History – Present – Future

50 Years
Heinrich Heine University
Düsseldorf
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Düsseldorf

An exhibition by
the rectorate’s officer for the anniversary, Prof. Dr. Ulrich von Alemann,
the Prorector for International Relations, Prof. Dr. Andrea von Hülsen-Esch,
the University Archive (department of the Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek), Dr. Julius Leonhard,
and the Communications Department (Rectorate), Dr. Arne Claussen and Monika Fastner.

The exhibition is divided into five stages, documenting early academic life in Düsseldorf as well as the history of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf.
Legal notice

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Foreword

Heinrich Heine University celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. In honour of this fine occasion, we invite you to go back to the roots of our young alma mater and its academic predecessors, trace its development to the present day and take a look at the future of our university. This is what the “50 Years Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf” exhibition is all about. Opening in summer 2015 at the Haus der Universität, the exhibition is documented in this brochure.

In 1965, state government decided on the foundation of the later Heinrich Heine University, which arose from the Academy of Practical Medicine, founded over 100 years ago. In the founding year of the university, 1,000 students enrolled at the Medical Faculty. Today, Heinrich Heine University has about 30,000 students as well as almost 4,600 employees in five faculties. It has become a prominent institution of the state capital of Düsseldorf and made an impact far beyond the city limits.

I would like to give many thanks to all initiators and contributors, who worked with great dedication on the conception and realisation of the exhibition, including, above all, the rectorate’s officer for the anniversary, Prof. Dr. Ulrich von Alemann, and the head of the University Archive, Dr. Julius Leonhard.

I hope you enjoy reading this brochure and that this shared look on the history of our university will give you new thoughts and ideas, so that we can head together into a bright future.

Prof. Dr. Anja Steinbeck,
Rector of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
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After obtaining the town charter in 1288, it was not until 1545 that a first academy-like school was established in the form of a Gymnasium illustre, offering lectures on several languages and history as well as courses on theology and law. Plans to build a state university in Düsseldorf were delayed and finally abandoned when the Emperor approved of a papal bull in favour of Duisburg in 1566.

Thoughts of founding a university in Düsseldorf arose almost half a century later. When the Gymnasium illustre was in danger of falling into decline, the town magistrate attempted to support it by way of a petition. At the same time, he asked for the foundation of a university or academy, which was to offer academic instruction at three faculties – theology, law and medicine.

However, this plan failed. In 1620, the Gymnasium illustre was committed to the Jesuits, who introduced a kind of studium universale focussing mainly on theological instruction. A second academy, founded by Franciscans in 1651, contributed to a first period of academic flourishing in Düsseldorf.

Academic life in Düsseldorf was bolstered by 18th century institutions like the Collegium Medicum founded by Jan Wellem, the Collegium Anatomico-Chirurgicum, the academy of law, a public library, and the academy of painting, sculpture and architecture. Undergraduate studies could partly be completed at the Gymnasium illustre after it was changed into a state institution.
1 First rector Johann Monheim, 1545–1564
2 Historical view of Düsseldorf
3 Excerpts from the magistrate’s petition for the founding of a university, 1609
Joachim Murat was Grand Duke of Berg and Jülich from 1806 to 1808.

2 Napoleon Bonaparte in Düsseldorf on 3 November 1811, aquarelle by Johann Petersen.

3 Emperor Napoleon’s decree to found a university in Düsseldorf, dated 17 December 1811.
During the French occupation of Düsseldorf, Grand Duke of Berg and Napoleon’s brother-in-law Joachim Murat, influenced by his German advisors, laid out plans to found a university. The already existing University of Duisburg was to be merged into one institution in Düsseldorf. Several military campaigns Murat took part in thwarted the realisation of these plans.

In 1809, Napoleon Bonaparte reigned over the grand duchy.

On 17 December 1811, the emperor decreed to erect a university in Düsseldorf consisting of the five faculties of theology, law, medicine, the combined disciplines of mathematics and physics as well as the fine arts.

The opening of the university was set for 1 March 1812.

Napoleon was to appoint the rector and deans, who together would have made up the university council, in charge of the curriculum and teaching. Entrance requirements would have been a certificate from a state school in the grand duchy or the passing of a special examination. A physics cabinet, a chemical laboratory, an observatory, an anatomy building, and a botanical garden were planned.

The planned foundation was characterised by a system of heavily centralised administration and surveillance that was typical of the French Empire. Part of the arrangement was also to merge with the Academy of Arts. The Napoleonic military campaigns and the collapse of the French Empire, however, prevented the plan to found a university in Düsseldorf.
The 19th century brought great social transformations to Düsseldorf. The residential seat turned into a bureaucratic administration centre of Prussian character. Academic life almost came to a halt. Only the temporarily closed Academy of Arts was reopened by the Prussian state in 1819.

Düsseldorf-born poet Heinrich Heine, after whom the university named itself, lived from 1797 to 1856.

The city’s medical institutions, in particular the eye clinic run privately by later professor and honorary citizen Albert Clemens Mooren from 1862 to 1883, are regarded as important stepping stones on the way to founding the Academy of Practical Medicine, as was the planning of a community hospital.

The city of Düsseldorf had initially set up four sick barracks with proper hospital operations. It pressed for a successive expansion and in 1896 acquired a property that is still the site of part of the university to this day.
1 Andreas Achenbach, The Academy Courtyard (The Old Academy in Düsseldorf), 1831
2 Julius Giere, Heinrich Heine, lithography, 1838
3 Heine’s handwriting
4 Postcards of the Community Hospitals and an aerial view
5 Albert Clemens Mooren (1828–1899)
By the early 20th century, the medical institutions of Düsseldorf had gained nationwide prominence. To create capacities for the medical students’ mandatory internships, the Community Hospitals were opened after a construction phase of three years in July 1907, along with the Academy of Practical Medicine. Despite limitations in research and teaching, this was a step towards the later foundation of the university.

In light of high costs and some criticism, Mayor Wilhelm Marx supported the academy in a letter of his: “The city of Düsseldorf makes no pretence of the high toll the construction and maintenance of such an academy takes, but it is determined to meet these expenses if this results in due benefits of practical, and even more so of academically fruitful nature for the city of Düsseldorf.”

The rush of medical interns failed to materialise, but a planned closure of the clinics was averted. Attempts to introduce students to studies at a clinical stage only succeeded when faced with the state of emergency caused by the war: the conferment of the venia legendi (academic teaching licence) was made possible in 1917, and 1919 saw the introduction of an in-between semester for provisional studies. This paved the way for the later Medical Academy.

1907–1923

The Düsseldorf Academy of Practical Medicine
1–2 Telegram by Prof. Dr. Arthur Schlossmann on the introduction of provisional studies

3 Layout of the Düsseldorf Community Hospitals, 1907

4 File on the construction of the community hospital and the Academy of Practical Medicine

5 Postcards of the Community Hospitals
1 Aerial view of the Medical Academy, ca. 1925
2–3 Prof. Dr. Albert Eckstein was removed from office in 1935 and emigrated to Turkey

4 The great chain of office, donated by Dr. Dr. h.c. Rudolf Mann in 1929, with the small chain of office inside
5 Consecration of the flag of the National Socialist German Students’ League at the Tonhalle Düsseldorf
The Medical Academy

To offer a regular course of studies, the Academy of Practical Medicine was changed into the Düsseldorf Medical Academy in 1923. The academy and hospitals remained in the hands of the city and the minister appointed professors and lecturers. The provincial mental hospital Düsseldorf-Grafenberg and the West German Orthodontics Clinic were also integrated into teaching, while dentistry was offered as a course of studies since the winter term of 1931/32.

In 1927, the academy received the right to award doctorates in cooperation with the University of Münster.

The right to award them independently was obtained in 1935. Further steps towards becoming a university were the initiation into the “Hochschulbund” (League of Universities) and the introduction of official robes as well as of the title of “Magnificence” for the rector.

The influence of the National Socialists marked a major disruption and was received controversially among students and staff. National Socialist ideas increasingly pervaded the academy. First calls for a boycott of Jewish lecturers in 1932 led to the dismissal of several physicians and employees “because of non-Aryan descent.” Renowned professors like Albert Eckstein and Erich Boden were ousted from teaching and research.

Plans of expanding into a complete university were delayed by World War II. After the war, the academy initially resumed work on a provisional basis. A central library was opened and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia financed the construction of a first student dorm. In the 1950s, the Medical Academy was able to gain renown through successive construction and expansion, new habilitation regulations and outstanding medical practitioners of international reputation.
1950–1970

Launch of the University

FOUNDING OF THE UNIVERSITY
According to former Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs Prof. Dr. Paul Mikat, the foundation of the university had been to that point a long drawn-out process over several years. 16 November 1965 is regarded as the day of foundation. That day, the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia authorised the minister per cabinet decision to rename the Medical Academy into a university. A corresponding letter was issued 29 December 1965 with retroactive effect from 16 November. The university was ceremonially opened in February 1966.

PLANNING PHASE (1950–1960)
A long planning phase preceded the renaming. The urge for interdisciplinary studies markedly increased in the aftermath of the war. Setting up a studium generale to intensify relations with the art movement of Düsseldorf failed, however. The introduction of a department of physiology in 1960 was aimed at preclinical teaching. The path towards a full faculty was in sight.

International research reputation was gained in particular through the cardiac surgery department.

As of 1965, the academy was subsidised by the state to preserve its standard of research. Of further help was also a memorandum presented by the “Association of Friends and Sponsors of the Medical Academy,” emphasizing the successes of the cardiology department and the necessity of the academy for medical provision in the Rhein-Ruhr area.
1 Founding rector Prof. Dr. Karl Oberdisse at the opening ceremony of the university

2 Letter by Prof. Dr. Paul Mikat on the renaming of the Medical Academy into Düsseldorf University, 29 December 1965

3–4 Two noted medical practitioners: Prof. Dr. Ernst Derra (cardiac surgery) and Prof. Dr. Franz Grosse-Brockhoff (internal medicine)
1960 saw the signing of another “Memorandum of the Expansion of the Düsseldorf Academy into a Full Faculty” by representatives of the city and university: Medical studies were to be introduced with the first semester, the natural sciences were to gain a faculty of their own, and philosophy and pedagogy were planned as coming subjects besides.

The improvement of German academic education and the increased training of teachers in North Rhine-Westphalia were crucial to the further development. The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs proposed the introduction of the humanities. Students suggested English and French language courses.

The state of North Rhine-Westphalia took over the Medical Academy as a state institution of higher education on 1 January 1962, paving the way for preclinical studies.

The hospitals remained under municipal supervision, but were made freely available to academic teaching and research.

Under Prof. Dr. Paul Mikat, the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs pressed for an expansion of the academy. Three faculties were planned, focussing on medicine, the natural sciences and the humanities, thus deviating noticeably from the model of a medical and scientific school.

The departments of psychology and philosophy were set up initially. When the state government signalled their approval in 1964, the founding of a Medical and a combined Faculty of Natural Sciences and Humanities was permitted by way of a cabinet decision from 16 November 1965.
1 Rector Prof. Dr. Kurt Suchy appointed Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Paul Mikat (l.) as honorary senator in 1978

2 Mayor Willi Becker, Chief Municipal Director Dr. Dr. h.c. Walther Hensel and Rector Prof. Dr. Ernst Derra signed the memorandum

The senate was constituted of the rector, prorector and representatives of the faculties, but was also open to research assistant as well as student representatives, Düsseldorfer Nachrichten, 12/02/1966
The early days of the university were marked by a lack of money and by improvisation. The academic council as highest organ was responsible for fundamental issues concerning the constitution of the university as well as the election of the rector, which initially took place annually and switched to a two-year rhythm in 1968. The senate was the second important committee to establish itself.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION
The expansion of a central administration was carried out simultaneously. Since the end of 1969, Düsseldorf University has an appointed chancellor, who is assigned to reduce the rector’s tasks in day-to-day matters of administration and personnel, property, budget, public procurement and technical equipment. While administration started with a staff of eight in 1963, the number rose to 133 by 1972 and to 370, more than twice as much, by 2015.

THE FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
Initially spread over several buildings across the city, the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Humanities started on 1 January 1966 with the subjects of psychology, philosophy, organic chemistry, botany, inorganic chemistry, experimental physics as well as documentation and statistics.

The seven departments were to be followed by more. The individual branches developed independent courses of studies, resulting in a loss of the uniform structure of the subjects. They consequentially parted ways in 1969, establishing the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Despite great support from Düsseldorf’s lawyers and state government approval, a fourth Faculty of Law was not yet founded.
Service Centres

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
The University Library was created in 1970 by merging the former Düsseldorf State and City Library with the post-WWII-erected Central Library of the Medical Academy to create one unit, supplying students and researchers with a steady flow of literature and information.

By 1973, the library already had more than a million available volumes.

In 1979, the library moved from its initial site on Grabbeplatz to a new on-campus building. To account for its body of literature, electronic data processing was introduced early on. An online web catalogue and an automated lending process followed at a later date.

UNIVERSITY DATACENTRE
The Datacentre was established in 1970 to support research, teaching and administration. It became a central service institution for all faculties and other service facilities.

For a long time, mainframe computer systems were used for data processing. Later work was done on PCs and computer-server systems, creating an IT infrastructure for the whole university.
1–2 The University Library today and the war-damaged building on Grabbeplatz in the 1960s (left)

3 Prof. Dr. Günther Gattermann was director of the University and State Library from 1970 to 1993

4 Exterior view of the Datacentre

5 Prof. Dr. Jan von Knop led the Datacentre from 1973 to 2005

6 Control console SOP 450 und tape drive MGB 264
1 Annual ASTA report of 1966

2 Student dorm at Universitätsstraße

3 Rector Prof. Dr. Herbert Rauter at the opening of the dining hall

4 As early as 17 years after its founding, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hubert Meessen described the history of the Association of Friends and Sponsors of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Students, Student Services, Friends and Sponsors

STUDENTS AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES (AStA)
In its first winter term in 1965/66, the university had 1,081 students. Due to the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Humanities, studying attracted non-medical students as well. An initial lack of room and subjects led to a teaching cooperation with the University of Cologne. The number of students increased to 3,160 by 1972.

In the days of the Medical Academy, students were already represented by a General Students’ Committee (AStA), which also established itself at the university. During the Germany-wide protests of 1968, students in Düsseldorf and their representatives focussed on university policy issues. An intensified politicisation only took place after 1970.

FROM STUDENTS WELFARE ORGANISATION TO STUDENT SERVICES
A students welfare organisation (“Studentenhilfe”) was founded in 1946. Of central concern were social welfare, the erection of a students’ library and a health service. First successes were achieved with the building of a dining hall and more student dorms. The renaming into Düsseldorf Student Services (“Studentenwerk Düsseldorf e.V.”) followed in 1954. Since their restructuring into a corporation under public law in 1974, Student Services have taken the responsibility for further university institutions in and around Düsseldorf.

ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS AND SPONSORS
OF HEINRICH HEINE UNIVERSITY DÜSSELDORF
The community has supported the Medical Academy since its foundation. 1955 saw the founding of a league later to be called the Association of Friends and Sponsors of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (“Gesellschaft von Freunden und Förderern der Heinrich-Heine-Universität e.V.”). To this day, well-known politicians, businessmen and academics are among its members. With capital from 23 individual foundations, the association is among the biggest sponsors of academia.

It funds research projects, scholarships, and awards, gives out individual research and teaching grants, and helps acquire buildings, such as Mickeln House and the “Haus der Universität” (House of the University), thereby establishing important ties between university and the citizens of Düsseldorf.
The establishment of the comprehensive five-faculties-configuration of the university took until 1994. In this period, the Neuss section of the Rhineland School of Education was integrated into the university and both a Faculty of Economy and a Faculty of Law were erected. Moreover, the Community Hospitals were forfeited to the state and became the University Hospital in 1973.

Since its founding days, the university had been working with a provisional constitution. Ten years after an unsuccessful attempt at setting its articles in a 1972 convention, a two-thirds majority agreed upon a constitutional order to maintain the rectorate constitution. The election of the rector was subsequently held every four years.

A newly arranged advisory board first established in 1991 helped the university in its efforts of regional integration. This advisory body was constituted of representatives of the university, city, the Association of Friends and Sponsors as well as of five public figures appointed by the senate.

The number of students had already exceeded 10,000 by the beginning of the 1980s.

In 1993, it reached almost 18,000 with 274 full professorships. The university had become a mass university.
UNIVERSITY RECTORS, 1970–1983

1 Prof. Dr. Dr. Carl-Heinz Fischer hands over his office to Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Wilhelm Lochner (l.) in 1972
2 Prof. Dr. Herbert Rauter (l.) hands over his office to Prof. Dr. Kurt Suchy in 1976
3 Prof. Dr. Hans-Werner Schlipköter (l.) hands over his office to Prof. Dr. Peter Hüttenberger in 1980
4 Prof. Dr. Peter Hüttenberger hands over his office to Prof. Dr. Dres. h. c. Gert Kaiser (l.) in 1983

5 First chancellor of the university Dr. Carl-Friedrich Curtius (l., 1969–1991) resigns from office in 1991, in company with Rector Prof. Dr. Dres. h. c. Gert Kaiser

6 Konrad Henkel signs the visitor’s book at the first board meeting. In the background (f.l.t.r.): Rector Prof. Dr. Gert Kaiser, Friedel Neuber, Bernd Hebbering, Mayor Klaus Bungert, Dr. Annemarie Treiber, Karl Ranz, Annegret Hunsmann, Rolf Schwarz-Schütte
1. Dermatology lecture hall in 1986
2. The Medical Faculty in the 1970s
3. Minutes of the founding meeting, 1969
4. Topping out ceremony for the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences institute buildings, 1974
5. Sculpture in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences building
Medical Faculty and Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

MEDICAL FACULTY
In the founding days of the university, the Medical Academy and Community Hospitals seamlessly transitioned into their new arrangement. Contrary to the other faculties, the Medical Faculty was distinguished by its triad of research, teaching and patient care.

Particularly with regard to the latter, faculty, municipality and state had lively discussions regarding organisation and centralisation. The successive expansion and addition of institutes and wards mark the faculty today just as well as questions of competencies and jurisdiction.

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES
The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences has been closely linked to the Medical Faculty since its inception in 1969. Capacity problems and limitations in research and teaching had quickly been overcome. However, what followed was a long phase of finding a consensus regarding the balance of teacher training and the schooling of medical practitioners on the one hand and research on the other.

An emphasis on research in the 1980s led to an emancipation of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, which was no longer outshone by the Medical Faculty. The trend was set by the establishment of collaborative research centres and funding programmes as well as by the option of hands-on instruction.
1 View of the construction site of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Humanities in the early 1970s

2 Overview of the pedagogical courses at the University of Düsseldorf and the Neuss School of Education during its integration

3 Excerpts from the 1974 summer term students’ guide of the Neuss School of Education
Faculty of Arts and Humanities and Neuss School of Education

FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
The arts and humanities separated themselves from the natural sciences in 1969 and were able to establish themselves as autonomous disciplines within the university. Organisation and structure of the institutes and departments were specifically tailored towards teacher training.

The abolition of teacher training in Düsseldorf in 2002 was successfully compensated by good communication between the fields of basic research, history, the social sciences and the philologies. Innovative departments were set up, and the traditional Diplom and Magister programmes were converted in favour of the bachelor’s and master’s degrees set by the Bologna Process.

INTEGRATION OF THE NEUSS SECTION OF THE RHINELAND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
In the 1970s, the Rhineland School of Education was to be dissolved and its Neuss section to be integrated into Düsseldorf University. The university endorsed the establishment of a Faculty of Education. State government on the other hand pursued a coupling of expertise and didactic competencies and wanted to integrate the Neuss departments into the existing structure of Düsseldorf University.

After an organising committee specially constituted to work on issues of personnel and quality assurance failed, a number of professors finally arrived at a compromise. Most of the departments have been assigned to the departmental structure of the university since 1980. The expansion of teacher training was integrated through additional staff.
Naming and Emblems

NAMING DISPUTE
The idea to name the university after Heinrich Heine had already been circulating since its foundation and was addressed in a 1968 survey initiated by Prof. Dr. Manfred Windfuhr. However, the rector, senate and a majority of students met it with refusal.

Consequently, a public campaign was organised worldwide to collect votes in favour of the naming after the Düsseldorf poet.

While official quarters still disapproved, student panels already regarded themselves as organs of “Heinrich Heine University.”

Thus, a Heinrich Heine logo adorned the ASTA letterhead in 1975, while the Socialist Student Society (SHB) had already utilised Heine’s signature in a similar way to its current use a year earlier. Nevertheless, the council rejected the naming again with a slim majority in 1982. In 1988, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Gert Kaiser finally issued a legal opinion to award discretionary competence to the senate, which voted in favour of a naming after Heinrich Heine, thereby ending a discussion that had lasted for 20 years.

UNIVERSITY SEAL AND LOGO
The “university owl” designed by artist Dr. Marianne Kiesselbach in 1973 initially served as a motif for the honorary senators’ medals, but soon emerged as a signet at official university events, in publications and on cups or stickers. Never having been officially accepted, it was still used as an unofficial counter-emblem to the image of Heinrich Heine used by student groups. The university logo shows Heinrich Heine’s signature.
3-6 The issue of an official university logo was discussed at all levels: Dr. Marianne Kiesselbach’s owl, the 1974 logo of the Socialist Student Society (SHB) and the emblem adorning the ASTA’s letterhead since 1975 (f.l.t.r.)
Faculty of Business Administration and Economics and Faculty of Law

FACULTY OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMICS
The founding of the faculty in 1990 saw the establishment of economics teaching and research in Düsseldorf, focussing on the field of business administration. Having been planned ahead, the building of the faculty was supported by numerous regional companies.

The curriculum was completed in 2010 with the introduction of courses in political economy, made possible by a large donation from the Schwarz-Schütte-Förderstiftung.

Previously, the Düsseldorf Business School had introduced German and English postgraduate master’s degree programmes in business administration. Courses in business chemistry and fiscal law created interdisciplinary links with the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Law.

FACULTY OF LAW
The establishment of a Faculty of Law had failed on two occasions in the founding days of the university. Initially, a course in law was set up in 1992 in cooperation with the Distance University of Hagen. The actual foundation of the faculty took place in 1994. Law studies were internationally and business oriented, creating a network of regional companies, international law offices and the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics.

In 1996, the provisionally lodged faculty moved into an on-campus building. Further professorships and interdepartmental centres were enabled by donations and third-party funds, enhancing the interdisciplinary and international orientation.
1 Housing the Faculty of Business Administration and Economy, the Oeconomicum, which was financed and built on behalf of the Schwarz-Schütte-Foundation, was opened in 2010.

2 First head of the Faculty of Business Administration and Economy Prof. Dr. Jörg Thieme (r.), in company with Rector Prof. Dr. Gert Kaiser.

3 The Juridicum, housing the Faculty of Law.

4 Groundbreaking ceremony of the Faculty of Law: Gov. Building Director Wolters, Science Minister Anke Brunn, Chancellor Prof. Ulf Pallme-König (f.l.t.r.)
From 1995 to 2014, Heinrich Heine University adjusted to international demands. The Bologna Process and the introduction of the bachelor’s and master’s programmes changed the entire university system in Germany and Europe. To meet these new demands, the state of North Rhine-Westphalia passed a law on the freedom of higher education (HFG) in 2007.

This gave universities free rein to decide autonomously on internal affairs. A university council composed of eight academic, cultural and business representatives has since been supporting the rectorate and participating in the making of important decisions.

State influence increased again with the enactment of a law on the future of higher education (HZG) in 2014.

The position of the university council was limited in favour of the senate. Financial sovereignty was returned to the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Research. A new constitution, revised on 3 February 2015 and already passed by the senate, provides for a greater consideration of all interest groups involved with the university.

Compared to 18,130 enrolled students in the winter term of 2006/07, the number increased by a third to 27,649 students in the winter term of 2013/14, thereby showing the enlarged capacities of Heinrich Heine University. The number of professors, too, increased from 253 to 314 in the same period of time.
UNIVERSITY RECTORS, 1983 – 2014
2 Prof. Dr. Dr. Alfons Labisch (2003 – 2008)
3 Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Michael Piper (2008 – 2014)

4 Prof. Ulf Pallme König (l.) was university chancellor from 1991 to 2013, here in company with Rector Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Michael Piper

5 The second university council was constituted on 13 December 2013 (f. l. t. r.): Patrick Schwarz-Schütte, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlev Riesner, Prof. Dr. Vittoria Borsò, Prof. Dr. Johannes Siegrist, Anne-José Paulsen, Prof. Dr. Karl-Walter Jauch, Avi Primor, Dr. Simone Bagel-Trah
1 Students from international partner universities contribute to the cultural diversity of university life

2 Students from around the world socialise on student parties

3 Campus impressions

4 Works of fiction and non-fiction can be bought in the campus bookstore
The first years of the new millennium were marked by the PISA tests and their consequences on the education system. National and international competition of universities increased noticeably.

Heinrich Heine University quickly introduced the international bachelor’s and master’s system. Strictly in accordance with the Bologna Process, Düsseldorf University was to be internationally comparable in terms of quality standards. Students and alumni were to be ideally prepared for the global job market.

Internationally, Heinrich Heine University is linked with several partner universities worldwide.

In addition, numerous ERASMUS partner universities connect students globally. Student exchange programmes, visiting professors and academic collaboration further intercultural research and teaching as well as the multifaceted character of the university. Promising research projects as well as participation in academic competitions increase the quality of the university on a national level. All these activities are supported by the International Office.
1–3 Views of the campus, into a lecture hall and a laboratory

4 Shortly after the announcement that CEPLAS would receive federal and state funding in accordance with the 2012 German Universities Excellence Initiative (f.l.t.r.): Prof. Dr. Lutz Schmitt, Prof. Dr. Andreas Weber, Rector Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Michael Piper
Research and Teaching

RESEARCH
As early as its founding days, the university set up several collaborative research centres funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), first in the field of medicine, then in the other faculties too. As a reaction to national and international competition, the rectorate devised a plan for the development of Heinrich Heine University, for the first time presenting its concrete aims for the following years to raise the quality in research and teaching.

In 2005, Düsseldorf University made its first appearance in a federal and state “excellence” competition promoting excellent research at universities. Not being successful in its first attempt, Heinrich Heine University contended again in 2012 with its CEPLAS project for sustained plant usage and production, which took three years of intense development and for which it was awarded €30 million additional funds.

TEACHING
There have been capacity problems since the founding of the university, and the number of students increased more and more since it became a mass university. Lectures and seminars were jammed and many institutes had a lack of teaching staff.

The university met this development with projects to increase the quality of its teaching. Students could voice constructive criticism in regularly held evaluations of their courses. Didactic qualification programmes for higher education were offered to lecturers of all disciplines. Specifically talented staff and projects were awarded teaching prizes, such as the hein@ward for “eTeaching”. Up to €10,000 were given to advanced education projects, which were chosen in concert with the students. €9 million additional funds were won in a teaching excellence competition.
1965–2015

Construction Development

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
In the 1960s, university buildings were spread all over the city. Construction of a centralised campus in the south of the city finally took place between 1968 and 1979. Leaving its provisional sites, the university moved into the new premises, the “brutalist” concrete building style of which was broken up by artistic design, as in the case of the Roy Lichtenstein Hall, green parks and a botanical garden.

A new era of campus architecture was begun in 1996 with the building of the Juridicum for the Faculty of Law. The Oeconomicum, a new economics building at the central campus lake, was opened on 30 November 2010. A surrounding glass facade and a great terrace facing the lake characterise the modern style of the structure, which was built by the Schwarz-Schütte-Förderstiftung.

CAMPUS EXPANSION THROUGH HISTORICAL BUILDINGS
Mickeln House, the “Haus der Universität” (House of the University), and the Benrath Palace orangery, housing Düsseldorf Business School, are further venues used for conferences and representing Heinrich Heine University. The location of the “Haus der Universität” in the city centre, a generous donation from the van Meeteren foundation, represents the university in the heart of the city.

CURRENT BUILDING PROJECTS
The new Student Service Centre (SSC) was opened in May 2015. Since 10 June 2014, work has been underway on a new life sciences building complex and on substitute building 26.00, making room for the subjects of biology and biochemistry as well as for parts of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences by the end of 2016. Moreover, a “Centre for Synthetic Life Sciences” is planned for the CEPLAS cluster of excellence for plant science as well as further interdisciplinary and trans-faculty synthetic-biological research programmes of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and the Medical Faculty.
1 Laying the first stone of the new economics building on 3 July 2009 (f.l.t.r.): architect Christoph Ingenhoven, Patrick Schwarz-Schütte, Innovation Minister Prof. Dr. Andreas Pinkwart, Chancellor Prof. Ulf Pallme König, Rolf Schwarz-Schütte, Mayor Friedrich Conzen, Dean Prof. Dr. Guido Förster, Rector Professor Dr. Dr. Hans Michael Piper

2 O.A.S.E. – Place of Study, Exchange and Education (completed 2011): Initially planned as a new site for the medical library between campus and hospital, the modern 35 m tall tower, streaked with lines of glass, now lends itself as an attractive centre of studying and exchange.

3 Mickeln House

4 North-eastern view of the new Student Service Centre

5 “Haus der Universität” on Schadowplatz 14
1 View on the ULB from the Heinrich Heine statue
2 Users of the ULB reading room
3 Dr. Irmgard Siebert has been director of the ULB since 2000
4 Supercomputer rewiring after renovations of the server room
5 The ZIM has been under the supervision of certified computer scientist Hans-Dieter Weckmann since 2011
6 Staff at work in the server room
Service Centres

UNIVERSITY AND STATE LIBRARY
In 1993, the University Library additionally took on the function of state library for the administrative district of Düsseldorf. Since then, the study and preservation of cultural heritage has been another part of its portfolio of tasks.

To stay abreast of the progress of digital media, the University and State Library (ULB) has predominantly expanded their supply of e-journals, e-books and databases in recent years. The new search function introduced in 2012 granted access to the total ULB stock as well as millions of electronic papers and articles worldwide. A digitisation facility was set up as early as 2004 to digitise and upload the various university collections dating back to the 8th century. The infrastructural implementation of scanners in the reading room adds to the services provided to users.

In a national library ranking, the ULB, whose collections and services are open to both HHU members and the public, repeatedly received the highest distinctions for their excellent work.

CENTRE FOR INFORMATION AND MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
The renaming of the Datacentre into the Centre for Information and Media Technology (ZIM) reflects the new technical demands of the Digital Age. Aside from the maintenance of university computer systems, the ZIM offers help and advice to students, teachers and administration. The World Wide Web is fully integrated through Campus Wi-Fi, email servers and web portals.

In 2013, the ZIM updated their High-Performance Computing Cluster and expanded their memory to 16 TB. In some of the ZIM workspaces, students and staff can use thin clients as an effective alternative to PCs.

The multimedia centre established by university and university hospital adds further services. As research centre for media production and knowledge organisation, it lends devices, such as notebooks, projectors and digital cameras, maintains e-learning systems, and provides scanning, printing and poster laminating services.
General Development

Heinrich Heine University sees itself as an institution that is both active in research and attractive in teaching, employing a total of 348 professors, more than 3,000 research assistants and over 1,250 further employees. 27,649 students are currently enrolled and share 7,000 rooms on almost 400,000 sq m with the academic staff.

Combined with about 5,500 employees of the Düsseldorf University Hospital, which was separated from the university in 2001 to become an institution under public law, the university acts as a substantial employer in Düsseldorf and throughout the region.

Its innovative accomplishments in research and teaching are recognized well beyond the region. National and international competition is actively pursued through strategic focusing in research and enhancing the research profile. Attractive long-term junior research programmes have been developed for early-stage researchers.

In teaching, exchange is not only encouraged between students and lecturers, but also among students. The attractiveness of academic education is to be further increased by introducing orientation semesters, interdisciplinary master’s courses and mandatory semesters abroad.

National funding has already been enhanced with great effect through generous donations from individuals, companies and foundations, which the university is deeply appreciative of, hoping for a further combination of public financing and private involvement.

Heinrich Heine University is guaranteed a promising future through the support of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the state capital of Düsseldorf as well as partners and sponsors from business and society.
The 2015 Rectorate (f.l.t.r.): Chancellor Dr. Martin Goch, Prorector for Strategic Management and Equal Opportunities Prof. Dr. Klaus Pfeffer, Rector Prof. Dr. Anja Steinbeck, Prorector for Research and Technology Transfer Prof. Dr. Peter Westhoff, Prorector for International Relations Prof Dr. Andrea von Hülsen-Esch, Prorector for Quality in Studies and Human Resource Management Prof. Dr. Stefan Süß

2 Prof. Dr. Anja Steinbeck accepts the rector’s office of Heinrich Heine University on 3 November 2014

3 Sharing one campus: university and university hospital. 29 clinics and 30 departments are fully qualified for medical research and teaching as well as for patient care

4 Heinrich Heine University student statistics for the 2014/2015 winter semester, dated 8 April 2015

5 Chancellor Dr. Martin Goch has been in office since February 2014
Central University Administration, ASTA and Social Services

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION
Research and teaching are backed by an efficient and service-oriented administration, responsible for a fully functional infrastructure, human resources and budgeting, occupational safety and health, environment protection, the management of study examinations and further student services as well as the public image of the university. The Department for Equality, Family and Diversity provides fair conditions for all on campus. Its several counselling services, such as the family counselling centre, offer support in difficult living situations and take a stance against discrimination.

ASTA – GENERAL STUDENTS’ COMMITTEE
Aside from its commitment to university politics, the ASTA offers free counselling services regarding rental, tax and legal matters, help with personal problems, such as exam anxiety, as well as life and conflict counselling.

SOCIAL SERVICES
Student Services commit themselves to the concerns of students in Düsseldorf in all aspects of their lives.

There are 17 student dorms all around campus comprising 2,894 rooms. Children are looked after locally in three child-care centres.

Several religious groups on campus, such as Catholics and Protestants as well as Muslims, strengthen the sense of community and cater to the spiritual well-being of the individual.
1 17,770 of the 30,155 current students at Heinrich Heine University are female

2 Students on campus

3 The Heine Memorial by artist Bert Gerresheim, here showing the silhouette of the old Heine; the memorial was donated by the brothers Dr. Lutz and Dr. Wulff Aengevelt as well as by the Rheinische Post Mediengruppe
1. Japan Week on campus
2. Taking a break under a canopy of leaves
3. The “Campus Vita” restaurant
Campus Life and Recreation

On campus, academics find an ideal environment to go successfully through their years of study and research.

Cafés, restaurants, dining halls, a bookstore and a kiosk offer plenty of opportunities for rest and recreation. Various cultural activities, from concert series and a campus cinema to student parties, further add to the range of pastimes, and the many parks all across and around the university as well as its proximity to the Rhine present places of leisure close to nature.

About 120 courses of the university sports club as well as the university choir and orchestra allow for physical and artistic diversion from the intellectual work.

Additionally, there are a university radio station, a debating society and various creative writing workshops that produce their own magazines.

This range of activities, however, is not open to members of the university only, but in many cases to anyone interested. Here, people can meet and socialize.
1 Founded in 2001, the Leibniz Research Institute for Environmental Medicine (IUF) is conducting research on the effects of environmental toxins on our health.

2 Party Research Institute (PRuF): Given the status of a central university institute in 2011, the PRuF focuses on interdisciplinary party research, public relations and conferences.

3 Botanical garden: Plants from all over the world are researched and displayed in complexes and greenhouses as well as in the distinctive dome structure.

4 Confucius Institute Düsseldorf (KID): Founded in 2006, the KID is structurally linked with both university and city and teaches Chinese language and culture with great public impact.

5 düsseldorf university press (d|u|p)

6 General Studies: The so-called Studium Universale courses aim at conveying study and transferable skills as well as interdisciplinary knowledge.

7 Founded as an interdisciplinary study group in 1989, the Modern Rhineland Institute applies itself to researching the cultural history of the Rhineland in close collaboration with regional and transregional institutes and universities.
Central University and Private Research Institutions

The university possesses a number of institutions that provide a further basis for study and research projects. The work of the mostly cooperatively led private institutions is of increasingly international nature and benefits academic and cultural exchange.

**GERMAN DIABETES CENTRE (DDZ)**
Founded as early as the 1960s, the institute is researching and developing new approaches to prevent, quickly detect and diagnose diabetes.

**BIOLOGICAL-MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE (BMFZ)**
Built in 1991, the BMFZ is expected to strengthen interdisciplinary cooperation between medical and natural sciences.

**STUDENT ACADEMY**
Formerly autonomous university centres – the General Studies (ZSU), Language (SPZ), and Occupational Orientation Centres (KUBUS) – have been subsumed into one organisational unit providing transferable skills. To meet the demands of increasing internationalisation, the Language Centre offers courses in modern foreign languages as well as German as a foreign language. The KUBUS programme is to benefit students as a platform for occupational orientation and acquiring practical skills.

**DÜSSELDORF UNIVERSITY PRESS (D|U|P)**
düsseldorf university press (d|u|p), of which the university is a partner, aims at printing limited editions of research findings quickly and at low cost.
Heinrich Heine University in the Public Eye and the Media

HEINRICH HEINE VISITING PROFESSORS
 Shortly after the university was named, literary critic Marcel Reich-Ranicki was the first to give lectures as a “Heinrich Heine visiting professor” in 1989. The professorship, which was sponsored by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia on occasion of the naming of Heinrich Heine University, made and continues to make it possible for anyone interested to hear well-known public figures lecture on contemporary cultural and social topics.

NOBEL LAUREATES
 Nobel laureate Prof. Dr. Werner Forßmann lectured at Düsseldorf University as honorary professor. Physician Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. mult. Harald zur Hausen studied in Düsseldorf, among other places, and received his doctorate at the Medical Academy in 1960.

VIP VISITORS
 Queen Elizabeth II paid a special visit to Heinrich Heine University on 4 November 2004. She came to see a young British patient in the paediatric clinic.

PLAGIARISM
 Maintaining academic standards became an item of public discussion when the plagiarism case of former Education Minister Annette Schavan’s PhD thesis gained national attention in 2012. The university advocates proper academic conduct and takes the necessary steps to avoid future incidents.

SPONSORING
 The Association of Friends and Sponsors has had an important supporting function ever since the founding of the Medical Academy. Increasingly, private individuals, companies and foundations from Düsseldorf and beyond took over material as well as immaterial sponsorship of research and teaching to the benefit of the university and its students.
1 HHU visiting professor Marcel Reich-Ranicki gives a lecture
2 Prof. Dr. Ernst Derra (l.) and Prof. Dr. Werner Forßmann
3 Benefactors and beneficiaries of the university in 2013
4 Rector Prof. Dr. Gert Kaiser, science minister Anke Brunn, Dr. Esther Betz, Mayor Marlies Smeets, and Dr. Gottfried Arnold celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Anton Betz Foundation in 1996
5 Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Raab, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Harald zur Hausen, Dean Prof. Dr. Joachim Windolf, Rector Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Michael Piper (fl. t. r.)
6 Queen Elisabeth II received by Rector Prof. Dr. Dr. Alfons Labisch
7 As patrons of their foundation, Irmel and Udo van Meeteren donated the “Haus der Universität”
01 BACKGROUND


02 FOUNDING

p. 19: Rheinische Post, 14/02/1966, Volker Krämer (1) – UAD 1/5, no. 50 (2)
– UAD 8/3, no. 298, H. Zink (3) – UAD 8/3, no. 3635 (1) (4)


p. 26: UAD 1/5, no. 39 (1) – UAD 8/19, no. 1040, Jürgen Strauch (2) – UAD, no. 2169, Werner Gabriel (3) – UAD 1/5, no. 178 (4)
03 EXPANSION

p. 29: UAD 8/19, no. 2276, Klaus Medau (1) – UAD 8/19, no. 2278 (2), Winfried Göllner (2) – UAD 8/19, no. 2280 (7), Franz Lethen (3) – UAD 8/19, no. 389 (2) (4) – UAD 8/19, no. 376, Dieter Alsleben (5) – UAD 8/19, no. 2135 (1) (6)

p. 30: UAD 8/19, no. 1980 (2) (1) – UAD 8/3, no. 1163 (2) – UAD 5/2, no. 2 (3) – UAD 8/19, no. 1006, Ulrich Horn (4) – UAD 8/3, no. 3075, Jürgen Strauch (5)

p. 32: UAD 8/3, no. 2568 (4) (1) – UAD 7/3, no. 6 (2) – UAD 8/10, no. 979 (3)

p. 35: Express, 21/12/1988, Wolfgang Berney (1) – UAD 8/19, no. 2189, Franz Lethen (2) – UAD exhibition 40 Jahre Heinrich-Heine-Universität, poster Der Namensstreit „Heine“ contra „Eule“ (3 – 6)

04 CHANGE

p. 39: UAD 8/19, no. 382 (1) – UAD 8/19, no. 481 (1) (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Communications Department (3) – HHU Düsseldorf, Wilfried Meyer (4) – HHU Düsseldorf, Ivo Mayr (5)

p. 40: HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (1) – UAD 8/11, no. 582 (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (3) – HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (4)

p. 42: HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (1 – 2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (3) – HHU Düsseldorf, Stefan Klinker (4)

p. 45: HHU Düsseldorf, Communications Department (1) – HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (3) – © Hascher Jehle Architektur (4) – HHU Düsseldorf, Communications Department (5)

p. 46: HHU Düsseldorf, Lisa Schäfer (1) – ULBD, Bernd Vogel (2) – ULBD, Jürgen Nehmzow (3) – HHU Düsseldorf, Centre for Information and Media Technology (4) – HHU Düsseldorf, Ivo Mayr (5) – HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (6)
05 PROSPECTS

p. 49: HHU Düsseldorf, Ivo Mayr (1) – HHU Düsseldorf, Communications Department (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (3) – Statistics: Heinrich Heine Universität, Department 5 (4) – HHU Düsseldorf (5)

p. 51: HHU Düsseldorf, Communications Department (1) – HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Ivo Mayr (3)

p. 52: HHU Düsseldorf, Medienlabor (1–2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Jörg Reich (3)

p. 54: Leibniz Research Institutes for Environmental Medicine (1) – Düsseldorfer Institut für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik (2) – HHU Düsseldorf, Nils Friese (3) – Confucius Institute Düsseldorf (4) – Düsseldorf University Press (5) – HHU Düsseldorf, General Studies Centre (6) – UAD 8/11, no. 432 (7)
