

## University Renovates “Karzer”

The renovation of the university’s historic student detention rooms, the so-called Karzer, was a project the university was especially keen on realizing. The project received support from alumni.

Alumni Freiburg e.V. raised 4405 euros for the renovation of the “Karzer.” The alumni funds were used for the interior furnishings. The two detention rooms, the winter and summer detention rooms, were fit out with historical furnishings.

The winter detention room was renovated by the university building authority and is now open for guided tours. The summer detention room in the tower on top of Collegiate Building I, so named because it cannot be heated, was renovated in time for the university’s anniversary in 2007. The renovation of the summer detention room involved the restoration of a frieze depicting the idealized life of a student, and the work on the winter detention room revealed fragments of coats of arms and graffiti scribbled by former inmates. These fragments include a poem penned by the University of Freiburg’s 3000<sup>th</sup> student on the occasion of his double anniversary: He was both the university’s 3000<sup>th</sup> student and the Karzer’s first inmate. The text was previously only known from a long out-of-print publication.

The heatable winter detention room was first mentioned in November 1912, the summer detention room in April 1912. The two detention rooms were used up to the end of the German Empire. Detention was abolished in 1920. The rooms were used for various purposes in the subsequent decades, for instance as library rooms, meeting rooms, and most recently as workrooms for student assistants.

If you are interested in taking a guided tour of the detention rooms, please contact the Uniseum (Tel.: 3835, E-Mail: [info@uniseum.de](mailto:info@uniseum.de)). The tours include a visit to both rooms and an opportunity to climb to the top of the university tower and enjoy a stunning view of the university and the city center.



The summer detention room is located in the tower of Collegiate Building I.



Alumni can take a tour of the university’s renovated detention rooms led by Dr. Dieter Speck, head of the Uniseum.