

Schwerpunktbericht

What does the General Staff Council do?

The General Staff Council, alongside the Staff Council for academic staff and the Staff Council for technical and administrative staff, is responsible for issues affecting all employees, and thereby complements the work of the other Staff Councils on the same operational level.

As they say, the General Staff Council is responsible for the occupational health and safety measures concerning all employees at the UP. But what exactly does that mean?

Occupational Safety

All workplace inspections taking place at the University of Potsdam are accompanied by the General Staff Council. In short, these inspections are tours around certain areas of the UP, carried out by the occupational health and safety officers, the company doctor and a member of the General Staff Council. Their purpose is to detect possible sources of danger in the workplace and to eliminate them at an early stage. The GPR also deals with workplace design, campus safety in general, and the prevention of additional workload, e.g. by introducing digital systems.

Occupational Health.

The GPR actively supports more break rooms and better maintenance of the legally required rooms for recuperation and first aid, as well as additional parent-and-child rooms. The GPR is trying to increase the number of occupational safety specialists, as well as fire safety officers and first aid specialists.

All accident reports from employees are checked by the GPR in order to identify and eliminate potential sources of danger. Protective measures from summer heat and winter coldness are also a matter of concern.

May this serve as a brief overview of the GPR's main tasks in occupational health and safety.

But what else does the GPR actually do?

Data protection/data processing/IT.

Every software to be introduced for employees at the university is checked and tested by the GPR. It is particularly important to us that new IT systems do not cause extra workload, are easy to use (also for people with disabilities, i.e. are as barrier-free as possible). Data protection needs to be observed, therefore only really necessary data must be collected and stored only for the period of time absolutely necessary.

Construction activities.

The GPR is regularly informed by the department about projects involving construction, rental and renovation of buildings. We ensure that all necessary laws and requirements for occupational health and safety as well as accessibility are observed and implemented.

Appointments.

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When making so-called appointments, the department suggests candidates for certain tasks, which are then to be confirmed by the GPR. These are, for example, the occupational safety specialists, safety officers and fire protection assistants as well as the company doctor. The GPR checks that the staff to be appointed have the necessary qualifications and training necessary to promote better occupational health and safety standards at the University of Potsdam.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the email address below at any time. We also look forward to your feedback on our work.

Yours sincerely,

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