



UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

## **GREETING FROM THE RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ**

“When everything else crumbles, universities remain,” said researcher Artturi Nyysönen from the University of Jyväskylä in 1970. University as an institution has adapted to the changes of society for centuries. After the establishment of the Royal Academy of Turku, the Finnish university institution has grown and succeeded, now being one of the best in the world.

In Jyväskylä, which often is cited as the Athens of Finland, higher education started already 153 years ago when Uno Cygnaeus established the Jyväskylä Teacher Seminary. The Seminary grew and developed, becoming first the Jyväskylä College of Education and then the multidisciplinary University of Jyväskylä. However, teacher education is still one of our most important strengths. The traditions created by the Seminary are still visible in the Christmas and spring parties of Finnish schools.

Learning methods and the acquisition of information and knowledge are increasingly digitised. While teaching moves from large auditoriums to online courses, the need for small group teaching and interaction increases. This also is a step back towards the original model of universities in which students also learn from each other.

On behalf of the University of Jyväskylä,  
I wish the best success for the Athenis Finlandiae culture event.

**Matti Manninen**  
Rector  
University of Jyväskylä

**Musiikin, Kulttuurin ja Taiteen  
EDISTÄMISYHDISTYS RY**

