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Transfer in study,
teaching & continuing
education

Division of Student Affairs and Teaching

Transfer in Teaching team, Office for Curricular Affairs, Centre for Transferable Skills, Career Service, Academy of Advanced Studies

1. Transfer in study, teaching & continuing education

Transfer activities in the area of teaching and study focus on the mutual exchange of experiences, knowledge, questions and ideas between students, researchers and non-university parties. The University of Konstanz was one of the first universities in Germany to systematically promote transfer in teaching, stipulating it as a profile-building measure in its Excellence Strategy concept. In transfer-oriented study and teaching projects, researchers, students and external partners jointly address issues from society, business and politics. This exchange can generate new ideas for applications or implementation. Teaching, continuing education and career development, in turn, get impulses from the challenges that the economy, different professional fields and players outside the university are facing. Through transfer activities, the university can make an important contribution to fulfilling its social responsibility.

At the University of Konstanz, we actively support and shape transfer as an integral component of our main tasks: research and teaching. Accordingly, activities in the area of teaching and study are part of our transfer strategy. Creating suitable transfer opportunities enables students to acquire corresponding skills. We are committed to the foundational concept that close links between research and teaching generate scientific knowledge and therefore focus especially on research-oriented teaching. Including transfer in teaching opens up new questions and results that can be relevant for both external players and researchers. Through transfer, we aim to create reciprocal momentum for innovation and spirals of knowledge for students, researchers and external players. Generally, transfer-oriented courses and teaching formats prove to be innovative in terms of content, didactics and methodology.

To support the development and implementation of such courses, transfer opportunities as well as options for career preparation and continuing education, the University of Konstanz has established a number of support services. These include, for example, the Transfer in Teaching team, Teaching Innovation Fund, Centre for Transferable Skills, Career Service and the Academy of Advanced Studies.

2. Strategic goals

We aim to foster the continual strategic development of our advisory and support concept for transfer in study and teaching. In specific research and development priorities, we promote internal and external co-creation processes (based on the university's structure and development plan, as well as the university's internationalization strategy and its institutional strategy in the context of the German Excellence Strategy). The corresponding transfer activities support the establishment and expansion of topic-specific partnership networks in the long term at the local, regional and supra-regional levels.

Our goal is to strategically support long-term transfer partnerships that are directly connected to the university's research priorities. This way we can amplify the impact the university's research excellence has on society at all of these levels. As teaching and continuing education

usually encompasses a shorter time period and a limited range of topics, this transfer opportunity provides the ideal starting point for co-creation processes, from which research collaborations and new research questions can develop in strategic partnerships.

Another goal is to further increase the number of students who take part in transfer activities as well as the number of teachers who provide such opportunities. To this end, we establish additional modules in the curricula while developing new teaching/learning settings and course formats in consultation with all three stakeholder groups: researchers, students and external partners. In addition to the existing support structures and funding options, we plan to create new mechanisms that provide incentives for researchers to transfer their research into teaching and/or continuing education.

Building on existing quality assurance measures, we will assess approaches for the systematic qualitative evaluation of transfer activities in teaching and study as well as their social impact. The Division of Student Affairs and Teaching will also use qualitative evaluations to strategically direct future transfer measures.