Dear students, dear members of staff,

as announced yesterday, the covid working group had a long discussion today about how we want or have to organise the last weeks of the lecture period and also the exam period and decided **to end the winter semester predominantly digitally**.

In brief, this means the following:

- As a rule, courses take place digitally only those listed in Moodle under face-to-face teaching take place face-to-face (this is the same regulation as that from the winter semester 2020/2021).
- The written examinations of the winter semester take place digitally.
- Oral examinations usually take place digitally, however, at the candidate's request and by arrangement, a face-to-face examination can also take place.
- The planned issue of the Campus Pass from Monday, 10 January 2022, is cancelled! As before, please prove your 3G status to the lecturers in the case of face-to-face courses.

Our decision is based on the following considerations: The development of infection figures has taken on a considerable dynamic in Schleswig-Holstein, to which we must react. We are very pleased that we were able to hold large parts of the winter semester 2021/2022 in attendance without major restrictions. Our decision for presence did not have the effect of contributing negatively to the infection incidence, and the whole time the infection incidence on campus was at a low level. Initial scientific findings also classify the omicron variant as not having as dangerous a course of disease as the previous variants, but there will still be a large number of infections, quarantine orders, contact persons and also uncertainties in symptomatology due to other infections in the coming weeks.

We therefore also assume that a large number of students would be affected by not being allowed to take part in an attendance examination either. Although there was a great deal of criticism of the digital examination format in the last winter semester, we consider the change of examination format to be correct against this backdrop. In particular, the first examinations will not take place for another four weeks, so there is sufficient time for a change in preparation. However, we have also gained experience, have created legal foundations and the **free attempt** that was in force at the time should also be applied again this semester. In the coming week, we will shed light on further aspects together with the student councils and do our best to dispel most of the reservations against digital exams.

We hope that you can understand these decisions and that our reasoning is comprehensible. The summer semester will hopefully allow us to return to face-to-face teaching.

As usual, Prof. Tantau will provide further information in Moodle.

In a separate email, I will inform you about further adjustments to the framework hygiene concept, which will be changed on 10 January 2022.

With best regards and for the coming weeks calmness, prudence and health Yours Sandra Magens