

Dear President Prof Dr Günther

As the student council of the Institute of Arts and Media at the University of Potsdam, we want to fight against the dismissal of our lecturer Prof Dr Ungelenk without justification.

Prof. Dr Ungelenk has legitimised himself as an indispensable pillar of our structure in the last five years of his work with us. The first institution affected is the Bachelor's degree program in Cultural Studies, which consists of three disciplines: Art History, Musicology and Literature. Prof. Dr Ungelenk is the most important cornerstone of literary studies and his dismissal means that the degree program as we know it and want to promote it is breaking apart. The Master's degree program in General and Comparative Literature and Art Studies, which Prof. Dr Ungelenk is redesigning and shaping, is also affected. His outstanding achievements at the institute have even inspired us as a student council to act as representatives of the arts at the University of Potsdam. Working together, we have co-organised conferences and art events, and we have witnessed how the Institute of Arts and Media has grown since he joined. It is clear from this that his departure would have catastrophic consequences for the university and the reputation of the degree program. One of his most important contributions has been to conduct innovative interdisciplinary research at the Institute. Every year, he supports our doctoral students by publishing academic anthologies, which also gives the Institute a presence in academic discourse.

As the only art institute at the University of Potsdam, we consider it contemptuous not to be recognised as an important part of the institution.

With this in mind, we demand an insight into the reasons behind the dismissal of Prof Dr Ungelenk and a reconsideration of this decision.

Yours sincerely

FSR for Arts and Media