COVID-19 update from the GCB

The University leadership released new information regarding the Covid-19 measures starting September 1, 2021. Activities within the framework of the GCB, will be subject to a Covid certificate requirement (3G principle = convalescence, vaccinated, negative tested) as of Wednesday, September 1. The certificate requirement applies regardless of the number of participants. Random checks will be made for compliance.

Required for all physically present, a valid COVID-19 certificate
- All thesis defenses and all mid-term examinations

Required in all indoor spaces
- Facemasks must be worn

Generally, the GCB recommends scheduling the following events online.

1. **Mid-term evaluations:** On site is possible according to the institute-specific guidelines, when the people in presence have a valid certificate. PhD students are responsible for making themselves aware of the guidelines leading up to and on the day of the evaluation. According to the guidelines, at least one examiner must be present.

2. **PhD Thesis defenses:** On site is possible according to the institute-specific guidelines, when the people in presence have a valid certificate. PhD students are responsible for making themselves aware of and complying with the guidelines leading up to and on the day of the evaluation. According to the guidelines, at least one examiner must be present.

Proceedings will remain as specified in the GCB promotion regulations.
- Apéros are NOT allowed.
- If you have symptoms of influenza (fever, cough, breathing difficulties) you must stay at home. Furthermore, you must contact your doctor by telephone. Please follow the instructions of the Canton of Bern (in German) or [https://www.bag.admin.ch](https://www.bag.admin.ch).

For students from abroad with a certificate for AstraZeneca or Johnson&Johnson vaccination, please follow the instructions on the following link to get a certificate valid for Switzerland:

The GCB wishes you all good health and would like to express our disappointment that its soon-to-be graduates must graduate under these circumstances, during uncertain times. Thank you for understanding.

With best regards,
The GCB Administration team