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Where were you active during your time as a student?

(At the University of Hanover) In the philosophy faculty, in the student council, in the FZS, in the study quality funding commission and in the equal opportunities commission.

What does student engagement mean to you?

For me, student engagement is characterized by good debates, dedicated working groups and a fundamental interest in ensuring that all students can do well. Being able to get involved in the administration and management of public institutions is a privilege that I have gladly used. I have been able to grow through my engagement and have gotten to know the public sector even better.

What advantages do you see for yourself, also with regard to your future career, in your previous engagement?

My previous engagement was already very helpful to me during my time as a student, as my political participation enabled me to apply for BAföG for an extra semester. As I was firmly established in the area of women's advancement, my participation in the equal opportunities commission was a welcome additional factor for my employers during my time as a student. Personally, I was able to learn a lot about patience, strategy and negotiation techniques.

How did you get involved?

I have been involved in social activities since my youth, for example in youth work. This type of involvement gives you a sense of self-efficacy that is difficult to achieve in any other way. The feeling that what you are doing can have a real impact on the future is a feeling that I would not want to miss. It is also a great opportunity to network and get to know a wide variety of people.

What was the most important/most important point (positive and negative) of your involvement for you?

One of the most important points for me is the expectation: not everyone is enthusiastic in the same way, not everyone takes their involvement in the same way seriously. You have to learn to deal with that, otherwise the work quickly ends in frustration. So, right from the start, clarify how much time and resources are actually available and try to set up the tasks in such a way that each person is confronted with their own strengths as much as possible. Then the work will be great fun!