

Editorial

Dear readers,

Early summertime, shortly before the holiday season, is usually one of our busiest times before the heat of July and August naturally slows the world down. We have a lot of meetings and conferences coming up, some of which will be also of interest for a broader audience. Thus, for example, within the project PATTERNS_Lectures the final conference **“Reality Check”** will take place on 27th June 2011 in Prague (see article below). For further events please check out the **events-section** at our website.

Another event, the **Conference “Austrian Support to Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina”**, recently took place in Sarajevo from 23rd-24th May 2011. The Conference was organized within WUS Austria's program „Austrian Support to Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) 2008 - 2011“, financed by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). The conference also marked the end of a period of 15+ years of support to Higher Education in BiH through projects carried out by WUS Austria and financed by the Austrian Government via the ADC. The event was attended by more than 170 participants, primarily representatives of teaching staff, university management and students from all 8 public universities and representatives of private higher education institutions in BiH, as well as by representatives of public authorities, companies, international organizations and the media. The first part of the Conference was dedicated to inform about the numerous outcomes and impacts of the successful trilateral collaboration between ADC, WUS Austria and public universities in BiH; the second part of the conference was a seminar aimed at introducing a number of models for doctoral education from around the world to the BiH academic community.

The conference further initiated the issuing of THREE PUBLICATIONS:

„15 + years of support to Bosnia and Herzegovina Higher Education through ADC-WUS Austria Collaboration“

Abstract:

“The good intentions of the Austrian Government (...) have started as an Academic Lifeline Project back in 1994, financed by the Austrian Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria. In order to implement this and other projects that came afterwards, the WUS Austria Office in Sarajevo was founded in the summer of the same year. In those turbulent times, Austria and WUS [Austria] were the first to recognize the urgent need to provide humanitarian aid for academic survival and prevent extreme brain drain. The Lifeline kind of projects have characterized the first out of three periods of ADC/WUS cooperation.”

Strategic and Structural Development of Quality Assurance in BiH Higher Education - final report 2008-2011

Abstract:

“WUS Austria supports universities with the introduction of quality assurance measures as foreseen by the Bologna and Copenhagen Processes, thus advancing SEE universities towards the European Higher Education Area and international standards in quality assurance and quality control. Quality Assurance projects comprise the following measures: (1) setting up of QA systems where they do not yet exist, (2) capacity building and human resources development, (3) development of QA instruments and their implementation and (4) analysis and strategy/process development.”

Brain Gain Program 2002-2011

Abstract:

“During the implementation of the BGP project we organized the education process for many students who decided to study either the English language and the corresponding literature or the German language and literature written in German. So far we have successfully educated

more than 120 English language teachers and more than 55 German teachers.”

To download these and all other publications from our website click [here](#).

Best regards,

Michaela Handke

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Thematic Article

Conference “Reality Check: Contextualising Higher Education in Central and South Eastern Europe”

The university landscape in Europe has undergone significant changes since 1989: After the collapse of socialism the universities in these countries were under immense pressure to introduce reforms due to increasing international competition, the massification of higher education and, more recently, the Bologna Process. The process of making higher education more market-oriented involved the discontinuation of entire disciplines, the construction of new institutions and the complete restructuring of the higher education system.

During the two-day conference within the project PATTERNS_Lectures, higher education experts from eleven countries will address the following key questions in keynotes, panel discussions and presentations: What is the current situation of universities in Central Eastern Europe (CEE)? What trends can be identified with regards to educational policies in CEE? How do these changes affect the arts in particular? What are the main challenges with regards to cooperation between the private and public sectors in the field of higher education? What is the impact of a project like PATTERNS_Lectures?

PATTERNS_Lectures is a project initiated by ERSTE Foundation and implemented by WUS Austria to support the development of new university courses in Central and South Eastern Europe. 14 courses were selected and taught in 11 countries over the 2010/2011 academic year. Both the lecturers and representatives from the universities where the courses were held will participate in the conference.

For more information, please visit the project website (www.wus-austria.org/patterns_lectures)

Conference - “Reality Check: Contextualising Higher Education in Central and South Eastern Europe”

Where? Auditorium of the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design (AAAD) in Prague

When? Public conference: 27th of June at 5 p.m.

Programme:

Welcome by:

Jindřich Smetana (Rector, AAAD Prague)

Christiane Erharter (Curator, ERSTE Foundation Programme Culture, Vienna)

Keynote speech by:

Renata Salecl (Philosopher and theorist, London and Ljubljana)

Education Between Anxiety and Freedom: What Has Changed in the Transition from Socialism to Capitalism?

The keynote speech is followed by a panel discussion. To see the full programme please click

here.

Recent News & Events

16.06.2011

NEW CASE CHALLENGE



What: “S4E Case Challenge” organized by the student talent network “students4excellence” (www.students4excellence.com) in cooperation with World University Service (WUS) Austria

Where: Vienna, Austria

When: November 2-4, 2011

[read more](#)

13.06.2011

Training Seminar: Student Participation in Accreditation Process, June 6-7, 2011, Palic, Serbia



On June 6th to 7th 2011, within the framework of the project **Support to the Serbian Accreditation Agency**, WUS Austria Belgrade Office, together with the Serbian National Commission for Accreditation and Quality Control (CAQA) organized the “*Student participation in external evaluation process*” training seminar

[read more](#)

07.06.2011

CUP: Information Day held at the University of Prishtina



Prishtina. In the frame of TEMPUS project “Competence@University Prishtina”, Information Day took place at Rectorate of the University of Prishtina (UP), on May 26th, 2011. [read more](#)

06.06.2011

DeLLCO Study Visit at the University of Alicante, Spain



Alicante. Study visit within the project “Development of the Lifelong Learning Concept at the University of Montenegro” (DeLLCO), took place from 23rd to 27th May 2011 in Alicante. The participants had the opportunity to learn about the implementation of continuing education in Valencia region, Spanish legislation on adult education, management and development of a continuing education centres. Two field visits, to Alicante Adult Education Center and Alicante permanent University also

took place. Agenda of the study visit can be downloaded here...

[&n read more](#)

01.06.2011

Seminar: External evaluation of HE institutions, May 9-10, 2011, Belgrade, Serbia

Belgrade. On May 9-10, within the framework of the project **Support to the Serbian Accreditation Agency**, WUS Austria Belgrade Office, together with the Serbian National Commission for Accreditation and Quality Control organized the seminar “External evaluation of HE institutions” (seminar venue: Belgrade Chamber of Commerce, Belgrade, Serbia).

[&n read more](#)

30.05.2011

Conference “Austrian Support to Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina”



Sarajevo. It is with great pleasure that WUS Austria announces the successful organization of the conference “Austrian Support to Higher Education in BiH” on May 23-24, 2011 in Sarajevo.

&n [read more](#)

08.05.2011

R&D Capacities: Project meeting in Ohrid



The project meeting took place in Ohrid, Macedonia, from May 5th -7th, 2011. The meeting to place in parallel to the **ICEIRD 2011** conference at the premises of the Hotel Metropol, just outside Ohrid. The conference and project meeting were organized by the R&D Service Centre of the University of Skopje under the lead of Prof. Polenakovik. Find the agenda [here](#). [read more](#)

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