Mission Statement of the Center of Competence for Public Management of the University of Bern

Who We Are

We understand the Center of Competence for Public Management (KPM) of the University of Bern to be an academically independent, Swiss—but also internationally oriented—interdisciplinary center of competence in the area of Public Management.

We are committed to the values of the University of Bern. The KPM collaborates with the commercial and social sciences, as well as with the institutes of jurisprudence, and it endeavors to establish interdisciplinary cooperation with other entities of the University of Bern.

Our academic emphasis is on the area of Public Management as an important component for the lasting, effective, and efficient fulfillment of public tasks and services. The acceptance of a theoretical and methodical pluralism is the basis of action for our interdisciplinary institute. We strive to attain the highest standard in all our activities. Respect for human beings is our guiding principle. We try to implement this principle even under the demands for high performance. Teamwork and work climate are very important to us.

We also maintain modern administrative management principles in the KPM. The reconciliation of tasks, skills or competence, and responsibility are important to us.

We communicate internally and externally in a timely, open, and comprehensive manner.
What We Do

Education and Continuing Education

Our education and continuing education is research-guided. Insights from academic studies are included in our instructional materials.

In our desire to be didactically progressive, we continually evaluate our courses in order to improve our program.

We provide individual support for each of the participants in our education and continuing education courses, and we encourage students to be independent and highly motivated. We also set high quality standards.

Research

Our research is theory-guided and oriented toward practical application. We approach the empirical field with great care. In our major areas of research, we are constantly striving to attain a good reputation in the international academic community, and we maintain contacts with research institutes in Switzerland and abroad.

In order to publish our research results, we strive to be regularly represented in selected professional publications and other media.

Contacts with Persons in the Field and External Services

We attach particular importance to practical experience in administration, politics, and economics. For this reason, we are engaged in the external continuing education of qualified specialists and managers, in professional organizations, in panels of professional experts, and in consulting.

We provide public administration with specific services in keeping with to our core areas of competence. If possible, we strive toward value-added research.

For us, a consciousness for high quality is self-understood.

This mission statement was prepared within the context of a workshop on April 7, 2003, by the KPM’s founding team (Prof. Dr. Andreas Lienhard, Prof. Dr. Andreas Ladner, Dr. Adrian Ritz, Dr. Reto Steiner, Michèle Fehlmann und Aline Stoll), and it approved by the interfaculty committee on July 7, 2003.