Anniversary Newsletter – October 2011

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Dear Members, Friends, Sponsors and Alumni of Ruperto Carola!

The week of celebrations marking the high point of the anniversary year has come and gone. We remember with pleasure the reopening of the New University building and the impressive sound of the new organ, University Mile, the university's open day event that was so successfully organised and supported by all of you, and the Summer Party as the grand finale. But then all events during this Festival Week were special, each in its own way. And even before and after this culmination of anniversary celebrations, the university held many impressive and very successful events: the "Concert and Fireworks" of the Academic Philharmonic Orchestra that marked the beginning of Festival Week, the promenade concert "Romantic Serenade in Old Gardens" of the Camerata Carolina and the anniversary concert of the Collegium Musicum, to name just a few. In the area of publications, the Heidelberg Wissenschaftsatlas (Academic Atlas), created under the aegis of Professor Peter Meusburger, sets new and excellent standards in terms of both content and form.

With this ninth newsletter, we would like to inform you about the conclusion of the celebrations for the 625th anniversary of Heidelberg University, and to say "thank you". The many events of the past months have only been possible because so many people, from the members of the board to the students, dedicated their time and effort to this anniversary, and because we also found wonderful support outside of the university. The anniversary celebration on 22 October, which will be attended by Federal President Christian Wulff, officially concludes the anniversary year. In the meantime, there are still a few exciting anniversary events to be enjoyed, e. g. the last two presentations of the "University Hour" programme or the performance of a baroque opera whose Italian composer was also Rector of Heidelberg University for a year.

I wish you a happy and successful winter semester. Let us try to preserve a little of the momentum of this anniversary year and fulfil the wish of the Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung: "If only the University wasn't just celebrating until October".

Yours Jochen Tröger

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The Collegium Musicum presents: "La lotta d'Hercole con Acheloo"

With the performance of the short baroque opera "La lotta d'Hercole con Acheloo", the Collegium Musicum of Heidelberg University is making a special musical contribution to the anniversary year. The Italian composer Agostino Steffani (1654 – 1728), a diplomat in the service of various princes and the church, was also Rector of Heidelberg University for a year. His "Divertimento drammatico", composed in 1689 for the opening of the Hannover opera house, centres on a beautiful woman named Deianira who is the object of desire of two men – the Greek-Roman mythological figures of Hercules and Achelous (Acheloo). A duel ("la lotta") is to bring about a decision in this love triangle.

The new production of this opera under the direction of Rüdiger Drengemann (music) and Waltraut Kunz (production) premieres on Sunday, **16 October**, 5:00 p.m. in the Great Hall of the New University. The soloists are Marelize Gerber (soprano), Manami Kusano (mezzo-soprano), Matthias Lucht (countertenor) and Manuel König (tenor). Two additional performances will be given on **17 and 18 October** at 8:00 p.m. Tickets at 10 euros (5 euros with discount) are available at Zigarren Grimm, Sofienstraße 11, or at the box office.



Twice more: University Hour

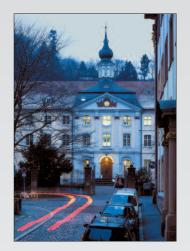
Two presentations mark the end of the "University Hour" programme that was conceived specially for the anniversary year. For the past months, institutes and scientific institutions of the University opened their doors Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. to present their research and teaching activities in easily understandable terms to an interested public.

The presentation of the Alfred-Weber-Institute (AWI), Bergheimer Straße 58, on 13 October focuses on "Experimental Behaviour Research in Economics and the Social Sciences". The audience will have the opportunity to see the experimental laboratory of the AWI and to take part in a brief experiment.

"From Bad to Worse? New Findings on the Development of Youth Crime" is the topic of the last "University Hour", presented by the Institute of Criminology, Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 6-10, on **20 October.** The institute will introduce the audience to criminological research methods and knowledge sources in a lecture given by Dr. Ineke Pruin.

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Goodbye with beer and pretzels

In the past year, I have enjoyed an excellent and inspiring collaboration with my team, my deputy Dr. Lutz Bandekow, Christiane Wickenhöfer, who organised the University Mile with great commitment and dedication, Katharina Herdtweck and our student colleagues Claire Born, Morten Edzards, Alexander Freihaut, Anne-Kathrin Lange, Aneliya Vasileva and Nikolai Sexauer. With the end of the anniversary year, the work of this project group is now also coming to an end.

To celebrate the occasion, we would like to invite you to a small party with beer and pretzels starting at 4:00 p.m. on 23 November at the Central University Administration, Seminarstraße 2, room 330.

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