

# A lot achieved!

AND PROUD OF IT!





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# Reaching the Goal with Excellence

Full of energy, charged up, motivated through and through - the start of many projects has a stimulating tension about it. The path from the idea to a finished product or project, on the other hand, can sometimes be quite challenging. So, it's all the better when things work out, the result is seen and is convincing. We are proud of the outstanding achievements of our students and colleagues and are delighted with their great successes.



## Good to know!

Molecular Biotechnology - a pool for winners, this is the tenth time that the prize has been awarded to graduates of this English-language Master's degree program, a sign of the excellent quality of the research work.

## Awards for excellent Master's theses

Cardiovascular diseases are becoming increasingly common worldwide, but there is no clarity about how they develop. Sibel Kurt investigated the influence of WNT5A proteins in her Master's thesis in Molecular Biotechnology. The results suggest that WNT5A can cause the transformation of vascular smooth muscle cells into bone-like cells. The better understanding of the pathogenesis of the disease associated with this

may help to prevent and treat vascular calcification in a more targeted manner in the future.

As part of his Master's thesis for his degree in Civil Engineering - Construction Management, Sebastian Baumgartner developed a manual for recording data for Building Information Management of existing buildings. BIM models manage specific building data over the entire life cycle in a central digital tool and are important tools for future-oriented and

From left to right: Federal Minister Martin Polaschek; Sibel Kurt, Sebastian Baumgartner, Alfred Weninger-Vycudil all three from FH Campus Wien; Alexander Marinovic, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research





sustainable building use. Collecting information is a complex challenge, especially for existing buildings.

For Sibel Kurt and Sebastian Baumgartner, receiving the prize of appreciation from Science Minister Martin Polaschek was probably the highlight of their remarkable academic careers: Both completed their Bachelor's and Master's degrees at FH Campus Wien with excellent results.

### **Pioneering for resource conservation in the construction industry**

Promoting circular thinking, reducing global waste in the construction industry - Jan Bruns is promoting this idea in his Master's thesis in Civil Engineering and Construction Management. He showed ways in which even a circular tender can promote the conservation of resources. The unanimous decision of the jury of the Austrian Construction Materials Recycling Association in favor of Jan Bruns as winner of the BRV Sponsorship Award underlines life cycle thinking as a topic for the future.

### **New method for serological phenotyping wins MTD Innovation Award**

Florian Koch conducted research at the Department of Blood Group Serology & Transfusion Medicine at the Medical University of Vienna for his Bachelor's

# Effective Against the Climate Crisis

## The Project "LoRaWAN" Wins the Primus VOR Award 2024



From left to right: Patrick Skubel, Mayor of the municipality of Neuhaus, Heimo Hirner, Head of the Research Center AI, Software and Safety, with Regina Wiedl, Head of the municipal authority of the municipality of Neuhaus

Between incessant rain and drought, the water supply in Carinthia during the summer months is a major challenge. In Neuhaus, a community of 1,000 inhabitants, the "Argos" app is now providing a solution. Computer scientists at FH Campus Wien have programmed balances for every water supply system in the municipality, which monitor the feed into the pipeline network and the withdrawal on an hourly, daily and weekly basis. The calculations provide a precise insight into water losses, even making it possible to detect burst pipes more quickly. In the event of water bottlenecks, municipal employees can now actively intervene in the water management system.

This successful project has now received the Primus VOR Award from the Kleine Zeitung in the category "Digitalization". "Across Europe, many research institutions have specialized in the needs of "smart cities". We deliberately chose to focus on "smart villages" because almost two thirds of Austrian municipalities have fewer than 2,500 inhabitants. The need for digital solutions in times of the climate crisis is particularly in demand here," says project manager Heimo Hirner from the Department Engineering.

The successful collaboration between FH Campus Wien and the municipality of Neuhaus is being extended: an artificial intelligence system is currently being programmed to help detect anomalies in the municipal drinking water supply.





From left to right: Anna Bandura, FH Campus Wien; Tetiana Saukh, University of Graz; Hannah Haller, FH Campus Wien; and Manfred Hämmerle, imh GmbH

thesis in Biomedical Science. The focus was on establishing a new method for the routine diagnosis of human neutrophil antigen 2 (HNA). If the body produces antibodies against HNA, this can lead to serious diseases. Current diagnostics use test sera containing anti-HNA-2 antibodies, which are difficult to obtain. The research findings for the new test method were the 2023 Innovation Prize by the umbrella organization of Austria's higher medical-technical services.

### For our health: the next generation of the pharmaceutical industry

The criteria of innovation, practical applicability and benefit for patients catapulted the research work of the two Master's graduates in Molecular Biotechnology, Anna Banduras and Hanna Haller, into the final of the YOUNG PHARMA AWARD. They presented their research projects live to a specialist audience at the pharmaKON future conference. The audience voted to award Hanna Haller second place for her study on the molecular binding of bacteria, non-piliated *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, to human nerve cells. Her goal: to use these results to contribute to the development of an effective therapy to combat the damage caused by bacterial meningitis. Anna Badura came third with her research into the human-specific effects of drugs and harmful substances on organoids of the posterior lateral plate mesoderm.

### Research on the history of social work received the Herbert Steiner Recognition Award 2024

Irene Messinger's research work "Persecution and Resistance of Women Caregivers from Vienna 1934-1945. Biographies, Networks, Knowledge Transfer" focuses on the profession of women caregivers established in Vienna in the 1920s during the period of Austrofascism and National Socialism. The exile researcher and lecturer in the Bachelor's degree program Social Work researched and documented the fates of 80 women. This critical parallel history was honored by the Documentation

Centre of Austrian Resistance and the International Conference of Labour and Social History with the Herbert Steiner Prize, which has been awarded for the past 20 years.



From left to right: Elisabeth Steiner, Head of the Department Social Work and Head of Degree Program Social and Clinical Social Work; Josef Bakic, Head of Degree Program Social Work; Award winner Irene Messinger; Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development.

### Another state championship title is brewing

Why is beer being brewed at FH Campus Wien? Beer connoisseurs think it's because the researchers and students around Michael Maurer, Head of the degree programs Bioengineering, Bioinformatics, Bioprocess Engineering and Biotechnological Quality Management and initiator of the Scientific Brewhouse, are simply good at it. The Vienna Lager is once again among the top three beers in the Austrian Beer Challenge, successfully defending its title as national champion in 2024. The jury praised the winning beer's beautiful dark honey-copper color, typical of Viennese lagers, its fine-pored froth and the aroma of herbs with cookie and caramel tones. What else speaks in favor of brewing beer



at FH Campus Wien? Purely practical arguments: The brewing process allows students to gain a lot of experience in process engineering handling and quality management.



Center and first place: Michael Geissler, Lecturer in the Section Bioengineering

### At the forefront with successful communication

Normally she talks about others: the educational programs offered by FH Campus Wien, the wide-ranging expertise in teaching and science, and innovative research projects. In this case, Franziska Salcher, an employee in Corporate Communications with a focus on Public Relations, took center stage herself. The industry magazine Österreichs Journalist:in named her one of the best "30 PR talents under 30". Always focusing on the needs of the target group, her PR work is based on innovative solutions and straightforward communication.



Franziska Salcher, corporate communications

# Engineering Meets Law

LegalTech Hackathon Wins Ars Docendi State Prize 2023



From left to right: Federal Minister Martin Polaschek, Heimo Hirner, Leon Freudenthaler, Igor Miladinovic, Sigrid Schefer-Wenzl, Bernhard Taufner

When paragraphs meet programming languages, amazing projects are born. Students from the degree program Computer Science and Digital Communications at FH Campus Wien and students from the University of Vienna's Juridicum worked on IT solutions to make legal content accessible quickly and easily.

The teams were a mixture of legal experts and computer scientists, and a jury of legal tech experts evaluated the presentations. The team "Scanderstand", with Florian Bodner and Marlene Zoe Ruf from FH Campus Wien, won the competition. The students impressed the judges with an app that allows texts to be scanned using a cell phone camera. The legal references cited therein are automatically recognized and the corresponding legal texts from the RIS (Federal Legal Information System) are displayed. The pro version offers translations into other languages and a display in plain language.

In September 2023, the project was awarded the Ars Docendi State Prize by the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research in the category "Cooperative forms of teaching and working". "The award recognizes our efforts to firmly integrate innovative teaching concepts into the everyday life of students and shows that universities and universities of applied sciences work hand in hand to create great didactic concepts," say Arthur Mettinger, former Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs at FH Campus Wien, and his successor Evelyn Süss-Stepancik.

Alongside Igor Miladinovic, Head of Department Computer Science, Sigrid Schefer-Wenzl, Heimo Hirner, Bernhard Taufner, and Leon Freudenthaler are also delighted with the award. Nikolaus Forgó, Head of Institute at the University of Vienna, was also part of the team.

### State prize honors excellent teaching every year

Every year, the Ars Docendi State Prize for Excellent Teaching highlights the enormous importance of teaching in education and science as well as interdisciplinary cooperation. The Federal Ministry Education, Science and Research thus supports the development of quality in university teaching.

Congratulations to our lecturers and the winners of the hackathon!



Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs

# Good Teaching Means Passion for Content and People

Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs at FH Campus Wien since September 1, 2023, is a didactics expert with a passion and 25 years of experience in the national and international education landscape. As one of the few education managers in the country, she is familiar with the entire higher education sector, from universities to university colleges of teacher education and universities of applied sciences. At FH Campus Wien, Evelyn Süss-Stepancik is committed to innovative teaching and to establishing a global mindset. In doing so, she draws on her extensive expertise in educational research.



to lecturers who offer an academically sound and practice-oriented education, always focusing on the needs of the job market.

### **One year at FH Campus Wien: team play internally, networking externally**

What fascinates Evelyn Süss-Stepancik most about FH Campus Wien is the breadth of topics: "From STEM to health and nursing to study programs in the social and governance sector. FH Campus Wien offers education in a wide variety of fields." When looking back on the past twelve months, she thinks of the strong teams that support her in her work every

its second round, is primarily aimed at our teaching staff. As part of our AI Strategy 2024/25, we are also encouraging employees in all departments and secretary's offices to learn how to use AI and the Microsoft Copilot application in particular.

### **Many plans for the future**

And what is the busy Vice Rector, who privately cultivates no fewer than eleven raised vegetable beds as an organic gardener, planning next? The practical relevance of teaching and the close integration of research and teaching as well as internationalization are to be expanded even further in the future.

**“In the future, we will be expanding the close links between research, teaching and internationalization even further.”**

*Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs*

Born in Lower Austria, she discovered her passion for digitalization at the turn of the millennium, when she established the first fully digitalized secondary school in Lower Austria and has been continuously expanding her expertise in the field of digital transformation ever since. Hands-on and pragmatic are the attributes that best describe Evelyn Süss-Stepancik: "I have learned what it means to teach from scratch, with all its facets.

This also includes correcting up to 800 exams in one year of teaching," says the mathematician and German studies graduate with a smile. It is the interaction with people and content that makes teaching so exciting for her. "I am driven by one question in particular: What didactic methods inspire our students to engage with science, practical experience and the professional field with equal intensity?" Of course, this also applies

day, including the International Office, Online Services and the Teaching Support Center.

"The colleagues do a fantastic job at keeping our various platforms for applications and student administration and the learning portals up to date, supporting lecturers in implementing their courses and maintaining international activities and contacts with international cooperation partners."

At the top of Evelyn Süss-Stepancik's agenda is artificial intelligence (AI): Just a few months after taking office, she launched an AI mentoring program that connects mentors and mentees. Around 50 lecturers took part in this pilot program, in which the mentors supported their mentees in improving their own AI skills and developing possible scenarios for the use of AI in teaching. "The mentoring program, which is now entering

Evelyn Süss-Stepancik herself is planning to get to know the training partners of FH Campus Wien even better. There, students apply the knowledge they have gained in practice and thus master their entry into the professional world.

When it comes to her vision for the future of FH Campus Wien, Evelyn Süss-Stepancik knows exactly where she is heading: "All graduates of secondary schools in Vienna should know our university of applied sciences. Together with my colleagues, I want to create a very special place of learning for our students."

*EVELYN  
SÜSS-STEPANCIK  
ON LINKEDIN* →



From left to right: COO Doris Link with the first-prize winners Florian Hofstetter and Florian Friedrich

# A Vibrant Educational Landscape

FH Campus Wien relies on close cooperation with students when it comes to further developing the learning and working environment. The ideas competition "LEARN.WORK.LIVE. - More space in the library" shows how this exchange can create a needs-based and future-oriented infrastructure.

As part of the competition, students of the degree program Architecture - Green Building at FH Campus Wien were asked to come up with creative and innovative solutions to create more space in the library. "The students know best what they need for a good learning environment. This competition was therefore an important platform for the creative exchange between the active users of the library and FH Campus Wien. The diversity and creativity of the projects submitted showed the students' great interest in making the library an even better place to learn,"

says COO Doris Link. Florian Friedrich and Florian Hofstetter won first prize with their BRAINFOOD project and received 1,250 euros. Their design impressed with original ideas such as an acoustic tunnel, a spiral staircase and "endless" bookshelves that were visually enlarged by mirrors on the ceiling.



# Manufacturing Technologies up Close

AMSEL closes the gap between theory and practice

Sustainability is the order of the day in many industries. Production facilities are responding to this trend, questioning their traditional production options with a focus on conserving primary resources. A highly committed team from the department High Tech Manufacturing led by Sebastian Geyer has responded to this trend by opening the Additive Manufacturing Science and Education Lab ("AMSEL") at the High Tech Campus (HTC) in Wien-Favoriten at the end of February 2024.

"In the current curricula of the department High Tech Manufacturing, students learn about additive manufacturing technologies primarily from a theoretical perspective,"

says Sebastian Geyer, lecturer and researcher in the department High Tech Manufacturing. "With AMSEL, we give them the opportunity to gain exciting practical experience at an early stage and put into practice what they have learned as quickly as possible."

## **Focus on additive manufacturing technologies**

The department already has an Additive Manufacturing Lab (AM Lab), where industrial equipment with Selective Laser Sintering - SLS (Powder bed fusion - PBF) and Hot Lithography (Vat photopolymerization - VPP) is available. At AMSEL, on the other hand, the focus is

on technologies that are easier to learn, such as material extrusion (FLM) and the Vat photopolymerization processes (digital light processing - DLP and LCD).

"AMSEL" is now available to all students, lecturers, researchers and start-ups with a connection to FH Campus Wien. After initial training, the devices can be used for thesis work, research projects and new inspiring ideas.

Funded by



Economic Affairs,  
Labour and Statistics



# Fighting Cybercrime

Silvie Schmidt is the New Endowed Professor Specializing in IoT Security



TOP!

IT security is an omnipresent topic and now affects every industry and area of life. Researchers are working hard to protect computer and information systems, servers, mobile devices, networks and data from malicious attacks. The City of Vienna's Department of Economic Affairs, Labour and Statistics (MA 23) is responding accordingly by endowing FH Campus Wien with a professorship focusing on IoT security. IT security expert Silvie Schmidt has held the professorship since the beginning of April, 2024.

She knows FH Campus Wien inside out: After completing her Bachelor's degree in Information Technologies and Telecommunications, she also completed her Master's degree in IT Security at Austria's largest university of applied sciences. She has been teaching as an endowed professor in the Master's program since April. Her next aim is to build up more research activities in cooperation with business and industry. "In the long term, we want to enable practice-oriented teaching with sound theoretical know-how. Our central concern is interdisciplinarity between all the degree programs at FH Campus Wien, because highly complex IT problems require networked solutions."

Whitfield Diffie, Stanford University



The focus on IT security is firmly anchored at FH Campus Wien, in particular through the Research Center IT Security, which was established in 2008. A Master's degree program of the same name deals with the technical aspects of IT security (cryptography, network security, secure software development, pentesting). In 2021, Silvie Schmidt successfully established the ELVIS Lab (Embedded Lab Vienna for IoT & Security), which is funded by MA 23, and has been supporting students and lecturers from every discipline in their work on IT security with great commitment ever since. The specialist conference IT-S NOW, which she initiated, has been attracting hundreds of visitors to Science City at the beginning of June every year since 2022. With Whitfield Diffie from Stanford University and Peter Gutmann from the University of Auckland, once again two international top experts took part in 2024.

The endowed professorship focuses on the following IT security topics:

- radio (Bluetooth Low Energy, NFC)
- IoT pentesting
- programming of hardware security modules (HSM)
- cryptography on constrained devices

In the area of research, Silvie Schmidt's team will focus on the security aspects of the new Bluetooth Low Energy standard and on the practical and theoretical evaluation of different HSM approaches in the IoT environment. The aim is to develop secure solutions that are easy to use and suitable for the everyday deployment of IoT devices.

MORE  
→

its-now.science





Harald Lepuschitz giving a tour of the OP Innovation Center (OPIC)

# Know-How Center for Medical Facilities

Harald Lepuschitz is the new endowed professor for Clinical Engineering

The pandemic developments of recent years have challenged society in every area, especially with regard to hygiene requirements. Accordingly, healthcare facilities have upgraded their ventilation, filtration and air conditioning technology. Experts are now needed to operate and professionally maintain this equipment. The degree program Clinical Engineering provides support with training and combines technical expertise with a focus on healthcare.

Harald Lepuschitz is a proven expert in the field and is now the new endowed professor for heating, air conditioning, ventilation and sanitation (HVACS). He

is a graduate of the Bachelor's degree program Clinical Engineering and also completed his Master's degree (Technical Management) at FH Campus Wien. His favorite project is the in-house operating theatre at FH Campus Wien (OPIC). He was involved in the planning and made his vision of practice-oriented teaching a reality. The OP Innovation Center (OPIC) is used for research and teaching and has all the features of a state-of-the-art operating theater.

Various degree programs jointly research and optimize the operational and clinical engineering as well as all the processes related to intensive care medicine.

"My goal is to further expand Vienna as a center of expertise for innovations in medical facilities," says the new endowed professor.

The department Engineering focuses on interdisciplinarity: the departments Health Sciences, Applied Nursing Science, Building and Design as well as Applied Life Sciences are actively involved in order to create synergies and network the departments more closely.

Endowed Professorships funded by



Economic Affairs,  
Labour and Statistics



# First Things First: Protect Women!

Our concern: violence against women! Action is needed, specifically targeted action by professional groups who are often the first point of contact for victims of violence. An exchange with Federal Minister Susanne Raab made it clear how teaching and research can help to protect victims and prevent violence.

Care, health and social professions in particular are called upon to recognize indications of violence and to empower and support those affected. "Professional groups in direct contact with people, such as nursing staff or social workers, play a key role in early detection. We take this into account in our academic training," says Vice Rector Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann during a personal

exchange of information with Susanne Raab, Federal Minister for Women, Family, Integration and Media.

## **Raising awareness for early detection and high-quality support**

Professionals can deepen their expertise in further training courses such as the certificate program "Forensics and Victim

Protection for Nursing, Health and Social Professions", which is offered by the department Applied Nursing Science together with Campus Wien Academy. "Forensic Nursing" skills enable effective intervention in suspected cases of violence or abuse in medical settings. This also includes the more precise securing of evidence for further legal action. Professionals in nursing often

**“Violence can come from different levels, and in our education, training and continuing education programs, we sensitize essential professional groups in the care, health and social sectors to recognize different types of violence.”**

Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development





From left to right: Ulrike Alker, Heike Polleit, Cornelia Feichtinger, Ingrid Puchberger, Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Hans Peter Köllner, Federal Minister Susanne Raab, Heimo Sandtner, Doris Link, Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Marius Contor, Andrea Hofbauer, Roswitha Engel

gain deep insights in their field of work and are in a position to take measures to prevent violence or deal with the effects of violence. Their areas of activity therefore extend to hospitals, primary care centers, (violence) outpatient clinics and violence protection centers, as well as home nursing settings, police facilities and women's shelters.



### Good to know!

Scientific findings help to drive forward preventive measures, for example:

Study on cyber violence against women in (ex-)relationships

Master's theses by graduates of the degree program Spatial and Clinical Social Work in connection with the project "StoP - Neighborhoods without Partner Violence"

Department Health Sciences, degree program Midwifery: Study conference with a focus on violence in obstetrics

# Crossing the Finish Line with Team Spirit

The concrete canoe project is more than just a technical experiment, it is a prime example of how sustainability and teamwork are practiced at FH Campus Wien.



For this year's "ReBoot" canoe, the students used recycled material from a predecessor model from 2019, taking a very innovative approach and at the same time sending a strong signal for resource conservation.

The concrete canoe project brings together students from the various degree programs of the department Building and Design. From the concept and construction to implementation and participation in the regatta, every step requires close collaboration, creative exchange and a high level of commitment. Every time since 2017, this has shown again how interdisciplinary teams at FH Campus Wien can achieve extraordinary results.

The visit by Federal Minister Martin Polaschek underlined the relevance of such projects. The finished "ReBoot" canoe was ultimately a testament to more than just technical skill; it also placed fifth out of 65 canoes in terms of design. It also symbolized the students' sense of responsibility, both towards the environment and towards each other. At FH Campus Wien, teams such as the concrete canoe team are deliberately encouraged as they give students the opportunity to gain practical experience, develop solutions to various problems and strengthen their teamwork skills.

TOGETHER  
WE SUCCEED!

# Change it and love it

In order to attract sufficient numbers of healthcare and nursing professionals to Vienna's healthcare system, FH Campus Wien is working with the City of Vienna to make important changes - with success.

Since 2019, the partners Vienna Social Fund (FSW), Vienna Healthcare Association and FH Campus Wien have been gradually increasing the number of Bachelor's degree places for healthcare and nursing professionals as part of the training initiative "Pflege Zukunft Wien". Support programs tailored to target groups, which are run by the Vienna Employment Promotion Fund (waff), are also having a clear impact. The monthly Vienna Nursing Training Premium and the Jobs PLUS training program offer students financial security. Almost half of all healthcare and nursing students benefit from the waff support programs, explained Wilhelm Behensky, Chief Executive Officer of FH Campus Wien, at a press conference.

## Attractive professional field - meaningful work

The measures taken by the City of Vienna are proving successful. Peter Hanke, Vienna City Councilor for Finance, Economy, Labor, International Affairs and Wiener Stadtwerke, Peter Hacker, City Councilor for Social Work, Health and Sport, Fritz Meißl, Managing Director of waff, and Susanne Winkler, Managing Director of FSW, drew a positive interim balance. A total of 1.1 billion euros will be invested over the next 25 years to double the number of training places in all healthcare professions and to modernize the infrastructure.



From left to right: Wilhelm Behensky, FH Campus Wien; Susanne Winkler, FSW; Peter Hacker, Peter Hanke, both City of Vienna; Fritz Meißl, waff

**“We have many between, many career changers between the ages of 30 and 40 who want to do change careers. The services offered by waff make this possible.”**

Wilhelm Behensky, Chief Executive Officer

Another noticeable benefit is that more and more career changers are consciously choosing this profession. Whether coming from the business world or building on 15 years of professional experience at the

airport, students value the healthcare sector as an opportunity for the future. It is a secure profession and there are many opportunities for development, from maternity care to palliative care.





Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann with researchers and colleagues from the ethics committee

# Making Waves in Research

A constant curiosity to get to the bottom of things and generate innovation is a key requirement for research and development. Equally important are good working conditions and clear career prospects for researchers.

**“With our base funding for the research centers, we are able to retain researchers whose expertise we would otherwise have to forgo once externally funded projects come to an end.”**

Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development

From Research Assistant to UAS Professor – This Career Path Is No Longer a Utopia. Those who establish themselves in research at FH Campus Wien have the opportunity to move from a fixed-term to a permanent position, advance to higher salary levels, and attain a UAS professorship with a research focus. In order to further expand research activities at the university, the research centers have been significantly strengthened through internal base funding. Additionally, the tenth research center, Digital Health and Care, began operations in the 2023/24 academic year (see page 40 for more). Funding for project kick-starts, available to researchers outside the research centers, has also been increased.

Project managers can now become "Fit FOR Projects" through a specially designed training program – a format created by the Research and Project Coordination Department (FOR), which was

an immediate success. In recognition of their responsibilities, project managers will also receive a leadership allowance starting in the 2024/25 academic year.

Another new development: the Ethics Committee at FH Campus Wien is now open to external submissions. This initiative was driven by Vice Rector for Research and Development Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, who is also a board member of the Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (OAWI). The initiative has been very well received, something Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann is particularly proud of.

ELISABETH  
HASLINGER-BAUMANN  
ON LINKEDIN →



Wilhelm Behensky, Founder of FH Campus Wien and Chief Executive Officer

# **We Have Always Been a University of Applied Sciences**

The Fachhochschulen (universities of applied sciences) are now officially embracing the title of Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (universities of applied sciences) in name too. They always have fulfilled this role, but now it is a matter of raising awareness and strengthening recognition.





RESPECT!

sciences. The education is science-based and practice-oriented. Graduates from universities of applied sciences can enter the job market almost seamlessly. Another important point: research at universities of applied sciences is application-oriented, which has a twofold effect: it provides concrete solutions to problems arising in practice and students are trained to think and act in a solution-oriented manner. As graduates, they enter the job market with this mindset.

### **Pioneers of innovation for 30 years**

In the three decades of their existence, universities of applied sciences have firmly established themselves in the higher education landscape. Let us not fool ourselves: Without universities of applied sciences, Austria as a business location would face even greater difficulties than it already does. In the future, it will be even more important to expand the innovative strength of the Austrian economy and remain internationally competitive. We, the universities of applied sciences, bring flexibility, a high understanding of quality and the continuity to contribute to this at all levels.

### **Competition for the best talent**

Unfortunately, there is a lack of basic funding for such important application-oriented research. We are dependent on working with project-based funding. However, we need a sustainable solution that provides us with planning security: constant and reliable funding for research. After all, this is a key to maintaining Austria's competitiveness. In addition, the expansion of research also leads to a higher proportion of research-led teaching. We are part of a global competition for the best talent - whether it be students, researchers,

teaching staff or employees. As a university, we must be able to offer academic careers and retain the best.

### **Interdisciplinary cooperation is being promoted**

We are now in the process of transforming from a Fachhochschule (university of applied sciences) to a Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (university of applied sciences). At FH Campus Wien, we will use this opportunity to change our name. After all, it is about improving the visibility of what we already do and what sets us apart. Furthermore, narrowing down to one "subject" is no longer in keeping with the times. Since we were founded, we have built up a wide range of disciplines, brought them together and continuously innovated at the interface of these disciplines. We have promoted interdisciplinary cooperation and made it one of our trademarks. In times of great scientific skepticism, it is also important to emphasize the value and relevance of applied sciences more strongly.



### **Good to know!**

FH Campus Wien was founded by Wilhelm Behensky in 2001. It received the status of a university of applied sciences in 2004. From one of the smallest course providing bodies, FH Campus Wien has developed into the largest and most diverse university of applied sciences in Austria, with several buildings at the location in Wien-Favoriten. FH Campus Wien has won the Austrian State Prize for Enterprise Quality twice.

Around a third of all university graduates in Austria have completed their studies at a university of applied sciences, more than 90% of them in the specified time. In STEM and business studies, universities of applied sciences already account for around 50% of degrees. This contrasts with the allocation of federal funding: universities of applied sciences receive 9.3%, universities 90.7%. To be clear from the outset: we do not begrudge our colleagues at the universities for their funding. Nevertheless, the example illustrates the serious imbalance.

### **The universities of applied sciences mindset: Think and act in a solution-oriented manner**

As many as 40% of all first-year students in a given year begin their studies at one of the 21 universities of applied

We asked the members of our executive committee:

## When You Think of FH Campus Wien, What Are You Particularly Proud of?



**Hannes Swoboda**

"FH Campus Wien combines a strong will to succeed, a noticeable climate of collegial cooperation with social commitment, and the will to master the social challenges of the future!"



**Elisabeth Stadler**

"Being the largest university of applied sciences in Austria comes with high expectations for students. In my view, FH Campus Wien scores in three main areas: The degree programs are application-oriented and thus have a good mix of theory and practice. Thanks to the university's numerous international partnerships, students have the opportunity to sharpen their intercultural skills. And by continuously expanding its digital offers, FH Campus Wien is making a major contribution to modern academic operations. All of this makes me very proud."



**Wolfgang Hesoun**

"As Austria's largest university of applied sciences, FH Campus Wien makes a significant contribution to strengthening the local economy. With the know-how they have acquired, graduates are immediately employable in business and industry. This makes me proud."





**Christine Marek**

"FH Campus Wien plays a pioneering role in socially highly relevant areas, such as academic training in nursing, social work, elementary education and in the healthcare sector in midwifery education. Here, FH Campus Wien was one of the first universities of applied sciences to establish and implement tertiary education at the highest level."



**Marcus Franz**

"FH Campus Wien is a sustainable center of knowledge and research for the whole of Vienna, which will continue to grow in the future and offer even better education opportunities, particularly for people in the nursing and healthcare sector. The approximately 7,000 students also bring a wealth of opportunities and advantages for the economy of the Favoriten district in Vienna. FH Campus Wien is a real asset for the education district of Favoriten!"



**Peter Krammer**

"A balanced mix of subjects, innovative teaching methods and a application-oriented education make our students sought-after experts in the construction industry. I am proud that, as a result, graduates of FH Campus Wien have earned an excellent reputation in our industry."



**Christa Schnabl**

"FH Campus Wien has a strong network with the economy and society in the Vienna region and is very adept at science communication and technology transfer."

# Working Hard and Realizing Visions

Future-oriented structures to ensure the steady growth of FH Campus Wien in the best way possible- Doris Link will play a leading role in developing these in the future. In September 2023, she took on the newly created position of Chief Operating Officer alongside Chief Executive Officer Wilhelm Behensky, and Chief Financial Officer Horst Rode.

Doris Link, COO at FH Campus Wien





Doris Link has very specific goals in mind when she takes up her new role: "Strategic progress is very important to me, and I also want to anchor future topics such as sustainability and digitalization even more firmly at all organizational levels of our university." Her know-how and extensive management experience in academic operations and in the construction industry form the ideal basis for successful implementation.

### **Developing academic education**

Over the past 20 years, Doris Link, as head of the Master's degree program Civil Engineering - Construction Management, has given thousands of graduates the tools for successful careers. "We have fantastic

students who are committed to pursuing very special career paths. They make us proud and we are happy to have them in our large network." The construction expert played a key role in establishing the Department Building and Design; she has been head of a degree program since 2004 and has also headed the department since 2011.

"The construction industry as well as our partners in administration, engineering, health and social services and industries with a scientific background are signaling to us how important educational updates are in professional life," says Doris Link. In addition to the core areas of teaching and research & development, she sees the design of continuing education and training programs geared towards the needs of business and society as a key strategic pillar. "With Campus Wien Academy we develop certificate programmes for specializations and in-depth specialist knowledge and precisely meet the demand for academic lifelong learning courses."

### **Firmly anchored in management**

Doris Link studied civil engineering with a specialization in construction management and construction economics at TU Wien. She completed her doctorate at the University of Nottingham and TU Wien. "I was able to do so many exciting things in the construction industry, for example as a unit and group manager in the STRABAG Group. One highlight was managing the major Austria-wide HGV toll construction project." The certified civil engineer can also draw on her experience as managing director of construction and real estate players and as a member of the supervisory board of Asfinag BMG.

### **Pooling expertise for joint success**

Creating something together is in the nature of construction. "This is just as true at an educational institution like the university of applied sciences. I am surrounded by experts from different disciplines. It goes without saying that I recognize this expertise, signal trust to my counterparts and promote freedom for creativity and innovation," says the

certified quality manager, who is also a trained mediator for construction and business mediation.

An environment that promotes cooperation and the careful use of resources should also drive forward the further development of the area of sustainability. "We bear great responsibility with our actions and it requires the commitment and cooperation of everyone." The newly introduced administrative unit Sustainability Management will, among other things, support a Green Team of employees, students and other stakeholders as required in developing and implementing ideas. "Even small things make sense; our campus recycling station for stationery has been very well received."

Perseverance and resilience are required to make a difference. How can you strengthen this? As a qualified mental and resilience trainer, Doris Link knows: "Resilience means accepting new realities and emerging stronger from crises or change processes. You can fight against change, complain about what you have lost, or you can accept it and try to make something good out of it and grow from it in order to go into the future stronger and with new energy."



### **Good to know!**

Doris Link's previous roles included Head of Administrative Unit and Group Leader at STRABAG Group and Member of the Supervisory Board of Asfinag BMG. At FH Campus Wien, she headed the Master's degree program Civil Engineering and Construction Management and the overarching Department Building and Design before taking on the new role of COO.

DORIS LINK →  
ON LINKEDIN



# Sustainable Construction with Recyclable Materials

"Good architecture offers protection, breathes and provides tranquility" - for Andrea Rieger-Jandl, Head of the Master's degree program Architecture - Green Building, architecture is more than just planning buildings. It is about the conscious use of resources, creating living spaces and learning from each other.

## You have managed many international projects. What lessons have you learned from them?

My international projects, especially in Asia and Africa, have shown me that there are many ways to solve architectural tasks. However, certain values are universal: good architecture offers protection, functions, breathes, provides tranquility, is designed for today and tomorrow and can perish. It is created from local resources and is perceived as deeply human - the "mother tongue of architecture" that focuses on the essentials.

## To what extent can Austria learn from the building culture of other countries?

In countries such as France or Scandinavia, for example, building regulations are not the responsibility of the federal states as they are here, but are centrally controlled and allow for more efficient enforcement. As far as timber construction is concerned, we are very well positioned in Austria, but we could benefit from the know-how in Scandinavia and Japan, especially when it comes to structures that can be dismantled. As far as clay construction is concerned, we can learn a lot from Germany. A comprehensive set of clay construction standards has already been developed there - Austria should follow suit.

## What makes clay such an interesting building material?

Clay fascinates with its simplicity and originality. Houses made of clay are created from the earth, fulfill their purpose and return to it - the epitome of circular building. Moreover, clay is available in abundance. Austria produces 40 million tons of excavated material every year, the majority of which is clay that



can be directly reused. Clay conserves resources, creates a healthy indoor climate and is aesthetically pleasing, which is why it will certainly play a central role in the ecological building revolution.

## Are there any building projects in Austria in which clay was used predominantly or exclusively?

Austria has a long clay construction tradition. Hundreds of historic clay buildings still exist, not only in Lower Austria, but also some in Vienna. I recently visited the construction site of the Waldorf School Wien-Mauer. The historic building has been supplemented with a structure that fits into the existing structure and accommodates new functions such as a gym and a few other rooms. The work was carried out using wood and clay obtained directly from the excavation. The combination of preserving the existing building and using ecological, local resources for the extension makes this building a showcase example of sustainable construction and also creates unique sensory and haptic spatial qualities.

## What prevents Austria from using clay as a primary building material?

The appropriate framework conditions are still lacking. With NETZWERK LEHM, we are currently in the process of enforcing clay construction standards in Austria. The degree program Architecture - Green Building at FH Campus Wien recently completed a research project that deals with "regulatory sandboxes", i.e. legal hurdles that make sustainable construction more difficult. The aim is to adapt the legal framework to enable innovative construction in the first place.



RIGHT  
ON  
TRACK!

**Awareness for sustainability starts in education. What is your focus here?**

In the degree program Architecture - Green Building, we focus on innovative approaches to promote ecological, social and economic sustainability. The core competence of architecture, namely design, encompasses all phases of "green" building concepts, from refurbishment, site selection and flexible building typologies, recyclable materials and deconstructability to energy-efficient building physics and building services. Interdisciplinary collaboration with civil engineering students in the subject "Integral Planning" is essential for this. It is important to me that our students are able to make fact-based decisions in order to counteract greenwashing. My personal hobbyhorse is design-build projects with a hands-on character. The manual and haptic experience with regenerative building materials such as wood, clay and straw provides a direct connection to the material. At the same time, such projects promote social interaction and team awareness - and are above all fun!

MORE ABOUT THE  
GREEN  
BUILDING LAB

# Sustainable Building Concepts are the Future



Innovation and ecologization were the focus of the first construction conference of the Department Building and Design. The construction industry is working together to achieve the goal of climate-neutral construction by 2040. The wide range of requirements include conserving resources, using ecological raw materials such as wood, clay or sheep's wool for insulation and avoiding waste. Without thinking in terms of life cycles and the efficient use of materials, ecologization can hardly succeed.

The industry experts very quickly identified what is needed for this: innovative approaches and technologies, such as BIM (Building Information Modeling), lean management and AI, create the basis for the development of sustainable processes and their optimization. Science provides essential foundations for this. As an example of this, the Research Center Building and Design at FH Campus Wien presented the results for data-based 3D printing production of prestressed concrete bent components.

**“Whichever approach to ecologization is considered, the commitment of all those involved in a construction project is required.”**

Martin Stopfer, Head of Construction Client Management at FH Campus Wien

# “I’m already following you!”

Choosing not to follow well-trodden paths, and instead forging new ones, sometimes takes courage, and often simply perseverance. Whether it is expanding the range of degree programs or picking up a musical instrument to perform in front of an audience, one thing is certain: with a strong and supportive network, even the seemingly impossible becomes achievable.



## Good to know!

Heimo Sandtner has been Academic Director and Rector of FH Campus Wien since 2022, making him part of the university's executive leadership. From 2012 to 2022, he served as Vice Rector for Research and Development. Since 2024, he has also been a member of the executive board of the Austrian University of Applied Sciences Conference (FHK). At FH Campus Wien, Heimo Sandtner has initiated numerous innovations, including the OS.Car Racing Team, an ethics committee, a start-up service, the Talente Café, and most recently, Campus Beats & Friends, a band that regularly performs charity concerts.

The framework conditions for universities have changed significantly. We are competing for both students and staff. At the same time, educational paths are no longer linear. Professions have become more specialized, and entirely new career profiles have emerged. Universities of applied sciences in particular have responded to this development, quickly adapting to the needs of business, industry, and the social and healthcare sectors. At FH Campus Wien especially, we offer an unparalleled range of opportunities for academic education and further qualification.

## Recognizing changing needs

However, that alone is no longer enough. In the future, we will be even more challenged to meet the evolving needs of a diverse group: prospective students who we want to welcome as first-semester students, current students whom we aim to inspire to pursue further studies with us, and graduates whom we hope to bring back to the university for advanced academic qualification.

## Strong networks – new programs in cooperation

This is why we have continuously developed new academic university courses, particularly in the Department of Applied Nursing Science, in some cases in collaboration with long-standing partners. Together with the Academy

of Tax Advisors, we have launched an extraordinary bachelor's degree program (Bachelor Professional) in Tax Management. Additional extraordinary bachelor's programs will follow. Another idea we are pursuing is to offer dual study programs and to develop fully digital degree programs. In doing so, we are relying on a strong network of stable partnerships, which we are continuously expanding.

Something else we must not lose sight of: students need study options that fit their current life circumstances and can be balanced with family and personal





Heimo Sandtner, Academic Director and Rector

commitments. That is why we launched our Flex Model, which makes studying more flexible.

### **A network is more than the sum of its members**

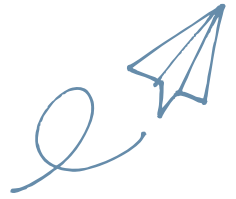
How can we continue to focus on the "right" programs and topics? By actively engaging in dialogue, keeping an open ear to the needs of the market, and recognizing what is necessary and relevant to society. And by truly engaging with others - listening to their arguments and being willing to reflect on them together.

This idea of "following" has another dimension: I've been active on LinkedIn professionally for quite some time. I've significantly increased my follower count and expanded my impact to nearly 200,000 impressions in 2024. I'm proud of that, especially since I write all of my posts myself - which can be a real challenge alongside my daily responsibilities as Academic Director of FH Campus Wien. One day, at an event, a participant greeted me with the words: "I already follow you!" Moments like that often lead to further conversations and new collaborations.

I intend to continue expanding our network - for the benefit of our university. After all, good conversations often spark ideas that may grow into forward-looking degree programs or valuable collaborations.

HEIMO SANDTNER  
ON LINKEDIN  
↪

# Start-up Culture at Universities of Applied Sciences



Over 49 percent of people in Austria do voluntary and unpaid work, thus contributing significantly to the common good. This commitment is mostly organized in associations, where direct entry is often daunting due to long commitments or structural requirements for ad-hoc helpers who want to get an overview first.

The start-up "five" offers low-threshold access to try out volunteer activities and enables their flexible administration and organization.

The security app "lola", on the other hand, has a function that allows women in particular to breathe a sigh of relief: "lola" automatically notifies the police in the event of danger or an emergency, for example, on the way home at night.

## Two winning projects at the pitching event

"five" and "lola", two start-up projects from teams of students at FH Campus Wien, won the jury prize and the audience award at the pitch event on June 20, 2024, which marked the first anniversary of our Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Career Center (EICC). The EICC, which supports a large number of other student projects, is keen to offer customized services for the diverse start-up projects. The high demand confirms the quality of the

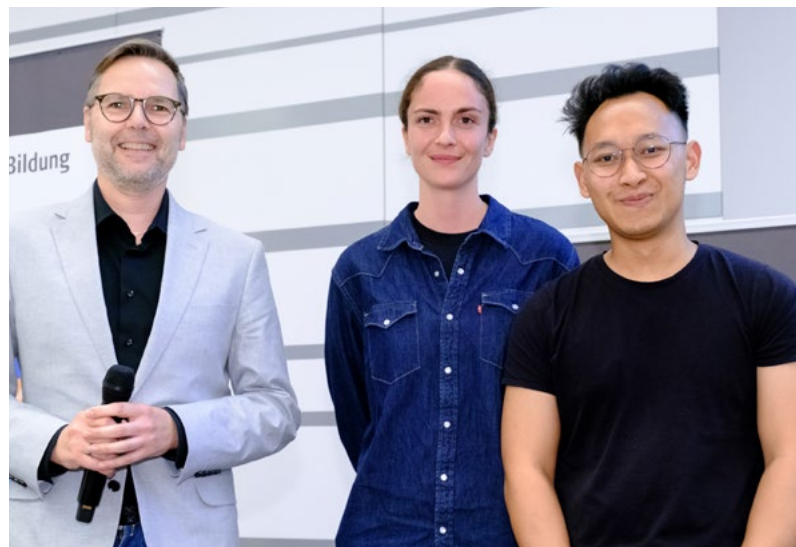
services offered by the unit, whose team also organizes punch events and workshops as accompanying side events. These events give founders a great opportunity to exchange ideas and get to know each other without obligation. The team notes that it is not uncommon for new start-up ideas to emerge from such events.

## Why universities and universities of applied sciences support start-ups

The targeted support of start-up initiatives also has numerous advantages for universities and universities of applied sciences. On the one hand, the projects create a direct link between academic training and practical application. Graduates are given the opportunity to bring their ideas and research results into society and make them commercially viable. On the other hand, the promotion of innovation increases the attractiveness of the institution as it is perceived as a hub for future projects and talent.



Founders: Giuliana Imperiale, Tina Lukenda and Aleksandra Iskra - all three Computer Science and Digital Communications, FH Campus Wien



Peter Stepanek, Head of Degree Program Social Economy, with the founders: Ligia Dietze - Cultural and Social Anthropology, University of Vienna and Naufal Ochs - Master's degree Social Economy, FH Campus Wien





Life Sciences Career Fair 2024

# Bridge to the Professional World: Career Fairs and Job Markets

FH Campus Wien brings students and industry representatives together with six specialized career fairs, including the Engineering Job and Career Fair, the Civil Engineering and Construction Internship Fair, the Packaging and Resource Management Perspectives Day, the Social Work Placement Fair, the Health Job Market and the Life Sciences Career Fair. Each year, students use these formats to gain personal insights into future career fields and make initial contact with potential employers. Since March 2023, the "World Café Nursing", has expanded this series as the seventh event across all seven departments, offering students

in nursing access to a broad network of contacts with organizations, hospital providers, and care facilities.

## **Face-to-face makes the difference**

For many students, especially Generation Z with their high digital affinity, personal contact is still the most important step when it comes to defining career prospects. This is also confirmed by the Universum Global Talent Survey, a leading global provider of surveys among students and young professionals as well as employer branding services. Despite the highest level of digital competence,

Generation Z prefers personal encounters to explore career opportunities and get to know employers. In addition, the strong connection between the university and business helps them to make informed decisions about their professional future.

The continued demand from companies for the career fairs also confirms the benefits from the employers' perspective. In view of the shortage of skilled workers, employers have the opportunity to gain direct access to well-trained and interested students, to better understand their career ideas and to establish authentic contacts.



From left to right: Roland Gaffl, Mayor of Königswiesen; Daniela Palk, Board Member of Diakoniewerk; Claudia Janski, DGKP, Community Nurse; Cornelia Feichtinger, Head of the Center for Applied Nursing Research, FH Campus Wien; Reinhold Medicus, Project Leader for Community Nurses at Diakoniewerk

# Optimizing Everyday Care with Science

Focusing on people: this has always been natural for Cornelia Feichtinger, both as a registered health and nursing professional and as Head of the Center for Applied Nursing Research.

## Making healthcare accessible to everyone

Radiological Technology and Health Care and Nursing; Cornelia Feichtinger completed two Bachelor's degrees at FH Campus Wien. This was followed by a Master's degree in MedTech at FH Wiener Neustadt. Currently she is completing the PhD program in Public Health at the Medical University of Vienna. And her practical experience? Working with people and working for people are both part of her professional life. She has interna-

tional experience in Bolivia with the child and youth protection organization Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos and as a registered health and nursing professional working in a GP practice for people who are underserved and discriminated against.

## What do you think applied nursing research can achieve?

I see applied nursing research as the basis for evidence-based professional nursing, rooted in practical experience and applied



COOL!

back in day-to-day care. Scientific results should help shape a sustainably efficient healthcare system that provides needs-based further development of professional care services and person-centered interprofessional collaboration

### Which of the center's projects contribute to an efficient healthcare system?

One example is the expansion of services with a focus on health promotion and prevention. As part of an EU project, the internationally established professional field of community nurses was implemented in pilot regions in Austria. We surveyed their status and potential at the Evangelisches Diakoniewerk Gallneukirchen, currently the largest provider of this low-threshold service in Austria. One thing became clear: important prerequisites for the success of community nursing are the in-depth training of healthcare and nursing staff, a professional basis of trust and long-term support for clients. This goes hand in hand with the fact that home visits are carried out on an outreach basis, without time pressure and at no cost. The local connection and knowledge of local services enable measures that are optimally tailored to the people in the community.

### Promoting digitalization is a focus of your research activities, which paths are you pushing in particular?

With regard to teaching competencies, we are exploring new, digital paths. For example, with the development of a Serious Moral Game, which aims to strengthen the ethical competencies of healthcare professionals. Students can test and train their ethical skills in a protected, digital environment. The digital tool Guide2Care prepares current guidelines for the various care professions and for different types of learners, namely for mobile, day-care and in-patient forms of care.



From left to right: Vera Karner, University of Applied Sciences for Health Professions Upper Austria; Cornelia Feichtinger; Daniela Weber, Salzburg University Hospital

### What makes nursing research so interesting for you?

Interdisciplinarity is essential for us: the focus is on the person, the client, and the patient. Health Sciences, therapeutic, medical perspectives as well as technical input complement the nursing perspective. Together, we can make a difference.



### More on the Topic:

[fh-campuswien.ac.at/zeapf](https://fh-campuswien.ac.at/zeapf)

[fh-campuswien.ac.at/interview-cf](https://fh-campuswien.ac.at/interview-cf)



**“An Outsider  
in Social Work”**



Elisabeth Steiner almost became a precision engineer or a biotechnologist. But in the end, she chose the Academy of Social Work. Still, the scientist in her could not be held back, and an academic career became inevitable. Today, she is a passionate researcher and heads the Department Social Work as well as a master's degree program. She is also Chair of the Sustainable Universities Alliance, an initiative she herself launched.

Starting her career at the Caritas Social Services at Vienna's central station, qualified social worker Elisabeth Steiner was immediately confronted with the complex and multilayered needs of people in social work. She enjoys the job, and it challenges her. Yet she soon realizes that something is missing, namely the theories, the methods, the scientific foundation behind the issues she deals with every day.

### Science as the beginning of a lifelong passion

She begins a diploma program in Psychology at the University of Vienna, with a focus on the natural sciences. There, she delves into brain research and discovers her interest in psychological diagnostics and methodology, especially statistics. And she realizes that in science, she has found her true passion.

### Development of a diagnostic tool

While working at Volkshilfe Wien, where she conceptualized and established a non-profit employment project, she pursued a doctoral degree in Psychology at the University of Vienna. She completed it with a dissertation titled "Concept and Test-Theoretical Analysis of an Inventory for Differential Aggression Diagnostics." The diagnostic tool she developed together with her doctoral advisor is still in use today in correctional facilities.



### Expertise for FH Campus Wien

In 2000, Elisabeth Steiner joined FH Campus Wien as a lecturer where her expertise was in high demand. "A social worker and psychologist with a doctorate, who could teach statistics and was rooted in quantitative research... At the time, I was something of an outsider in social work," she says, looking back with a smile.



From left to right: Johanna Schauer-Berg, Health for Future Austria; Andrea Stitzel, FH Kärnten; Elisabeth Steiner, FH Campus Wien; Gabriele Jaksch, MTD-Austria; Elisabeth Potzmann, Austrian Health and Nursing Care Association; Heinz Fuchsig, Austrian Medical Association and Willi Haas, BOKU University

In 2005, she became a full-time lecturer, marking the beginning of an active period of research and publication. Her expertise has also been sought after beyond the university: in the years that followed, she held teaching positions at the University of Klagenfurt, FH Burgenland, and the Danube University Krems.

with the meticulousness of a scientist. She serves as chair of several associations, including the Association for the Promotion of Scientific Publications in Social Work, and is a board member of a non-profit private foundation supporting people experiencing homelessness. Since 2020, she has also chaired the association

levels came from a colleague: Andreas Petz, Head of the Green Mobility degree program and Sustainability Officer at the university. He found an enthusiastic ally in Elisabeth Steiner. Thanks to their joint initiative, the Alliance for Sustainable Universities was founded in 2021 with twelve universities of applied sciences as founding members. Less than a year later, their efforts were rewarded: the alliance took 2nd place in the Sustainability Award from the Federal Ministry of Education. The momentum continues with a high-profile public initiative: At a press conference hosted by Health for Future, an initiative advocating for climate literacy in healthcare professions, Elisabeth Steiner took the stage as a representative of both the Alliance and FH Campus Wien.

Finally, we asked: What are Elisabeth Steiner's hopes for the future? "Our discipline and profession are still very young, yet we have already achieved a great deal. However, I want to strengthen them even further. Especially in research, we have so much to offer, and it is high time this was recognized!"



### **Destined for leadership**

In 2012, things really began to take shape: Elisabeth Steiner, together with the head of the master's degree program Community-Oriented and Clinical Social Work, took over the Competence Center for Social Work (KOSAR, now the Research Center for Social Work). She forged new partnerships and developed it into a respected research institution.

She was also responsible for designing the curriculum of the master's degree program Child- and Family-Centered Social Work, which she later went on to lead as well. To this day, she heads the Community-Oriented and Clinical Social Work program, which offers 65 study places. Since 2021, she has also held the strategic and academic leadership of the overarching Department of Social Work.

### **A personal commitment: voluntary engagement**

Although her time is limited, Elisabeth Steiner devotes herself to volunteer work

ARGE Wien - Sozial, which provides nearly 400 housing units across eight residential facilities for people affected by homelessness.

### **And always: research!**

Despite a demanding workload, continuing her research remains a priority for Elisabeth Steiner. She leads numerous projects that have received significant media attention, including studies such as "The Lives of Foster Children in Post-War Vienna from 1955 to 1970" and "Plurality in Vienna's Kindergartens and Childcare Groups, with a Special Focus on So-Called 'Islamic' Institutions." Another project - "The Greenhouse Gas Balance of FH Campus Wien" - already hints at the direction her future work is set to take.

### **A pioneer once again: alliance for sustainable universities**

The idea of creating an institutional network of universities of applied sciences to anchor sustainability at all



### **Good to know!**

The Department Social Work includes the bachelor's degree programs Social Work, Social Management in Early Childhood Education, and, starting in fall 2025, the new program Early Childhood Education. The department's master's degree programs are Community-Oriented and Clinical Social Work, Social Economy, and Child- and Family-Centered Social Work. Also part of the department are the academic university course Academic Social Pedagogy and Social Therapy in Residential Child and Youth Welfare and the Research Center for Social Work.





Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs, and Rector Heimo Sandtner with participants of the Vienna Children's University

# Sharing Knowledge, Shaping the Future

Universities and universities of applied sciences are more than just places of research and teaching. They also provide inspiration for a future worth living. In line with their "third mission", they share the results of their research with society and inspire young and old alike for science. FH Campus Wien shows how this can be achieved.



## Children's university

Final exams and vacation time – that can only mean one thing: Children's university! It has become a tradition at our university of applied sciences. We have been involved since 2013 and are still the only UAS to offer a dedicated program on our own campus. Heimo Sandtner (Academic Director and Rector) and Evelyn Süss-Stepancik (Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs) welcomed around 350 young researchers to our campus.

## European Researchers' Night

What is ethics? Who does my smart light bulb talk to? How do I separate my waste correctly? Our researchers presented their application-oriented research projects at the European Researchers' Night and gave interested visitors answers to these and many other questions.



## Long Night of Research

From IT security and racing cars to gait analysis and 3D printing of concrete, bones and hearts: we presented interdisciplinary and application-oriented research projects at the Long Night of Research. In addition to short presentations and laboratory tours, there were numerous hands-on activities at 27 stations and three locations where enthusiastic visitors could try out for themselves how research works.

# Management Between Generational Shift and AI

In October 2023, the section Public Management hosted a prominent panel discussion on the future of Austrian administration. Günter Horniak, Head of the Bachelor's degree program Public Management, explains why new perspectives are needed and how FH Campus Wien is already shaping the administration of tomorrow.



## What changes is the public sector facing?

The public sector is facing a profound transformation that is being driven by demographic change, waves of retirements, digitalization and, last but not least, artificial intelligence (AI). Around 47% of staff will retire in the next decade. With them, an entire generation of experts will leave the administration, creating a massive knowledge gap. At the same time, new technologies such as AI must be used efficiently to modernize processes and meet the growing demands of society

## How does the degree program respond to these changes?

We are training the next generation of experts for public administration in the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs Public Management. We are in close contact with the public sector,

work together on projects and most of our lecturers also come from the public administration sector. We are therefore familiar with the needs and current areas of tension in public administration. By continuously evaluating and adapting our curricula, we can quickly incorporate current developments such as AI and anchor them in our modules.

## Speaking of AI: what role does it play in public administration?

The public administration in Austria is no longer a "bureaucratic monster". People with sleeve protectors who check every last detail are a thing of the past. The public sector is innovative in many areas and is working on designing processes to make people's lives easier. ID Austria is just one example of this. AI, in turn, can help to make administrative processes more efficient.

**“Our students act as ‘digitalization interpreters’, they can support the use of AI, apply it to social needs and use AI responsibly.”**

Günter Horniak, Head of Bachelor's Degree Program Public Management





From left to right: Günter Horniak, FH Campus Wien; Wolfgang Gratz, social scientist and lawyer; Alfred Hödl, FH Campus Wien; Irmgard Griss lawyer and former politician; Florian Gasser, DIE ZEIT; Thomas Wieser, former head of section Federal Ministry of Finance; Judith Kohlenberger, WU Vienna University of Economics and Business

In this context, our students are both drivers of innovation and knowledge hubs, with most of them already working in the sector and addressing problems from their professional field in projects and theses. The knowledge generated then feeds directly back into the public administration. In their Bachelor's theses, students have already dealt with the use of AI in education or the responsible use of AI in administration, to name just a few examples.

#### What are the challenges when using AI?

The public sector has a special responsibility for people and society as a whole. This is why a human-centered perspective is also extremely important when using AI. AI is neither infallible nor omniscient. It is important to consider what data is used to train the models so that the

prejudices of analog life are not transferred to the digital world. It is therefore necessary for well-trained employees to monitor the results of AI.

#### How are students prepared for the complex handling of AI?

In our Public Management degree programs, we address the use and limitations of AI while taking ethical and legal standards into account. We promote a critical mindset among our students and convey knowledge about digital ethics and digital humanism. Topics such as transparency and data protection also play an important role. As "digitalization interpreters", our students understand how AI works on a technical level, can apply it to social needs and thus use the opportunities of digitalization and AI responsibly.

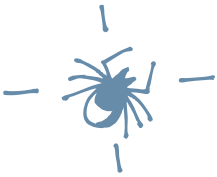


#### Good to know!

The Research Center Administrative Sciences is actively shaping the transformation of Austrian public administration and developing practical solutions in close cooperation with stakeholders. The focus is always on a fair, inclusive and public welfare-oriented state. The researchers are currently working with the Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport to develop a diversity guideline in order to increase diversity in the federal civil service and promote young talent. Another project deals with job satisfaction and job design in public administration.

# An Unusual Meat Allergy

Ines Swoboda has been researching the mechanisms of meat allergies for many years. She is currently investigating a special form triggered by ticks, the so-called alpha-gal allergy.



## Allergy after tick bite

The alpha-gal allergy is an unusual form of meat allergy with sometimes severe symptoms that only appear a few hours after eating meat. Patients do not react to meat proteins, but to the sugar molecule alpha-galactose present in red meat. The trigger is a tick bite, which causes the sensitization. Ines Swoboda and her team are currently investigating what exactly happens during this process.

## Search for the reason

The research group wants to find out how the human immune system reacts to tick contact, which alpha-gal-carrying molecules in tick saliva are responsible for sensitization and where they come from. It is still unclear whether the sugar molecules are produced by the ticks themselves. They could also be absorbed through the previous bite on a mammal and passed on to humans. Or they might originate from microorganisms that typically live in ticks.

Ines Swoboda, Head of the Research Center Molecular Biotechnology





### Better understanding of processes at the cellular level

In the cell culture laboratory, the researchers first investigate whether and how immune cells react to tick saliva. If they are activated, this means that there must be alpha-gal-carrying molecules in the saliva that trigger sensitization. The next step is to use mass spectrometry analyses in collaboration with the University of Veterinary Medicine to determine which molecules these are. Ines Swoboda also wants to find out more about what happens mechanistically during sensitization to alpha-gal. By gaining a better understanding of the molecular mechanisms, she hopes to be able to prevent sensitization to other food allergens in the future.

### Goal: improving the diagnosis and treatment of allergies

Ines Swoboda's research work is making an important contribution to improving the diagnosis and treatment of meat and related allergies. Years ago, the passionate scientist was able to prove that alpha-gal in red meat can be bound not only to proteins, but also to lipids (fats). These are metabolized more slowly, which is why reactions in the case of an alpha-gal allergy only occur hours after eating meat. She recently identified new meat allergens that are already available in modified form for diagnosing patients. The team is currently analyzing cross-reactivities between meat allergens and allergens from other animal foods such as fish, seafood or edible

**“A better understanding of the molecular mechanisms will help prevent sensitization to other food allergens in the future.”**

Ines Swoboda, Head of the Research Center Molecular Biotechnology



#### Good to know!

Meat allergies are usually protein allergies. One exception is the alpha-gal allergy, in which the immune system reacts to a sugar molecule (alpha-galactose) in red meat. It is triggered by a tick bite. Ines Swoboda is currently researching the causes of the alpha-gal allergy. The project "Immune responses to meat allergens" is being carried out in cooperation with the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna and is funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF.

insects. They are investigating whether an antibody recognizes allergens from different foods and thus whether there is a cross-reaction or whether several antibodies are involved. Findings on this are crucial for the successful treatment of patients.

MORE →

[fh-campuswien.ac.at/fleischallergene](https://fh-campuswien.ac.at/fleischallergene)

Projects funded by

**FWF** Austrian Science Fund

IN  
SUMMARY!

## Science for Children: Book about Food Allergies

Together with students, allergy researcher Ines Swoboda has published a digital and interactive book about the background of food allergies and how to deal with them for children aged five and over. "Of Stars and Peanuts - An Octopus in Danger!" is the first children's book of its kind in the German-speaking world.



It tells the story of Ebi, the squirrel astronaut, and her friend Gerhard, the octopus, who encounters an allergy problem on the way to the Guglhupf space station, that urgently needs to be solved! The Institute for Youth Literature, the Open Science Association and the software company Vienom played a key role in the development and implementation of the book project. It was financed by the Austrian Science Fund FWF.

[vonsternenunderdnuessen.at](https://vonsternenunderdnuessen.at)

↖ MORE

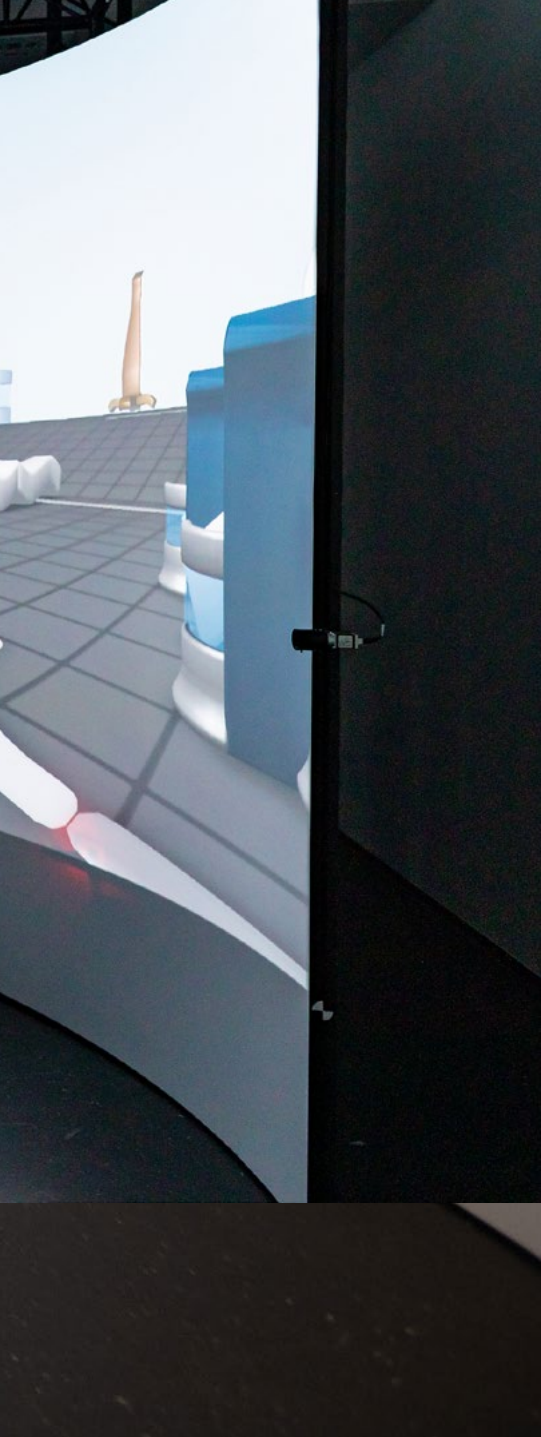


THAT'S HOW  
IT GOES!

# Walking Better - Without a Smartphone!

Always at hand and constantly in use: the smartphone has become an integral part of everyday life. Researchers at FH Campus Wien have investigated how walking while using a smartphone affects gait and joints. The results, which were published in the renowned journal *Heliyon*, encourage people to rethink their own smartphone routines and have also attracted a lot of media attention.





Klaus Widhalm, Degree Program Physiotherapy, and Sebastian Durstberger, Research Center for Digital Health and Care as well as the Degree Programs in Physiotherapy and Health Assisting Engineering

### Goodbye, artificial laboratory atmosphere

The setting for the crossover study: a special treadmill, a 180-degree screen with a virtual environment and real background noises. This realistic environment in the movement laboratory GRAIL (Gait Realtime Analysis Interactive Lab) at FH Campus Wien softens the otherwise artificial laboratory atmosphere. Markers on different parts of the test persons' bodies visualize their movements as a real-time 3D model and evaluate the joint movements. Measuring plates in the treadmill record the forces exerted, from which conclusions can be drawn about the loads on the joints. At the same time, the test persons solved math problems. Once in their heads and once with their smartphones. "This allowed us to find out whether concentrating on one thing alone or using a smartphone has an effect on the gait pattern," says Sebastian Durstberger, explaining the study design.

### Effects on gait and musculoskeletal system

"Our study results show that the body switches into a kind of safety mode when using a smartphone," says Durstberger. "While the walking speed decreases, the stride width increases at the same time." Although this reduces the risk of falling, it leads to a higher load on the outside of the knee joint, which promotes a minimal

x-position in the knee joints. In the long term, this can lead to damage to the cartilage and meniscus and, in the worst case, to painful osteoarthritis.

And what does that mean for each and every one of us? "Shift down a gear sometimes, don't hold your smartphone in your hand and consciously cross the road when it's green," recommends Sebastian Durstberger.



### Good to know!

The GRAIL (Gait Realtime Analysis Interactive Lab) is a system for the analysis and real-time feedback training of everyday human movements. The treadmill, the software for controlling all sub-components and the interactive virtual reality projection are technically unique. As the only university in Austria to have a GRAIL system, FH Campus Wien is able to integrate these key areas into teaching in a contemporary and future-oriented way, to develop and evaluate smart systems, to test training scenarios and to conduct application-oriented basic research.

Lowered gaze, smartphone firmly in hand, fingers flitting across the touchscreen, crossing the road at the same time... What used to be called multitasking now has its own name: "text walking". This is not only dangerous, keyword red traffic lights, but can even have long-term health consequences for the body. This is the conclusion reached by researchers at FH Campus Wien in a study. "The aim of our research was to compare normal walking with walking while using a smartphone. We wanted to find out whether the gait pattern changes and whether the knee joints are put under unfavorable strain," explains project leader Sebastian Durstberger, a member of staff at the Research Center Health Sciences and lecturer at FH Campus Wien.

# Where Technology Meets Humanity



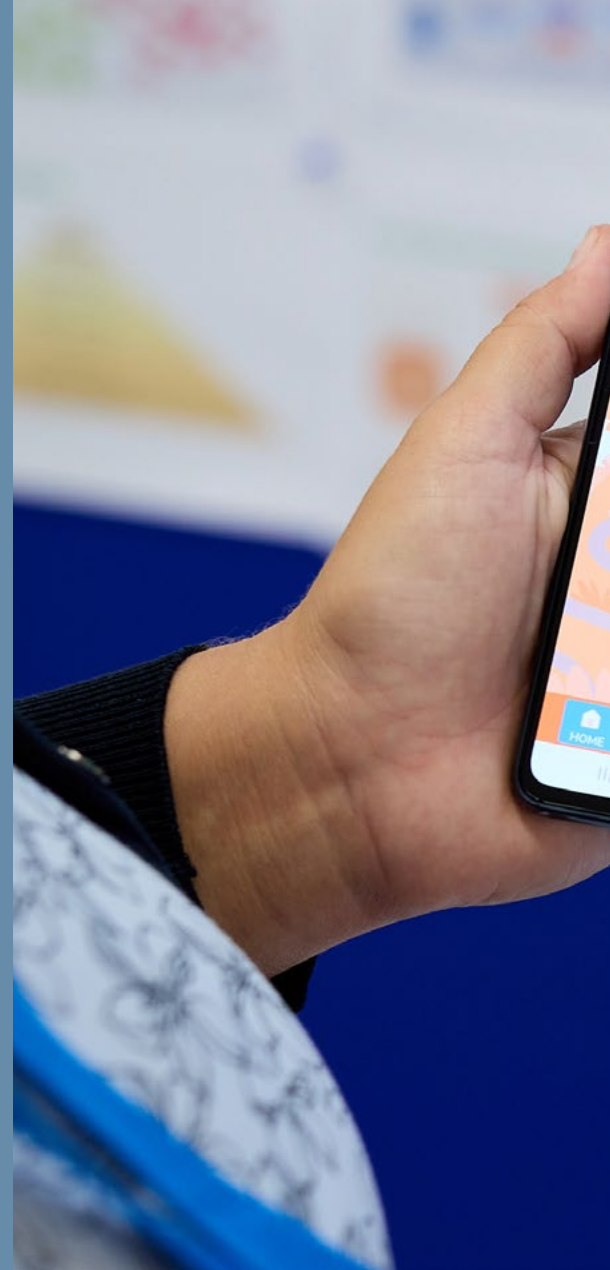
From left to right: Lena Rettinger, Sebastian Durstberger, Carina Hauser, Franz Werner, Lisa-Sophie Gstöttner, Robert Priewasser, Andrea Kerschbaumer, Lukas Maul, Susanne Hensley-Schinkinger

Improving Healthcare Quality While Reducing Costs? Digital solutions can help, and they are being developed at the Digital Health and Care Research Center at FH Campus Wien. At the intersection of health, nursing, and technology, innovative tools are emerging that are shaping the healthcare system of tomorrow. Despite the focus on technology, people remain at the center. User needs play a central role in these research projects - for example, parents using the PsyGes app to access information on children's and adolescents' mental health, or patients recovering from hip replacement surgery who train at home with the real-time feedback system SETT.

**“Through our application-oriented research projects, we are driving the use of innovative technologies in healthcare forward.”**

**Franz Werner**, Head of the Digital Health and Care Research Center and Program Director of the Master's Degree Program in Health Assisting Engineering

Although the research center only opened this academic year, it already draws on a successful past. After all, it builds on the achievements and expertise of the Health Assisting Engineering master's degree program, which are most impressive: over ten years of research experience, 40 cooperation partners, and a total project volume of €10.6 million. With its state-of-the-art research infrastructure, including the 3D motion lab GRAIL and the OR Innovation Center, FH Campus Wien offers the ideal conditions for a future that's just as successful. In doing so, it helps make healthcare more efficient, smarter, and better - step by step.



Matthias is eleven years old, later he wants to become a YouTuber or LEGO set developer and he, like around 90,000 other children and adolescents in Austria, has ADHD. The main symptoms of the attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder include inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity. These deficits can make everyday life difficult for children and their families. Matthias and his family and almost 40 other families took part in the ELSA research project.

## **Recommendations for dealing with ADHD on a daily basis**

"We developed ELSA in close cooperation with the users and their needs, the content is scientifically sound and





# ELSA and ADHD

ADHD is one of the most common mental disorders in children and adolescents. Dealing with the diagnosis is often anything but easy, and waiting times for treatment are usually long. The free ELSA app, developed by researchers at FH Campus Wien, supports families with valuable tips, action plans and information.

based on occupational therapy expertise," explains project leader Andrea Kerschbaumer. ELSA focuses on tips that can help with challenging everyday situations at school, at home, and during leisure time. These include ideas on how to tidy up your desk step by step or how to improve the structure of your morning routine.

The content of the app is written in simple language, with pictures and videos illustrating the tips. The individual abilities of the children are always important, because instead of focusing on deficits, ELSA focuses on the acquisition of skills. This is illustrated using a colorful, illustrated avatar that grows and develops

together with the families. In addition to play ideas, behavioral and support tips, ELSA contains printable templates, a glossary that explains technical terms relating to the disorder from an occupational therapy perspective, as well as an overview of suitable therapy centers.

## **Bundled research expertise for a wide range of health innovations**

ELSA was implemented at the Research Center Digital Health and Care, which opened in autumn 2023. The tenth research center at FH Campus Wien, which is headed by Franz Werner, brings together an interdisciplinary team of experts. Healthcare professionals and

engineers work together here to develop innovative technologies for the health and care sector.

More than 2,000 downloads prove the need for ELSA. "Behind these figures are families who master their everyday lives together with ELSA. This makes me incredibly proud," says Kerschbaumer. And what does Matthias say about ELSA? "I think it's great!"

Funded by



Economic Affairs,  
Labour and Statistics

# Together for a New Generation of Medical Products

This is how interdisciplinarity works: engineering, materials science, and medical biotechnology are linked in a new doctoral program run by TU Wien and FH Campus Wien to create innovative medical products.



## Good to know!

"SOLVER - Skills for Medical Device Research" is a joint doctoral program of the Faculty of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at TU Wien and the Research Center Molecular Biotechnology at FH Campus Wien and will run for four years.

The FWF is providing € 1.1 million in funding for the doctoral program through its doc.funds.connect 2023 program. SOLVER starts in October 2024.



The world population is growing steadily, and society is aging increasingly. Therefore, more and more innovative medical products will be needed in the future. This will also increase the demand for highly qualified research on bioactive and biodegradable materials, as well as for digital methods to produce patient-specific devices. Likewise, novel in vivo investigations, so-called bioassays, are needed that can predict cellular and immunological reactions to bioactive materials.

With the help of these bioassays, certainty about possible reactions triggered in the host cells can be obtained at an early stage of material development. This in turn enables materials scientists to adapt their processes with regard to favorable properties.

The aim of the doctoral program is to train highly qualified researchers who can develop and apply these new generations of medical products.



**More on the Topic:**  
[fh-campuswien.ac.at/solver](https://fh-campuswien.ac.at/solver)  
[tuwien.at/doc/solver](https://tuwien.at/doc/solver)

Funded by

**FWF** Austrian Science Fund



# Lifting Your Career to the Next Level

Teaching brings joy, research inspires - but a dissertation or habilitation? Often, there is simply not enough time. To ensure that academic careers do not falter due to a lack of resources, FH Campus Wien provides targeted support to help its staff pursue further qualifications.

As a research-driven university with a strong focus on high-quality teaching, we create space for growth, and provide concrete support through a reduction in working hours and individual guidance via our doctoral services. After all, writing a dissertation and/or completing a habilitation thesis is a time-intensive endeavor that spans several years.

## **Less work = more time for continuing education**

The specially established doctoral and habilitation support program primarily includes a reduction in teaching or research hours for full-time academic staff. In the current academic year, 17 employees have taken advantage of the services offered by the Doctoral Support

Unit, which is part of the Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Career Center (EICC).

Reflecting the diversity of degree programs at FH Campus Wien, the range of research topics is equally broad. Current projects include "Accelerated Carbonation of Concrete", "New Areas of Practice for Advanced Healthcare Professionals – The Concept of Community Nursing", and "The Importance of Safety Culture for Security Management: A Case Study of Selected Critical Infrastructure Organizations in Austria", to name just a few.

We wish our colleagues every success and look forward to gaining new insights across these disciplines!



## **Good to know!**

The program is aimed at employees with permanent contracts who have not yet begun a doctoral program or submitted a habilitation application to a university. The support primarily includes individual counseling as well as a reduction in working hours for Senior Researchers and Senior Lecturers to allow time for research related to their dissertation or habilitation project. Eligible expenses may also include material costs, such as a contribution toward tuition fees.



# New Leap in Growth

How quickly can a ten-storey building with a sophisticated infrastructure for future-oriented teaching and research be built? In 19 months! At least that is the correct answer in this case. The cranes on the FH Campus Wien campus in 2023 and spring 2024 were a clear sign of new buildings being added at Altes Landgut.



## Good to know!

Since 2009, the main campus in Wien-Favoriten has been successively expanded to three buildings including adjoining buildings. There is also an externally operated student residence on the campus site. FH Campus Wien, which has grown into a university city, has a total of 120,000 m<sup>2</sup> of state-of-the-art infrastructure.

More than 10,000 people teach, work, research and study at Altes Landgut.

Green Campus: 322 newly planted trees, including linden, Japanese cherry, tulip tree and serviceberry

Green Mobility: 260 parking spaces for bicycles, 24 charging stations for e-bikes and scooters and a dedicated station for bicycle repairs

Sustainable energy concept: 140 geothermal probes (total length 27 km) complement the powerful PV systems on roofs and on the ground.

## Energy-efficient modern educational architecture

With deep geothermal drilling to generate heating and cooling, construction work began on the third building on the campus, and it quickly grew in height. In May, guests such as Peter Hacker, City Councillor for Social Work, Health and Sport, were able to see this for themselves at a symbolic laying of the foundation stone. 42,000 m<sup>2</sup> of spacious, light-flooded rooms for learning and research in a state-of-the-art environment were built in breathtaking record time under the patronage of STRABAG AG as general contractor. The decorated pine tree, which indicates the completion of the building structure, was installed

at a lofty height in November 2023. In keeping with building tradition, the Construction Client Management and the Management Board of FH Campus Wien and STRABAG AG thanked the construction team for their great commitment and implementation with a traditional feast. The topping off ceremony also offered guests the opportunity to gain a first insight into the well thought-out architecture of the third building.

## A house for health - and for much more

The room concepts are fully geared towards the requirements of degree programs in health and nursing sciences. Occupational Therapy, Logopedics -







From left to right: Doris Link, Hannes Swoboda, both FH Campus Wien; Christian Matzner, Mujo Junuzovic, Velid Hamzic, Frank Fercher, Günther Vogler, all STRABAG; Christian Janko, Wilhelm Behensky, Horst Rode, Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, all FH Campus Wien; Marcus Franz, Favoriten District of the City of Vienna; Martin Stopfer, FH Campus Wien

Phoniatrics - Audiology, Physiotherapy and the interdisciplinary Master's degree program Health Assisting Engineering thus come into close contact and cooperation with the Bachelor's degree program in Health Care and Nursing. The Health Care and Nursing degree programs of the Vienna Healthcare Association, which were previously located externally, have now been brought together in one building.

Nearly 70 multifunctional rooms are available to acquire the practical skills necessary for work across various settings, and to train in a safe environment. A skills and simulation center with state-of-the-art simulation and clinical engineering, which even includes a 50 m<sup>2</sup> living lab, takes up an entire floor. Another 30 seminar rooms and classrooms as well as countless indoor

and outdoor seating and learning islands offer students an ideal educational environment. Another centerpiece is located on the second basement level: the new ceremonial hall for around 650 people in an inviting wood and glass design. A canteen with around 600 seats completes the facilities of the new building, which was put into operation in September 2024.





# Campus Life - Beyond the Working Day

Whether it's joint activities for Campusianer\*innen, making music with Campus Beats, the annual Health Day or experimenting at Christmas, the focus is on an active campus life.



Charity concert with Campus Beats & Friends

## Campusianer\*innen out and about

Campusianer\*innen is a network of former and current employees of FH Campus Wien who organize various activities and thus promote an exchange beyond everyday working life. This year's varied excursions included a tour of Vienna City Hall, a guided tour of hidden places in Vienna and a walk through the Viennese vineyards.

## Campus Beats for the SOS Children's Village

Premiere for Campus Beats - a band made up of Rector Heimo Sandtner, employees and students. They came together to make

music and sing together in the Rector's Talent Cafés, for example, and have now played their first charity concert at FH Campus Wien. Campus Beats were supported by friends and bands from the FH Campus Wien community. All donations collected at the concert were donated to the SOS Children's Village. With a top-up from FH Campus Wien, a total of 4,000 euros was raised.

## Health check

The Campus Vital team is committed to promoting the health of employees and students throughout the year. One highlight





From left to right: Heimo Sandtner, Rector and initiator of Campus Beats; Michaela Rimser, Dieter Schrattenholzer, both from SOS Children's Villages and CFO Horst Rode



### Good to know!

There is more to campus life, for example

- family-friendly university
- Special leave for the first day of school
- Childcare on vacation days
  - Staff mobility
  - Ergonomics advice
  - Health day
- Campus Vital courses
- Women's network
- Queer @ FH Campus Wien
- Sports field (planned)
- Bicycle check



is the annual Health Day. Interested people can have their general state of health checked with a variety of medical examinations. Sitting profile analyses, back exercises and visual acuity tests give participants practical ideas for their everyday work and study life. The aim is to promote a health-conscious culture at FH Campus Wien and offer sustainable support for personal health.



From left to right: Bernhard Rainer and Martin Novak experimenting with "elephant toothpaste"

### Science at Christmas

The Christmas lecture was created by the department Applied Life Sciences to communicate science to a wide audience in an entertaining way. The event is aimed at students, employees and their families

and offers exciting activities such as the "elephant toothpaste" experiment. Following the successful launch, the lecture has now been held for the second time, this time with the department Engineering.

# Campusnetzwerk: Strong Connections for the Future

Campusnetzwerk of FH Campus Wien unites graduates, students, employees, lecturers and cooperation partners in a dynamic ecosystem that promotes the exchange of knowledge and experience. This creates valuable synergies that not only support individual development, but also strengthen the innovative power of the entire community.



Martin Marienschek, Head of Corporate Communications and HR Development and authorized signatory of PKE Holding AG, adds: "We see our support as an investment in the practice-oriented education of students. As a partner company of FH Campus Wien, we help to ensure that graduates are optimally prepared for the demands of the modern working world."

"The Civil Engineering and Architecture - Green Building students at FH Campus Wien apply their well-founded and practice-oriented knowledge in the fields of civil engineering, structural engineering planning and building physics in the course of their project work with us and thus proactively contribute to a sustainable and climate-neutral future for our society," Klaus Petraschka, Managing Partner at KPPK Ziviltechniker GmbH, is convinced.

At a time when competition for qualified workers is increasing, university partnerships offer a valuable opportunity to position yourself as an attractive employer brand.

Close cooperation with our premium partners plays a key role in this. These strategic partnerships not only make it possible to train highly qualified talent, but also to bring fresh ideas and perspectives to companies.

[campusnetzwerk.ac.at](https://campusnetzwerk.ac.at) ← MORE

Campusnetzwerk of FH Campus Wien unites graduates, students, employees, lecturers and cooperation partners in a dynamic ecosystem that promotes the exchange of knowledge and experience. This creates valuable synergies that not only support individual development, but also strengthen the innovative power of the entire community.

"The long-standing partnership between FH Campus Wien and Hewlett Packard Enterprise Austria continuously creates valuable synergies and promotes practice-oriented learning at the highest level," emphasizes Sameri Darya from HPE. "This successful collaboration enables students to benefit from cutting-edge technologies and optimally prepare themselves for the professional market, while HPE positions itself as a potential employer and gains access to innovative

ideas and highly qualified talent. We look forward to many more successful years of collaboration."

Infineon also sees the value of these collaborations. "Investing in education and talent development is crucial for the future of our company, but also for the entire industry and society as a whole," explains Christiana Zenkl, Head of Infineon HR Austria. "By supporting FH Campus Wien, we want to help train highly qualified specialists who will shape innovation and thus the future. The success of our company is deeply rooted in the expertise and creativity of our employees. The cooperation with FH Campus Wien also enables us to make contact with highly qualified talent at an early stage and position ourselves as an employer in a targeted manner."



# Career through Academic Further Education

For more than eight years, Campus Wien Academy has been offering practice-oriented, forward-looking academic further education that addresses exactly the demands of the job market. "Together with FH Campus Wien and leading partners from the professional world, we develop innovative academic further education programs that help specialists from various industries advance their careers," says Franz Gatterer, Head of Campus Wien Academy.

## Successful specialist training

The Jobs PLUS Software Testing & Quality Management and Modern Cloud Administrator training courses, which were developed in close cooperation with waff, AMS, the Enterprise Training Center (ETC) and with the support of Microsoft Austria, are prime examples of future-oriented specialist training. These programs were successfully carried out for the third time.

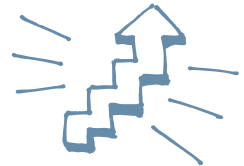
## Leadership seminars: Shaping leadership roles, empowering women

One focus of Campus Wien Academy is on leadership seminars for managers and those who want to become managers. Particularly noteworthy is the monthly seminar as part of an annual group called "Women Take the Lead - Theories, Methods, Exchange, Reflection". This format specifically supports women on their path to leadership positions.

## Campus Wien Academy goes international

Campus Wien Academy has set another milestone with the international "Certified Program: EU Project Management." The program, offered online and in English for the first time, enables participants throughout the EU to acquire knowledge in EU project management. The program teaches specialist project management and funding expertise and promotes the development of international networks.

MORE →



[campusacademy.at](https://campusacademy.at)

Franz Gatterer with participants of the Jobs PLUS training courses in Software Testing & Quality Management and Modern Cloud Administrator



# FH Campus Wien in Numbers 2023/24

## Applications\*

**10,410**

Applications for  
our programs

**3.5**

Average number of applications per  
Bachelor's degree program study place

**3.2**

Average number of applications per  
available study place

\*based on formally correct applications

## Students

LOOKING  
GOOD!

**7,853**

female 4.878 male 2.967 divers 8

**4,022**

female 2.147 male 1.875

**617**

female 227 male 390

Academic year **2002/03**

Academic year **2012/13**

Academic year **2023/24**

**3,221** first semester students

**9 out of 10 students** would recommend  
studying at FH Campus Wien.

- 94%** → value the subject-specific guidance provided by the lecturers
- 93%** → value the relevance of the course content delivered
- 93%** → value the didactic quality of the teaching
- 93%** → value the relevance of the methods taught



## Mobility

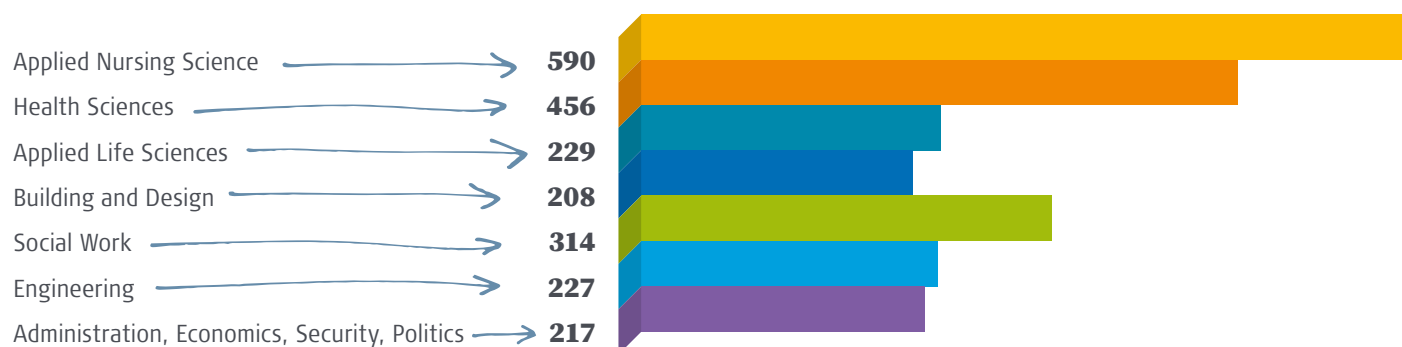
135

Incoming →

← Outgoing

302

Outgoing staff 56

Graduates: **2,241** (since 1999: **24,305**)Graduation ceremonies → **many** Glasses of Prosecco enjoyed → **countless** Happy faces → **100 %**

## Campusnetzwerk

6,245

Members of Campusnetzwerk  
since 2021MAKES US  
HAPPY =)

54

Newly registered  
cooperation partners

1,098

Posted job offers  
(2,597 in total since 2021)

Study programs: **65**  
Academic further education offers: **136**

Full-time lecturers and researchers → **337**  
Part-time lecturers and researchers → **2.254**

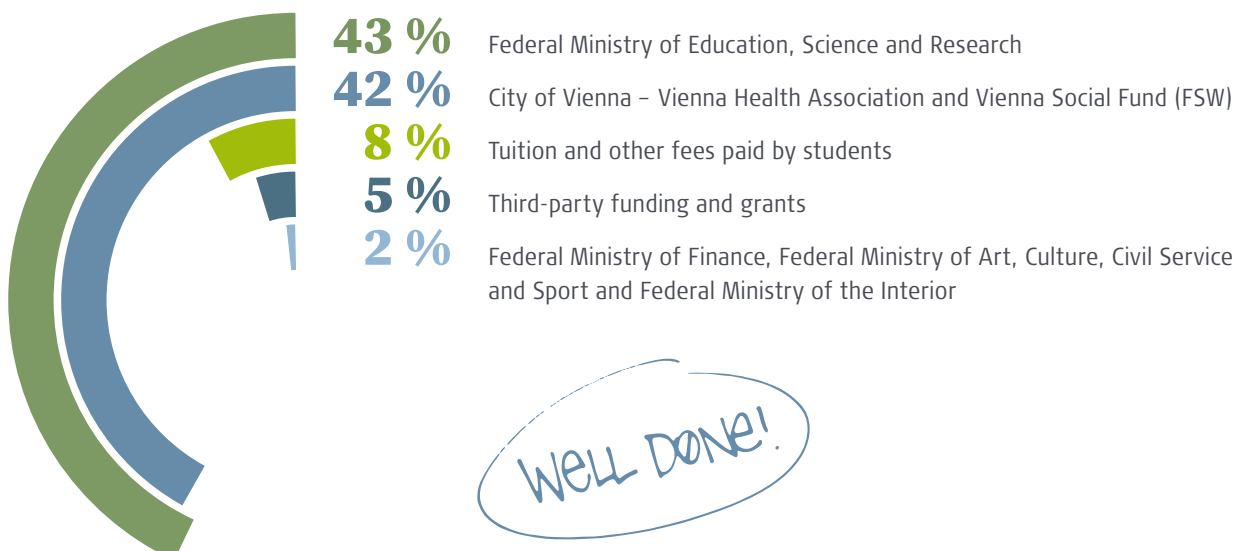
*OUTSTANDING!*

## Highest completed education

### Highest completed education

	Full-time lecturers	Part-time lecturers
Postdoctoral qualification	→ <b>2 %</b>	→ <b>5 %</b>
University degree with doctorate as a second or third degree or PhD	→ <b>20 %</b>	→ <b>26 %</b>

## Distribution of funding sources





## Research

Distribution of the most important third-party funders

**46 %**



Austrian Research  
Promotion Agency (FFG)

**32 %**



City of Vienna – Economy,  
Work and Statistics (MA 23)

**5 %**



FWF – The Science Fund

**17 %**



Other third-party funding

## R&D order backlog as of July 31, 2024

Sum of the volumes of all ongoing and  
commissioned projects: **12 Mio €**

RIGHT  
ON  
COURSE!

**4,6**

Mio. €  
R&D Revenue



**76**

Third-Party Funded Projects



**77**

Full-time equivalent (FTE)  
in R&D



**250**

Publications



## Start-ups

**91**



Ideas (since 2016)

**19**



Pitch events (since 2016)

**44**



Teams in the Start-up Corner  
(since 2016)

**12**



Supported teams



**HOCHSCHULE  
CAMPUS WIEN**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
APPLIED SCIENCES

AS BEFORE!  
←

Starting July 14, 2025:

**Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften**  
University of Applied Sciences