# Lehren

# The Alliance for Higher Education

ACADEMIC TEACHING DEVELOPMENT IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.

## We understand teaching as

- a mainstay of higher education institutions
- passing on the baton to the next generation

### Important to us is

- to value and interlink in equal measure teaching, research and selfgoverning academic organisation
- to promote public discussion about the regard in which teaching is held

#### Our activities are based on

• the belief that the development of teaching thrives in networks and in the professional exchange between academic communities

## We wish to empower

- · higher education administration personnel
- academic staff
- higher education management and educational theory

to become a member of Lehre<sup>n</sup> and create a platform for discussion and interchange.

# The Idea Behind Lehren

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT EXPLAINED

Teaching Development is both an organisational responsibility and a challenge within each particular subject. Both aspects are taken into consideration by Fellowships which are awarded for the development and implementation of individual projects. The growing Community of Professionals engages in mutual consultation and targeted exchange with external agents, which in turn adds structure to the format.

For the Lehre<sup>n</sup> Dachprogramm, we take an multidisciplinary approach to teaching organisational topics and teaching-related Change Management (32 people, 1 year).

The Lehre<sup>n</sup> Fachprogramm perceives Academic Teaching Development as an element within a disciplinary field and focuses on typical challenges to academic reform projects with a yearly change of disciplines (20 people, 1 year).

Both programmes promote transference. All Fellows selected for the programmes will be offered membership of the network and will benefit from exchange, advice and "sparring partners". Various professional group-specific perspectives on Higher Education Management as well as on Teaching and Didactics are on offer members of the Community of Practice apply this expertise in their home university or college institution.



# The Lehre<sup>n</sup> Community of Professionals

The Lehre<sup>n</sup> Community of Professionals currently comprises 250 individuals. By the year 2020 it will have grown to more than 360. Our aim is to establish the network as a forum for the systematic development of higher education. The expertise lies in the institutions themselves and in the network's members who, beyond Lehre<sup>n</sup>, are ideally also experts in the field of teaching development and training.

Agents from over 50 different German universities and over 30 universities of applied sciences are members of the Lehre<sup>n</sup> Community of Professionals.

49% of the network's members are active as teaching staff in the field of higher education.

31% are representatives of Academic Development and higher education management.

20% are representatives of higher education administration: (governing body, Deans' and vice Deans' offices).

DISTRIBUTION OF SUBJECT GROUPS IN THE LEHREN NETWORK.



- STEM
- Social Sciences
- Arts and Humanities
- Medicine and Health Studies

## **Patrons**

Together with advisors from higher education institutions, the Toepfer Foundation started Lehre<sup>n</sup> as a pilot scheme. Between 2012 and 2016, "Lehre<sup>n</sup>

- The Alliance for Higher Education" was established as a joint initiative of the Alfred Toepfer Foundation, the Joachim Herz Foundation, the NORDMETALL-Foundation, the STIFTERVERBAND and the Volkswagen Foundation. Programme formats were tested and developed further, according to the findings of academic research conducted by the Institute for Business Education at the University of St Gallen. Lehren has been awarded financial backing for the period 2017 to 2020 in the form of a grant from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research and funding from various foundations, and is therefore jointly funded by both private and public authorities.

