



St. Pölten UAS Entrepreneurial University

Annual Report 2020

St. Pölten University of
Applied Sciences

/fh///
st.pölten

1

Number
employer in the
education sector
according to the
“trend” magazine.
The St. Pölten UAS
came in tenth in the
general ranking.

3,547

Students

were enrolled at the
St. Pölten UAS in 2020 – as
compared to 229 in 1998.

16

Members

of the St. Pölten UAS
Board. In 2020, Alois
Frotschnig and Susanne
Roiser were appointed to
chair the UAS Board.

157

Partner Universities

in 36 countries enable the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

1

New Endowed Professorship

for Biomechanics in Rehabilitation Research.

6

Universities of Applied Sciences

from the same number of nations are coordinated by the St. Pölten UAS as a European University in the E³UDRES² project.

>3

Million Euros in Research Turnover

in the areas of research, development, innovation and knowledge transfer, which corresponds to around 10% of the total revenue.



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Placing the focus on extensive engagement in research, knowledge transfer and teaching

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Facts and figures of the year 2020

CAMPUS ST. PÖLTEN

Great Progress in the Construction of the New Campus

In autumn 2021, the new building is going to be combined with the existing one to form a campus with state-of-the-art teaching and study rooms, labs and future-oriented workplaces. The construction works have been advancing fast despite the difficult circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



EXPERIENCES FOR A DIGITAL FUTURE.



“There is no doubt about the high quality of practice-oriented teaching at the St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences. Given the rising unemployment numbers in all of Austria, it is of particular importance to promote the regional economy and pool know-how at the business location of St. Pölten. SMARTUP, the initiative launched by the city and the UAS, is pursuing this objective by supporting start-ups. This is how we can create and secure sustainable workplaces – for the benefit of society as a whole.”

Mag. Matthias Stadler

Mayor of St. Pölten



“The St. Pölten UAS teaches forward-looking topics such as health, media, mobility, digitalisation and computer science. Research, teaching and practice go hand in hand. The St. Pölten UAS sees itself as an “Entrepreneurial University” that demands and promotes entrepreneurial thinking and action in its approximately 3,500 students. This makes the institution a figure-head for our province as a place of education and provides our young people with the best preparation for professional life.”

Mag. Johanna Miki-Leitner

Governor of Lower Austria



“With team spirit and a strong commitment to progress, the St. Pölten UAS succeeded in mastering a challenging year 2020 in a joint effort – and gained valuable experiences for a digital future. I would like to thank everyone involved for their dedicated collaboration. Thanks to the rapid progress in the completion of the new Campus St. Pölten, we will be able to welcome our students to the new building as soon as in the upcoming academic year.”

Dipl.-Ing. Gernot Kohl, MSc

Executive Board
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)



“Entrepreneurial thinking and close collaboration with SMEs from the region are of paramount importance to us. In rural areas in particular, there is so much potential – and we, in our leading position as a European University, can greatly contribute so that it can unfold even better. As one of only 41 higher education institutions in all of Europe to be part of a European University, the St. Pölten UAS makes an international contribution to promoting the innovative potential in the European regions. We see this mission as our utmost responsibility not only to promote internationalisation at the St. Pölten UAS but also to strengthen Austria as a location for higher education.”

FH-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Hannes Raffaseder

Executive Board
Chief Research and Innovation Officer



“Thanks to our swift response to the changed circumstances caused by the global coronavirus pandemic, we were able to offer our lecturers and students important support, tools, and didactic methods, and thereby succeeded in switching to distance teaching almost entirely. A well-defined concept for hybrid operations allowed students to continue important practical components of their studies and – most importantly – enabled them to complete their studies on time according to their curricula.”

FH-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Johann Haag

Executive Board
Chief Operation Officer



Management Summary

2020 was a challenging year with successful further development and innovation steps in teaching, research and knowledge transfer.

The year 2020 forced us to question established ways of thinking and working, thereby leading to comprehensive further development in all performance areas of the St. Pölten UAS.

Boost of Innovation in Teaching and Digitalisation

When faced with the new reality of teaching and working in hybrid mode, everyone at the St. Pölten UAS had to abandon old patterns and adapt fast to the changed situation – with joint forces, we rose to the challenge and took important steps towards a digital future. Through the communication and presentation of innovative teaching content via e-learning and distance teaching in particular, the St.

Pölten UAS develops future-oriented methods of teaching and learning – for the benefit of both students and graduates.

Further Expanding the Range of Programmes Offered

With more than 3,500 students enrolled in 26¹ study programmes and numerous further education programmes, the St. Pölten UAS holds a leading position when it comes to academic education and training. The further development and expansion of the offered programmes in line with the needs of the labour market and the research realm are at the root of the forward-looking educational programmes of the St. Pölten UAS.

Promoting International Research and Networking

The selection of the St. Pölten UAS as a European University was a big step forward. With a project volume


of five million euros, the E³UDRES² project features the St. Pölten UAS as the lead of a group of higher education institutions from Portugal, Romania, Hungary, Belgium and Latvia.

When it comes to research, development, innovation and knowledge transfer we have been able to achieve a revenue of just over 3 million euros, which corresponds to around 10 percent of total revenues.

The St. Pölten UAS as an Entrepreneurial University

The St. Pölten UAS strives to cultivate entrepreneurial thinking and close exchange with the business world in all areas. Our focus issue section therefore addresses the numerous activities of the St. Pölten UAS promoting entrepreneurial thinking in research, knowledge transfer and sustainability.

¹ Study programmes currently open for applications



An entrepreneurial university can be any university that contributes and provides leadership for creating entrepreneurial thinking, actions, institutions and entrepreneurship capital.”

Audretsch, D., & Keilbach, M. (2008). Resolving the knowledge paradox: Knowledge-spillover entrepreneurship and economic growth. *Research Policy*, 37(10)

The St. Pölten UAS as an Entrepreneurial University

Universities of applied sciences, society and the business sector have much to learn from each other. For this reason, the St. Pölten UAS strives for close exchange in teaching, research and knowledge transfer in order to generate advantages for everyone involved. Applying and teaching entrepreneurial thinking plays a major role in this context.

The concept of an entrepreneurial university defines the way that a higher education institution interacts with stakeholders in politics, the economy and society, and the positive effects that can be generated for the region. The St. Pölten UAS attaches particular im-

portance to developing regional innovative potential and SMEs – an endeavour not least reflected in the new leading position of European University.

Read more about the numerous activities of the St. Pölten UAS in the fields of entrepreneurial teaching, entrepreneurial research, knowledge exchange, social responsibility, sustainability, and international engagement in the following focus issue section.

We, the Executive Board of the St. Pölten UAS, wish you an interesting read!

Entrepreneurial University

Teaching

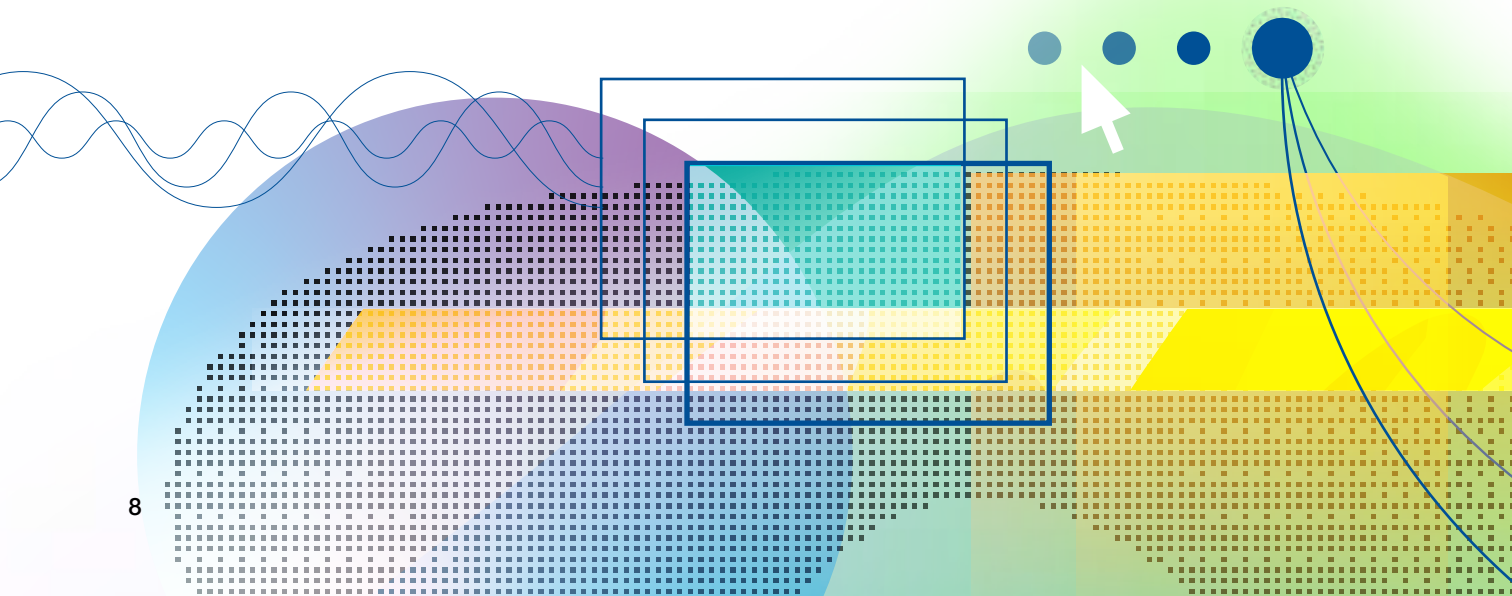
A LEAP FORWARD IN DIGITAL TEACHING & LEARNING

Knowledge Transfer at the Highest Technical and Didactic Level

In March 2020, our institution had only a couple of days to switch its entire teaching operations to distance mode due to COVID-19 – a challenging task for everyone involved. The **Service and Competence Centre for Innovative Teaching and Learning (SKILL)** provides lecturers with technical know-how and advice

for modern e-learning, which helped them succeed with this conversion. Game-based learning, inverted classroom models and distance learning spaces with state-of-the-art equipment enabled high-quality teaching even without physical presence.

→ fhstp.ac.at/en/skill



REORGANISATION IN BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Susanne Roiser is New Head of Department of Digital Business and Innovation

The focus of the realigned Department of **Digital Business and Innovation** (formerly the Department of Media and Economics) is on core business topics relating to digitalisation and innovation. One of the most important aspects of this reorientation is the launch of the new bachelor degree programme **Management & Digital Business**, which prepares students for the challenges of a modern, digitalised economy. The media focus of the St. Pölten UAS is pooled and further developed in the Department of Media & Digital Technologies.

➔ fhstp.ac.at/en/dbi

➔ fhstp.ac.at/en/bmd

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND WORKING

St. Pölten UAS Promotes Innovative Potential

The close ties between **theory and practice** are an integral part of teaching at the St. Pölten UAS. In the dual study programmes Smart Engineering and Applied Research and Innovation in Computer Science, students work in a company alongside their studies. The **Creative Pre-Incubator (CPI)** and the **SMARTUP initiative** are designed to

promote the students' start-up ideas beyond graduation – with a special focus on the St. Pölten region. New further education options such as the programme **Start-Up Competence Dietetics** prepare dietitians for a successful career as freelancers.

➔ stp-smartup.at

➔ fhstp.ac.at/en/cpi

➔ fhstp.ac.at/en/lge

Entrepreneurial University

Research

ST. PÖLTEN UAS BECOMES EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

In addition, five Erasmus+ projects are approved in 2020

The St. Pölten UAS is the first university of applied sciences in Austria to take over the coordination of a **European University** with a project volume of five million euros. With its focus on the European regions, our institution was able to win the contract and is now working on the further development of the European Higher Education Area together with five other universities.

Moreover, the European Commission approved five submitted **Erasmus+ projects** in the fields of rail technology, health sciences, social sciences, and higher education development. This emphasises the St. Pölten UAS' role as an **internationally connected university** of applied sciences and further promotes the establishment of strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances and cooperations.

→ eudres.eu

→ research.fhstp.ac.at/en/projects



RESEARCH AS A CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

The St. Pölten UAS is once more among the most research-oriented Austrian universities of applied sciences

With another increase of the **research volume (including innovation projects) to 3.1 million euros**, the St. Pölten UAS successfully asserted its position among the most research-intensive universities of applied sciences (in terms of external funds raised) in Austria once again in 2020. **73 research staff members** engaged in numerous national and international research projects addressing relevant questions. As an Entrepreneurial University, the St. Pölten UAS considers its research to be an important contribution to the development of society. The close exchange with the business sector, SMEs in particular, creates room for **future-oriented and innovative solutions**.

→ research.fhstp.ac.at/en

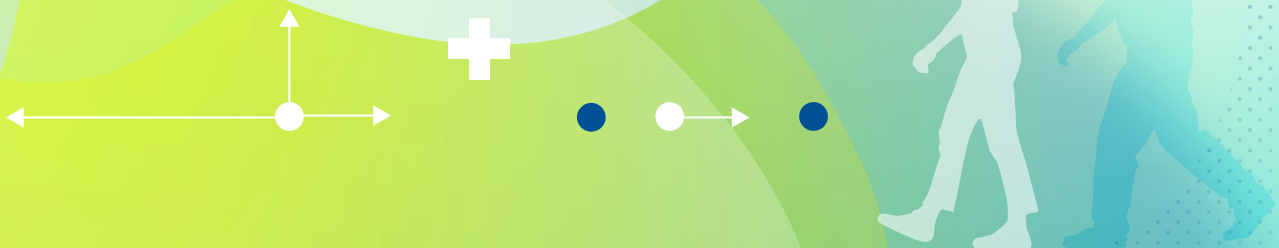
RESEARCH IN COLLABORATION WITH BUSINESSES AND SOCIETY

National and Regional Cooperation

Together with the Austrian General Accident Insurance Fund (**AUVA**), the St. Pölten UAS is working on making one of the biggest datasets on automated gait analysis accessible for the public. Researchers from all over the world are free to use the data as assistance in research, therapy and treatment. Due to its close collaboration with companies, the research activities of the St. Pölten UAS have a strong focus on the innovative potential of the region. The purpose of the **Digital Makers Hub** and the **Digital Innovation Hub East** is to boost SMEs and digital innovation drivers, and promote networking between them.

→ dih-ost.at

→ digitalmakershub.at



Entrepreneurial University

Knowledge Exchange

DIGITAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WITH BUSINESSES AND SOCIETY

Intensive Exchange on New Formats

Despite the restrictions made necessary by the pandemic, the St. Pölten UAS continued to cultivate its self-image of an interconnected university last year. Digital formats such as the **Inspiring Chats**, the **digital Long Night of Research** and **Science@Home** helped us reach experts, students, school students and an

interested public. Numerous participants exchanged their views and experiences on the role of technology at higher education institutions and in the working world with the panellists in the interactive event series **wissen.vorsprung**.

→ digitalmakershub.at/inspiring-chats

→ langenachtderforschung.at

BLOCKCHAINS FOR RESEARCH, BUSINESS AND CULTURE

Austrian Blockchain Center Opens in Lower Austria

WEBINAR ON SECURE TELE- WORK

Support for Companies and Employees

The coronavirus pandemic has turned telework into common practice and thereby changed our way of communicating and working – a major challenge for many companies. In the **series of webinars** titled **“Sicheres Homeoffice”** (secure telework), researchers of the Institute of IT Security Research at the St. Pölten UAS show step by step and in detail how users can protect themselves and their data.

→ fit4internet.at

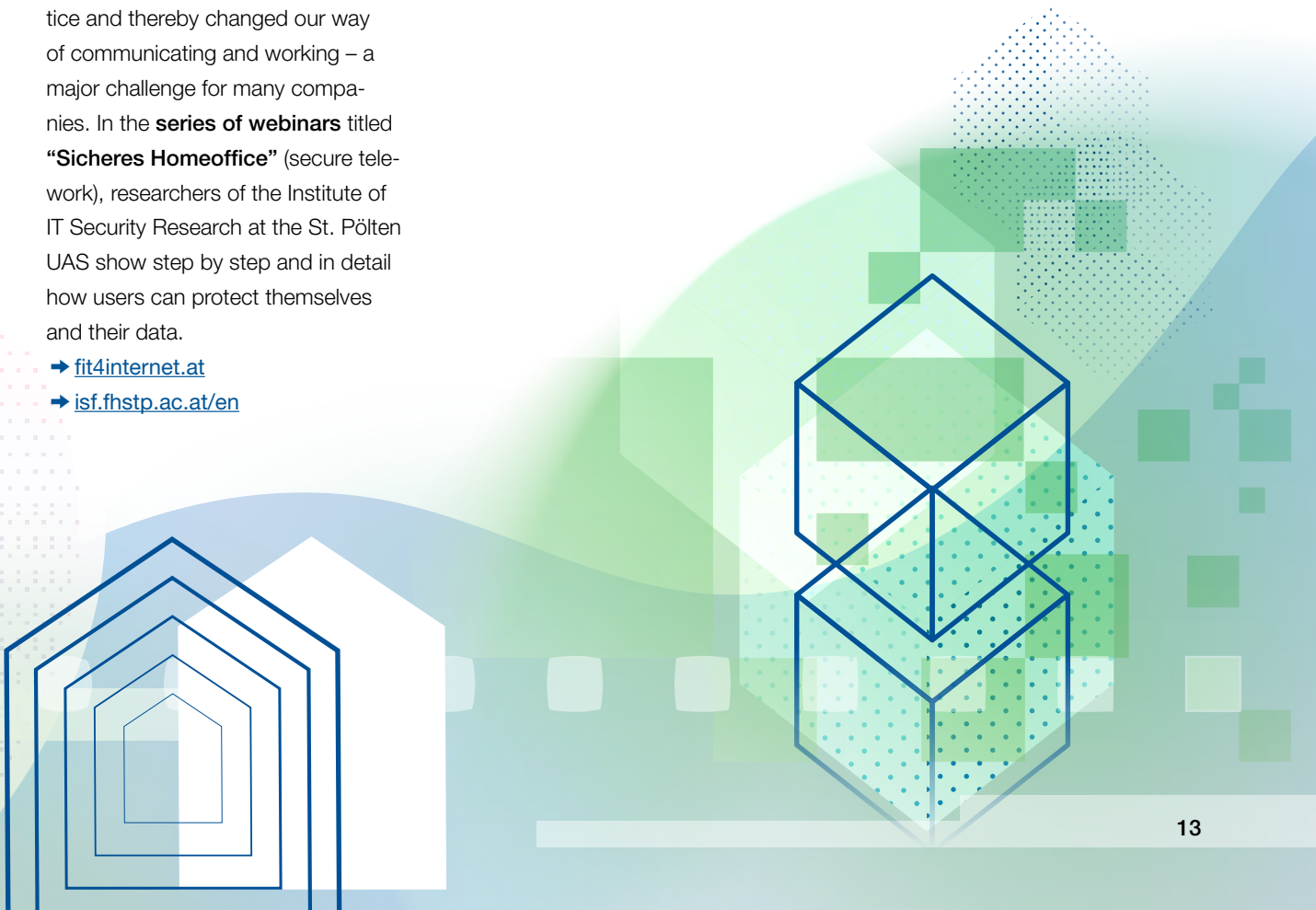
→ isf.fhstp.ac.at/en

Blockchain technology is among the central drivers of innovation in the digital transition. Two of the most important blockchain centres in Austria carry out research and development at the St. Pölten UAS: the **Austrian Blockchain Center (ABC)** and the **Josef Ressel Center for**

Blockchain Technology & Security Management. Experts provided insights into the application of the blockchain technology in companies and cultural institutions at the **Blockchain Summit**.

→ research.fhstp.ac.at/en/jrc

→ abc-research.at



Sustainability & Social Responsibility

MAKING DIVERSITY VISIBLE AND LIVING IT EVERY DAY

Activities on “Gender & Diversity” are strongly anchored in the St. Pölten UAS’ corporate strategy

The St. Pölten UAS has been implementing various measures to integrate gender and diversity into teaching, research and administration for many years. Among other things, every year, the St. Pölten UAS participates in the **Diversity Day**, which was first held online this time around. Social Work students actively

contributed to the day, for example, through their involvement in activities on age diversity, racism in everyday life, and linguistic discrimination. A working group is dedicated to the **inclusion of the third gender** into daily UAS operations and evaluates which measures are required.

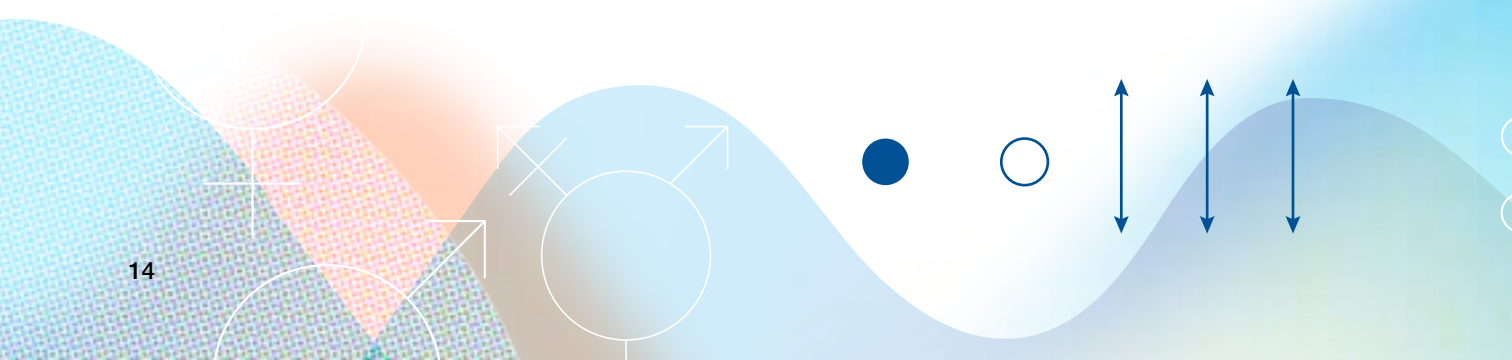
→ fhstp.ac.at/en/diversity

VIDEO SERIES FHIT!CLICK

Short Videos Promote Active Work Breaks

Within the framework of workplace health promotion at the St. Pölten UAS, the past year saw the launch of the interdisciplinary project “FHit!Click”: informative short videos offer guidance to staff members on how to **keep body and mind fit** when taking short breaks. The videos were created by students of the degree programmes Physiotherapy and Media Technology.

→ youtube.com/fhstpoeelten



NUMEROUS AWARDS

Amongst Others as Top Employer and for Commitment to Sustainability

The St. Pölten UAS counts among Austria's most attractive employers. This is according to rankings such as the employer ranking by the magazine "trend", which awarded the St. Pölten UAS as **best employer in the sector "Education and Research"**. In the general Austria-wide ranking, the St. Pölten UAS took the 10th place among more than 300 companies. In addition, the St. Pölten UAS

received the **"Human Resources Excellence in Research"** award by the European Commission within the framework of the European Human Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R). The initiative seeks to improve working conditions for researchers. The St. Pölten UAS was further awarded the **Gold Certificate for Sustainable Educational Building** by the Österreichische Gesellschaft für Nachhaltige

Immobilienwirtschaft (Austrian association for sustainable building, ÖGNI) for the building and operation of the new Campus St. Pölten.

→ fhstp.ac.at/career

→ campus-stp.at

International Engagement

FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS ENABLE MOBILITY

Digitalisation Supports International Exchange

At the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, a total of twelve St. Pölten UAS students studied at partner universities around the world, while 32 students were abroad for an internship at the time. The majority of outgoing students were able to complete **exchange semester in distance learning mode**, mostly at the host institution. In the winter semester 2020/21, 25 students could start their studies abroad. Among other things, this was made possible thanks to the **advancement of digitalisation in the area of internationalisation**: by launching a new mobility software, the selection process and the administration of the mobilities could be performed with the usual high levels of quality, despite telework and distance teaching. Although travel restrictions had not been lifted, the number of incoming students at the St. Pölten UAS remained the same as in previous years. **Digital leisure time activities** organised by the St. Pölten UAS' International Relations team in collaboration with the International Student Network (ISN) offered the incoming students support and social interaction despite the applicable contact restrictions.

→ fhstp.ac.at/en/international

→ isn-edu.com

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN TIMES OF COVID-19

Digital Offers in High Demand

At the traditional **International Week**, the St. Pölten UAS' departments invite representatives of international partner universities to an exchange of experiences. This academic year's event, which was held online for the first time, featured a rich programme with international experts. At the **Go International Day**, 20 representatives of partner universities from all over the world gave insights into their institutions and provided the students with first-hand information on possibilities to gain experience abroad. In addition, the St. Pölten UAS contributed a diverse programme to the **Erasmus Days**, which were held throughout Europe.

→ fhstp.ac.at/en/international

ONE STUDY PROGRAMME – TWO DEGREES

New Dual Degree Agreement with HAW Hamburg

Within the framework of dual degree or double degree partnerships, students are offered the possibility to study a year at the respective partner institution and obtain a **degree from both universities**. The St. Pölten UAS has now concluded such an agreement **with yet another university**. In addition to the Pyatigorsk State University and the Moscow State University of Railway Engineering, the **Hamburg University of Applied Sciences** became a further dual degree partner institution. In the winter semester 2020/21, the **first student from Hamburg** spent a semester at the St. Pölten UAS in the master degree programme Digital Media Production.

→ fhstp.ac.at/en/mmp

→ haw-hamburg.de

Ensuring Quality in Teaching



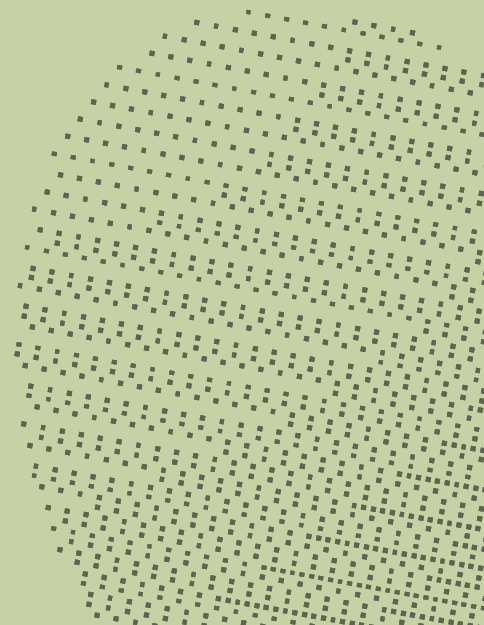
Since the summer 2020, the St. Pölten UAS Board has been headed by Alois Frotschnig and Susanne Roiser.


For 17 years now, Alois Frotschnig has been active at the St. Pölten UAS – most recently as Head of the Department of Media and Digital Technologies and Academic Director of the bachelor degree programme Media Technology. Last summer, he took over the position of Chairperson of the UAS Board from Monika Vyslouzil who retired in August 2020. The Deputy Chairperson is Susanne

Roiser who became Head of the new Department of Digital Business and Innovation at the St. Pölten UAS in September. In the next three years, the new leaders of the UAS Board plan to place a particular focus on the fields of quality in teaching, research, and internationalisation.

→ fhstp.ac.at/uas-board


Learn more in the following chapter on how the implementation of high-quality teaching in the six departments became a success and which highlights the year 2020 saw in terms of teaching and research.





Ensuring high quality of teaching even in times of crisis was one of our main objectives.”

Alois Frotschnig on teaching during the coronavirus pandemic 2020



Opportunities for student and staff mobility are currently limited because of the pandemic. Nevertheless, we take our mission to internationalise teaching at our higher education institution very seriously and work intensively on initiatives for internationalisation.”

Susanne Roiser on internationalisation at the St. Pölten UAS

/ digital business & innovation

Reorientation under New Leadership

The Department of Digital Business and Innovation (formerly Department of Media and Economics) places an even stronger focus on core topics of business economics with regard to digitalisation and innovation. Susanne Roiser took over as the new Head of Department. The study programmes increasingly prepare students for the management of digitally based business processes and innovation possibilities, e.g. in the fields of Digital Marketing and Corporate and Financial Reporting. In addition, the new bachelor degree programme Management & Digital Business was launched in autumn 2020 in response to the rising demand in the fields of digitalisation and transformation.



“Our students are trained to become digital experts in business economics and perform research at the interface between digitalisation, transformation and innovation.”

Mag. Dr. Susanne Roiser, MA
Head of Department

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

DigGes – Together in the Digital Society

Developing digital teaching materials with teachers, school students, parents and grandparents

OpenDALICC

An international open source project dedicated to compliance in dealing with intellectual property

Kids as Customers

The economics of online platforms for children: youth protection vs. commercialisation

Activities / Prizes

Franz-Bogner-Wissenschaftspreis

by the Public Relations Association Austria (PRVA) awarded to graduate Anika Sauer

Alfred Gerardi Gedächtnispreis

by the German Dialogue Marketing Association (DDV) awarded to graduate Tina Montibeller

Austrian Young PR Award 2020

for graduate Daniela Gissing

/ media & digital technologies

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

2 Years of Immersive Media Lab

Research on media art, Industry 4.0 and digital health information

DIHOST with Multiple Activities

Austrian Blockchain Center launched in St. Pölten

Firewall App SoniControl

Article in renowned IEEE Signal Processing Magazine

Department's Media Focus Reinforced

Digitalisation as well as independence of time and place in teaching were particularly present in 2020. While keeping the required physical distance, the department nevertheless engaged in knowledge exchange through numerous online formats such as the Digital Innovation Hub East (DIHOST) and virtual labs. In the new bachelor degree programme Creative Computing – and formats such as the Coding School and the Science Academy – the St. Pölten UAS places particular emphasis on promoting women in technology. Together with cooperation partners, many projects, for example the ORF III “Zeitzeugen” project, were implemented.

Activities / Prizes

New Study Places for Bachelor Degree Programme Creative Computing

A total of 35 study places are now available

Romy for Media Technology Graduates

Award for “Best TV Documentary”

Innovative Remote Teaching & Virtual Labs

Practical teaching despite distance learning



“We have expanded our media focus to encompass the areas technology, production and management.”

FH-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Franz Fidler
Head of Department

/ computer science & security

Expansion of Study Programmes

The department saw further growth in 2020: in autumn, the new English master degree programme Cyber Security and Resilience started, headed by Simon Tjoa as the Academic Director. The degree programme teaches comprehensive competencies in software, operating system and network security. Meanwhile, the development of the master degree programme Data Intelligence¹ was underway. The launch of the degree programme is planned for autumn 2021. It trains experts for the intelligent use of data and artificial intelligence (AI) processes. This expansion of offered study programmes is expected to make the Department of Computer Science and Security even more popular, especially among prospective students from abroad.



“The key to successful digitalisation lies in combining data intelligence and cyber security.”

FH-Prof. Mag. Helmut Kaufmann, MSc
Head of Department 2020

¹ subject to accreditation by the AQ Austria

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

LINK

Analysis and nowcasting of extreme weather events using data from radio links

Dataskop Sensor-Based Data Economy in Lower Austria

Increased data availability and improved usage through visualisation

SecDM

Secure and trustworthy local exchange platforms for data

Activities / Prizes

Cyber Defense Center (CDC) in Teaching

By integrating a training CDC into teaching, students acquire competencies in “Situational Awareness”

Escape the Room Game Developed

School and university students solve virtual challenges and acquire knowledge in a playful way

Digital Security Day

Workshops and challenges for interested school students

/ rail technology & mobility

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

Digitalisation for Infrastructure

Developing an app for the inspection of bridges

Smart Logistics

Coordinated and cooperative delivery of parcels and small consignments in the Greater Innsbruck area

Sustainable Freight Transport

Fully automated shunting yard to boost single-wagonload traffic

Key Competence in Rail Technology

The railway plays a central role for the mobility of the future – in the form of the underground and the tram in metropolitan areas, in freight transport, and over medium travel distances at high speed. To further develop the underlying systems, we need people with team spirit and technical understanding. All teaching and research activities in the Department of Rail Technology & Mobility are aimed at training the next generation of leaders in the railway sector. After all, these are in higher demand than ever and many of our graduates are already doing an excellent job in the sector.

Activities / Prizes

International Railway Operation Week

Low-threshold abroad experience in Germany and Switzerland

First Double-Degree Student

The first student of the Moscow State University of Railway Engineering has passed the bachelor examination at the St. Pölten UAS

International Week

UAS graduates working in Australia report on railway projects “Down Under”



“Our students are in high demand in the railway sector. They are doing an excellent job both in Austria and abroad.”

FH-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Otfried Knoll, EURAIL-Ing.
Head of Department

/ health sciences

Investing in the Future

In times like these when the healthcare system is facing major challenges, it is particularly important to offer high-quality training for the health professions to committed, visionary and courageous people. The Department of Health Sciences is investing in the future by increasing its study places in the degree programme Healthcare and Nursing^{PLUS}. With the close cooperation between teaching and research as well as the development of add-on courses and specialisations, the department takes account of the increasing interrelationship between the contents of the different study programmes and further education programmes.



“Thinking out of the box while keeping the feet on the ground at the same time – this is what we teach our students.”

Dr. Andrea Kdolsky, MBA
Head of Department

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

DiabPeerS

Peer support for diabetes self-management

GLA:D® Austria

Research for the treatment of knee arthrosis

AVATAR – Training for Sentient Leg Prosthesis

Development of immersive trainings

Activities / Prizes

3rd Place in ESMAC Poster Award

The biggest gait analysis conference in Europe

Best Practice Award 2020 of the Austrian Society for Clinical Nutrition

For the degree programme Dietetics

COVID-19 Mass Tests at the St. Pölten UAS

Healthcare & Nursing^{PLUS} students carry out tests

/ social sciences

Projects from Research and Knowledge Transfer

Augmented Reality in Social Work

Supporting team work and case conferences

Evaluation of Homeless Support in Lower Austria

An assessment of institutional support services

Extreme Familiar?

Child and youth support in and for right-wing extremist families

Activities / Prizes

Foundation of the Monika Vyslouzil Award

for social services user involvement in Social Work

Project Exhibition: 1st place for Project “Belonging“

The dynamics of belonging

Project Exhibition.plus

Funding for Community Work 4.0

Social Work and Crises

In times of crisis, Social Work and the willingness to explore new channels to reach people are needed more than ever. This is what inspired staff members of the Department to found connect-sozial.at, a platform for exchange, mutual support and approaches to problem-solving during the coronavirus pandemic. The platform helps to meet the manifold challenges faced by Social Work. The Ilse Artl Symposium “social.digital. Help! We Are Going Digital” and the Social Pedagogy Symposium “System Crashers – a Cry for Help” were held online.



“Social Work in times of crisis requires more courage than ever and a great deal of perseverance.”

FH-Prof. DSA Mag. (FH) Christine Haselbacher
Head of Department


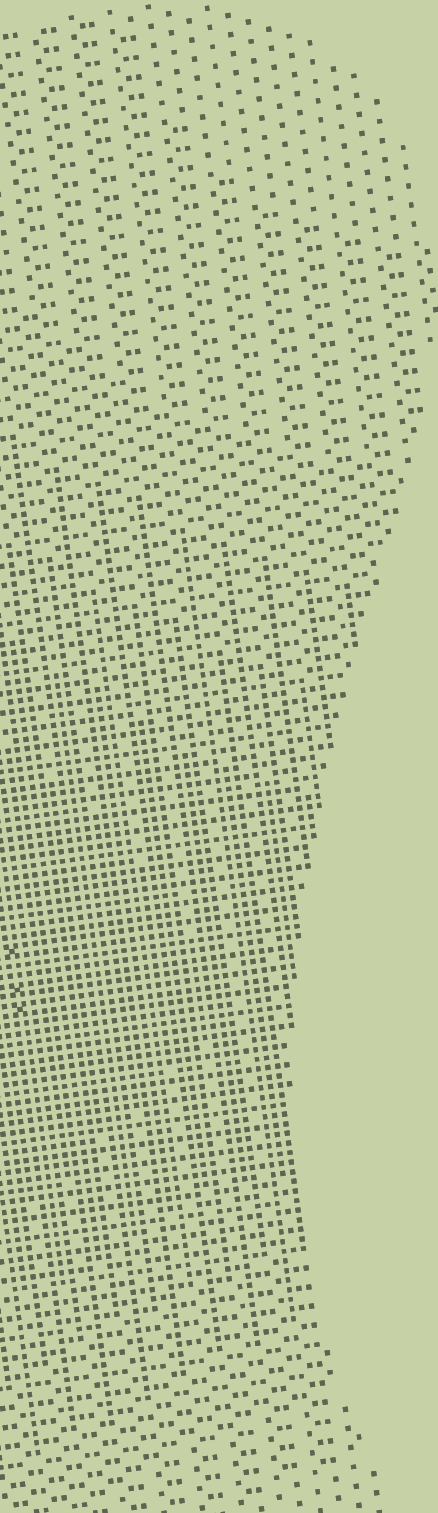
Teaching during a Year Marked by COVID-19 and beyond

With support from the Competence Centre for Didactics in Higher Education (SKILL), the St. Pölten UAS successfully switched to online teaching within a few days in the spring of 2020. Since then, the UAS has been continuously working on the further development of digital knowledge transfer in terms of technology and didactics. At the new Campus St. Pölten, e-learning will continue to play a role in the future by supplementing on-site teaching.

SKILL is the central contact point for the topic area “Teaching and Learning” at the St. Pölten UAS, continuously providing impulses for quality development in teaching by offering lecturers information, qualification, and consultation. The SKILL team played a major role in switching to online teaching during the coronavirus

pandemic. In addition to technical support, they assisted in creating and implementing digital courses.

E-learning will continue to play a role after COVID-19 – but more in a supplementary manner. At the new Campus St. Pölten, which is currently coming closer to its completion, physical learning spaces will be supplemented by digital elements. Following the concept of blended learning, hybrid settings will be gaining importance, combining on-site teaching and e-learning. This is why all seminar rooms will be equipped accordingly so as to allow for distance learning elements if appropriate. As an accompanying measure, a second focus is placed on further education measures for lecturers in creating and implementing hybrid teaching settings.



E-learning will continue to
play a role after COVID-19 –
but more in a supplementary
form.”

Finances & Infrastructure

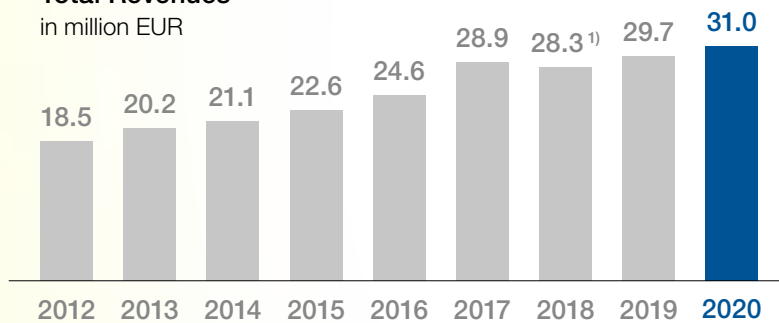
The total revenues of the Fachhochschule St. Pölten GmbH including the wholly owned subsidiary Fachhochschule St. Pölten ForschungsGmbH amounted to 31 million EUR in the business year 2020.

31.027 million EUR
Total Revenues 2020



Total Revenues

in million EUR



25.818 million EUR
revenues from teaching

3.124 million EUR
revenues from research, development, innovation, knowledge transfer (incl. ForschungsGmbH)

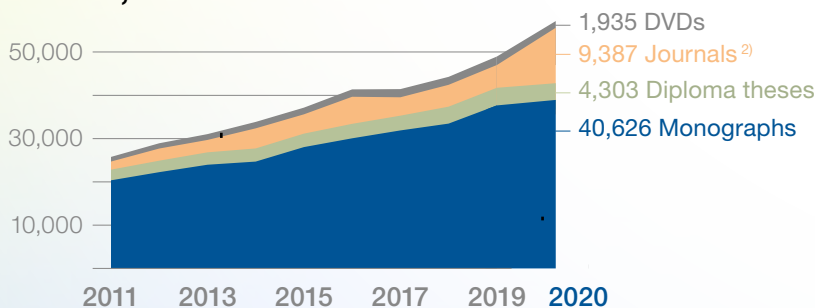
1.441 million EUR
revenues from further education

0.644 million EUR
other revenues

Library

Complete inventory of catalogued media

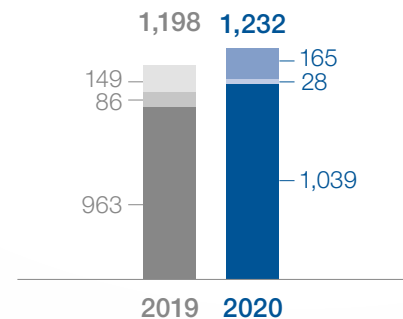
56,251 units



Investments

in thousands of EUR

+3%



Library

Software

Operating, business, office and lecture hall equipment

¹⁾ The decline compared to 2017 is due to the restructuring between FH St. Pölten GmbH and Hochschulen St. Pölten Holding GmbH. As per 01/01/2018, 16 staff members were reallocated to the latter. The shareholder contributions of the state capital St. Pölten remain with Hochschulen St. Pölten Holding GmbH, thus covering the costs of the central university service units.

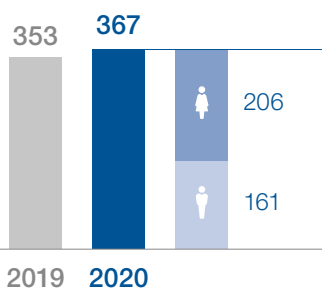
²⁾ Subscriptions (in print and electronic form)

Staff

The St. Pölten UAS managed to increase the number of its staff members once again in 2020, thus reinforcing its position as an important employer in the region.

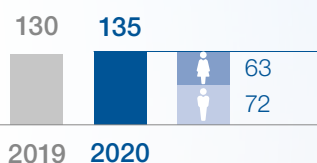
Full-time staff ^{1) 2)}

+4%



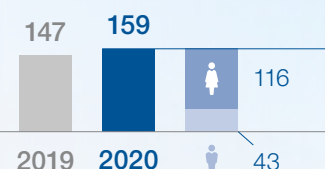
Full-time teaching staff and Academic Directors ²⁾

+4%



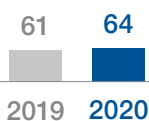
Total general staff ³⁾

+8%

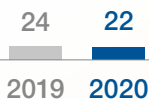


Habilitations and doctorates in teaching & research staff

Among full-time teaching staff, Academic Directors and research assistants

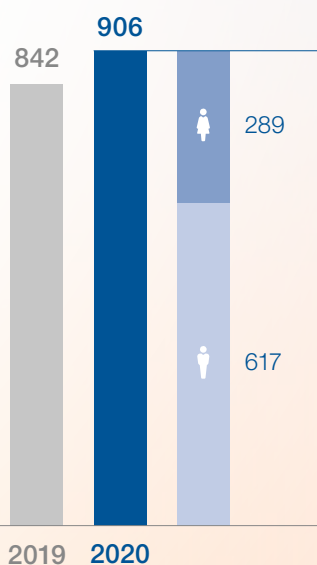


In doctorate programmes (as of the end of the year)



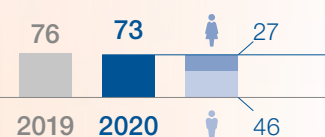
Part-time teaching staff

+8%



Academic staff

-4%



1) Reference date: 31/12/2020

2) Including FH St. PöltenForschungsGmbH

3) Excluding staff members of Hochschulen St. Pölten Holding GmbH

Students

2,878

Students in bachelor and master degree programmes

669

Non-degree students in further education programmes

25

Study programmes

926

Graduates

799

Subsidised study places for bachelor programme beginners

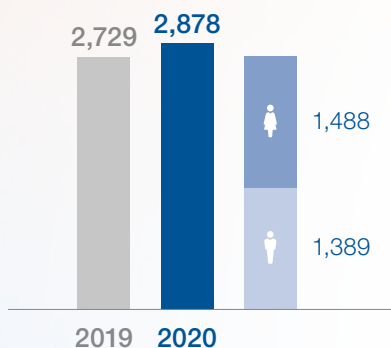
327

Subsidised study places for master programme beginners

Excellent career opportunities and a future-oriented education:
The number of students has been increasing steadily since the foundation of the St. Pölten UAS.

Regular students

+5%



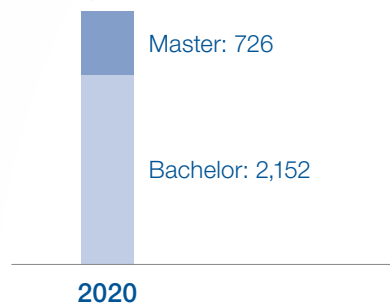
Regular students

By bachelor and master degree programmes

2,878

Master: 726

Bachelor: 2,152



Development of student numbers

1998/99

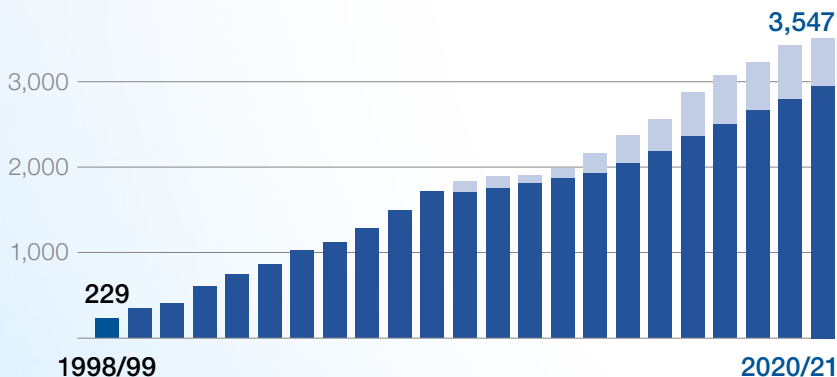
229 students

2020/21

3,547 students

Non-degree students

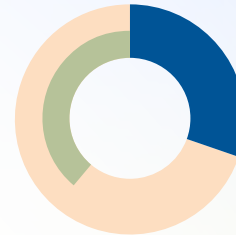
Regular students



Research & International Affairs

At over 3 Million EUR, the research turnover (including innovation projects) remained at a high level. In addition, the St. Pölten UAS – together with its subsidiary Fachhochschule St. Pölten ForschungsGmbH – took important steps with regard to student and staff mobility once again.

105
Research projects



32
Contract research projects

73
Financed by third-party funds¹⁾

39
With coordination tasks (out of 72 projects financed by third-party funds)

3.124 million EUR

Revenues from research & development, innovation projects and knowledge transfer

0.291 million EUR

Turnover from contract research

2.291 million EUR

Turnover from projects financed by third-party funds¹⁾

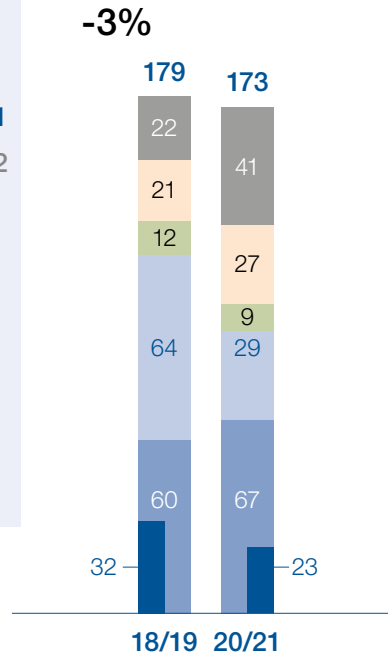
¹⁾ Number of projects third-party financed actively and by means of research funding (EU; FFG; other funding agencies, financed predominantly by federal funds) within the observation period (01/01 – 31/12)

²⁾ First editions of specialist and teaching books published with reference to the St. Pölten UAS (not self-published), not self-published trade journals or compilations (excluding conference publications), proceedings (full papers and abstracts), poster contributions within the framework of international scientific conventions or other scientific publications.

International Mobility



Publications²⁾



- Other publications
- Book contributions
- Books
- Conference contributions- (peer-reviewed)
- All journal articles
- Peer-reviewed journal articles

Gebäude
Building





Imprint

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