

DIGITALIZATION STRATEGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SIEGEN

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE

„CREATING A COMMON FUTURE – USING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITIES RESPONSIBLY“

"Using digital opportunities responsibly" is based on the mission statement of the University of Siegen *"to combine education, training and societal issues responsively with international demands on teaching, study, research and knowledge transfer, and to consider their further development a permanent task."* High level research, innovation and the promotion of internationality and mobility are among the principles of the University of Siegen and are anchored in their university development plan. To tackle the challenges and opportunities associated with it, the university considers digitalization based on scientific values, including the necessary investments, a strategic factor, necessary for success.

It is aware of its responsibility to society, to seize the opportunities of digitalization in their full diversity. Crucial for this are the respect for and preservation of the trust of society - be it in the context of research subjects, in the teaching of digital skills or in the application of appropriate procedures and instruments in research and teaching.

Taking into account information security, data protection and the protection of intellectual property, the University of Siegen uses innovative forms of communication and information access for research and learning, supports the (further) development of digital information and IT infrastructures, and establishes the corresponding support and consulting services.

The systematic promotion of the information and media competence of its members for the competent and responsible use of digitalization as well as the proactive support of pilot projects and experiments in the field of digitalization are further pillars for the digital transformation of the university.

OUR SELF IMAGE

- WE SUPPORT OUR VALUES BEING UPHELD IN THE DIGITAL WORLD, ALSO.
- WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING A DIGITAL FUTURE FOCUSED ON PEOPLE AND THEIR NEEDS.
- WE ARE RE-THINKING PRESENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SIEGEN – THROUGH DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES.
- WE TRANSCEND TECHNOLOGICAL AND SPACIAL BOUNDARIES THROUGH DIGITALIZATION AND THEREFORE SUPPORT INTERDISCIPLINARITY, KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND TRANSPARENCY.
- WE CREATE EXCELLENT INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RESEARCH THROUGH DIGITALIZATION.

GOALS IN ...

STUDY AND TEACHING

"Digitalization is changing attendance teaching and offering new opportunities. Therefore, we want to be a presence university that uses digitalization to improve the quality of study and teaching as well as to support study and teaching where local presence is not entirely possible."

(Univ.-Prof. Dr. Michael Bongardt – Prorector for Academic Affairs and Teacher Education)

- **CREATING PRESENCE DIGITALLY.** The University of Siegen sees the opportunity to inspire new (digitally influenced) student generations with innovative teaching and learning concepts for their studies by using a variety of digitalization instruments in their studies and teaching. Instruments and forms of e-learning (e.g. blended learning, massive open online courses), e-assessment (e.g. e-exams, voting systems), inverted classroom models, etc. support attendance teaching qualitatively, and open up new possibilities of individualized time and place independent learning.
- **STRENGTHENING COOPERATION AND NETWORKING.** The University of Siegen uses digitalization to strengthen national and international cooperation, and for networking in teaching and learning. Among other things, it offers learning management systems in conjunction with digital media as information, communication and collaboration platforms.
- **GENERATING COMPETENCES.** The university promotes the competences of its students and teachers in using digital technologies, digital information and digital media.

RESEARCH AND JUNIOR SCIENTIFIC STAFF

"The University of Siegen relies on digitalization to support and profile its research. It uses digitalization to test innovative ways of research. With the possibilities of digitalization, it promotes new approaches to current research topics and thus also inspires young scientists in their research."

(Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Peter Haring Bolivar – Prorector for Research and Junior Scientific Staff)

- **SET NEW RESEARCH IMPLUSES.** Digitalization is giving research at the University of Siegen new stimuli, for example, to research with the goal of discovering the impact of digital transformation on society, or with the investigation of new methods in the analysis of big data analytics, or in the simulation of complex experiments, extending also to an Industry 4.0 context.
- **ENCOURAGE WORLDWIDE COOPERATION.** The University of Siegen supports its researchers and young scientists with state-of-the-art IT-, information- and communication infrastructures in order to promote time- and place-independent global research collaborations.
- **ENSURING LONG-TERM ACCESS TO RESEARCH DATA.** The university ensures the responsible use of research and considers the creation of efficient and networked research data infrastructures and archiving options a key task for the future. In support of the researchers and in line with its research data policy, it offers its own institutional infrastructures, contacts to operators of specialist central infrastructures, and counselling services for research data management.
- **STRENGTHEN OPEN ACCESS.** The university makes optimum use of the potential of digitalization for the dissemination of knowledge and facilitates free access to research results. With open-access infrastructures, consulting- and financial support services for the open-access publication of research results, it creates the necessary framework conditions in accordance with its open access policy.
- **UTILIZING DIGITALIZATION RESPONSIBLY.** Researchers are supported in acquiring competence in the use of digital infrastructures, as well as for the production and (re)use of digital media and sensitized to questions of data protection and data security.

SERVICES, INFORMATION- UND IT INFRASTRUCTURES

"The work of the future will be supported (mostly) digitally. At the University of Siegen, an important goal of university location development planning is, therefore, to develop a campus that optimally exploits the possibilities of digitalization and offers appropriately equipped space in all areas."

(Ulf Richter – Head of Administration)

- **EXPAND DIGITAL INFORMATION AND (IT-)INFRASTRUCTURES.** The University of Siegen offers its members innovative and (highly) efficient information and IT infrastructures that can react quickly and flexibly to the requirements of research, teaching and service. The availability of information is ensured, wherever possible, independent of location and time.
- **DIGITAL CAMPUS.** The location development concept of the university comprehensively exploits the possibilities of digitalization in terms of both, structural and infrastructural facilities. The digitalization of the jobs of students and employees is a crucial prerequisite for achieving the maximum of benefit from the new technological possibilities.
- **DIGITALLY DESIGN SERVICE PROCESSES.** Digital processes support the efficient and transparent organization of study, teaching and research. The administration of the University of Siegen relies on professional and quality-assured service processes, which are designed and maintained in a user-friendly manner.
- **USE DIGITAL COMMUNICATION DELIBERATELY.** Communication is becoming increasingly digital. The university uses the additional communication possibilities associated with digitalization specifically to disseminate information and knowledge. It values the different preferences of its students and employees by offering them a variety of communication options.
- **STRENGTHEN DIGITAL COMPETENCES.** Employees are given targeted support in the development and expansion of digital skills through appropriate personnel development measures. By means of further education offers and the accompanying use of learning management systems, knowledge for the correct (subsequent) use of digital offers and contents is systematically built, shared and maintained.