



Contents

Week of Festivities 2011

Important Information on
the Anniversary Year

Anniversary Team



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625th anniversary celebrations
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Dear Members of the University,
Dear Friends and Alumni of our Alma Mater,

First of all, let me express my heartfelt gratitude for your kind responses to the first newsletter (April 2009) on the preparations for the 625th anniversary celebrations of the Universität Heidelberg. Particularly gratifying are the numerous offers of help from our alumni all over the world. I am also very happy to see that student participation has become a central factor in the planning. In many personal encounters throughout the university I have received excellent suggestions and generous offers of assistance. A number of these proposals have already been implemented. In the next few months we encourage you to participate in the preparations for the anniversary by sharing your ideas with us. We want it to be a special event for us all!

This newsletter and the ones forthcoming will provide information about the anniversary organisation team. One of our concerns is to strike a balance between the locations in the Old Town and on the Neuenheimer Feld campus. In 2010 the university's regular annual celebration day will take place on the campus for the first time. The Marsilius Lecture scheduled for the week of festivities and the presentation of other projects forging new links between the sciences and humanities will be important features of the festival year.

In connection with the anniversary we also hope to enhance the visibility of Germany's oldest university in the Heidelberg townscape. In a number of work groups the university and the city of Heidelberg are closely cooperating to devise solutions for the future.

The week of festivities (25 June to 2 July 2011) is rapidly taking shape and a number of important conferences and meetings taking place throughout the anniversary year 2010/2011 have already been finalised.

One major challenge will be to find suitable accommodation notably for young visiting academics. Initially, the sterling support we are getting from the Studentenwerk (Student Services) will help to tide us over, but we anticipate further accommodation squeezes. Here again I hope you will come up with ideas and proposals helping us to solve this problem.

I look forward to the next stages of the planning work and the encounters they will bring.

With best regards,

Jochen Tröger



University Square



Ancient Studies Dept.
Marstallhof 4



Lecture at the New University

Week of Festivities from 25 June to 2 July 2011

In the coming months we will fine-tuning the arrangements for the week of festivities planned as the culmination of the 625th anniversary celebrations of the Universität Heidelberg.

Saturday, 25 June is the date for the opening both of the renovated New University and of the week of festivities itself. In the heart of the Old Town there will be celebrations extending from the New University down to the Marstall. On this »university mile« institutes and other university buildings will be open to visitors and also hosting various events. The invitation to join in these celebrations is by no means restricted to members and friends of the University. We hope to welcome as many citizens of Heidelberg as possible. Please take an active part in the organisation of this »university mile«, whether your institute is in the Old Town or out on the campus. The programme will extend from generally understandable demonstrations of the work going on at the university to purely entertaining events.

Sunday, 26 June will begin with a festive ecumenical service in the Peterskirche, celebrated by bishop Dr. Wolfgang Huber and suffragan bishop Dr. Paul Wehrle. Subsequently we will be welcoming our alumni, national and international.

The award of the Deutsche Nationalstiftung foundation will be presented on **Monday, 27 June**.

The research meeting of the Baden-Württemberg Foundation on the subject of »Life Sciences« is scheduled for **Wednesday, 29 June**. The scientific part will take place on the Neuenheimer Feld campus, while the evening reception of the Minister-President of Baden-Württemberg will be held at the New University.

In conjunction with the Humboldt Foundation we shall be inviting attendance of an academic event on **Thursday, 30 June**.

Another outstanding event in the week of festivities will be the Marsilius Lecture. On **Saturday, 2 July** the week of festivities will close with a ball at the Stadthalle Conference Centre.





Bioquant building



Foucault pendulum at the
Kirchhoff Institute of Physics

Further Information on the Anniversary Year

In the period between the annual celebrations of the university (on 23 October 2010 and 22 October 2011) the anniversary year will be showcasing the vast array of achievements that the members of the university can pride themselves on. Naturally, research and teaching will be in the forefront of interest, but various other activities are planned as well. Here are some examples:

The Institute of Egyptology was established in 1810. To mark its 200th anniversary Prof. Dr. Joachim Quack will be organising an international symposium in **late autumn 2010**.

Under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Thomas Fuchs (Marsilius Centre for Advanced Research) there will be a winter school on the subject of »Human Dignity«.

In **early May 2011** the German Rectors' Conference will be convening in Heidelberg.

Also in **May 2011** there will be a symposium of the Heidelberg Club for Business and Culture, organised by students from all faculties. In the past this has regularly been an outstanding event.

Under the aegis of Prof. Dr. Detlef Junker (Heidelberg Center for American Studies) an »America Day« is planned for **24 June 2011**.

From **25 to 31 July 2011** Prof. Dr. Werner Hacke (neurobiology, Heidelberg Medical Faculty) and Prof. Dr. Michael Hennerici (neurobiology, Mannheim Medical Faculty) will be taking joint charge of the summer school of the European Society for Stroke Research.

From **28 August to 1 September 2011** the International Systems Biology Conference will be meeting in Heidelberg. It will be hosted by the University in conjunction with the German Cancer Research Centre, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, the Helmholtz Community and the ForSys initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Research Units for Systems Biology). Prof. Dr. Roland Eils (Cancer Research Centre/ University) will act as coordinator.

Headed by Prof. Dr. Peter Hoffmann (Institute of Organic Chemistry), the Heidelberg Forum of Molecular Catalysis 2011 will also be organising a conference. This high-level international symposium is funded jointly by the University (notably the Collaborative Research Centre »Molecular Catalysts: Structure and Functional Design«) and the BASF company. During the conference the BASF Catalysis Award will be given to an outstanding young scientist.

In **early 2011** the University will be publishing an atlas on the alma mater to mark the 625th anniversary. Over 100 articles document and analyse its national and international relations and academic ties from an historical and contemporary perspective. The atlas is compiled and edited by geographer Prof. Dr. Peter Meusbürger (distinguished senior professor). An extract with references to the programme of the anniversary year will be available in autumn 2009.



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If you are planning a conference, the university's event management department UniTT (phone 543766 – info@unitt-kongresse.de) will be happy to assist and advise you. For events in the anniversary year you can request initial planning advice free of charge from UniTT without committing yourself. UniTT organises events both at University locations and on extramural premises. A cooperative agreement between UniTT and Heidelberg Marketing means that you can benefit from other special conditions as well. If your congress involves a large number of participants, you can also take advantage of the special arrangements existing between m:con and the university.

The Anniversary Team

This section gives you background information on the members of the anniversary team. **Dr. Lutz Bandekow** has taken on a number of organisational functions in the run-up to the anniversary year 2010/2011. He is deputy to Prof. Dr. Jochen Tröger, the Rectorate commissioner for the planning of the events scheduled for that year. Born in 1948, Lutz Bandekow did his military service in Hanover in 1968. He studied medicine in Heidelberg between 1971 and 1978 and then returned to the armed forces. Up to his retirement in 2007 he fulfilled a number of functions, including periods as chief medical officer at the Federal Armed Forces' Hospital in Berlin and as commander of the Federal Armed Forces' medical services in East Germany.

Project assistant **Katharina M. Herdtweck**, a student member of Jochen Tröger's team, is engaged in office activities and communications work. Born in Stuttgart in 1981, she has been enrolled at Universität Heidelberg since 2004, studying English, Romance languages and ethnology. Study trips abroad have taken her to Scotland and the United States.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bandekow and Katharina Herdtweck at any time.

