

One Campus!

LOTS OF PEOPLE!





DORIS LINK, CEO

Dear readers,

Hochschule Campus Wien looks back on an eventful year. We expanded our digital course offerings, advanced internationalization, and strengthened research and development—all with remarkable dedication and solidarity. In times of change, we are actively shaping the future—together with our students, staff, and partners in Austria and beyond.

What guides us in this endeavor is our commitment to being a place where students and staff alike feel valued and supported and can truly realize their potential.

As a university of applied sciences, we dynamically combine teaching, research, continuing education, and practical experience. We develop solutions to real societal challenges, foster innovation, and strengthen the ability to responsibly shape change—always mindful of our environmental, social, and economic responsibilities and of securing a successful future.

For us, research and innovation are more than just a goal—they are part of our ethos.

We remain curious, try new things, and continue to grow together.

In doing so, we foster an open, appreciative university culture in which diversity is seen as an asset. Through close collaborations with partners from science, business, and society—both nationally and internationally—we create powerful momentum for the future.

We place a special focus on internationalization: Through international collaborations, mobility programs, and exchanges with partner institutions worldwide, we broaden our perspectives and strengthen our European and global networks.

Our Strategy House 2030 provides us with guidance: quality, relevance, and visibility guide our daily actions and strengthen our position as a university that makes an impact in Austria and beyond.

I have served as chair of the management board since the beginning of 2026.

These have been intense months filled with numerous discussions in a complex and dynamic environment. During this time, I have met many dedicated individuals who work for Hochschule Campus Wien with great conviction and a high level of commitment. This extraordinary dedication cannot be taken for granted.

I would like to thank everyone who is accompanying us on our journey to becoming one of Europe's leading universities of applied sciences.

Yours,

Doris Link



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Not All Heroes Wear Capes

Heroes aren't only found in the movies. Exceptional dedication often shines through beyond the big stage—in everyday professional life, in community service, and wherever moral courage is needed. It is precisely this commitment that the Future Hero Award highlights, as Hochschule Campus Wien honors graduates who take on responsibility and make a contribution to society.

Graduates of Hochschule Campus Wien contribute their expertise in a wide variety of fields—from social work and healthcare to the public sector, industry, technology, and business. In doing so, they tackle the complex challenges of our time with expertise, a sense of responsibility, and a healthy dose of courage.

Award-winning future heroes

The winners of the 2025 Future Hero Award demonstrate the concrete forms this commitment can take. An internal university jury selected seven submissions for the shortlist. In the subsequent community vote, with more than 1,500 votes cast, Esma Atak, Mercan Falter, and Andrea Kerschbaumer emerged as the winners. They are the new future heroines of Hochschule Campus Wien.

Promoting visibility and equal opportunity in the construction industry

Esma Atak (a graduate of the bachelor's and master's degree programs in civil engineering and construction management) is a civil engineer, STEM role model, Fem* In Tech ambassador, and founder of two women's networks. Especially in traditionally male-dominated industries like hers, she faces prejudice daily on construction sites—as a young woman who is visibly Muslim. Through her work, Esma demonstrates that, despite all the hurdles, anything is possible as long as there is determination, motivation, and interest. Through school workshops, keynote speeches, panel discussions, and as a content creator, she inspires young people—especially girls and women—to pursue technical careers and works to raise awareness and educate others.

“We are proud to educate people who are not only academically excellent but also have the courage to actively shape our future with their visions.”

Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs, hosting the awards ceremony

For fairness—at every level

Mercan Falter (a graduate of the master's degree program in Digitalization, Politics, and Communication) was working on her master's thesis on fair algorithms when, in 2023, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck southeastern Turkey. She lost six family members in the disaster. When the Turkish authorities were slow to respond, she launched a broad information campaign to draw attention to the situation in the region, giving interviews and writing articles for days on end. Despite her personal loss, she showed great dedication and succeeded in completing her master's thesis on time. She is nominated for the ORF's "Women's Promotion Award for Digitalization and Innovation," where she makes it into the top six.

For rapid digital support for families with ADHD

Andrea Kerschbaumer (a graduate of the bachelor's degree program in Occupational Therapy and the master's degree program in Health Assisting Engineering) and her team developed the free ELSA app to provide rapid support to parents and guardians of children with ADHD. Dealing with the diagnosis—which affects approximately 90,000 children and adolescents across Austria—is anything but easy, and wait times for therapy slots are usually long. ELSA offers valuable information, tips, and step-by-step guides for managing the diagnosis and serves as a quick intervention until a therapy slot becomes available. More than 2,000 downloads demonstrate the need for this resource.

From left to right: Esma Atak, Mercan Falter, and Andrea Kerschbaumer at the Future Hero Award ceremony



Award-Winning Prospects

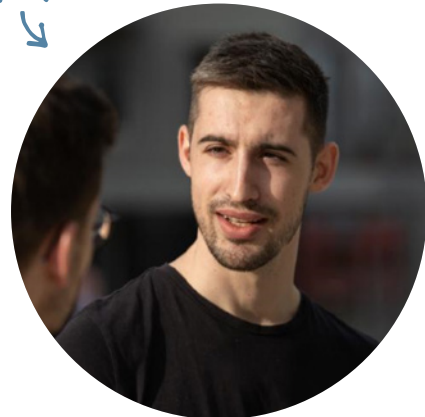
Creativity, a spirit of inquiry, and the drive to make a difference—these are the qualities that set the students and graduates of Hochschule Campus Wien apart. Their award-winning projects are a clear testament to this.



Davyd Stepanenko
Bachelor's Degree Program in
Molecular Biotechnology

Davyd Stepanenko developed a passion for the natural sciences and sustainable solutions at an early age. Growing up in Ukraine, he was already working on his own research projects in high school, presenting them internationally and receiving awards. His scientific interest ultimately led Davyd Stepanenko to Hochschule Campus Wien. As part of the IV-MINT Scholarship for high-potential students from Ukraine, he led a summer course on data analysis in biology for high school students. For his outstanding academic achievements and exceptional commitment, Davyd Stepanenko became the first student at a university of applied sciences to receive the scholarship, which is endowed with 6,000 euros.

SIMON
↓



Simon Kaufmann
Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs in
Architecture – Green Building

Thinking long-term, using resources efficiently, and strengthening existing structures—Simon Kaufmann dedicated his master's thesis to these guiding principles. The focus was on a central question in municipal spatial planning: What are the long-term costs and benefits when municipalities invest in existing town centers versus developing new residential areas on the outskirts? Using a concrete example from Hohenems, he analyzed both development scenarios over a 15-year period. His thesis demonstrates that municipalities benefit more sustainably from a financial perspective when they use the potential within their existing town centers, while also highlighting how economic evaluation models can make municipal decision-making processes more transparent. His bachelor's thesis had already received multiple awards, and the Architecture 2025 Research Prize for the best master's thesis now marks the culmination of his academic career.

NINA
↓

Nina Sam
Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs in
Civil Engineering and Construction

How can the use of concrete— one of the most widely used yet most CO₂-intensive building materials—be made more resource-efficient? To find an answer to this question, Nina Sam, a graduate of the master's degree program in Civil Engineering and Construction, combined topology optimization with additive manufacturing technologies such as 3D concrete printing to use material only where it is structurally necessary. Starting with a single-span beam, she developed several structural variants, analyzed them digitally, and produced one of them as an additively manufactured prototype. The results show that optimized geometries and targeted material distribution can lead to significant savings without compromising load-bearing capacity. For her master's thesis, Nina Sam was awarded third place in the 2026 Austrian Construction Engineering Prize by the Austrian Construction Engineering Association. She achieved another success together with Elisabeth Radl and Marc Pfleger: With their entry "Transform Topology," the team took second place in the Concrete Design Competition.

WE
CONGRATULATE
YOU!

DOMINIC
↓

Dominic Boesch
Master's Degree Program in
Health Assisting Engineering

Oraisis—a young startup that's winning big: Dominic Boesch managed to win over multiple panels with his project. In addition to securing a 30,000-euro investment through the INITS scale-up program, Oraisis also won the jury prize at the pitching event hosted by Hochschule Campus Wien. Oraisis's goal is to develop an intelligent assistance system for people with limited hand function following a stroke—a condition that affects approximately 67% of patients. Through the combination of computer vision, artificial intelligence, and functional electrical stimulation, the system recognizes grasping intentions and provides targeted support in everyday life. The goal is to gradually restore mobility, independence, and quality of life. The idea originated in the master's degree program in Health Assisting Engineering, where Dominic Boesch, an occupational therapist, combines his clinical experience with technological expertise. The project is supported by the Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Career Center (EICC) at Hochschule Campus Wien.

Continuity with a Vision for the Future

With the reappointment of Heimo Sandtner as rector, Hochschule Campus Wien is prioritizing stability and a forward-looking approach. Having led the university since 2022, he is now entering a second term—with a clear focus on innovation, interdisciplinarity, and social responsibility.

“It is both an honor and a responsibility,” emphasizes Sandtner. In light of the shortage of skilled workers, the climate crisis, and societal change, he sees universities as active architects of solutions. The needs of Generation Z, in particular, are taking center stage.

Driving research forward

As early as 2011, Sandtner made a significant impact as Vice Rector for Research and Development: Nine research centers, the first ethics committee for research projects at an Austrian university of applied sciences, and a comprehensive start-up and innovation service were established with his

involvement. He is also advancing further development in teaching—for example, by establishing the bachelor's and master's degree programs in High Tech Manufacturing. Practical initiatives such as the Os.Car Racing Team, which has enjoyed international success, strengthen the connection between theory and application.

Heimo Sandtner, Academic Director and Rector, with students



Actively shaping the University Strategy 2040

Heimo Sandtner also plays a key role in shaping the University Strategy 2040. In the working group "Joyful and Active: Framework Conditions for the Studies of the Future," the focus is on future-proof curricula, future skills such as creativity, interdisciplinary teamwork, and digital competencies, as well as flexible study models.

As a bridge-builder, Sandtner also specifically promotes social interaction. With the band "Campus Beats," he created a platform that connects students and staff and demonstrates social commitment through charity concerts.

In his second term, Heimo Sandtner combines experience with fresh ideas—and is transforming Hochschule Campus Wien into a place where the future takes shape.

IN A NUTSHELL

Higher Education in 2040: Students Help Shape the Future

What should Austria's universities look like in 2040? On April 22, this question was the focus of a conference organized by the Austrian National Union of Students (ÖH) at Hochschule Campus Wien. Discussions on the planned Higher Education Strategy 2040 centered on the future of studying, research and innovation, international visibility, social mobility, and the role of universities in democracy and society.

Hochschule Campus Wien actively supports the strategic planning process and contributes its experience in practice-oriented teaching, applied research, and close collaboration with business and society. The open exchange between students, the university, and policymakers paves the way for sustainable and future-proof higher education development. In this way, the Higher Education Strategy 2040 serves as a common forum for the future of higher education in Austria.



From left to right: Doris Link, Hochschule Campus Wien; Viktoria Kudrna, Austrian National Union of Students; Federal Minister Eva-Maria Holzleitner; Selina Wienerroither, Umut Ovat, Austrian National Union of Students; Heimo Sandtner, Hochschule Campus Wien

Making the Most of AI, Responsibly

What legal considerations must be taken into account when using artificial intelligence (AI) in a higher education context? Hochschule Campus Wien has explored this question and, in collaboration with the University of Vienna, has developed an online course on the topic.

Artificial intelligence is fundamentally transforming teaching, research, and administration at universities. While using AI offers numerous opportunities, it also presents universities with complex legal challenges. They must ensure compliance with legal requirements and promote the responsible use of artificial intelligence in all areas of university operations. In the new online course, staff members can now learn how to implement the EU AI Act in compliance with the law and what obligations they have in this context.

Joint initiative

The continuing education program was initiated by the vice rectors of Hochschule

Campus Wien and the University of Vienna, Evelyn Süß-Stepancik and Christa Schnabl. The team of the Teaching Support Center at Hochschule Campus Wien, together with Nikolaus Forgó, director of the Institute for Innovation and Digitalization in Law at the University of Vienna, was responsible for the media-based instructional design and legal expertise.

Open to everyone

In terms of content, the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) combines legal fundamentals with practical examples from everyday university life. It offers an overview of the regulatory environ-

ment and support for implementing the EU AI Act. All topics can be studied and completed through self-paced learning. The course is freely accessible to staff in teaching, research, and administration at all universities.



Evelyn Süß-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs at Hochschule Campus Wien, with Nikolaus Forgó, Head of the Institute for Innovation and Digitalization in Law at the University of Vienna



Rethinking Early Childhood Education

Hochschule Campus Wien developed and established the first dual bachelor's programs in Early Childhood Education and Care in Austria. In doing so, it has provided important impetus for new academic training pathways and the further development of the professional field.

The dual programs in Early Childhood Education and Care at Hochschule Campus Wien marked the beginning of a new era in the training of early childhood educators in the fall of 2025. For the first time, these bachelor's programs combine theory with everyday professional practice—with the goal of preparing students for their roles as academic professionals in a well-founded, practice-oriented and research-based manner.

A boost for the Austrian higher education landscape

The curriculum at Hochschule Campus Wien, developed by experts from academia and the professional field, will be rolled out at two additional universities of applied sciences starting in the

fall of 2026. In the meantime, several university colleges of teacher education and other universities of applied sciences are also offering bachelor's degree programs in Early Childhood Education and Care. By developing its dual study model early on, Hochschule Campus Wien created a new academic training pathway for early childhood educators in Austria and, as a pioneer, provided important impetus for the further development and expansion of corresponding program offerings in Austria.

hcw.ac.at/ep-b-en

MORE



Good to know!

Hochschule Campus Wien offers the dual bachelor's degree program in Early Childhood Education and Care for applicants with a university entrance qualification, as well as the dual bachelor's program (Bachelor Professional) in Early Childhood Education and Care for those without a university entrance qualification but with several years of relevant professional experience.

Over the course of six semesters, prospective early childhood educators are comprehensively prepared for their roles as qualified professionals.



Imaging the Future

With its new sonography lab, Hochschule Campus Wien is embracing state-of-the-art ultrasound technology and strengthening its students' hands-on training.

Through its bachelor's degree program in Radiological Technology and its academic expert program in Sonography, Hochschule Campus Wien trains experts in high-quality medical care. A particular highlight is the new sonography lab.

Real-world training

In the modern lab, students can practice real-world examination scenarios in a variety of settings—both with one another on eleven ultrasound machines, ranging from high-end units to the latest hand-held devices, and on simulation systems.

The training covers examination techniques, how to conduct examinations, and how to recognize typical sonographic patterns. This enables students to identify and classify changes in clinical practice and to prepare a radiologic technology report.

Sensitive examinations with high-tech simulation systems

For sensitive examinations, such as ultrasound examinations during pregnancy, only simulation systems and dummies—so-called phantoms—are used. For all other examinations, such as those of the abdomen or the heart, real examinations are conducted with volunteer participants and combined with simulation training.

Technological highlight

Barbara Kraus, head of the sonography program, explains: “The sonography lab is a technological highlight. I am particularly pleased that we can offer high-end equipment and cutting-edge technology in diagnostic imaging so that our graduates can make a valuable contribution to the healthcare system.”



Good to know!

In the new Sonography Lab at Hochschule Campus Wien, students have access to state-of-the-art ultrasound technology for both training and practical application. A total of 11 ultrasound machines cover a broad spectrum—from high-end systems to point-of-care ultrasound and compact hand-held devices. The equipment is supplemented by three simulation systems that enable realistic training scenarios. Through these systems, students can access a database of approximately 600 anonymized pathological cases, allowing them to familiarize themselves with a wide range of clinical conditions and specifically strengthen their diagnostic skills.

IN A NUTSHELL

New XR Lab for Innovative Teaching

EXCITE—the name says it all: With the new Extended Reality Center for Innovation, Technology, and Education, Hochschule Campus Wien has created a space that invites users to experiment, think creatively, and develop new teaching and learning formats. Since its soft opening in November 2025, the XR Lab has promoted the use of virtual, augmented, and mixed reality technologies in teaching, creating new opportunities for innovative, hands-on learning.

Thanks to internal support from the Vice Rectorate Academic and International Affairs, lecturers and students now have access to a modern teaching and experimentation space where they can test immersive technologies and develop new pedagogical concepts. The goal is to strengthen lecturers' skills in using extended reality applications and to strategically advance the further development of digital teaching and learning formats.

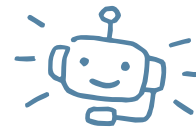
EXCITE can accommodate about 30 people and is equipped with 30 Meta Quest 3 headsets and accessories.



Andrea Horvath, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Engineering, at the opening of EXCITE

Where Digital Teaching Makes an Impact

Teaching is more than just imparting knowledge—it bridges the gap between theory and practice. Two projects exemplify how innovative teaching approaches not only strengthen students' subject-specific knowledge but also specifically prepare them for the complex demands of their future careers.



In the field of clinical engineering

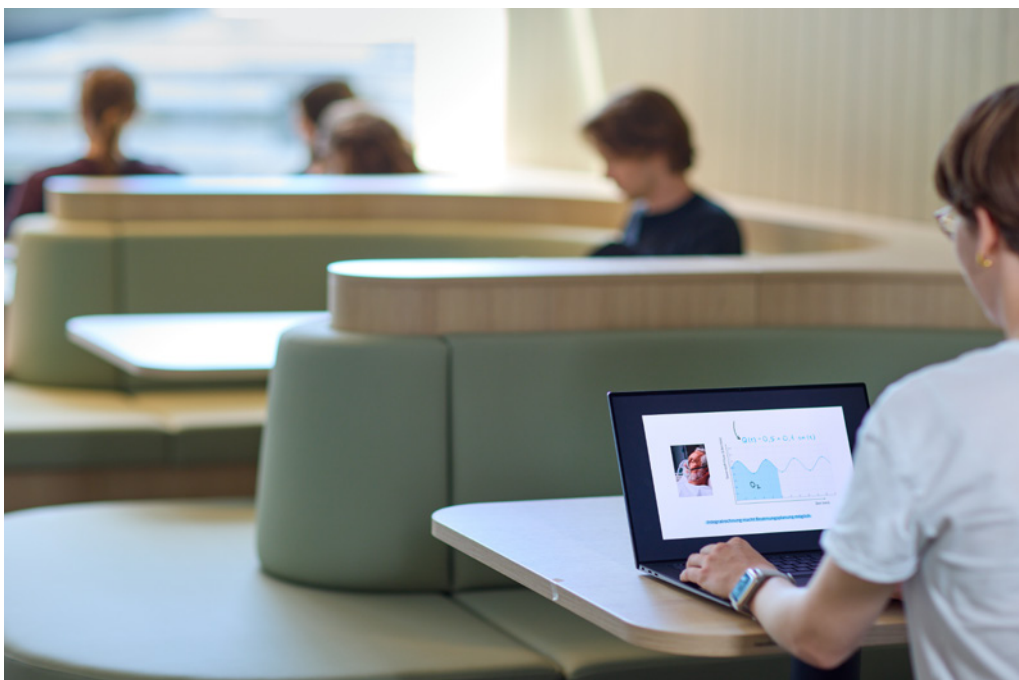
The "DigiMath Clinic" project has reimagined mathematics for future clinical engineers. Instead of merely imparting subject matter, the focus is on understanding and practical application. A blended-learning approach using Moodle, GeoGebra, instructional videos, and AI-supported exercises combines on-campus instruction with self-study. The structured course design

breaks down barriers to learning math and helps students confidently apply mathematical methods to clinical-engineering problems.

In radiological technology

"Conversations That Make a Difference—AI-Supported Training in Empathetic Communication" is an innovative teaching project in the degree program in radiological technology. The goal is to specifically promote empathetic

communication with patients in radiation therapy. Students practice realistic conversation scenarios from everyday radiation oncology practice using a web-based, GPT-powered chatbot and reflect on their actions across several learning phases. The project combines simulation, feedback, and structured reflection, thereby creating a safe space for developing communication skills that are particularly crucial when interacting with cancer patients.





The Vienna Canucrete Team with its floating Giant Ferris Wheel at the German Concrete Canoe Regatta in Brandenburg an der Havel

On Course for Victory

From an innovative concrete canoe to a floating Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel: The Vienna Canucrete Team from the Department of Building and Design caused a sensation at the 20th German Concrete Canoe Regatta 2026 in the "Open Class" category—which was contested for the first time—and secured first place right off the bat.

"Fair winds and following seas—and may you always have plenty of water under your keel," was the motto at the end of May during the ceremonial christening of the Vienna Canucrete Team's LitzenFlitzer, marking the start of a successful regatta season. A few weeks later, at the German Concrete Canoe Regatta, the team demonstrated what a spirit of research, creativity, and teamwork can achieve.

Breaking new ground on the water

With the LitzenFlitzer, the team from the Department of Building and Design broke new technical ground. The concrete canoe was constructed using prestressed basalt strands, which were laid in integrated ducts and grouted with epoxy resin. This construction technique is typically used for special requirements in civil engineering and was applied in this form for the first time at a concrete canoe regatta. Prestressing reduces cracking in the concrete while simultaneously increasing the canoe's load-bearing capacity on the water.

First place for the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel

In addition to the canoe, the team realized another special project this year: a floating Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel for the regatta's Open Class. Using 3D concrete printing, steel, and a great deal of engineering work, they created a true-to-scale model of the Viennese landmark. The 2.45-meter-tall giant Ferris wheel was mounted on two concrete floats and weighed a total of about 480 kilograms. "With the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel, we took on an extraordinary project. From the spokes of the wheel to the assembly right in the water, so much was new to us. The fact that everything worked out in the end and that we were even able to win makes us especially proud," said team captains Christiane Koller and Valentin Peinhopf. The competition entry also impressed the jury. With the Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel, the Vienna Canucrete Team secured first place, capping off a successful performance at the anniversary regatta.



Keep Learning, Keep Growing

In the fall of 2026, Hochschule Campus Wien will launch several new academic continuing education programs in the fields of health, nursing, and tax law.

Hochschule Campus Wien is the only university in Austria that trains students in all medical, therapeutic, and diagnostic health professions (MTDG). It therefore offers a broad interprofessional environment with shared teaching and learning settings as well as modern laboratory infrastructure. It is precisely within this environment that the university's new continuing education programs for healthcare professionals are situated.

Functional Diagnostics, Histopathology, and Cytology

The new two-semester academic expert programs in Functional Diagnostics, Histopathology, and Cytology are designed for biomedical scientists who wish to deepen their professional expertise in a targeted way. They offer highly specialized content taught in a practical manner, along with close alignment with

current diagnostic standards and requirements in the healthcare sector. All three part-time programs can be fully integrated into the new continuing education master's program in Health Studies, allowing graduates to build upon their respective specializations to earn a master's degree.

Master's program in Health Studies

In the new master's program in Health Studies, healthcare professionals gain the qualifications needed for specialized, project-based, and leadership roles. The part-time program in continuing education has a modular structure, and the path to a master's degree (Master of Science, Continuing Education) is a step-by-step process:

- Step 1 is specialization in functional diagnostics, histopathology, sonography, or cytology, which can also be completed independently as a standalone academic expert program.
- Students then deepen their scientific, strategic, and interprofessional competencies. The curriculum focuses on future-oriented topics such as evidence-based practice, digitalization in healthcare, public health, and management skills.

Interprofessional master's program in Simulation in Health Care

Simulation-based teaching and training formats have been growing in importance for some time in the training and further

education of professionals in various disciplines within the healthcare sector. Experts from various healthcare disciplines learn to develop, implement, and scientifically evaluate these formats in the new interprofessional master's program "Simulation in Health Care" (I-SIM) offered by the Department of Applied Nursing Science. This part-time continuing education master's program, unique in the German-speaking world, has a strong focus on technology. Students complete the practical components in the state-of-the-art SimLab, the interprofessional skills and simulation center at Hochschule Campus Wien. In cooperation with InPASS—the Institute for Patient Safety and Team Training—graduates receive a CRM simulation instructor certificate in addition to their master's degree.

Master Professional Tax Consulting

The third new master's program at Hochschule Campus Wien is a continuing education program for aspiring tax consultants. The part-time master's program professional in Tax Consulting is offered in cooperation with the Academy of Tax Advisors and Auditors (ASW) and prepares students for the professional exams in tax consulting. The curriculum covers tax law, accounting, legal theory, and financial reporting, as well as consulting expertise and communication skills. The Chamber of Tax Advisors and Auditors (KSW) awards ten scholarships to students admitted to the master's program.

Higher Qualifications Through University Continuing Education!

In 2021, Austria introduced a new, unified regulatory framework for university continuing education and certificate programs.

- Since then, bachelor's and master's programs in continuing education have been established; their final degrees bear the designation "Continuing Education (CE)" and are equivalent to academic degrees earned upon completion of a degree program.
- Continuing education programs offered in cooperation with a non-university educational institution lead to the academic degrees "Bachelor Professional" or "Master Professional."

Bachelor's programs in continuing education with 180 ECTS credits typically last six semesters, while master's programs in continuing education with 120 ECTS credits typically last four semesters. Thanks to the standardization of final degrees, programs in continuing education and degree programs can now be combined.

In addition to continuing education programs, Hochschule Campus Wien offers shorter continuing education formats such as courses, seminars, micro-credentials, or certificate programs, as well as academic expert programs that lead to the designation "Academic Expert". All continuing education programs address current, practice-oriented topics and specifically prepare graduates for new tasks and areas of responsibility. They are fee-based, part-time, and, thanks to flexible study models and learning formats, can be easily combined with a professional career.

Real-Life Practice

The SimLab at Hochschule Campus Wien celebrated its first anniversary in the spring of 2026: For more than a year, aspiring health professionals have been practicing realistic scenarios together in the safe environment of the simulation center.

Physical therapists train in the SimLab alongside registered nurses, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, midwives, and other healthcare professionals. The SimLab offers students from various professions a shared learning environment where both profession-specific and selected interprofessional teaching and learning formats take place. This allows future healthcare and nursing professionals to experience,

even during their training at Hochschule Campus Wien, the kind of interprofessional collaboration that will play a crucial role in their daily professional lives later on. It is the key to future-oriented healthcare.

Interactive teaching method

The state-of-the-art interprofessional skills and simulation training center is shared by the departments of Applied Nursing Science and Health Sciences. Spanning approximately 3,000 square

meters, the SimLab offers a variety of settings for mono- and interdisciplinary scenarios in health and nursing care. In numerous different functional rooms and simulation units—including the Living Lab, an 85-square-meter apartment—students learn and practice in realistic settings: from emergency and acute care to intensive care units or nursing-therapeutic situations in the acute outpatient clinic, all the way to home care and therapy, as well as therapeutic settings in the mobile





Good to know!

Interprofessional collaboration refers to the coordinated cooperation among various healthcare professionals. The goal is to ensure the best possible holistic care for patients through the pooling of expertise and improved information exchange.

In interprofessional teams, physicians from all disciplines, nurses, members of medical, therapeutic, and diagnostic health professions, midwives, pharmacists, and other health professionals work closely together.



“Ready for practice. Confident in action. SimLab makes it possible.”

Simon Ströhle, SimLab Team Leader

care sector. Students train using highly advanced simulators and medical technology devices.

Acquiring simulation skills

Simulation and skills labs are becoming increasingly important in the training of health professionals. They offer protected learning environments where aspiring health and nursing professionals can practice complex situations in an interprofessional manner under conditions that closely resemble reality—in a safe space, without compromising patient safety. The newly launched master's program

(Continuing Education) in Simulation in Health Care (I-SIM), which will be offered at Hochschule Campus Wien starting in the fall of 2026, teaches the skills needed to develop and implement simulation-based teaching and training formats. Students complete the practical components of this four-semester program in the university's in-house SimLab.

Simulation in teaching and research

The simulation center at Hochschule Campus Wien is one of the largest of its kind in Europe. The available infras-

tructure is used for both teaching and research. Projects at the research centers for Health Sciences, Applied Nursing Research, and Digital Health and Care are connected to the SimLab and make use of the available infrastructure as part of their research work.

GREAT!

From Graduate to Head of Department

In August 2026, Agnes Sturma took over as head of the Department of Health Sciences at Hochschule Campus Wien. She also continues to serve as head of the degree program in Physiotherapy. She succeeds Andrea Hofbauer, who has shaped the department significantly in recent years and will retire this fall.

Agnes Sturma and Andrea Hofbauer at their final graduation ceremony together at Vienna City Hall





A career path at the university

Agnes Sturma knows Hochschule Campus Wien from many perspectives: she completed her bachelor's degree program in Physiotherapy in 2011, followed by a master's degree in Health Assisting Engineering in 2014. At the same time, she began her academic career at the Medical University of Vienna, where she combined research and clinical practice in the field of bionic limb reconstruction. After completing research fellowships at the Medical University of Vienna and Imperial College London, she returned to her alma mater. Since 2022, she has headed the bachelor's degree program in Physiotherapy, emphasizing evidence-based teaching and the close integration of research and practice.

Research with international visibility

Rehabilitation following neurosurgical procedures and the functional restoration of limbs after severe injuries or amputations are among Agnes Sturma's primary research focuses. Numerous publications, presentations at international conferences, and several awards attest to her expertise. In addition, she is actively involved as a founding member and coor-

dinator of Physio Austria's Physiotherapy Research Network.

A generational transition with a strong foundation

With her appointment, Agnes Sturma takes over as head of the largest department at Hochschule Campus Wien. "The Department of Health Sciences combines excellent teaching, hands-on practice, and a strong research orientation. Continuing to drive this development forward and, together with my team, helping to shape the healthcare professions of tomorrow is a significant and, at the same time, highly motivating task for me," she says.

This leadership transition marks the end of a defining era: Under the leadership of Andrea Hofbauer, the Department of Health Sciences has consistently evolved in recent years. She strengthened inter-professional collaboration, expanded the department's research focus, and played a key role in uniting the diversity of health professions into a strong, unified profile. She deserves our heartfelt thanks for her many years of dedication and her lasting contribution to the development of the department and Hochschule Campus Wien.



Good to know!

The Department of Health Sciences at Hochschule Campus Wien offers training in all seven legally regulated advanced medical, therapeutic, and diagnostic health professions—Biomedical Science, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Logopedics, Orthoptics, Physiotherapy, and Radiological Technology—as well as Midwifery. The master's degree programs in Health Studies and Health Assisting Engineering, along with the academic expert programs in Functional Diagnostics, Histopathology, Sonography, and Cytology, complement the program offerings. This portfolio is unique in Austria. The department also includes the Research Center Health Sciences and the Research Center Digital Health and Care.



Diversity That Makes a Difference

How pronoun choices and chosen names make everyday student life easier.

For many people, starting their studies marks a fresh start: a new place, new encounters, and the chance to settle in without being labeled prematurely. It's a phase of life that should provide space not only for academic but also for personal development. Hochschule Campus Wien supports this idea with concrete structural measures—and creates conditions that make settling in easier from the very beginning.

Respect starts with how we address each other

We encounter pronouns like “she/her,” “he/him,” or “they/them” everywhere—for example, listed next to a name in email signatures. They indicate how people would like to be addressed when

others speak about them. What is already taken for granted in many digital contexts has also been integrated into everyday student life at Hochschule Campus Wien since the last academic year: Students can enter their personal pronouns in the student portal. In addition to the options mentioned, “no pronouns” or “not specified” are also available. The selected pronouns appear in the university's internal systems, such as attendance lists and course overviews. This provides lecturers with clear guidance on how to address students respectfully.

Personal identity at the center

Students whose legal first name does not match their lived

“Using the correct form of address requires little effort but has a big impact—it strengthens a sense of belonging and security. At the same time, it highlights just how diverse our university is.”

Teresa Schweiger, Head of Gender & Diversity Management

gender identity can apply for a chosen name at Hochschule Campus Wien. This name is used in the university's internal systems—such as in email addresses or on the Campus Card. An official name change is not required for this. The legal name remains stored only where legal requirements mandate it, such as on official certificates.

An inclusive environment for everyone

Especially in the early stages of their studies, when many interactions occur for the first time, these options provide tangible relief for some students: there is no longer a need to repeatedly explain themselves, and misunderstandings or uncomfortable moments are avoided from the outset. This makes starting their studies and their ongoing academic life

more relaxed and respectful. “By introducing the option to choose pronouns and the possibility of using a chosen name, we are creating an inclusive, respectful environment for all students. Diversity is not an afterthought, but a core value of our university,” says Rector Heimo Sandtner.

Settling in without explanation

A look at the numbers shows that this initiative has found its place in everyday student life. Students decide for themselves whether to take advantage of these new options. This voluntary approach makes all the difference. The university does not impose requirements but rather opens up possibilities—and starts where respect begins. This creates the opportunity to feel at home—just as you are.

ABOUT

Teresa Schweiger has been the new head of the unit Gender & Diversity Management at Hochschule Campus Wien and the accessibility officer since January 2026. She has more than twenty years of experience in gender and diversity work and regularly shares her expertise as a speaker at universities and schools. As an editor, she published the book „Geschlecht, Bildung und Kunst“ (Gender, Education, and Art) together with Tina Hascher.



Perseverance as a Mindset

There are people who loudly champion change, and there are people who embed change step by step—persistently, with endurance, and with an eye on the big picture. Ulrike Alker belongs to the second group. For many years, as head of the unit Gender & Diversity Management, she helped shape Hochschule Campus Wien and initiated developments that seem self-evident today but were far from it for a long time.

IMPRESSIVE!

Ulrike Alker, former Head of
Gender & Diversity Management



When you talk to Ulrike Alker about her work, you don't hear a list of individual achievements. Instead, she talks about people, about collaboration, and about how important it is to keep at it. For her, sustainable change doesn't come from individual measures, but from long-term developments, trust, and shared goals.

Involved from the very beginning

When Ulrike Alker joined Hochschule Campus Wien, the institution was still in its early stages of development. Many things did not yet exist, including the unit she would later lead. Involved from the very beginning, she was among those who played a key role in shaping the university's development. Together, ideas were conceived, structures created, and degree programs established. Later came activities around gender mainstreaming and diversity. Taking the first steps with limited resources required a lot of persuasion in many areas. "At the beginning, it was just me. Then we grew into a small team. Over the years we ultimately became a large network of committed people who work together to advance gender and diversity. Crucial to this were the support and backing we received, especially from the university management," says Ulrike Alker, summarizing the history of the unit Gender & Diversity Management.

When marginal issues become central issues

For Ulrike Alker, the evolution of the topics of equality, diversity, and inclusion itself was particularly formative. What was once only marginally acknowledged is now, thanks to her dedication, part of the university's strategy. Anchored in the Code of Conduct, it influences structures, processes, and decisions. "In addition to all the structural developments, the way people interact at the university has also changed. To me, this is particularly evident in the generational shift: Young people today bring with them a strong awareness of diversity and inclusion and approach these issues much more naturally than we did 25 years ago," says Ulrike Alker in response to the question of what has changed at the university over time. She also sees this as a development that demonstrates just how much societal perspectives have shifted. Changes have also become visible in everyday university life: gender-inclusive and diversity-sensitive language, accessible environments, and the option to visibly indicate different pronouns. Much of this was barely imaginable just a few years ago. Today, it is part of a trend that reflects societal change.



Change is created together

Resistance has always been part of the process: “For me, however, it was never primarily an obstacle, but often an indication of where discussions are needed and which questions must be taken seriously and clarified further,” says Ulrike Alker. Persuasion, patience, and dialogue were therefore central components of her work. This is precisely where one of her greatest strengths lies: taking different perspectives seriously and bringing people together. Her experience as a lecturer, coach, and supervisor helped her make complex topics understandable, listen attentively, and develop solutions collaboratively.

Motivation and commitment that make a difference

When asked about the source of her enduring perseverance and motivation, Ulrike Alker has an immediate answer: “I was motivated by the desire to make education more equitable. My perspective on the university has always been closely tied to societal developments. We know that educational opportunities in Austria are not distributed equitably, and I wanted to help change that. I was also motivated by encounters with students and colleagues who, through our work, have become more self-confident and have begun to stand up for themselves and

others.” Her motivation has borne much fruit, some of which has been officially recognized. “We’ve been awarded the Diversitas Prize twice and the Meritus Prize once,” Ulrike Alker says proudly. For her many years of dedication and her service to Hochschule Campus Wien, she also received the Hochschule Campus Wien Badge of Honor—a recognition of her contribution to the university’s development and her ongoing commitment to initiating change and embedding it for the long term.

Letting go of the role, not the mindset

Ulrike Alker consciously prepared for her transition to retirement. She stayed at the university five years longer than originally planned because she has always enjoyed her work. Today, she describes the move as fitting. She is letting go of the role, she says, but not her mindset. What remains are values, relationships, and the feeling of still enjoying coming back to the university—without appointments, without obligations, simply to see people again. At the same time, a new chapter is now beginning: “More time for family and friends, for my father, for travel, languages, community involvement, and for things that often had to wait until now”—Ulrike Alker has many plans for the future. After many years of shaping things, it’s no longer about continuing as before, but about starting something new.

TOGETHER
WE SUCCEED!



Ulrike Alker (center) with her team in 2019



From left to right: Heimo Sandtner, Academic Director and Rector; Evelyn Süss-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs; Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development; Wilhelm Behensky, founder and former Chair of the Management Board; Hannes Swoboda, President; Doris Link, Chair of the Management Board and CEO; Silvia Kaupa-Götzl, Managing Director and CFO, Hochschule Campus Wien; Federal Minister Eva-Maria Holzleitner; Michael Ludwig, Mayor of Vienna.

Farewell and a New Beginning

A festive evening in December 2025 marked the end of an era at Hochschule Campus Wien—and, at the same time, the beginning of a new chapter. The focus was on Wilhelm Behensky, the university's founder and a defining figure, who was honored upon his retirement after 25 years on the Management Board.

A visionary who shaped the university

Behensky shaped Hochschule Campus Wien from the very beginning and, over the past 25 years, built it into Austria's largest university of applied sciences. His work exemplifies a university's social responsibility, particularly in the consistent integration of practice-oriented teaching and applied research. Under Behensky's leadership, an institution emerged that not only grows but also continuously evolves—in terms of content, structure, and its external impact. In this process, Hochschule Campus Wien also played a central role in the development and establishment of new professional fields, ranging from social work to medical, therapeutic, and diagnostic health professions, as well as health care and nursing, and early childhood education and care.

High honor from the federal province of Vienna

Colleagues from the worlds of politics, academia, and business—including Minister of Science Eva-Maria Holzleitner and the Mayor of the City of Vienna, Michael Ludwig—paid tribute that evening to his strategic foresight and his tireless dedication to

the university of applied sciences sector. Mayor Ludwig presented Wilhelm Behensky with the Gold Decoration of Honor for Services to the Province of Vienna, thereby recognizing his unique commitment in a very special way.

The legacy lives on

With the changes to the Management Board, a new chapter begins for Hochschule Campus Wien. Doris Link and Silvia Kaupa-Götzl were officially welcomed as members of the management board and will jointly take over the leadership of the university. Wilhelm Behensky will become president of Hochschule Campus Wien on December 1, 2026. In this role, he will remain an important source of inspiration and a key facilitator.

The evening made it clear on what foundation the new Management Board is building: an institution with strong roots in the national higher education landscape and a clear commitment to further expanding its position as one of Europe's leading universities of applied sciences.

Strong Voices for HCW

Sometimes others know best what defines us. We asked the members of our Governing Board what they associate with Hochschule Campus Wien.



Hannes Swoboda

Former Member of Parliament and Group Chairman in the European Parliament

What's important to me is ...

that Hochschule Campus Wien equips students with the tools they need to successfully tackle new challenges time and again.

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...

an institution that is constantly reinventing itself and that, through its practice-oriented education, makes an important contribution to the social development of Vienna, Austria, and ultimately Europe as well.

Wilhelm Behensky

Founder and Former Chief Executive Officer of Hochschule Campus Wien

What's important to me is ...

foresight

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...

the institution I founded 25 years ago, which today, as a well-established center for science and research, makes a significant contribution to the economy and society in Vienna and beyond



Wolfgang Hesoun

Vice President of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

What's important to me is ...

close ties with industry

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...

an institution whose graduates contribute every day to strengthening Austria as an industrial location.



MANY THANKS!



Christine Marek

Managing Director CM Consulting, Chairwoman of the University Council of the University College of Teacher Education Styria, Chairwoman of the Executive Board of Children in Vienna

What's important to me is ...
responsibility

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...
a place for practice-oriented education, innovation, and social responsibility.

Marcus Franz

District Mayor of Favoriten District, Vienna

What's important to me is ...
equity in education

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...
a key driver of education and development in Favoriten.



Peter Krammer

CEO of Swietelsky

What's important to me is ...
practical relevance

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...
a university with a strong practical focus that prepares students specifically and as effectively as possible for their future careers.

Christa Schnabl

Vice Rector for Study and Academic Affairs of the University of Vienna

What's important to me is ...
expertise

To me, Hochschule Campus Wien is ...
a place where scientific expertise meets a strong focus on practical application.



“I’ve always wanted to do something meaningful!”

Silvia Kaupa-Götzl has been the new CFO of Hochschule Campus Wien since November 2025. In this interview, she talks about her first impressions, the challenges she faces, and her vision for the university.

You come from the business world and have worked in companies for many years. What led you to the field of education, and what appealed to you about this new role?

Professionally, I’ve always wanted to do something meaningful. I come from the ÖBB Group, where I had the opportunity to help shape people’s mobility. Here at the university, it’s training and further education. For me, this is the key to Austria’s successful future: to remain competitive, we need highly educated people. With the knowledge and experience I’ve gained over the past 20 years, I can help ensure the continued success of Hochschule Campus Wien in the years to come.

How would you describe your first few months at the university?

I’d say: intense. I’ve learned a great deal and am still trying to get an overview of everything. I’ve visited the departments and units, met many people, and asked a lot of questions, all of which were always answered patiently—thank you for that.

What impression have you formed so far of the university and the people who work here?

A very open, interested, and appreciative one. I’m someone who likes to speak my mind, and my outside perspective was always welcome in our conversations. As a “newcomer,” I was given the space to see things differently, and I sensed a willingness to question certain things as well. By now, I

no longer feel like a “newbie,” but I try to maintain my outside perspective and still ask a lot of questions.

Where do you currently see the biggest financial challenges for the university?

We’re primarily funded by public funds, and in difficult budgetary times like these, those funds are scarce and must be used efficiently and wisely with a view to the future. As an educational organization, we’re in a good position, but we’re not alone, and the budget isn’t getting any bigger. That’s why we’re required to work efficiently and cost-consciously. Incidentally, cost awareness is extremely high at Hochschule Campus Wien—the staff feel a sense of responsibility for results in a way I’ve never experienced before. Nevertheless, we’re all competing for a budget that isn’t getting any larger, and we should therefore change course now: away from growth and toward consolidation.

What does that mean, precisely?

The university has grown significantly in recent years; we now have around 1,000 staff members and 2,500 external lecturers, and we generate annual revenue of over 100 million euros—that’s a lot of money that needs to be managed, and we need to adapt our structures accordingly. An economically stable situation, such as the one we currently have, is the right time to do this. Above all, we will continue to expand our digitalization efforts, develop online program offerings, and identify where our processes offer use cases for AI. At the same time, however, we must also secure the university’s future now.



SILVIA KAUPA-GÖTZL, CFO

How do you strike a balance between financial stability and securing the future?

Our most important key performance indicator is our student body. We currently have excellent applicant numbers and are in a very strong position. To ensure this remains the case, we must not stand still under any circumstances. Rather, to expand the university sustainably, we must now invest in greater visibility, clear positioning, and internationalization. As a university of applied sciences, we are more innovative, flexible, and agile than traditional universities when it comes to expanding our programs. We are already taking advantage of these opportunities today and must continue to do so in the future: further expanding internationally and—where there is demand—launching new degree programs.

As part of the management board, you work closely with the rectorate. How would you describe the collaboration between academic and executive leadership?

The collaboration is very good—we exchange ideas regularly. For me personally, transparency and openness are very important in this regard. Incidentally, this also applies to my leadership style: transparent, open, and empowering.

Finally, looking ahead to the future of Hochschule Campus Wien: What do you see five years from now?

I see a thriving campus, a university that is very well established in the international education market and works closely with domestic and international companies through corporate partnerships.

ABOUT

Silvia Kaupa-Götzl is a member of the management board of Hochschule Campus Wien. As CFO, she is responsible for finance, IT management, quality management, sustainability management, and gender and diversity management. Kaupa-Götzl studied law in Vienna and London. After spending her early career as a lawyer, she joined ÖBB-Personenverkehr AG in 2005. In 2015, she was appointed to the executive board of Österreichische Postbus AG. Since 2022, the top executive and mother of one daughter has been a lecturer at the University of Vienna.

One Path, Many Milestones

The path to today's Department of Applied Life Sciences at Hochschule Campus Wien at Altes Landgut was long and, at times, arduous. In the early days, there was little to suggest that by 2026 there would be ten degree programs, two research centers—Molecular Biotechnology and Sustainability and Packaging—as well as the Section Bioengineering, each equipped with state-of-the-art laboratories.

The beginning: 2002–2007

In 2002, Erwin Heberle-Bors established the master's program in Biotechnology, based at the Vienna Bio Center. In 2007, microbiologist Bea Kuen-Krismer took over; for nearly 20 years, she shaped the development and success of the research center and the department founded later. The Bioengineering diploma program was founded in 2003 by Diethard Mattanovich on the campus of the BOKU University.

Expansion of research: 2007–2011

Bea Kuen-Krismer introduced the bachelor's and master's programs in Molecular Biotechnology, still at the Vienna BioCenter. The goals were clear: cutting-edge applied biotechnology programs with a focus on research. Two leading experts joined what was then Fachhochschule: cell biologist Thomas Czerny, based at Vetmeduni, and Michael Maurer, who was responsible for the Section Bioengineering on the BOKU University campus.



Campus Vienna Bio Center



HCW at BOKU



Campus Altes Landgut

Growth with the research area packaging and resource management: 2011–2022

With the arrival of Manfred Tacker—initially as the project lead—the new research area of packaging and resource management was established under his leadership. This was revolutionary at the time, as there were no degree programs in this field. Another cutting-edge development: In 2018, the first English-language master's degree program in Packaging Technology and Sustainability was introduced. Starting in 2019, Silvia Apprich took over the degree programs in packaging and resource management. Under the leadership of Bea Kuen-Krismer, the Department of Applied Life Sciences was established—comprising the competence centers Molecular Biotechnology, led by allergy researcher Ines Swoboda, Packaging and Resource Management, and the Section Bioengineering.

Move to Altes Landgut: 2022

The Department of Applied Life Sciences has finished moving into the state-of-the-art laboratories at the Hochschule Campus Wien main campus at Altes Landgut. The competence centers have been transformed into research centers.

Bernhard Rainer has been the head of the new research center. Sustainability and Packaging since 2023, while Silvia Apprich oversees the degree programs. In the area of bioengineering, Michael Maurer is responsible for research and development as well as the degree programs; Ines Swoboda heads the research center Molecular Biotechnology. In addition to leading the department, Bea Kuen-Krismer is also responsible for the bachelor's degree program in Molecular Biotechnology and the English-language master's program in Molecular Biotechnology.

Time of transition: 2026

Bea Kuen-Krismer, the longtime head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences, is retiring. Her successor as head of department is Silvia Apprich, a researcher in packaging and recycling. Florian Sparber, an immunologist and internationally active scientist, will take over as head of the bachelor's and master's programs in Molecular Biotechnology. Both successors are committed to continuing and further developing the department, which has been successfully established and offers degree programs that are very popular among students.

Strong Roots and Shared Perspectives

In February 2026, Silvia Apprich took over as head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences from her predecessor, Bea Kuen-Krismer. In this interview, she discusses new initiatives, strong connections, and her advice for young researchers.

What new ideas do you hope to introduce?

Bea Kuen-Krismer has done an excellent job and built a research-intensive, international department. Especially with the move to Altes Landgut, a sense of community has formed within the department, where we also have joint projects. I'd like to take it a step further and develop shared teaching content within the department's research centers—for example, in the area of elective courses. We have significant areas of overlap, such as the focus on sustainability in the section Sustainability Assessment and Packaging Solutions. Topics like carbon footprints, life cycle analyses, and life cycle assessments would be beneficial to the other degree programs as well. Every research center, every research area, and above all, every degree program should continue to have the freedom to set its own research priorities. Personally, I will become more involved in the biotech network. In packaging and resource management, we have a large network of corporate partners that I intend to make available to the entire department.

In education policy, there is a debate about whether doctoral programs should also be offered at universities of applied sciences. Is the research-intensive Department of Applied Life Sciences ready for this?

Yes, we are definitely ready. We have four researchers with habilitation qualifications on our staff. We're already training doctoral students—but in cooperation with universities. Our doctoral students are currently enrolled at TU Wien, the University of Vienna, or BOKU University, and in the future

also at TU Graz. However, all of our doctoral students' research work takes place here at the university of applied sciences.

What changes do you hope to bring about in the Department of Applied Life Sciences?

Currently, we have two research centers in the department—one in packaging and sustainability and one in molecular biotechnology. However, the field of bioengineering, which currently lacks a research center, is an area with great future potential that we could explore much more extensively. One of my goals would be to intensify research in that area and to allocate internal base funding toward that end.

What advice would you give to young researchers who often face challenges with fixed-term contracts?

It's hard for researchers. They're constantly dependent on third-party funding. You need the drive to keep going, even when a project is rejected. A more secure option is teaching; I switched to teaching eleven years ago.

Although you enjoy your work, you must have some free time as well. What's on the agenda then?

I come from a large family in Salzburg and stay in close touch with my cousins and their children. I really enjoy that. I love spending time with my own family, even though my two older children have already left home. Otherwise, I like being outdoors. I enjoy being active and going hiking. Standing on a mountain peak is simply wonderful.



Silvia Apprich, Head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences and Head of the Sustainable Packaging Technology and Sustainable Packaging Design and Technology degree programs

ABOUT

In February 2026, **Silvia Apprich** took over as head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences and continues to lead the two degree programs in Sustainable Packaging Technology and Sustainable Packaging Design and Technology. Holding a doctorate in food and biotechnology, she conducted research for many years at BOKU Vienna and served as deputy program coordinator for an international master's degree program. She has been a lecturer and researcher at Hochschule Campus Wien since 2015 and was appointed FH professor in 2018. Her research focuses on packaging technology as well as the safety and sustainability assessment of packaging. She has secured numerous externally funded projects and, together with her team, developed two international master's degree programs in the field of packaging and resource management.



Bea Kuen-Krismer, former head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences and head of the Molecular Biotechnology degree programs

A Pioneering Woman with Determination

Bea Kuen-Krismer, a microbiologist and molecular biologist, as well as longtime head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences, has had a profound impact on Hochschule Campus Wien. She introduced important and highly sought-after specialist areas, thereby contributing significantly to the university's reputation in research. A tribute on the occasion of her retirement.

Bea Kuen-Krismer is a tall, elegant woman with a great deal of energy. On a sunny spring day, she strides briskly onto the terrace of a Viennese café for the interview. Energy and perseverance—that's exactly what she needed to build up the Section Molecular Biotechnology, both in teaching and research, as well as the Department of Applied Life Sciences. "Pioneer"—that is the first word that comes to mind for her colleagues, collaborators, and successors when they think of this trained microbiologist. A pioneering spirit was necessary to establish Molecular Biotechnology as a degree program at what was then FH Campus Wien in the early 2000s. Tenacity and resilience were equally essential, as the move from the university to the university of applied sciences was met with a great deal of skepticism. Bea Kuen-Krismer orders a lemon soda and recounts the early days: "When I moved from the University of Vienna to FH Campus Wien, I sensed a great deal of skepticism among many of my former colleagues. Universities of applied sciences didn't have a good reputation back then." But the young microbiologist didn't let that deter her. With ambition and determination, Bea Kuen-Krismer transitioned the diploma program in biotechnology into the new bachelor's degree program and the master's degree program and founded the research center, which was affiliated with the Vienna BioCenter at the time.

"It was clear: We're moving into medical biotechnology."

Biology encompasses many fields, such as zoology and botany, but for Bea Kuen-Krismer, one thing was clear: "We're moving into medical biotechnology, which will allow us to develop a fo-

cused curriculum. My goal was to establish a science program that produces highly trained graduates who are in demand in the job market."

Internationalization from the very beginning

"Right from the start, I brought two native speakers onto the team who brought an international spirit with them. In addition to technical English, we also offered courses in business, law, patent law, and management in English. In hindsight, that was the right approach." In 2014, she established the first English-language master's degree program in Molecular Biotechnology. "We have to think outside the box. The U.S. was far ahead of us in the field of molecular biology. That's why, even during my postdoc, I spent extended periods of time at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Cell biology and the pharmaceutical industry, in particular, are international fields, so we have to keep our finger on the pulse."

Money, money

When Kuen-Krismer first started, research at universities of applied sciences received no state funding. "We had to manage our resources very carefully. For the first nine years, we conducted research in collaboration with the University of Vienna or BOKU. We were able to use their equipment and facilities." In 2011, the move to our own research laboratories on Viehmarktgasse followed. "We were able to purchase our first equipment through an MA 23 call for laboratory equipment, which we won. Today, thanks to years of groundwork and the successes we've achieved, we're able to finance research projects well through third-party funding."



From left to right: Heimo Sandtner, Academic Director and Rector; Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development; Arthur Mettinger, former Rector and Vice Rector; Evelyn Süß-Stepancik, Vice Rector for Academic and International Affairs; Bea Kuen-Krismer, former Head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences and Head of the Molecular Biotechnology degree programs; Doris Link, Chair of the Management Board and CEO; Wilhelm Behensky, founder and former Chair of the Management Board

“You bring in the research topics along with the people.”

How did the specializations in the Department of Applied Life Sciences come about? Bea Kuen-Krismer responds to this question with a very clear statement: “You bring in the research topics along with the people.” A targeted recruitment strategy, in other words. “The first person we brought on board was Thomas Czerny. He conducted basic research and applied cancer research. In technical terms, we refer to this as ‘signaling pathways.’ It involves investigating the mechanisms of the cell. What does the cell look like in its normal state? What happens when it no longer functions properly?” The next step for Bea Kuen-Krismer: expanding the scope of research. “It had to be a research area that didn’t yet have much competition—and the right person. I knew Ines Swoboda from the University of Vienna; we issued a call for proposals, which she won. With her, we were thus able to bring the fascinating and socially vital topic of allergy research to the university.”

Packaging technology was added by a stroke of luck

The Department of Applied Life Sciences was also set to grow. “To manage the many research projects, I brought in a project

manager—Manfred Tacker. He later mentioned in conversation that he wasn’t just a project manager, but also a certified packaging engineer. He noted that while Austria has a strong packaging industry, there was no academic training in the field. That was the starting point for our new section Packaging Technology—in both teaching and research. Later, the field of sustainability was added—a combination that is in high demand today.”

What remains?

What is she—who is seen by so many as a pioneer at Hochschule Campus Wien—proud of? “We’ve become a partner on equal footing and have a very good reputation.” And Bea Kuen-Krismer is proud of what many students say: “If I’m going to study molecular biotechnology, it’s at Hochschule Campus Wien!” And what brings the most joy to this dedicated researcher and longtime head of the Department of Applied Life Sciences? “The most important thing for me was being able to shape the program and offer young people a truly excellent curriculum. I’ve poured my heart and soul into research and supported women in STEM fields. I’ve been fortunate to work with fascinating people every day, both in my own specialist area and in collaboration with other departments. Thank you for that!”

Bea Kuen-Krismer (with bouquet) surrounded by her team at her farewell celebration



Academic Careers Leading to a Doctorate

In Austria, universities of applied sciences are not permitted to offer their own doctoral programs. Currently, their graduates can only pursue a doctorate at a university. Until the legal situation changes, Hochschule Campus Wien therefore relies on doctoral programs in cooperation with universities.

Atefeh Ebrahimi, Kathrin Spettel, and Victor Klamert have been proud doctoral graduates since 2025. They teach and conduct research at Hochschule Campus Wien and completed their dissertations at various universities as part of cooperative doctoral programs—Atefeh Ebrahimi at BOKU University on improving viral vaccines in the early stages of their production, Kathrin Spettel at MedUni Vienna on resistance in fungal infections, and Victor Klamert at TU Wien on machine learning approaches for process monitoring in the powder bed fusion of polymers.

Collaboration as a model for success

Since universities of applied sciences do not yet offer their own doctoral programs, Hochschule Campus Wien has been relying on doctoral programs in collaboration with universities for several years now. These have proven to be very successful. Many doctoral projects are conducted as part of research initiatives at Hochschule Campus Wien

and implemented in collaboration with national and international partner universities, such as TU Wien or the University of Liechtenstein (UFL). The research work often takes place at Hochschule Campus Wien, while formal admission to the doctoral program is handled by the respective university.

Support on the path to a doctorate

The path to a doctoral program at a university is often not easy for graduates of universities of applied sciences. In addition to academic excellence, it requires a great deal of commitment, time, and perseverance. That is why Hochschule Campus Wien specifically creates the conditions necessary for academic careers and doctoral projects. In addition to collaborations with universities, these include research projects as well as programs for academic career development. Initiatives such as doc.funds.connect and the Leading Edge Program are an integral part of Hochschule Campus Wien's strategic focus on specifically promoting

academic careers and further expanding the university's research strength.

On an individual level as well, Hochschule Campus Wien supports lecturers and researchers in their dissertation projects. The Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Career Center (EICC) assists them in initiating and completing a planned doctoral program—for example, through workshops or research leave. The successful doctoral degrees earned by Atefeh, Kathrin, and Victor demonstrate how Hochschule Campus Wien supports researchers on their path to a doctorate and specifically promotes academic careers.



More on the topic:
hcw.ac.at/doctoralservice
hcw.ac.at/eicc-en

“Collaborative doctoral programs strengthen research, academic careers, and the higher education sector.”

Heimo Sandtner, Rector and Academic Director
 Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development

Research News

In the academic year 2025/26, research at Hochschule Campus Wien showcased its full range of activities—from 3D concrete printing to the international, well-funded research project eRECOVER and the discovery of the octopus allergen.

Climate-adaptive construction for hot summers

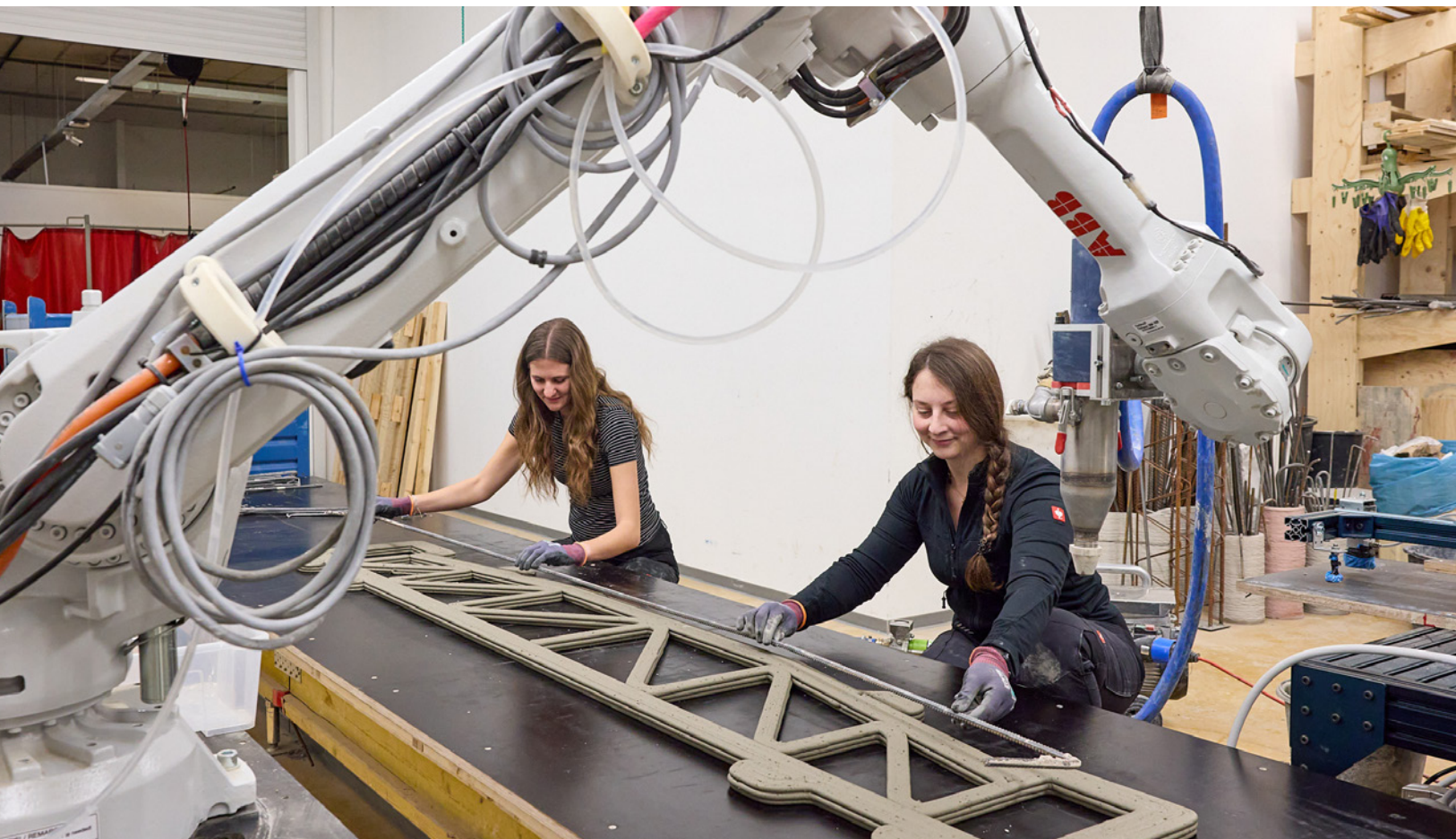
How will we plan and build cities in the future as summers grow increasingly hotter due to climate change? How can we still ensure comfortable living conditions for people? Alexander Sieh, a building physicist and expert in climate-adaptive construction in the Department of Building and Design, is addressing these questions. “Due to dense development, the city becomes a heat island and can barely cool down at night. Even then, temperatures in cities are about 6 °C higher than in the sparsely built-up surrounding areas. In the future, we’ll experience desert-like days with temperatures over 35 degrees more often, and heat waves will last longer.” Regarding architecture, he concludes: “We need an integrated approach to planning buildings and

their surroundings. On the one hand, buildings themselves must not overheat—through external shading, nighttime ventilation, and thermal mass. On the other hand, green and blue infrastructure in the surrounding area creates a cooling microclimate,” says Sieh. “The city of the future will not be planned in opposition to the climate, but in harmony with it. It will be crucial to conceive of buildings, open spaces, and nature as a unified system.”

Perennial topic: sustainable packaging

The Research Center Sustainability and Packaging is always at the cutting edge. To mark the “One Year of the PET Deposit System,” head of the research center Bernhard Rainer and

3D concrete printing system at the Hochschule Campus Wien High Tech Campus





Researcher Martin Novak at the press conference 'One Year of the PET Deposit System'

researcher Martin Novak generated significant media interest during a press conference and a lab demonstration at Hochschule Campus Wien. Many journalists wanted to know how plastic recycling works, what preforms are, and how the injection-molding process works.

Sustainable and resource-efficient construction for the future

The Research Center Building and Design is committed to sustainability—in both research and teaching. Following the successful completion of the first concrete printing project, the next phase—which is even more technically challenging—aims to use 3D concrete printing to produce larger concrete

components and ceiling elements that must withstand compression and bending. The goal of the research project is to use less material while simultaneously meeting the growing demand for housing and infrastructure, explains Markus Vill, head of the Research Center Building and Design. “With a component produced using the concrete printing process, we can save half—sometimes even two-thirds—of the concrete.” Future construction projects that rely on 3D concrete printing would be more environmentally friendly and cost-effective. The 3D concrete printing project is being conducted at the High-Tech Campus, led by the Department of Engineering, where collaborative and interdisciplinary research takes place.

Using technology for mental health

One in seven people worldwide suffers from a mental illness, most commonly depression and anxiety disorders. The number of mental health conditions has continued to rise, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, the European Union-funded research project eRECOVER focuses on providing digital support for these patients and the healthcare system. At Hochschule Campus Wien, Bernhard Meyer and Franz Werner from the Research Center Digital Health and Care have been collaborating with researchers from France, Germany, Spain, and Switzerland since April 2026. The goal of this international collaboration is to develop a digital platform that can provide high-quality psychosocial care without bureaucratic hurdles.



eRECOVER aims to help people with mental illness quickly find support close to home



Client Leonie tests a prototype developed as part of the project

Everyday assistance for people with disabilities

The interdisciplinary research project NEST also focuses on supporting people through technology. NEST stands for “New Everyday Supportive Technology” and is funded by the City of Vienna | Economy, Labor, and Statistics (MA 23). A guiding principle is “co-creation”, which means involving all relevant stakeholders from the very beginning to achieve the best possible results.

Specifically, students from six technical and health sciences degree programs are working together with people with disabilities to design prototypes for individualized assistive devices. The research project is led by Susanne Hensely-Schinkinger from the Research Center Digital Health and Care, who has taken over the leadership role from Andrea Kerschbaumer.

Breakthrough in allergy research: new octopus allergen officially recognized

Peter Stoll of the Research Center Molecular Biotechnology has achieved a scientific milestone. The researcher was the first to identify and precisely characterize the major octopus allergen. The allergen was named "Oct v 1" after the Latin species name "Octopus vulgaris" and was officially added to the international allergen nomenclature.

OUTSTANDING!



Peter Stoll, Assistant Researcher at the Molecular Biotechnology Research Center

“We stand for excellence in research across the entire spectrum: from application-oriented research and development with great relevance for the economy and society to basic research. I am proud of our researchers!”

Elisabeth Haslinger-Baumann, Vice Rector for Research and Development

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Promoting Innovation.

eRECOVER is an EU-funded project under the THCS call "Better care closer to home". Hochschule Campus Wien participates with co-funding from the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) under Horizon Europe.

MORE ON RESEARCH





Bridging Science and Practice

Marina Begic has spent years exploring what makes learning successful and how knowledge can be made tangible. In February 2026, the education expert took over as head of Campus Wien Academy and aims to strengthen the connection between the university and professional practice.

You've been head of Campus Wien Academy for a few months now. What's your initial assessment?

The first few months have been very positive; I settled in quickly and received excellent support from my team and the management board right from the start. Campus Wien Academy is an independent organization and, at the same time, part of Hochschule Campus Wien, which is a large institution—this makes processes more complex, but it also opens up many opportunities. I was particularly impressed by the depth of expertise, the motivation, and the strong commitment of my colleagues at the university. The experts working here are truly passionate about their fields.

What motivated you to make the switch to the higher education sector?

I've long been interested in the connection between professional development and academic qualifications. In recent years, my focus has been on leadership development. At the same time, I've become increasingly interested in the skills people in different professional fields need to collaborate successfully and drive change. Campus Wien Academy and Hochschule Campus Wien offer an ideal environment for this.

What experiences and skills from your previous roles are you bringing to the further development of Campus Wien Academy?

My background is in learning & development, business development, and digital education. One of my greatest strengths is building connections between people, topics, and organizations. This gives rise to ideas that can be translated into sustainable and scalable continuing education programs. This "connecting the dots" approach will also play a key role in the further development of Campus Wien Academy.

How do you plan to further strengthen the role of Campus Wien Academy at the intersection of higher education and professional practice?

The university possesses a vast body of knowledge and a high level of expertise. To me, it's a kind of "knowledge library". The Campus Wien Academy's mission is to make this knowledge accessible to working professionals at the right time and in the right format. To do this, we need to analyze even more closely which target groups have which needs and tailor content so that it offers concrete added value. Campus Wien Academy sees itself as a bridge between academic expertise and professional practice.



Marina Begic, Head of Campus Wien Academy

What strategic priorities are you setting for the future direction of the continuing education program?

We will focus even more specifically on the subject areas in which Hochschule Campus Wien has particular expertise. The focus will be on specialization, quality, and clearly recognizable added value for our participants.

Why do you see specialized niche topics in particular as an opportunity for Campus Wien Academy?

A particular strength of Campus Wien Academy lies in highly specialized fields where in-depth knowledge and many years of practical experience come together. Hand therapy, cybersecurity (NIS2), and specialized health topics require in-depth expert knowledge that isn't widely available. This is precisely where we can create high-quality continuing education programs that combine scientific expertise with contemporary practical requirements and respond quickly to current developments.

What challenges do continuing education providers face today?

Everything is becoming more complex, new requirements are constantly emerging, and learning needs are becoming more individualized. At the same time, we are experiencing the next

major technological disruption with AI. The challenge today lies less in making knowledge accessible and more in providing guidance. Learning is increasingly shifting "into the flow of work" and takes place in response to specific competency needs. Continuing education must therefore be more flexible, more relevant, and more closely aligned with professional practice.

How important will flexible learning formats, digitalization, and a stronger market orientation be for the Academy in the future?

These topics are not future trends, but prerequisites for remaining relevant as a continuing education provider. AI could make much of what digital learning has been promising for years possible: people will be able to develop their skills in a more context-specific, individualized way, and more closely aligned with their actual competency needs. That is why guidance, trust, and the ability to distinguish relevant information from irrelevant information are becoming increasingly important. My goal is to establish Campus Wien Academy as a reliable and trusted partner for lifelong learning—with programs that are relevant, practical, and immediately applicable.

MORE

campusacademy.at

ABOUT

Marina Begic is the new head of Campus Wien Academy, succeeding Franz Gatterer, who retired in April 2026. A graduate in communication studies, she completed supplementary studies in business informatics and digital transformation. She has been active in strategic educational development for 15 years, with a focus on the further development of educational portfolios, business development, and the transformation of learning and organizational systems. Begic regularly publishes and speaks on topics such as AI in learning and development, digital transformation, and learning transfer. The mother of one daughter most recently held leadership positions at MDI Management Development International.



A Commitment to Lifelong Learning

Franz Gatterer describes himself as a curious person who enjoys building bridges between different worlds—between technology and business, science and practice, and between people with different perspectives and backgrounds. It is precisely this attitude that has shaped the development of Campus Wien Academy, from its beginnings to its current position as a leading provider of academic continuing education.

Franz Gatterer, former head of
Campus Wien Academy



Knowledge as a basic human need

Franz Gatterer has been passionate about education for many years. For him, learning is far more than the acquisition of knowledge; it is a basic human need that broadens horizons and enables personal development. “Knowledge is good for us as human beings. For me, lifelong learning is not a duty, but a genuine joy,” says Franz Gatterer. For him, investing in knowledge is always an investment in one’s own future—both professionally and personally. He believes it is crucial to choose continuing education programs that align with one’s own interests, strengths, and goals. He is particularly enthusiastic not only about passing on knowledge but also about developing it further together with others and putting it into practice. His conviction that innovation, purpose, and economic success are inextricably linked has been repeatedly confirmed through his professional experience in industry, international management, management consulting, and teaching.

A vision becomes reality

In 2005, Franz Gatterer joined Hochschule Campus Wien as an external lecturer in project management for the degree program in Molecular Biotechnology. Shortly thereafter, in addition to his teaching duties, he contributed his expertise to the development and implementation of the Intellectual Capital Report. When the idea of establishing a continuing education academy emerged a few years later, he drafted the first business plan for it. This concept evolved into Campus Wien Academy, and Franz Gatterer took over its operational management in 2015.

Future topics in focus

By taking over Campus Wien Academy, Franz Gatterer was able to combine his passion for teaching with business acumen and turn his vision of modern continuing education into reality. “Our goal was to be an economically successful premium provider offering content based on research-driven teaching,” says Franz Gatterer. The continuing education program began with a few smaller seminars in the fields of engineering and health. The Department of Building and Design was also represented from the start with a certificate program on Building Informa-

tion Modeling (BIM). In addition, Campus Wien Academy was an early adopter of future-oriented topics such as digitalization, artificial intelligence, and sustainability, using them to develop innovative continuing education programs. These were continuously expanded in the following years and eventually comprised around one hundred educational offerings. For Franz Gatterer, a key factor in this success was the close collaboration with the seven departments of Hochschule Campus Wien, as well as the establishment of strategic partnerships with companies.

Successful together

Although Franz Gatterer has played a key role in shaping numerous developments, he rarely speaks of personal successes. The people he works with are far more important to him. His leadership style has always been based on trust, transparency, and personal responsibility. He is convinced “that innovation can only arise where people take responsibility and can contribute their diverse skills.” In addition to the successful establishment of Campus Wien Academy, he is therefore particularly proud of a team that has implemented many projects with great dedication. For him, success never comes from individuals alone, but always from the interplay of different talents and perspectives.

Learning never stops

To this day, Franz Gatterer sees himself as a learner. Topics such as artificial intelligence, sustainability, and so-called 21st-century skills occupy his mind just as much as the question of what skills people will need in the future. For him, lifelong learning means not only accepting change but also actively helping to shape it. Critical thinking, communication skills, and openness are essential prerequisites for him in this regard. For Franz Gatterer, the transition to retirement by no means signifies the end of his commitment to education. He intends to continue developing selected future-oriented topics—such as complexity management, systemic thinking, and modern project management—and to continue teaching them in the future. At the same time, he is looking forward to devoting more time to writing. Above all, however, he wants to consciously create space for himself to try things out without a fixed plan and enjoy this new form of “free activity,” as he calls it with a wink.

A Change of Perspective

International experience doesn't end with your studies: Erasmus+ Staff Mobility opens up new perspectives for staff in teaching, research, and administration—and its impact extends far beyond the duration of the stay.

Spending a semester abroad, completing an internship overseas, or attending an international week: international experiences open up valuable opportunities for student development. For university staff, however, such a change of perspective is often less common. Amid the day-to-day work, meetings, and to-do lists, there's often little room for experiences abroad.

Erasmus+ Staff Mobility creates the framework for this: staff members visit international partner universities, teach there, participate in workshops, or exchange ideas with colleagues. This opens up new perspectives on their own work—both professionally and personally. At the same time, lasting connections are formed that lay the groundwork for further collaboration.

Breaking out of the routine

Just how special this experience is becomes particularly evident in areas where international mobility has not traditionally been the norm: in administration. Eva Robl, a staff member in the Workplace Health Management program Campus Vital, completed a job shadowing assignment at the Heidelberg University of Education, where university health management is already well established. “Many things are implemented differently, while others are surprisingly similar,” she reports. Eva Robl returned to Vienna not only with concrete ideas for her own field of work but also with a broader perspective: health promotion requires relationships—and an international network that facilitates the exchange of ideas on the subject.

Teaching across borders

For lecturers, the focus is often on pedagogical exchange. Monika Zajicek and Martin Udermann, who teach in the degree program Physiotherapy, designed several lectures focusing on pediatrics and orthopedics at Pharos University in Alexandria. They explain that gaining insight into other lecture halls and teaching formats provided them with new inspiration for their own



Monika Zajicek and Martin Udermann, Senior Lecturers in Physiotherapy in Egypt

“Staff Mobility brings new momentum to everyday work, strengthens networks, and lays the foundation for collaborations and follow-up projects.”

Elisabeth Brunner-Sobanski, Head of International Office

The World on Campus

teaching—from the choice of methods to the structure of classroom discussions. “You come back motivated and with lots of little ideas that you want to try out right away,” they both agree. They particularly remember the warm welcome they received there—and the insight into the teaching clinic right on campus, where theory and practice are directly intertwined.

Research in an international dialogue

In the field of research, too, Erasmus+ Staff Mobility creates valuable opportunities for exchange and professional development. Renate Maierhofer from the Research Center Health Sciences traveled to the University of Oxford as part of the “Knowledge into Action” continuing education program. “The interprofessional exchange of experiences with colleagues from various health professions in the United Kingdom was particularly enriching”, she explains. Thanks to the international perspectives and the intensive professional dialogue, she was able to gain numerous new insights and practical approaches that will be incorporated into teaching and research at the university in the future.

A change of perspective with impact

Organization and support are essential to make these experiences possible. The stays are coordinated by the International Office at Hochschule Campus Wien—from planning through to the return. Staff Mobility at Hochschule Campus Wien demonstrates that international experience is not only part of everyday student life here, but also a deliberately designed added value for staff members.

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Internationalization doesn't just begin when you pack your bags. At Hochschule Campus Wien, it's also experienced right where students and lecturers come together every day—on campus, through interaction with one another, and across national borders.

Three countries, one shared semester: During the FAB semester, international collaboration becomes a living part of everyday student life. The occupational therapy program at Hochschule Campus Wien designs this collaborative learning format together with Artevelde University of Applied Sciences in Belgium and Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Finland. Structured as a joint semester, it also offers students the opportunity to earn a double degree. Students immerse themselves in international learning communities, switch between virtual and physical learning spaces, and engage with topics such as social change, the future roles of occupational therapy, and occupational justice. In this way, international experience is gained not only through a change of location but, above all, through shared perspectives, discussions, and on-site projects. This strengthens not only professional but also intercultural competencies.

The international summer school sus'cool, organized by the Department of Building and Design, demonstrates that internationalization can thrive even without long-distance travel. Students from sixteen countries come together on campus to collaborate on sustainable construction projects. Using locally available materials such as clay and wood, they bring their ideas to life—in a hands-on, creative manner and through intensive exchange. Workshops, field trips, and encounters with international experts make global issues immediately tangible—right in the heart of Vienna.



Students from around the world at the Department of Building and Design Summer School

WORTH A VISIT!

A Look at the History of Nursing

In 2022, Hochschule Campus Wien acquired a collection from the Vienna Healthcare Group (WIGEV)—unique in Austria—documenting the history of nursing education and the profession. The collection, which has existed for 40 years, was curated, and the Museum of Health Care and Nursing (MuGuK) was officially opened in the fall of 2025.





Good to know!

The Museum of Health Care and Nursing at Hochschule Campus Wien is open every Wednesday from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free. Guided tours for visitors take place at 2:00 p.m. on each day the museum is open. Additional opening times can be arranged for registered groups.

The museum traces the history of nursing education from the early 20th century to the present day. It focuses on the formative years from 1914 to 1997 and their influence on today's educational programs.

Grand opening on September 16, 2025

Complete with music and guided tours, the Museum of Health Care and Nursing celebrated its grand opening in September 2025, attended by a crowd of interested visitors and the university management. They were able to marvel at rare exhibits such as a historic incubator, old syringes, and anesthesia masks used for surgeries. In addition to exhibits from the fields of surgery, pediatrics, and anesthesia, the museum also features textbooks dating back to 1913, teaching materials and training records from the second half of the 20th century, as well as historical uniforms.

Highlight of the Long Night of Museums

The Museum of Health Care and Nursing also participated in the Long Night of Museums in October 2025. A highlight was the fashion show, which presented the evolution of nursing uniforms over more than 100 years—from the early “nurses’ uniforms,” which were influenced by the

habits of nuns in the Middle Ages, to the practical tunics and pull-on pants commonly worn today. Also on display was the traditional gown of Florence Nightingale, known as the “Lady with the Lamp” and the founder of modern nursing. During the Crimean War (1853–1856), Nightingale was the first to introduce hygienic standards in nursing and, through statistical records on wound healing, significantly reduced the mortality rate among war casualties.

Seeking interested individuals

The Friends' Circle for the Promotion and Development of the Museum comprises a group of people with an interest in history and a passion for the history of professions and education in nursing. Members are invited to support and help develop the Museum of Health Care and Nursing. Membership is free and includes participation in joint events, workshops, and lectures.





The new Sporthub creates space for physical activity in everyday campus life

A University That Shapes from Within

A university thrives on the people who shape it. That is why Hochschule Campus Wien invests not only in excellent teaching and research but also in a work environment that promotes health, solidarity, and quality of life.



Modern learning zones and the expanded library provide space for interaction and focused work

New thinking requires new spaces

With the renovation of its main building in the summer of 2026, Hochschule Campus Wien made a targeted investment in the future of its campus. The focus was on expanding the library and redesigning the cafeteria, which were transformed into modern spaces for learning, working, and socializing. New lounge furniture, contemporary design, and sustainable materials create a high-quality environment and foster exchange and creativity. The result is a set of spaces that are more than just functional areas. They offer

room for collaboration,, innovation, and new perspectives. Because new ways of thinking require new spaces.

Activity meets campus

With the new Sportshub, Hochschule Campus Wien has created a place where physical activity becomes a social experience. Since April 2026, the facility has been open to all staff, students, and people working on campus for recreational sports activities. Whether it's an active lunch break, a game with colleagues, or unwinding after work—the Sportshub brings people from different departments and degree programs together, thereby strengthening a sense of community on campus.

Look after one another—prevent burnout

With the initiative “Look out for one another. Prevent burnout,” the Campus Vital health management program at Hochschule Campus Wien is setting an example for a healthy work culture. The goal is to support staff in recognizing stress early on, strengthening their own resilience, and working together to create conditions that enable healthy work in the long term. The program includes resources for mindful daily work routines, practical workshops on mindfulness and relaxation, and confidential counseling sessions with the occupational psychologist. The program is complemented by team-based activities that focus on healthy collaboration and sustainable prevention.

More Benefits for Everyone

Anyone who works at Hochschule Campus Wien enjoys more than just a good job. Meal subsidies, seasonal vouchers, a benefits portal offering attractive discounts, and favorable terms for group health insurance provide employees with tangible financial benefits in their everyday lives—and these are just a few of the many additional perks available.

IN A NUTSHELL

Doing Good Together

When there's a celebration at the Hochschule Campus Wien, it's not just about getting together—it's about building a community that makes a difference. This was particularly evident at the third Campus Beats & Friends charity concert: staff, students, and friends of the university came together to create an evening marked by music, exchange, and solidarity. The event raised 4,000 euros for Die Boje, an organization that provides professional emergency assistance to children and adolescents in crisis situations and following traumatic experiences. The fact that shared experiences bring people together and can make a difference at the same time is also evident in other contexts.

At the Christmas party, attendees not only raised a glass to the past year but also made a collective donation. 2,000 euros went to the MOMO Children's Palliative Care Center, which accompanies and supports critically ill children, adolescents, and young adults—as well as their families—in difficult life situations.

Such initiatives exemplify the philosophy of Hochschule Campus Wien: taking responsibility, taking action together, and making a contribution—one that extends far beyond the campus.



Donation handover to Die Boje. From left to right: Anne Schuchanegg, Christine Rosner, Stefan Geissler, Heimo Sandtner, Werner Frühwirth, Katrin Detter, Natalia Hartmann, Deniz Kaya, Petra Bernhardt

Shaping the Future Through Education

With its designation as a STEM region, Favoriten is part of an Austria-wide network that specifically strengthens mathematics, computer science, natural sciences, and technology and, in particular, inspires girls and women to pursue these fields. As a key partner, Hochschule Campus Wien actively shapes this educational landscape and, as Austria's largest university of applied sciences, contributes its comprehensive expertise in teaching, research, and the "third mission."

An enthusiastic turnout for the STEM March closing event





Bringing STEM to life

Vienna's 10th district exemplifies the opportunities and challenges of urban educational environments: high diversity, dynamic growth, and, at the same time, a great need for educational initiatives. Together with schools, businesses, and institutions, new approaches to STEM education are emerging—practical, inclusive, and future-oriented. At Hochschule Campus Wien, the Departments of Applied Life Sciences, Building and Design, and Engineering are driving content-related initiatives ranging from sustainable construction and biotechnology to digitalization and IT security. A visible highlight of this collaboration was “STEM March 2026” at Hochschule Campus Wien, which offered children and young people the opportunity to experience science and

technology firsthand through numerous workshops and events.

Nurturing talent, opening opportunities

“We see enormous potential for the region, particularly in the interplay between technology, education, and social responsibility. Our goal is to inspire young people’s enthusiasm for technical developments at an early age and to open up new perspectives for them,” emphasizes Andreas Posch, head of the Department of Engineering. With substantial support from Hochschule Campus Wien, an innovative educational environment is emerging in Favoriten that fosters talent, strengthens equal opportunity, and produces the skilled workers of tomorrow.



Our offers for schools:

hcw.ac.at/offers-for-schools



Favoriten



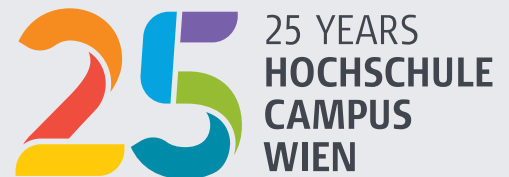
Measured in Numbers

What's next in the academic year 2026/27?

We're Celebrating!

25 Years of Hochschule Campus Wien

In 2001, the university of applied sciences providers FH Bau/Camillo Sitte and Campus Favoriten were brought together and a joint sponsoring association was established. This marked the birth of Hochschule Campus Wien. Twenty-five years later, we are Austria's largest and most diverse university of applied sciences. Every day, we shape the future. In lecture halls. In laboratories. In projects. In exchange with professional practice. And above all, with people who want to make a difference. That's something worth celebrating!



An Anniversary with a History

Three Decades of the Department of Building and Design

30 years of the Department of Building and Design, 25 years of Hochschule Campus Wien? That's right. The department's roots go back to FH Bau in 1996. For three decades, the department has been helping to shape the built environment of tomorrow. Every day, lecturers, researchers, and students provide fresh impetus in civil engineering and sustainable architecture. The anniversary celebrations will take place in April 2027.

Current Facts and Figures

From November, the numbers, data, and facts for Hochschule Campus Wien from the 2025/26 academic year will be available digitally. No page-turning required.

hgw.ac.at/facts



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