU in the 8th Research Framework Programme “Horizon 2020”, Principal Investigator at the University of Passau: Professor Hermann de Meer, 2020–24

RUSINFORM (ERC Consolidator Grant): Funded by the EU in the 8th Research Framework Programme “Horizon 2020”, Project Leader: Professor Florian Töpl, 2019–24

Upsurge: Consortium project funded by the EU in the 8th Research Framework Programme “Horizon 2020”, Principal Investigator at the University of Passau: Dr Stefan Mang, 2021–25

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Selected projects funded by German organisations (sorted alphabetically by acronym)

Collaborative project within the framework of the BMBF funding measure “6G Research Hubs; Platform for Future Communication Technologies and 6G”: “6G Research and Innovation Cluster”, 2021–25, Principal Investigator of the sub-project at the University of Passau: Professor Stefan Katzenbeisser

Bavarian Research Network ForInter, Participation in the Bavarian Research Network ForInter (Bavarian research network on the interaction of human brain cells), 2019–23, project leader at the University of Passau: Professor Hans-Georg Dederer

FREDI—Research Centre for Law and Digitalisation, funded by the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts and established in 2017 at the Chair of European and International Information and Data Law, 2017–24, directed by: Professor Moritz Hennemann

Internal study programme audit: Digitalisation—Higher Education Didactics as a Stakeholder in Study Programme Development and Evaluation, funded by *Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre*, funding announcement “*Hochschullehre durch Digitalisierung stärken*” (strengthening university teaching through digitalisation), 2021–24, Principal Investigator: Professor Jutta Mägdefrau

East-Bavarian Centre of Internet Competence—ICT Projects at the University of Passau, funded by the Bavarian State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy, 2015–21, Principal Investigators: Professors Michael Granitzer, Dirk Heckmann, Harald Kosch, Hermann de Meer

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Selected projects funded by German organisations (sorted alphabetically by acronym)

KIMoNo—AI-based, multi-type optimisation of mobility in rural areas: Consortium project funded by the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, 2020–23, Principal Investigators: Professors Harald Kosch and Tomas Sauer

Enhancing the quality of digitally supported teaching at Bavarian universities: Consortium project within the framework of the funding announcement *“Hochschullehre durch Digitalisierung stärken”* (strengthening university teaching through digitalisation), by *Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre*, 2021–24, Principal Investigator of the sub-project at the University of Passau: Dr Susanne Günther

SKILL.de: Funded as part of the federal–state initiative *“Qualitätsoffensive Lehrerbildung”* (push for quality in teacher education); follow-on project *“Strategies for competence development: Innovative teaching formats in teacher education, digitally enhanced”*, 2019–23, Project management: Professor Jutta Mägdefrau

bidt consortium project “Vectors of Jurisprudence. A comparative study on the use of own personal data from the perspectives of jurisprudence, cultural studies and business informatics”: 2020–23, Principal Investigators: Professors Moritz Hennemann, Kai von Lewinski, Daniela Wawra, Thomas Widjaja



Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

Exhibition: “A New University Emerges”— architecture on the Passau campus

In 1976, the results of the “Ideas and Building Competition” for what was to become the new University in Passau were presented to the public in the state rooms of the historic New Residence. It was only fitting to choose the same location in 2021 for the joint exhibition by the University and the cathedral museum showcasing the campus architecture from different perspectives since its founding, thereby connecting campus history with glimpses of its envisaged future expansion. The curator of the exhibition was Professor Jörg Trempler, who planned and designed the exhibition with his team and students. The University of Passau has grown by around a third in recent years. With the AI Initiative and the High-Tech Agenda, new challenges lie ahead. A *Passau International Centre for Scholarship and Science* will be built as a new construction on the Spitzberg site spanning around 4,800 m² of main floor space. This is one of the largest fundamental spatial expansions since the University was founded.



The central exhibit is a representative wooden model of Passau that shows the city from the University grounds to the confluence of the rivers Danube, Inn and Ilz.

Prizes, awards and memberships (selection; see also under “Knowledge transfer”)

From 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021, respectively awarded at the Dies academicus 2021

Professor Barbara Zehnpfennig

Awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (Bundesverdienstkreuz)

Professor Jan Hendrik Schumann

Appointed co-liaison officer to the Ama Servsig Board, a special interest group for services research of the American Marketing Association

Professor Anna Henkel

Appointed deputy member of the Committee on Safety and Health at Work (ASGA) of the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Professor Till Müller-Ibold

Appointed honorary professor at the Faculty of Law

Professor Johannes Jütting

Appointed honorary professor at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems

Faculty of Law

Named “Digital Pioneer 2020” within the framework of the Digital Study 2020 for the LL.B. Legal Tech programme and awarded the “Best E-Learning 2020 Digital Award”

Professor Tristan Barczak

Researcher Award 2020 of *Universitätsgesellschaft Münster e. V.* for outstanding academic research achievements in a postdoctoral habilitation thesis

Professor Brigitte Forster-Heinlein

Named “Maths Maker” for the months of May and June 2021 by *Deutsche Mathematiker-Vereinigung e. V.*

LegEmerge Project (led by Professor Hans-Georg Dederer)

Prize for the Best Transfer Achievement 2021 of *Neuburger Gesprächskreis Wissenschaft und Praxis an der Universität Passau e. V.*

Professor Jan Hendrik Schumann

Award for Services to Internationalisation of the University of Passau 2021

Professor Marcus Antonio Giamattei

Karl-Heinz-Pollak-Gedächtnispreis of *Neuburger Gesprächskreis Wissenschaft und Praxis an der Universität Passau e. V.*

Dr Till Meickmann, Dr Nora Nahr, Philipp Aufenvenne, Thomas Stelzl, Dr Jochen Glück, Valentina Stickdorn

Award for Good Teaching of the University of Passau 2021

Prizes, awards and memberships (selection; see also under “Knowledge transfer”)

From 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021, respectively awarded at the Dies academicus 2021

Nightline Passau e. V. student society

Award for Outstanding Commitment 2021

Dr Katrin Huber

Awarded the *Karl Paul Hensel-Preis 2020* of *Doris und Dr. Michael Hagemann-Stiftung*

Dr Christian Kalin

Award for Good Teaching at the Public Universities of Bavaria 2020

Fabian Fleischmann

IHK Award 2020 of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce for Lower Bavaria

Dr Dorothea Calmels

Bayernwerk AG Bavarian Culture Prize 2021

Dr Benjamin Planche

Doctoral Thesis Award 2021 of Sparda-Bank Ostbayern eG

Dr Franz Strich

Doctoral Thesis Award 2021 of Sparkasse Passau

Dr Donata Zehner

Doctoral Thesis Award 2021 of the Friends and Sponsors Association of the University of Passau

Isabelle Ewald

For..Net Media Award 2021

Dr Marlene Wagner

Doctoral Thesis Award 2021 of the University of Passau

With the “**Universitätsallianz 11+**” eleven founding universities, including **Passau**, have created a network that is intended to stimulate sources of cooperation potential in the German university system, in addition to the established alliances.

Positioning, research and support for early career researchers

University competition “Paper Atlas 2021”: University of Passau “Rising Star of the Year”



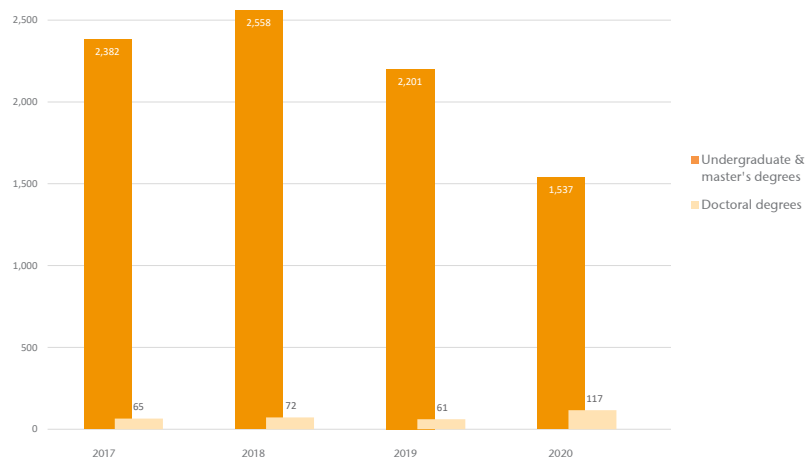
Professor Ulrich Bartosch (left), President of the University of Passau, is delighted to accept the award at the Paper Atlas 2021. The prize was presented by Florian Pronold, Member of the German Bundestag, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment.

Following the award ceremony, Florian Pronold visited the University of Passau and gained important insight, in particular, into the University's structural developments and visited Professor Trempler's exhibition.

Within one year, the University of Passau has increased the proportion of Blue Angel paper used in its administrative divisions by 74.94 percentage points, to 100 percent. This means that the University of Passau has achieved the highest increase in the Paper Atlas University Competition 2021 by the Initiative Pro Recycling Paper (IPR) and has been awarded “Rising Star of the Year” in this regard.

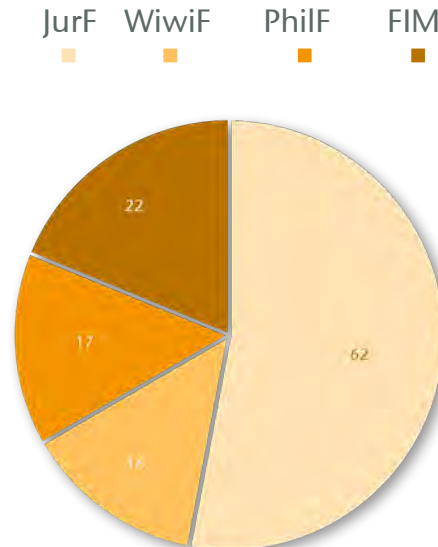


Graduations and doctorates (absolute figures)



Official figures for the academic years 2017–20, as published annually on 1 December.

Doctorates in 2020 by faculty





As a signatory to the “Familie in der Hochschule” charter, the University of Passau is committed to family-friendly policies.



Diversity

The Lehre* university teaching training unit has offered the “Diversity and Gender” certificate since winter semester 2020-21, supplementing its other diverse activities in this area. The certificate training course was designed in close cooperation with the University’s Diversity and Gender Equality Section. Its aim is to facilitate the professional development and enhancement of diversity- and gender-sensitive teaching, examination and advisory competencies and skills, which are becoming increasingly important in the light of the internationalisation of teaching at the University and the growing diversity of the student body.

www.uni-passau.de/en/diversity-gender-equality/diversity

Since September 2021, menstrual products have been dispensed free of charge in several toilet facilities as part of a pilot project initiated by the AStA Student Representatives’ Council in cooperation with the Diversity and Gender Equality Section.

Degree programmes

The four faculties offered a total of 38 degree programmes at the transition to the new reporting period. The excellent foreign and specialist language programmes offered by the Language Centre and career preparation training offers of the Centre for Careers and Competencies are hallmarks of the University of Passau.

Alumni

Since its opening in 1978, the University of Passau has produced some **43,303** graduates.

State examination programmes

Five degree programmes of the University lead to a state examination in the areas of Law and Teacher Education.

Bachelor's degrees

Sixteen undergraduate degree programmes lead to the award of a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bakkalaureus/Bakkalaurea Artium (B.A.), Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) or Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.). The latest additions to our range of degree programmes since winter semester 2020–21 are the LL.B. Legal Tech and B.Sc. Digital Transformation in Business and Society.

Master's degrees

Our 17 master's programmes are open to those with a relevant undergraduate degree (e.g. bachelor's degree or a German *Diplom*, *Magister* or state examination). Master's degrees awarded are the Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Laws (LL.M.) and Master of Science (M.Sc.). The M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence Engineering and M.A. Communication in Digital Societies will be newly introduced in winter semester 2021–22.

M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence Engineering

Artificial intelligence (AI) now permeates all areas of our lives and holds enormous potential for the future. Mathematics and computer science provide the foundations for understanding and developing core AI technologies.

In the Master of Science programme in Artificial Intelligence Engineering (AI Engineering), students work on scientific theories, algorithms and methods for designing and developing AI-based systems. They also acquire the ability to integrate artificial intelligence into existing real-world systems (e.g. media systems, information systems, industrial processes) or to design these themselves. In addition, interdisciplinary issues of Artificial Intelligence will be addressed: when using AI-based systems, legal, ethical, social and economic conditions must also be taken into account.



M.A. Communication in Digital Societies

The M.A. Communication in Digital Societies programme allows students to engage in theoretical and application-oriented study simultaneously. It is primarily aimed at graduates from degree programmes with a focus on communication studies who want to explore how the digital media transform public communication processes and what consequences this can have for society as a whole. It combines social-scientific research with a special focus on computational methods and combines these with interdisciplinary aspects of digital transformation.





Studying abroad

Students can choose from 254 partner universities in Europe and worldwide to complete part of their degree programme.

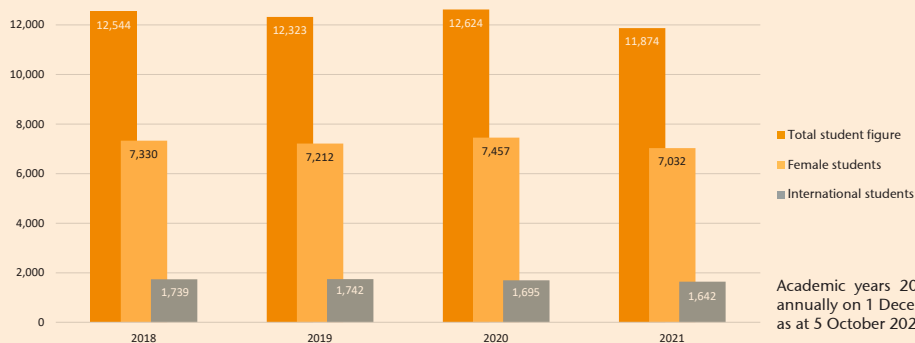
Double degree programmes

A total of 27 double-degree programmes exist with international partner universities in Argentina, China, Finland, France, India, Italy, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

During the reporting period, new additions to the double-degree programmes included a bachelor's and a master's degree in political science with Ljubljana, Slovenia, and a bachelor's degree in political science with Parma, Italy.

Furthermore, a new double master's programme in business administration was established with Chengdu, China.

Students (absolute figures)



Academic years 2018-20: official statistics as published annually on 1 December; the 2021 figures are preliminary as at 5 October 2021.

Scholarships (selection)

Number of scholarship recipients

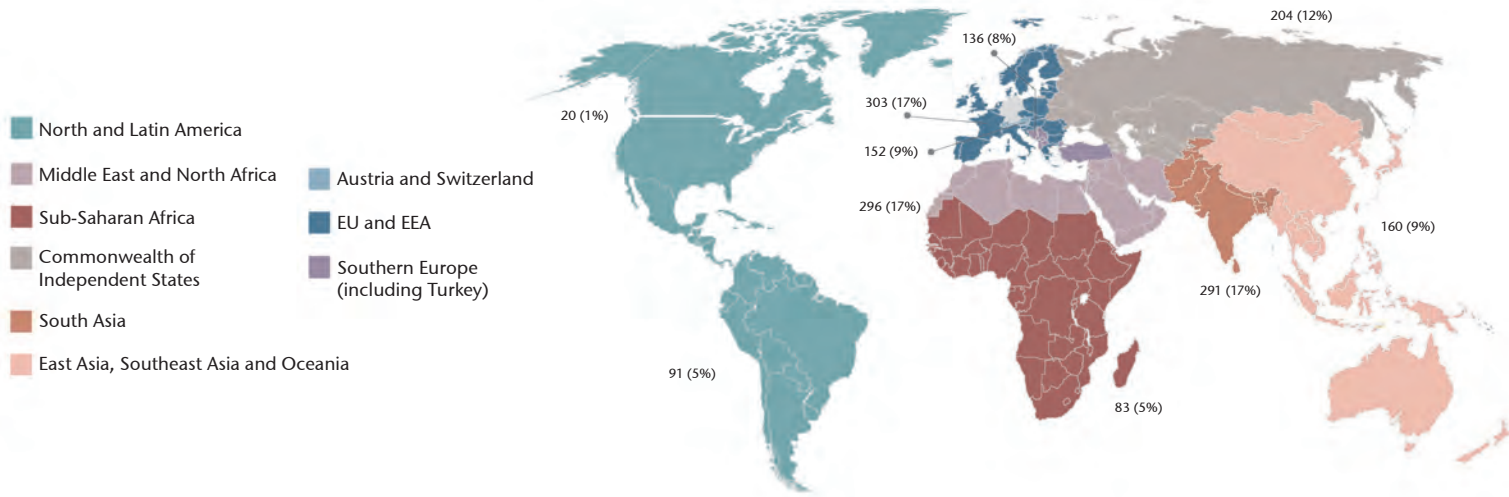
German Academic Scholarship Foundation	48 students
Other foundations	218 students
Deutschlandstipendium scholarship	56 students
Bavarian Elite Academy	3 students

Numerous scholarship organisations support students and doctoral researchers of the University of Passau with their various scholarship programmes. Funding sources include the European Union, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Bavarian University Centres, the University of Passau's support associations, foundations and other institutions as well as funding under the Bavarian Equal Opportunities Act.

International students

On 5 October 2021, some 1,736 international students from 101 countries are enrolled at the University of Passau (not counting German citizens and persons who are stateless or whose citizenship status is unknown).

Nationality (absolute and relative figures)



International students

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

A total of 109 students and graduates from abroad and Germany received DAAD funding. This puts the University of Passau in 30th place among 242 DAAD member universities in Germany, and in fourth place in Bavaria in terms of DAAD expenditure in relation to individual funding. The University also received a total of EUR 1,559,867 for internationalisation projects and programmes such as ERASMUS+, PROMOS, Welcome and Integra.

German Courses Passau

While the 2019 summer courses attracted over 100 participants from nearly 30 countries, they had to be cancelled in summer 2020 due to the unfolding pandemic. There were still 17 participants in the Academic German Year 2019–20 and only three in the Academic German Semester 2020.

iStudi Coach

The iStudi Coach advised 313 international degree-seeking students from 76 countries in one-to-one interviews and answered 1,077 enquiries in relation to job searches, applications, study organisation and legal issues.

ERASMUS

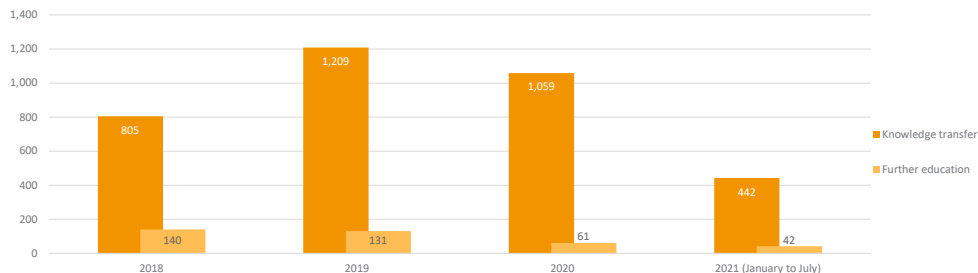
Ninety-two students were sponsored with an ERASMUS exchange grant, as very few students chose to study abroad for a semester or more due to the covid-19 pandemic. However, in academic year 2020–21 a total of 55 students received an ERASMUS internship grant for international internships started between 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021.

Refugee Programme

Forty refugees took part in language courses funded by the DAAD and the BMBF—either as preparation for their university studies or to improve their German language skills alongside their studies. Furthermore, a total of 48 students enrolled at the University came from Syria, the main country of origin for the refugees in Passau.

Knowledge transfer

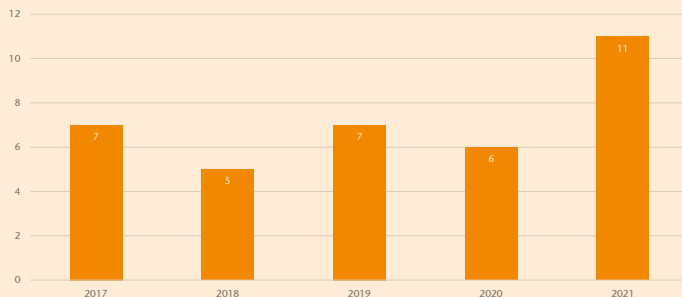
Knowledge transfer and further education: intake of external funds over time (EUR '000)



The figures for the development of external funding from 2018–20 relate in each case to the full financial year (1 January to 31 December); for 2021, the provisional figures at 31 July 2021 were used.

The number of companies spun off (2017–21) refers to the periods from October of the previous year to September of the reporting year.

Spin-out companies (absolute figures)



Scholarships for start-ups

- The federal government (EXIST) and the State of Bavaria (FLÜGGE) support innovative start-up projects from universities.
- Two teams from the University (6 people in total) received FLÜGGE funding totalling EUR 135,000 in 2020 and 2021.
 - 2020: 1 team of 3 people, total funding amount: EUR 67,500
 - 2021: 1 team with 3 people, total funding amount: EUR 67,500

Accolades (selection)

Professor Moritz Hennemann, Chair of European and International Information and Data Law and Head of the Research Centre for Law and Digitalisation (FREDI) at the University of Passau, explored modern forms of interaction and participation from the perspective of contract law for his habilitation research. The comprehensive study entitled “Interaction and Participation—The Dimensions of Systemic Binding in Contract Law” was awarded the Peter Schlechtriem Prize of the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg in 2020.

www.jura.uni-passau.de/aktuelles/meldung/detail/passauer-rechtswissenschaftler-erhaelt-peter-schlechtriem-preis

Brigitte Forster-Heinlein, Professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Passau, received the Ars legendi Faculty Award in Mathematics for the Year 2021. The foundation association awards this prize for outstanding university teaching in mathematics and the natural sciences annually together with other academic societies. A special feature of her teaching concept is the creation of a “Hands-on Maths Museum” with final theses by mathematics students, who make mathematics publicly accessible in this way.

www.uni-passau.de/bereiche/presse/pressemitteilungen/meldung/detail/passauer-mathematikerin-erhaelt-ars-legendi-fakultaetenpreis-2021

For the 8th “For..Net Award”, which is presented by the Research Centre for IT Law and Internet Policy (For..Net) at the University of Passau under the management of Professor Dirk Heckmann, the choice in 2021 fell on the Ukrainian-born psychologist, politician and publicist Marina Weisband, who has worked for more than ten years on issues of digitalisation, digital education, digital participation and equal opportunities, transparency and media competence. The award is given in recognition of services in the field of public welfare-oriented digitalisation.

www.jura.uni-passau.de/aktuelles/meldung/detail/marina-weisband-erhaelt-den-fornet-award-2021

Funding and cooperation (selection)

The Fraunhofer Cluster of Excellence entitled “Integrated Energy Systems” (CINES) has commissioned Professor Hannah Schmid-Petri, holder of the Chair of Science Communication, to set up a research group. The research group designs new evidence-based formats to communicate and accompany energy research. This is the second Fraunhofer research group at the University of Passau.

www.digital.uni-passau.de/beitraege/2021/energiewende-zielgerichtet-kommunizieren

Professor Christina Hansen, Chair of Education/Primary and Pre-Primary Education and the University's Vice President for International Affairs and Diversity, has been appointed to the Quality Assurance Council for Teacher Education (QSR) as of 1 November 2020 by the Austrian Federal Government.

www.digital.uni-passau.de/beitraege/2020/oesterreichischer-qualitaetssicherungsrat

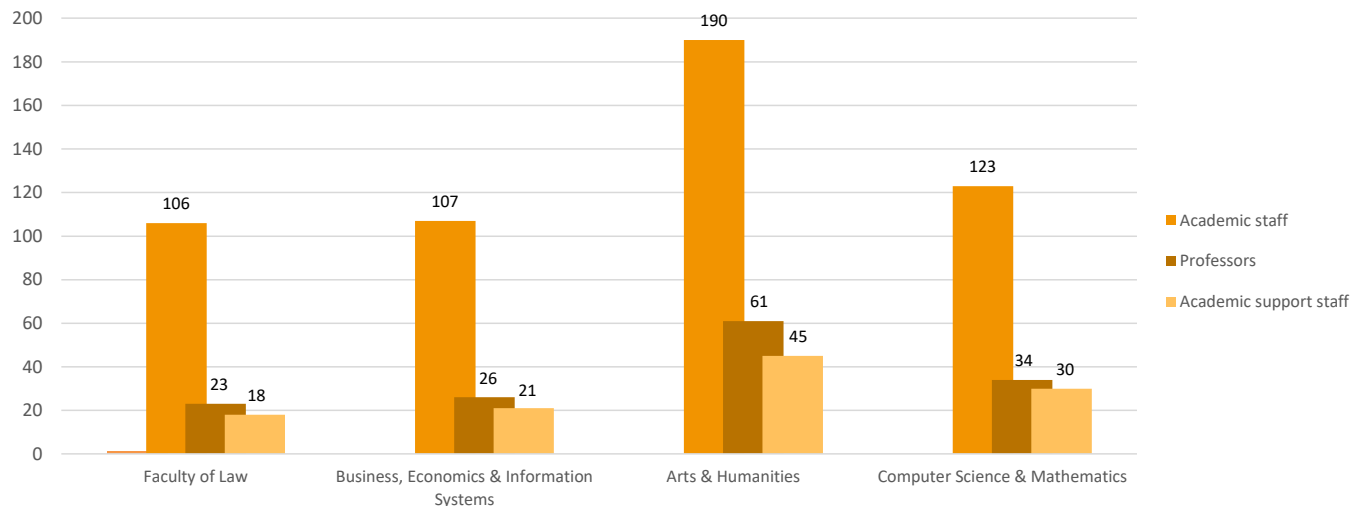
The public lecture series entitled “Passau 10 Minutes” is dedicated to concepts such as responsibility, digitalisation and stress, which are examined in short lectures from the perspective of different disciplines, and which are intended to provide a thought-provoking series of impulses. It is the explicit aim of Professor Henkel, who initiated the format in 2019, to attract as broad an audience as possible to the University of Passau with the course.

www.phil.uni-passau.de/passauer-10-minuten

In 2021, the University of Passau was a cooperation partner of the Danube Cup, a pitch competition that gave innovative start-ups the opportunity to present themselves in an international context for the fifth time. Participation in the competition is an important element of the University's international networking activities in the areas of start-up support and entrepreneurship.

www.uni-passau.de/wissenstransfer/gruendungsfoerderung/danube-cup

Staff structure (absolute numbers and distribution across the faculties)



On 1 July 2021, the University of Passau had 144 professors, 28% of whom women, and employed a total 1,232 staff in primary occupation. Of these, 737 were academic staff and 495 academic support staff. These figures are preliminary.

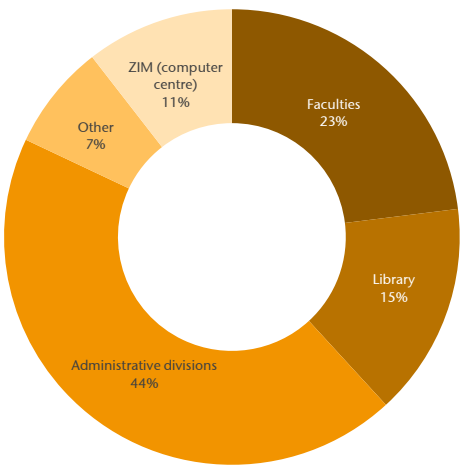
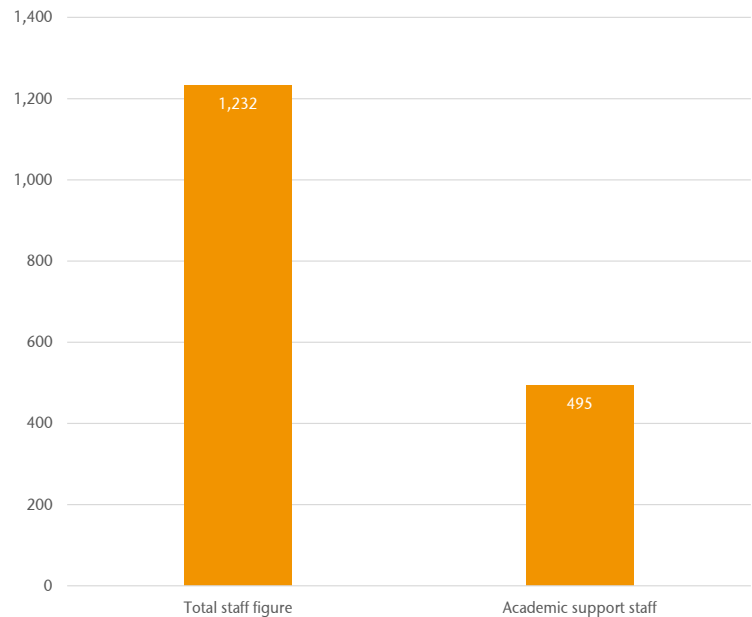
In 2020, a total of EUR 6,316,445 in personnel expenditure at the faculties was financed from external funds: Faculty of Law (EUR 482,846), School of Business, Economics and Information Systems (EUR 1,392,009), Faculty of Arts and Humanities (EUR 2,992,671) and Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics (EUR 1,448,919).

New professorial appointments

- **Professor Jin Pascal Gerlach**, joined 1 February 2021: Chair of Data and Information Management
- **Professor Christian Hammer**, joined 1 April 2021: Chair of Software Engineering I
- **Professor Elif Bilge Kavun**, joined 1 April 2021: Assistant Professor of Secure Intelligent Systems
- **Professor Ralf Kellner**, joined 1 April 2021: Chair of Financial Data Analytics
- **Professor Florian Lemmerich**, joined 1 April 2021: Professor of Applied Machine Learning
- **Professor Christine Schmitt**, joined 1 April 2021: Chair of Physical Geography with a focus on Human–Environment Research
- **Professor Alexander Werth**, joined 1 April 2021: Chair of German Language
- **Professor Wolfram Schaffar**, joined 1 July 2021: Chair of Development Policy
- **Professor Christoph Pelger**, joined 1 October 2021: Chair of Accounting and Auditing
- **Professor Daniel Rudolf**, joined 1 October 2021: Chair of Mathematical Data Science

**We are delighted to have excellent reinforcement
from new professors with us in Passau!**

Academic support staff (absolute figures and distribution across University institutions)



“Other” includes the academic support staff of the Sports Centre and the central academic institutions.
The employees of the University’s central operations and supply facilities are counted towards the central administration figure. These figures are preliminary (as at 1 July 2021).

Overall budget (EUR)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
State funds	68,109,000	71,559,398	76,718,142	77,776,310
therein included student subsidies	7,534,600	7,317,321	7,396,476	7,231,482
External funds	13,636,000	12,241,287	13,363,353	11,310,152
Total budget	81,745,000	83,800,685	90,081,495	89,086,462

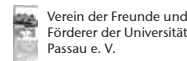
The overall budget includes the actual sum of the expenses spent from the external funds in the respective fiscal year.
The external funds spent in 2020 were generally raised in previous years.

Sponsorship and donations (in EUR)

	2020
Sponsorship	15,108
Donations	233,904
of which for the Deutschlandstipendium scholarship	100,500

Promoting young talent together!

We would like to thank our sponsors of the Deutschlandstipendium scholarship.



Additional sponsors

Professor Hans-Georg Dederer
 Professor Thomas Frenz
 Luise Haack
 Professor Horst-Alfred Heinrich
 The Holze Family
 Professor Tobias Kaiser
 Manuela Kreuzeder
 Kurt-Schmitt-Stiftung
 Marko Lorentz
 Niederbayern-Forum e. V.
 Dr Arne Ott
 Professor Gunter Ritter
 Professor Christine Schmitt
 Tanja Selmayr



Outlook

The University of Passau is ready for take-off. With new staffing reinforcements, we will accompany and shape the issues of digitalisation, Europe and sustainability as research emphases. In doing so, we are also committed to further regional development.

Facts and figures. President's report 2020–21,
1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021

Issued by

The President of the University of Passau, Professor Ulrich Bartosch

Edited by

PD Dr Rudolf Speth, Katrina Jordan, Patricia Mindl, Elisabeth Ifschitsch, Dr Birgit Röder and many more—Many thanks to all others involved!

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