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Press Release

English convenience translation. The original German version remains the official one.

Important Progress on the New University Campus at Brauhausberg and Planning for the HPI at Griebnitzsee

Contract phase for the projects to build the new Brauhausberg Campus of the University of Potsdam and to expand the Hasso Plattner Institute (HPI) at Griebnitzsee: Following the conclusion of the cooperation agreement between the State of Brandenburg and the Hasso Plattner Foundation (HPF), further contracts are to be signed this year. Also, a design for the roof and tower of the former State parliament building on the Brauhausberg, coordinated with the heritage authorities, is to be presented this year. Planning for student housing is also continuing.

Today, the Task Force, led by Minister-President Dr. Dietmar Woidke and HPF founder Prof. Hasso Plattner, discussed the status of the projects to strengthen Potsdam as a science hub. Woidke emphasized: “We are making important progress in implementing these unique projects, which are of significance for Germany and, beyond that, across Europe. I thank everyone involved.”

On June 2, 2025, the State of Brandenburg, the University of Potsdam, and the Hasso Plattner Foundation signed a **Letter of Intent** regarding the construction of the new Brauhausberg Campus, as well as the expansion of the HPI and the jointly operated Digital Engineering Faculty at the Griebnitzsee Campus.

Details from the 5th meeting of the Task Force:

Contractual Structure

Over the past few months, the ideas from the Letter of Intent have been reviewed with regard to issues of foundation law, public procurement law, and tax law, and the individual projects have been made more concrete. For the Brauhausberg university campus, the State and the HPF already concluded a cooperation agreement at the beginning of the month. The HPF will become the owner of the land. It will build the campus and transfer it to the State.

In addition, the HPF plans to expand and extend the Griebnitzsee Campus for the HPI and the Digital Engineering Faculty established jointly with the University of Potsdam.

Questions regarding the contractual foundations of both projects are currently being clarified. The contracts required for each are expected to be concluded and notarized this year.

Designing the Brauhausberg Campus

A design for the roof and tower of the heritage-listed building on the Brauhausberg is currently being prepared and coordinated with the heritage authorities of the city and the State. In parallel, the design for the overall campus is being further developed. All results will feed into the procedure to establish the development plan, which the City of Potsdam will submit to the City Council for a vote next year. The HPF aims to submit the building permit application by mid-next year.

Designing the Griebnitzsee Campus

The HPF is currently having designs prepared for the expansion of the Griebnitzsee Campus. Results are expected in the first quarter of 2027. In the future, 4,500 people are to teach, conduct research, and study at the Griebnitzsee Campus. The usable floor space is to be increased from 50,000 to 70,000 square meters. The student residences, currently offering just under 550 places, are to be expanded to 700 places in the medium term and, in the longer term, to up to 900 places.

Student Housing

One hundred and fifty student housing places will be created on the Brauhausberg Campus. Further sites could be developed in the city. The HPF has already secured one plot: an area near the city center on Behlertstraße. Existing and new buildings there are to be converted and expanded for student housing. The residences can subsequently pass into State ownership and be operated by the Studierendenwerk West:Brandenburg (student services organization). The goal is to build at least as many new student housing places as are currently rented out by the Studierendenwerk West:Brandenburg at the Griebnitzsee Campus.

Background:

With the expansion of the HPI and the **Digital Engineering Faculty**, Brandenburg aims to make a significant contribution to the digital sovereignty of Germany and Europe. The Digital Engineering Faculty will develop additional **master's programs**, expand international **partnerships**, and strengthen **research focus areas**, particularly in the field of **artificial intelligence**.

The new university campus on the Brauhausberg aims to set **international standards in research and teaching**. At the same time, modern, future-oriented conditions for research, teaching, and study are to be created at the University of Potsdam's existing sites.