

Mission Statement of the Faculty of Medicine

The medical faculty of the university of Berne aims to fulfill its mandate, as circumscribed in the university act and statutes, at the highest possible level of quality. In doing so, it orients itself to binding principles, but takes measures to ensure its ability to react flexibly and judiciously to quickly changing exigencies.

Attractive tuition draws upon the individual research and clinical activities of the members of the teaching body. It imparts a firm standard of specialist knowledge, cultivates social competence, stimulates scientific curiosity, familiarises the student with scientific methods and introduces him to scientific enquiry and thought. Training in practical skills and self-dependent acquisition of information, and the teaching of systematic knowledge stand in an appropriate relation and leave room for the nurturing of a medical ethics and culture. The faculty's medicine and dentistry curricula are designed to achieve these general academic goals as well as the specific targets of instruction, and orient themselves didactically to standard principles of adult education and to the needs of the students. Within these constraints, methodological freedom gives teachers leeway in fashioning their forms of instructing. The medical faculty of Berne is chosen by students not simply because it is the one located nearest, but because it is the one that best meets their needs. The same quality criteria hold for courses offered on behalf of other faculties or in connection with BENEFRI-conventions.

Teaching

Undergraduate medical education

The medical faculty conceives specifically academic postgraduate education programmes. These take account of the broad range of professional activities that are open to degree holders in medicine or dentistry.

Postgraduate medical education

The medical faculty assists in further education courses for physicians as well as for professionals working in the public health system and in medical research.

Continuing education

The medical faculty's teaching mandate is fulfilled if those engaged in undergraduate, graduate and continued study put their newly acquired knowledge creatively, critically and responsibly to the service of the general public.

Scientific research at the medical faculty primarily aims at the expansion of the boundaries of knowledge and understanding. It measures itself methodically against the highest international standards. It also seeks to answer questions that emerge from the concrete needs of medical practice and health services. The guiding maxims governing all research activities are commitment to the quest for truth and the advocacy only of that which is considered to be true, and the adoption of a considerate, ethically well-founded, responsible attitude towards human beings and nature. Within these limits, the medical faculty guarantees freedom of research.

Research

The faculty of medicine makes efforts to render the scientific results of its members accessible to the scientific community as well as the general public. It is also prepared to make suitable results available for economic exploitation.

The medical faculty creates, with the means it has at its disposal, the freedom that is necessary for the cultivation of research. It strives to promote cooperation and the spontaneous emergence of research foci, without inhibiting more seclusive and specialized high quality research.

The medical faculty ensures an attractive research environment for postgraduate and postdoctoral students. It secures the freedom and recognition that is essential for the latter's personal development. New generations of researchers are fostered by providing them with customized supervision and support, and goal-oriented guidance towards research and teaching.

The members of the medical faculty provide services in the area of prevention, in the area of diagnostics and therapy to the benefit of the ill, and in favour of the general public and the public health system. In doing so, they orient themselves to the latest scientific and economic insights, and act, through their academic activity and the implementation of new results, as opinion makers for health administration and the general public. Adoption of a considerate, ethically well-founded, responsible attitude towards humans and society is a permanent supreme principle of guidance.

Medical Services