

Mission Statement Transfer

of the University of Münster

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Science takes place in society. The creation of knowledge and its transfer to society is a central component of our public culture. The University of Münster sees itself as an institution of civic life and regards transfer as one of the central performance dimensions of higher education. It views transfer as a demonstration of civic responsibility and aims to do justice to it in all sectors of society. Research and teaching, the two other fundamental performance dimensions of academia, exist both as ends in themselves and as the motor of social progress.

With the transfer of scientific knowledge, the University of Münster meets the public's justified expectation to be able to participate in science. To this end, the University strives to in-volve the entire spectrum of civil society. It provides subject- and target-group-specific offers and works to continually develop and intensify its transfer activities. Scientifically generated knowledge assumes many forms and must be communicated to society in a variety of ways. The University of Münster therefore regards communication of knowledge as a fundamental aspect of transfer.

Scientifically generated knowledge reacts to societal changes, and its transfer represents a key source of innovation for society. Whether as knowledge transfer, technology transfer or in the form of spin-offs, innovation is a central aspect of the University's transfer activities, with which it aims to responsibly address the dynamics of social change and global challenges.

The University of Münster recognises the socio-cultural relevance of scientific methods. Modern societies are pluralistic; they allow for a broad spectrum of opinions and interpretations

of the world. In the face of increasing scepticism towards science, universities must stand up for a mutually shared understanding of knowledge and truth. Rational judgement and critical discussion are not only indispensable aspects of the scientific field, they are also an essential prerequisite for any pluralistic and democratically constituted society. The University of Münster is therefore committed to promoting scholarly values through participatory formats. It does this in awareness of its own historical and cultural background. To meet this task, society and academia must mutually trust one other. Consequently, promoting public participation in science is another central aspect of the University's transfer activities.

To achieve these goals, the University of Münster shares the knowledge generated by its members in sustainable partnership with businesses, schools and other social institutions. In this way, it is productively committed to the development of Münster and the surrounding region, as well as engaging in international exchange. The University of Münster aims to optimally prepare its students for successful careers by developing suitable teaching formats. Practising the transfer of theoretical fundamentals and academic qualifications in various fields of application helps provide graduates with considerable flexibility in terms of content and a strong capacity for innovation, which should prove beneficial in their future professions.

The University of Münster understands that its graduates, who are the ones who will responsibly and competently convey their mindset of scientific scholarship to society, are, in fact, its most important transfer achievement. Only in this way can science fulfil its function for society in the long term.

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