

Editorial

Dear Readers

There is a German proverb which states: "Alles neu macht der Mai" (Everything is changing during May). This is somewhat true for WUS Austria right at the moment. To be honest, it wasn't limited to this particular month only. As a matter of fact, many new things happened throughout the whole first half of the year 2009. The most obvious - as you already noticed by simply reading this text - is that WUS finally has got a newsletter again. From now on, we will send you news on relevant events and ongoing projects every quarter, starting (a little bit delayed) with this newsletter for the 2nd quarter. This will allow you to stay up to date with all relevant activities WUS is undertaking in the fields of Higher Education Development, Linking Higher Education & Economy, Arts & Culture as well as Higher Education & Human Rights.

This fact leads me directly to another of the changes mentioned earlier. Since the beginning of the year WUS Austria has welcomed two new project officers in Graz: Markus Neuherz and my humble self (David Lederbauer). We both want to take this opportunity to thank our team members for their very heartily welcome during more or less turbulent times. While we two are starting to become more and more familiar with all the "newness" in our daily work, still other things have changed for WUS during this time. Thanks to the help of ENIGMA, an ICT business solution enterprise in Bosnia and Herzegovina, WUS has got a brand new homepage since March 2009 with up to date internet technologies (PHP/MySQL/Flash/DHTML). It provides a general overview of our Organisation (e.g. profile and staff information) as well as detailed information of our ongoing activities. Feel free to take a look for yourself under www.wus-austria.org.

I hope you will enjoy reading our newsletter and I am looking forward to send you up to date information regarding WUS Austria and its activities in the newsletter to come. Please note that you can always subscribe or unsubscribe this newsletter any given time you want.

Kind regards
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Thematic Article

Balkan Case Challenge 2009 (BCC *09)

Where does Europe start and where does it end? Is Europe more than just a Phoenician princess abducted by the Greek god Zeus? And most importantly: Is Europe limited only to member states of the European Union? The Balkan Case Challenge (BCC), already held for the ninth time in Vienna (6th July to 11th July 2009), fosters the idea of a European community that transcends the borders of the European Union. Therefore more than 140 students from the whole Balkan (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Rumania, Serbia and Slovenia) as well as Austria came together to take part of the final competitions in the field of ICTs (Information and Communication Technologies), law, business and politics. It was an amicable trail of strength between like-minded people, allowing all involved persons to make new experiences and exchange ideas and thoughts.

Therefore the BCC did not only strengthen the personal competences of its participants or opened up new job opportunities to them, but this event brought also people together, who - sadly enough - often share a troublesome and violent recent history. The BCC fostered the idea of a common Europe in opposition to the image of antagonistic nation states. In this regard the BCC becomes one important part in the joint efforts of many initiatives that help to create a united and thus peaceful common Europe. Since its beginning in 2000 in Sarajevo the BCC has attracted more than 1.500 students and over 100 jury members from multiple countries have attended the several events. In 2010 the BCC will celebrate its 10th birthday. Once more, the Balkan Case Challenge will bring people from the Balkans one step closer to each other. The BCC is not only a personal enrichment of the participating people but moreover continues its success story as one way to foster the European integration process. For more information on the BCC please go to: www.bcchallenge.org.

The BCC Team once more wants to take the opportunity to thank the sponsors, notably the Austrian Development Cooperation, Erste Foundation and Erste Group, Der Standard, Porsche Holding, Wolf Theiss, Ande-LM and Energy Community Secretariat.

Kind regards
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Recent News & Events

22.06.2009

CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF SPECIFIC QA MEASURES IS OPEN!

It is our great pleasure to inform all interested public universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) that WUS Austria has launched an **open call for project proposals**. BiH universities are invited to propose specific measures aimed at further development of quality assurance (QA) structures and policies. [read more](#)

04.06.2009

MSDP Contract Signing Ceremony



Prishtina. It is the pleasure of WUS Austria Prishtina office to announce that on Friday, May 29th 2009 at the premises of the Rectorate of the University of Prishtina the official contracting was made for the commencement of two new Master study programs in the Faculties of the University of Prishtina. [read more](#)

02.06.2009

Seminar "EU Experiences in Development of University Strategies" successfully held in Zenica



Zenica. WUS Austria organised the Seminar "EU Experiences in Development of University Strategies" on 28th and 29th May 2009 at the University of Zenica. [read more](#)

26.05.2009

Second call for application for The Innovative Project Ideas open

Podgorica: It is pleasure of WUS Austria Podgorica Office to invite all interested candidates professors and assistants from The University of Montenegro and all Austrian universities to apply for the second call of *Innovative Project Ideas in the Field of Academic Cooperation and Exchange between Austrian and Montenegrin Higher Education Institutions*. [read more](#)