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# Mission

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**Friedrich-Alexander-Universität  
Erlangen-Nürnberg**



The Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) was founded on November 4th, 1743. While retaining a strong sense of tradition, the university has developed into a leading institution offering one of the broadest spectrums of courses available at any German university. Our goals at the FAU are to specialize in areas of research that will shape the future and to create a network of interdisciplinary cooperation between technical, scientific and traditional subjects.

The FAU is **one of the leading research-focused universities** in Germany. We work actively to build on this position and strive to guarantee freedom in research as a prerequisite for scientific advancement. The FAU is committed to the unity of research and education. The research we undertake is oriented towards both theory and its practical applications. At the FAU we are constantly developing new areas of expertise of particular significance for the future of science and society. Established scientific and ethical standards guide our research: Methods are transparent and newly gained knowledge is discussed and debated in open exchanges with the academic community and the wider public.

The FAU recognizes its social responsibility and continually strives to **optimize teaching and learning** at the University. A key focus is placed on providing our students with an education based on knowledge and the methods required to apply this knowledge. We educate our students to be critical, independent individuals able to apply the FAU advocates the principle of lifelong learning. Our goal is to enable people to update, enrich and extend their knowledge at any stage in life through a structured and expanding range of professional development courses.

One aim of particular importance to us at the FAU is to **provide researchers in the early stages of their academic careers with the highest level of support and skills**. This means, above all, giving young researchers the opportunity to take on responsibility and to conduct research independently. Professors at the FAU serve as sources of support and role models in setting standards.

Scientific progress and interdisciplinary research are rooted in subject-specific expertise of the highest quality. The FAU specifically promotes **exchange between the disciplines**, thus maximizing the potential for innovative scientific progress and the creation of new study constellations.

The FAU has an **outward-looking, international perspective** and is committed to promoting mutual understanding between nationalities and cultures. We support knowledge transfer and mobility, as well as personal exchange in research and teaching. Students, teachers and researchers from across the globe have the opportunity to contribute to and be an active part of university life.

The strength of the **local connections** established by the FAU can be seen in the diverse range of cooperations with businesses and research institutes, as well as with educational and cultural institutions throughout the region. The FAU constitutes a seedbed for successful business start-ups and enriches cultural diversity.

The achievement of **equal opportunities** for all employees, male and female, is of the utmost importance to us at the FAU. Nobody is discriminated against or disadvantaged on the basis of gender, nationality, religious beliefs, social background or disability. The FAU strives to offer a balance between study, work and family.

The FAU maintains a thriving **alumni network** of former students and professors, as well as friends and supporters: International, intergenerational and interdisciplinary.

The FAU benefits from a **modern university management** structure. Organizational, management and decision-making structures and processes in research, teaching and administration are constantly adapted to meet the demands of modern and successful knowledge management: Management in the service of science.