

Dear students,

A very special welcome to our University of Göttingen. My colleagues on the Presidential Board and I are very happy that you have chosen Göttingen for your studies – be it for the whole course of your studies, or even one semester. We hope that you will enjoy your stay here, and that you will feel at home in Göttingen and at our University, that in the next months and years will become your University.

The time of your studies is an important time – for your professional future, and also for your personal life. Be sure to take this opportunity to shape that future.

On the original medal of the University of Göttingen, the founders wrote: "*in publica commoda*" – "for the good of all". This is still our mission today. We are facing big challenges in a globalized world; let us all work together to find solutions for these challenges, and make the world a safe and sustainable place to live for everybody, now and for future generations.

It is important, therefore, that you actively try to have an impact with your time here in Göttingen, through your studies, and on the University as a whole. I am very much looking forward to your input – it is important. Because my wish is that our University becomes your University.

With best wishes for the year ahead, *Ulrike Beisiegel* President of the University of Göttingen