Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch becomes new Rector of the University of the Arts Bremen

The University of the Arts Bremen (HfK) will have a new rector from July 1, 2023. The Academic Senate elected Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch to the post on December 1, 2022. Prof. Dr. Boggasch (53) will succeed Prof. Roland Lambrette (71), who was in office for six years and did not reapply.

The members of the Academic Senate (AS) elected Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch unanimously. Thus, Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch will become the first female rector in the history of the University of the Arts Bremen from July 1, 2023. She will lead the university together with Prof. Dr. Andrea Sick, Vice-Rector for Research / Artistic Development Projects and International Affairs, Prof. Mechthild Karkow, Vice-Rector for Studies and Teaching, and the chancellor of the university, Dr. Antje Stephan.

“I am honored that the University of the Arts Bremen has elected me as Rector and I thank the Academic Senate for their trust,” said Prof. Dr. Boggasch. “The HfK is a university that combines art, design and music, is firmly rooted in Bremen and is characterized by an extremely committed, international community. There is enormous potential in this foundation, which I intend to strengthen over the next five years. I am very much looking forward to this inspiring challenge, to working with the employees of both faculties and the administration, and to exchanging ideas with the students,” said Prof. Dr. Boggasch. A trusting collaboration with the university's partners and politicians is also of central importance to her.

Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch studied school music and educational science at the Berlin University of the Arts as well as German language and literature at the Free University of Berlin and instrumental pedagogy with a major in violoncello at the Hanns Eisler School of Music in Berlin. She received her doctorate in music education from the Berlin University of the Arts.

Mirjam Boggasch has been Professor of Music Education at the Karlsruhe University of Music since 2009. In 2010 she became a member of the Senate there, and in 2018 a member of the University Council. Since 2019, she has been Vice-Rector for Networking, Scholarship Affairs, the International Office and permanent representative of the Rector. In this function, she has initiated and expanded a variety of concert projects as well as interdisciplinary art and music education projects at the HfM Karlsruhe, especially in cooperation with various universities and cultural institutions in the region.

Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch is involved in various review groups; within the European network "Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen" (AEC) she was a member of the Polifonia working group "Artistic Research in Higher Music Education" as well as in the working group "European Platform for Artistic Research in Music" (EPARM).

The Senator for Science and Ports Bremen, Dr. Claudia Schilling, congratulates Prof. Dr. Boggasch on her election.
"I am delighted that the Academic Senate elected Prof. Dr. Mirjam Boggasch, an accomplished educator and experienced university manager, as Rector of the University of the Arts Bremen," said Dr. Claudia Schilling, Senator for Science and Ports. "Together with Dr. Antje Stephan, Prof. Dr. Andrea Sick and Prof. Mechthild Karkow, the University of the Arts Bremen will thus be led by four women for the first time. As the Vice-Rector at the University of Music Karlsruhe, Prof. Dr. Boggasch has already set many accents. I am sure that the good development of the University will continue under her leadership and I look forward to working with her."

About the University of the Arts Bremen / Hochschule für Künste Bremen (HfK)

Around 1,000 students from more than 50 countries, 89 professors, 83 staff members in administration and over 150 teaching associates make the University of the Arts Bremen (HfK) a vibrant place.

The HfK is a university of seeming opposites. While deeply rooted in the region, the institution is extremely international in its basic orientation. The HfK is spread out over a number of locations throughout the city with significant differences among them, ranging from classicist to floating to contemporary. The HfK is an art university and a university of music at the same time. These parameters form the foundations of the university and create a framework that allows to strengthen artistic development among its students on a collective, as well as on the individual level.

The range of studies offered include Fine Arts, Integrated Design, Digital Media, as well as Musical Education for Artists and Teachers. Since 2020, the HfK also offers a post-graduate program of study, an art- and science-based PhD program with a special focus on Integrated Design and Digital Media.

Open courses, shared conduct of exams, as well as workshops, studios and projects on specific themes all are focussed on fostering dialogue and collaborations. With some 400 events annually the HfK is a pillar of cultural and communal life in the City of Bremen.

The relationships among members of the university community, their multi-faceted collaborations, the close-knit support provided to students by faculty and staff, as well as the plethora of regional and international cooperations help students grow into strong and distinct personalities. All of this produces works with high impacts on society at large.
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Tom Kohler