Dear Sir or Madam,

At present, nearly every area of the sciences is working feverishly toward finding a way out of the coronavirus crisis. In Germany, politicians, economists, and society at large are, more than ever, turning to the scientific community for advice.

And what about us at KLU? We are doing our part by bringing our expertise in the fields of logistics and business administration to the table. At the core of this issue are the analyses and comments provided by our in-house scientific experts. Among other topics, there are, for example, reports on: reorienting supply chains; panic buying; the effects of working from home on management and productivity; and the bursting of the DAX 30 'goodwill bubble'.

Is your company interested in helping out during the crisis? Your own industry knowledge and 3D printing capabilities could prove to be extremely beneficial. Be sure to read our study on producing medical equipment. My personal area of research includes the strategic planning of supply chains, e.g. for medical supplies. I am happy to answer any questions you may have on the subject!

Find out about KLU's reaction to the crisis in an interview with our KLU President Professor Thomas Strothotte. Read the conversation we had with Carmen Schmidt from Logistics Initiative Hamburg on what companies can now expect from universities. All this and more in the current edition of this newsletter.

Best regards and stay healthy!

Professor Kai Hoberg
Professor of Supply Chain and Operations Strategy & Head of Logistics Department
Guest Editor

PS: How can companies deal with the corona crisis? Ask our Professors in a free online Q&A session today on April 23rd and next week on April 30th. Join our #KLU_QandA!
Professor Thomas Strothotte was appointed to its Advisory Board. We asked what universities can do in facing the crisis. Read more…

NEWS

Interview with KLU President: How we’re handling the Crisis

Online courses, student services, the application period for the 2020 intakes – President Professor Thomas Strothotte speaks about the measures KLU has taken in response to the coronavirus pandemic and looks to the future. Read more…

Corona Q&A Sessions April 23/30: Online Offer for Companies

What are the consequences the corona crisis is having on our economy and how can companies and those in positions of responsibility deal with them? On April 2, professors from KLU answered questions regarding supply chains, management, and corporate governance in an online Q&A session. They were joined by more than 200 international participants online. Additional sessions will take place on 23 and 30 April. Read more…

ANALYSES & COMMENTS

3-D Printing: United in the Fight Against Covid-19

The market for protective clothing and medical equipment has been by and large sold out. More and more companies are now turning to the possibilities of 3D printing has to offer. In their analysis, Kai Hoberg, Professor of Supply Chain and Operations Strategy and Dr. Jakob Heinen have recommended three action areas, including creating an online platform for exchanging designs and for orchestrating production capacities. Read more…

Human Resources: Challenges of the Coronavirus Crisis

During times of instability and insecurity, HR is faced with the
task of supporting employees who are working from home during the coronavirus crisis and who may not be used to virtual communication. This is no small feat. Therefore, Prisca Brosi, Associate Professor for Human Resource Management has provided some tips on four core HR tasks: job security, working from home, virtual communication, and employee health and well-being. Read more...

DAX 30: Goodwill Bubble About to Burst

Germany’s low interest rates have led many of the country’s largest companies to making risky acquisitions. This has resulted in a large amount of what has been referred to as “goodwill” showing up on their balance sheets. Now, companies are being faced with impairment tests which could threaten their very existence. Where did things go wrong? An analysis by Alexander Himme, Associate Professor of Management Accounting. Read more...

Emergency Reorientation of Supply Chains

Amidst all the economic gloom, there are heartening reports of supply chains being rapidly reconfigured to meet the new challenges coronavirus has created. Lessons are being learned at short notice which hopefully will inform longer term supply chain resilience planning. Major logistical challenges are arising from product diversification, market re-orientation and labor redeployment, as discussed by Alan McKinnon, Professor of Logistics. Read more...

UN Survey: Corona Impact on Humanitarian Supply Chain

Humanitarian organizations all around the globe continue running their operations, even during the coronavirus crisis. How is the humanitarian supply chain impacted by the coronavirus? Close to 80 organizations took part in a UN-led survey which was supported by HELP Logistics, a program of the Kühne Foundation. KLU Maria Besiou, Professor of Humanitarian Logistics and Mojtaba Salem give some insight into their take on this topic. Read more...

Analysis: Working from Home Can Increase Productivity

Many businesses have ordered their employees to work from home. Is this period of isolation having an effect on their productivity? In this preliminary study conducted by Christian Tröster, Associate Professor of Leadership and Organizational Behavior, it would appear that employees are actually more productive under the current conditions. Gain some new insight as to how you can best support your employees. Read more...

Self-Isolation: How to Take Good Care of Yourself

Relatedness, competence and autonomy are three basic psychological needs. Each has implications for what we can do to make our life and the lives of those around us better, even in these difficult times and especially when moving into self-isolation. Niels Van Quaquebeke, Professor of Leadership and Organizational Behavior, gives advice on how to take care of ourselves personally, as a manager, and as a partner. Read more...
Empty supermarket shelves have become symbolic of the current coronavirus crisis. Panic buying has been largely called out by the public as one of the major causes of this issue. But is that really the problem? What are the other contributing factors? “Needs have shifted and average consumers are buying like companies,” reports Sandra Transchel, Professor of Supply Chain and Operations Management. Read more ...

UPCOMING EVENTS

Free Q&A sessions on the Corona crisis on April 23rd and 30th

How can companies deal with the consequences of the corona crisis? At KLU proven experts research and teach on strategic questions of the supply chain and business management. On Thursday April 23, 7pm and April 30, 10am some of them will be answering your questions from the business world – from corporations to SMEs and the self-employed. Participate free of charge from the convenience of your own home via video chat. The online Q&A sessions are being organized by KLU Executive Education. Join Q&A session ...

Anniversary celebration cancelled

In fall KLU will turn ten. In the course of the corona crisis the official ceremony and party on November 6 that we planned with our students, friends, partners and companions unfortunately cannot take place. We are confident that we will find other ways to celebrate the anniversary together with you.

KLU IN THE MEDIA

Here you will find a selection of media reports with experts from KLU.

Deutsche Verkehrs-Zeitung DVZ (German Transport Journal)
23.04.2020, DVZ-Brief // Wie 3-D-Druck im Kampf gegen Covid-19 helfen kann (How 3D printing is supporting the fight against Covid-19)
22.04.2020, coronavirus blog, scroll to 4.25pm // Q&A-Sessions: KLU-Professoren beantworten Fragen (Q&A Sessions: KLU Professors are answering questions)
21.04.2020, coronavirus blog, scroll to 6.11pm // Wie 3-D-Druck im Kampf gegen Covid-19 helfen kann (How 3D printing is supporting the fight against Covid-19)

Maritiem Nederland, 20.04.2020 // Michele Acciaro over de invloed van covid-19 op de maritieme logistiek: ‘Supply chains kunnen wel tegen een stootje’ (Michele Acciaro on the influence of covid-19 on maritime logistics: ‘Supply chains can take a bump’)

hamburg.news.de, 15.04.2020 // Corona – digitalization to the rescue

Link Magazine, 14.04.2020 // Jan Fransoo benoemd tot hoogleraar Operations and Logistics Management (Jan Fransoo appointed Professor of Operations and Logistics Management)

trans.info, 08.04.2020 // Von der Bedarfsprognose bis zur tatsächlichen Bedarfsplanung. In Zeiten der Corona-Krise ist dies jetzt echt real (From demand forecasting to actual demand
planning: In times of Corona this is now for real)

Die Zeit, 26.03.2020 // "Auch Chefs laufen zu Hause die Wände hoch" ("Even executives run up the walls at home")