

Oggetto: Important information for the winter semester 2020/21

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Dear partners and colleagues,

We hope this email finds you well.

In the face of the Coronavirus health crisis that is being experienced worldwide and as a measure to ensure the well-being of all students, the Faculty of Medicine at Cologne University has decided to cancel the international student mobility (incoming and outgoing) for the coming winter term 2020/21 (01 October 2020 – 31 March 2021).

That means in detail:

International **INCOMING STUDENTS** coming to Medical Faculty Cologne

- The Faculty of Medicine will NOT ACCEPT INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS FOR THE WINTER TERM (October 2020 to March 2021).
- All clinical rotations at the Faculty of Medicine are CANCELLED FOR THE WINTER TERM (starting September 2020 to March 2021).
- Students who were already nominated for the coming winter term are not automatically postponed and accepted for the summer term. They have to be officially nominated again by your university as exchange students for the summer term 2021 (01 April 2021 – 30 September 2021; Nomination deadline: 01 December 2020)

Cologne **OUTGOINGS STUDENTS**

- The Faculty of Medicine decided to CANCEL all SEMESTER ABROAD of our outgoing students FOR THE WINTER TERM (August 2020 until February 2021). This applies in particular to the students we (would) have nominated for a semester abroad (3rd to 5th year of studies). No academic achievements/courses from abroad will be recognized for this period of time.
- Outgoing students nominated for PRACTICAL TRAINING at your teaching hospitals (clinical electives and clerkships) are NOT AFFECTED by this regulation. Since the Faculty of Medicine is not responsible for the recognition of their clinical electives and clerkships, it is not possible for us to introduce restrictions in this area. However, we pronounced an URGENT RECOMMENDATION to the students not to start their electives and clerkships abroad. Nevertheless, we expect that some of them would still like to start the electives abroad. We would therefore ask you to maintain the finding of a place in your hospitals and the admission for these

students. However, we will understand you completely if you do not agree on that as we cannot accept your students neither for studying nor for clinical electives/clerkships. Of course you are welcome to reject our students for practical trainings as well and cancel already .

We thank all students and partner universities for understanding and accepting this decision. Please forward this email to all relevant colleagues at your institution. We hope that in the future the situation worldwide will improve in order to be able to continue the academic collaboration with our distinguished partners.

Kind regards and keep safe
Clara Harms and the ZIB Med Team

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