



Stuve FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Turnstraße 7, 91054 Erlangen

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Ballot on the student semesterticket has started

Dear editorial staff,

On Monday, 12th January 2015 at 12 o'clock, the voting period for the ballot concerning the implementation of a student semesterticket started. On this special occasion the Alliance for action Semesterticket, representatives of the cities of Erlangen and Nuremberg, the Verkehrsverbund Großraum Nürnberg (VGN), the Studentenwerk (Student Services) Erlangen-Nürnberg as well as the IT Unit of the Students' Union of the FAU (Stuve) held a press conference in Nuremberg.

Efforts to establish a student semesterticket in the metropolitan region Erlangen-Nuremberg date back several decades, so the parties involved were happy to present an offer that students of the FAU and TH Nürnberg can now vote on for 10 days.

The Stuve supports the ballot.

In cooperation with the RRZE (Regionales Rechenzentrum Erlangen) and the RZ Ohm (Rechenzentrum der TH Nürnberg) the IT Unit of the Stuve provides the online platform <https://abstimmung.semesterticket.org> (available in English and German) for the ballot vote.

There, every student enrolled at either the FAU or the TH Nürnberg can cast their vote, which only takes a few seconds.

But the Stuve not only supports the Alliance through its IT Unit:

"The Students' Union has been in close contact with the Alliance for Action Semesterticket throughout the entire negotiation.

So we had the opportunity to talk about the different forms of realisation that were possible and also which price seemed appropriate", explains Henriette Hofmeier, student's representative in the Academic Senate.

The Student Parliament of the Stuve (Konvent) shows support for the offered student semesterticket as well:

"When the final offer had been presented we extensively discussed it in the Konvent, where it was then decided to present this offer to all of the students so that they would have the opportunity

to decide.

We, too, share the Alliance's assessment of the situation, that this is the best offer we can get, considering our current situation and all the circumstances in Bavaria", continues Henriette Hofmeier.

The Stuve does acknowledge that with regard to the price a lot of the students expected a better offer – as did the Stuve.

"Unfortunately the price level of the VGN is quite high, being the second largest transport association of Germany is one of the reasons for that. Therefore we cannot expect the price of a semesterticket in for example Regensburg and the price of ours to be competitive", states Anna Wieser, part of the General Students' Committee (SprecherInnenrat) of the FAU.

Instead of comparing our prices to semestertickets of other cities or states, the best way to evaluate the offer is to look at it in relation to other prices of the VGN.

Paying about €43 (€258 for the whole ticket divided by 6 months) per month for mobility in the whole VGN-area 24/7, students would be the status group with the cheapest ticket.

If the offered student semesterticket is implemented, every student will have to pay €11 for the split ticket for each month, adding up to €65 for 6 months. This is still within the limits for a socially acceptable obligation, even if some persons might not use the split ticket.

"We expect a lot of our fellow students to make use of the split ticket and to undertake spontaneous weekend trips that would be possible with the split ticket", remarks Anna Wieser.

"In the end each student can decide for her-/himself whether to support the offered ticket or not. But we do hope, that those who do not depend on a student semesterticket bear the solidary idea of this ticket in mind", adds Tobias Langer, also member of the SprecherInnenrat.

The ballot vote is open until the 21st January at 11:59 pm.

For the offer to be accepted at least one third of all the students of each university has to cast a vote, and a majority of those votes has to be in favour of the offered student semesterticket.

With kind regards,
Henriette Hofmeier,
Anna Wieser,
Tobias Langer

Stuve FAU Erlangen–Nürnberg