

Dear reader,

in October, a semester has begun at the University of Oldenburg that is supposed to bring a return to more normality - for studying, teaching, researching and working on campus. According to the guiding principle "Responsible In-Person Attendance", the aim is to allow personal encounters while making sure no one's health is put at risk. Nevertheless, larger courses and events in particular can only take place digitally. The situation also remains challenging for our researchers and their teams. Despite the demanding pandemic conditions of the last eighteen months, they have succeeded in maintaining high teaching standards and advancing their scientific work. This issue pays respect to their achievements and sheds light on a few of their many outstanding results.

We present the Prize Papers, one of the largest historical research projects in Germany, headed by historian

Dagmar Freist. This huge collection of documents and other objects stems from the age of maritime warfare from about 1650 to 1815 and includes some 160,000 letters, many of which have never been opened. Read all about how Oldenburg researchers are examining this treasure trove, and about the secrets they have already uncovered.

Some animals' astounding ability to orient themselves using the Earth's magnetic field is the focus of a new Collaborative Research Centre at the university. Biologist Henrik Mouritsen has brought together an international team of experts to investigate this "sixth sense" from a range of perspectives - from neurobiology to quantum physics and computer modelling.

What will the operating theatres of the future look like? What is the impact of high-tech innovations on workplace conditions and also on

patient safety? These are the kind of questions surgeon Dirk Weyhe is examining. From smart lighting to virtual reality - his own operating theatre is already equipped for the future.

Economist and political scientist Bernd Siebenhüner is deeply committed to sustainable development - on multiple levels. In our portrait piece you can read all about him and the various aspects of his research.

Also in this issue: how for the first time Oldenburg marine scientists have managed to breed stony corals in Germany; why, 70 years on, Adorno's *Minima Moralia* are as relevant as ever, and the importance of German loanwords in Upper Silesian.

We wish you a stimulating read!  
Yours truly,

the EINBLICKE editorial team

