Dear Students,

Welcome to Freie Universität Berlin! We congratulate you on your admission and are delighted that you have chosen to study on our campus.

For most of you, enrolling at Freie Universität Berlin is your first experience at a German university, and wherever you were studying beforehand, we hope that you will quickly get your bearings. Freie Universität Berlin sees itself as an international community for teaching and learning, and we are happy that you are joining this ongoing tradition.

These are indeed unusual times to start this phase of your life as an exchange student at Freie Universität Berlin. The pandemic has altered everyday life in ways no one could have predicted – and that includes life on campus and throughout the world of education. It has been a challenging time for all of us in many respects, which gives us all the more reason to congratulate you on your decision to study at Freie Universität Berlin. Rest assured, our dedicated staff is here for you to help you find your way and support you as you make the transition into student life at Freie Universität Berlin.

We are writing this letter in May 2022 and although our motto for the 2022 summer semester is “Back on Campus”, the pandemic is not over yet. At this point, though, we are working under the assumption that your upcoming semester at Freie Universität will involve a significant amount of teaching and learning activities on campus, even if this is still in combination with digital education and services. We are well aware that it is important to be able to experience things in person, especially when you are starting a new phase of your life or learning something new. That is why we are doing our best to make sure that the university and its campus continue to be a place that you can experience in person, as much as the present situation allows.

We are still finalizing our plans for which courses will be offered in the various departments of our university, so please check the university’s website regularly for the latest updates regarding your studies. There you will find answers to questions about the content and the organization of your program as well as where things stand with our preparations for the 2022/23 winter semester.

For detailed information about other steps you need to take or any questions you might have, our Incoming Exchange Students Team has provided numerous entries on the “Distributed Campus” platform (http://www.distributed-campus.org/), which can help make your stay at Freie Universität Berlin go as smoothly as possible.
We wish you a great start at Freie Universität Berlin and hope that your time spent here will be exciting, motivating, and successful.

With kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Günter M. Ziegler  
President

Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott  
Vice President for International Affairs