Softwarepark Hagenberg

The Softwarepark Hagenberg is one of the most dynamic and most successful technology centres in Austria linking business, research and education with regard to the central theme of software. Whereas in the year of its foundation in 1989, there were 25 employees and students in Hagenberg, today the Technology Park boasts more than 1,000 employees and 1,600 students in eight research facilities, 23 university and university of applied sciences study programmes and more than 70 companies. ([www.softwarepark.at](http://www.softwarepark.at))

Further universities and colleges

The University for Art and Industrial Design Linz, which evolved from the “Art School of the City of Linz” founded in 1947, is characterised by the core competences of free and applied design, interdisciplinary education and teacher training at a high level. It has a unique profile in all fields ranging from technical courses of study to artistic projects, from the highest interior design competence to outstanding media art work. Students regularly win national and international prizes in design and photography. ([www.ufg.ac.at](http://www.ufg.ac.at))

Around 800 musicians, dancers and actors from all over the world study at the Anton Bruckner Private University with instructors who are internationally qualified artists, scientists and teachers. This is a university for music, drama and dance. Instrumental studies and instrumental educational theory, song and song educational theory, elementary music education theory, music theory and composition, conducting, jazz and popular music, contemporary dance and dance educational theory and acting are offered within the framework of bachelor and master study programmes. ([www.bruckneruni.at](http://www.bruckneruni.at))

In historical terms, the Catholic Private University Linz (KU), which has taught theology since 1672, is the oldest of the “universities” in Linz. With the Faculty of Theology and the Faculty for Philosophy and Science of Art as well as around 400 students, the private university forms a centre of humanities in Upper Austria. ([www.ku-linz.at](http://www.ku-linz.at))

The Teacher Training College of Upper Austria and the Private Teacher Training College of the Diocese Linz are important tertiary training and research institutions and offer scientifically profound and practice-oriented education and training for educators and teachers. ([www.ph-ooe.at](http://www.ph-ooe.at), [www.phdl.at](http://www.phdl.at))

www.campusland.at

Innovative Upper Austria 2020

Four defined core strategies – location development, industrial market leadership, internationalisation and future technologies – form the basis of the strategic economic and research programme “Innovative Upper Austria 2020”, which has a total programme amount of 1.35 billion Euro from 2014 to 2020. The guiding principle “strengthen strengths – dare something new” is upheld in order to further develop the location Upper Austria and to improve its competitive advantages. The consequent focus on the defined fields of action and the increased cooperation between business and science creates the pre-conditions to timely address global future topics and to develop innovative technologies. The international cooperation with other regions and the formation of long-term strategic alliances lead to high excellence in research and thus further strengthen the attractiveness of the economic and research location Upper Austria.

In the second half of the 20th century, Upper Austria has gained international recognition as a location for innovation due to its metallurgical developments (basic oxygen steelmaking (BOP) process, continuous casting technology, COREX process). Moreover, essential technological advances originate from Upper Austria, e.g. in the fields production and processing of plastics, railway construction technology, fire brigade technology, engine construction or in the automotive supply industry.

In recent years F&E has deliberately focused on the fields of mechatronics, IT and communication technology, materials and lightweight construction, life sciences, logistics and on renewable sources of energy. The current strategic programme “Innovative Upper Austria 2020” is oriented along the innovation chain “education-research-economy” within the defined fields of activity Industrial Production Processes, Energy, Health / Ageing Society, Food / Nutrition and Mobility / Logistics.

Research and innovation are the key factors for the future viability of a location. This is something emphasised also by the European Commission in its strategy “Europe 2020” in order to increase regional competitiveness and prosperity. Therefore, the research location of Upper Austria has set the goal of a research quota of four percent by 2020. To attain this goal, the former focus of research work will be intensified and new future fields of research will be exploited.

www.campusland.at

Research and innovation are the key factors for the future viability of a location. This is something emphasised also by the European Commission in its strategy “Europe 2020” in order to increase regional competitiveness and prosperity. Therefore, the research location of Upper Austria has set the goal of a research quota of four percent by 2020. To attain this goal, the former focus of research work will be intensified and new future fields of research will be exploited.

Innovative Upper Austria 2020

Four defined core strategies – location development, industrial market leadership, internationalisation and future technologies – form the basis of the strategic economic and research programme “Innovative Upper Austria 2020”, which has a total programme amount of 1.35 billion Euro from 2014 to 2020. The guiding principle “strengthen strengths – dare something new” is upheld in order to further develop the location Upper Austria and to improve its competitive advantages. The consequent focus on the defined fields of action and the increased cooperation between business and science creates the pre-conditions to timely address global future topics and to develop innovative technologies. The international cooperation with other regions and the formation of long-term strategic alliances lead to high excellence in research and thus further strengthen the attractiveness of the economic and research location Upper Austria.

In the second half of the 20th century, Upper Austria has gained international recognition as a location for innovation due to its metallurgical developments (basic oxygen steelmaking (BOP) process, continuous casting technology, COREX process). Moreover, essential technological advances originate from Upper Austria, e.g. in the fields production and processing of plastics, railway construction technology, fire brigade technology, engine construction or in the automotive supply industry.

In recent years F&E has deliberately focused on the fields of mechatronics, IT and communication technology, materials and lightweight construction, life sciences, logistics and on renewable sources of energy. The current strategic programme “Innovative Upper Austria 2020” is oriented along the innovation chain “education-research-economy” within the defined fields of activity Industrial Production Processes, Energy, Health / Ageing Society, Food / Nutrition and Mobility / Logistics.
Innovative strength
In the field of research and development, the bridging of fundamental research and industrial applications is of utmost significance in Upper Austria, which happens for example in so-called Christian Doppler laboratories (CD-Laboratories), Josef Ressel centers and competence centres as well as projects in the framework of the COMET funding programme of the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG). Highly qualified scientists from universities or non-university research facilities operate these centers in cooperation with businesses. This constellation leads to an intensified knowledge link between science and business from which both sides benefit strongly.

Upper Austrian companies invest very much in research and development. Almost 75 percent of research spending in the state is funded by the corporate sector (the federal average is around 60 percent). Upper Austria has accordingly quite clearly surpassed the target stipulated by the European Union, which demands that at least two thirds of the expenditure on R&D is to be borne by private companies.

The high commitment of businesses with regard to R&D can also be thanked for the fact that, for years, Upper Austria has been the undisputed patents leader concerning both patent applications and other research and educational facilities contribute to the widespread transfer of technology to Upper Austrian companies. (www.biz-up.at)

Upper Austrian Research
The Upper Austrian Research GmbH (UAR) is the leading agency for research promotion in Upper Austria and supports the state of Upper Austria in the field of research policy – above all in the areas strategy, project development as well as coordination, internationalisation, creation of strategic alliances and marketing. The UAR is the central agent for research in Upper Austria and offers support as hub and facilitator for research facilities. By holding shares in renowned research centres, the UAR has built and continuously extends a strong network in the field of non-university research.

Together with companies, it develops innovative high-tech solutions and thereby incorporates latest research results, procedures and services into the projects thanks to the cooperation with universities and other research facilities. This economy and market-oriented innovation process creates a decisive advantage. (www.uar.at)

Business Upper Austria
The Upper Austrian Business Agency called Business Upper Austria offers support concerning the topics technology transfer from science to business – in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – as well as professional advice for claiming regional, national and European innovation and research grants. Its services include the ever more important field of property rights protection. Business Upper Austria makes an enormous contribution towards the rapid diffusion of knowledge regarding new technologies or best practice examples in one branch for the benefit of the most important economic sectors in Upper Austria.

In addition to the Upper Austrian Business Agency, 21 impulse and technology centres in all regions of Upper Austria as well as other research and educational facilities contribute to the widespread transfer of technology to Upper Austrian companies. (www.biz-up.at)

Johannes Kepler University Linz
Since its creation in 1966, the Johannes Kepler University (JKU) in Linz has internationally acquired an excellent reputation. Today, more than 20,000 students are enrolled in about 60 different study programmes at the largest research and educational facility in Upper Austria. Students at the JKU are privileged to learn from the best – such as the Wittgenstein award winners Niyazi Serdar Sarafioğlu (research field “Organic Semiconductors”) and Gerhard Widmer (research field “Artificial Intelligence”). But also in other areas the JKU recognises important international trends and acts as a pioneer in Austria in the field of e-learning and distance learning. The study programme in mechatronics is unique in Austria which also leads to a high demand by students. As teaching is oriented towards the needs of the economy and combines theory and practice, JKU graduates have excellent professional perspectives. (www.ku.at)

Research and teaching is conducted at four faculties: The Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences and since 2014 the new Faculty of Medicine. The JKU is the first Austrian university to offer the study programme in human medicine – in cooperation with the Medical University Graz – corresponding to the bachelor and master system.

The establishment of the Medical Faculty meant the realisation of an important future-oriented project for the JKU and the state of Upper Austria. In cooperation with the existing faculties, the modern hospital landscape as well as the medicine-oriented industry and economy, this bears great synergy and growth potential for the location Upper Austria. The Medical Faculty of the JKU should become the starting point for a medical valley and thus give sustainable impetus not only to the university but also within and beyond the borders of Upper Austria.

Currently, 66 institutes and departments at the JKU already conduct research in the medical or medical-oriented field. Step by step, 24 medical and 8 non-medical professorial chairs will be established at the Medical Faculty. The unique teaching and research cooperation between Linz and Graz will contribute to the development of a strong “PfH-axis” by focusing on teaching and further cooperation in the medically oriented research in life sciences.

Innovation Network Upper Austria
Upper Austria has a number of facilities in the fields of research and development and technology transfer which are interlinked in the Upper Austrian Innovation Network. The Johannes Kepler University (JKU), the Applied Sciences Research & Development GmbH of the Universities of Applied Sciences in Upper Austria, the Upper Austrian Research GmbH together with its subsidiaries and the competence centres of the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), have greatly augmented research performance in Upper Austria during the last years. All in all, the Innovation Network Upper Austria comprises more than 100 facilities (universities, competence centres, non-university research centres, research facilities of the Upper Austrian industry, technology and start-up centres as well as continued education and training centres) and is coordinated and further developed by Business Upper Austria.

Universities of Applied Sciences in Upper Austria
The study programmes of the Universities of Applied Sciences in Upper Austria (FH ÖÖ) have, since the introduction of studies at the university of applied sciences in Austria in 1994, offered practical and at the same time academic study programmes. With sites in Linz, Hagenberg, Wels and Steyr, the FH ÖÖ is one of the best universities of applied sciences in Austria in terms of quality.

Around 5,600 students attend the four faculties of “Informatics, Communications and Media” (Hagenberg), “Applied Health and Social Sciences” (Linz), “Management” (Steyr) and “Engineering and Environmental Sciences” (Wels).

Since the foundation of the Applied Sciences Research & Development GmbH in the year 2003, a continuous rise has been recorded in the field of research. In the meantime, the FH ÖÖ is the leading universities of applied sciences in terms of research performance in Austria and also among the best institutions in the German-speaking regions. At the four sites, 16 focal points of research deal with the latest and most significant topics of the 21st century and thus contribute importantly to reach the targets of the strategic economic and research programme “Innovative Upper Austria 2020.” (www.fh-ooe.at)

More than 800 students are enrolled at the campuses Linz, Steyr and Wels at the University of Applied Sciences for Health Professions Upper Austria, which was founded in 2010. Seven bachelor programmes, one master programme and a master training course programme – dealing with medical-technical professions as well as midwife – are offered on academic level and with an internationally recognised degree. The study programmes combine theory, practice, science and research and enable the graduates to live up to the increasingly complex requirements in the area of health care. (www.fh-gesundheitsberufe.at)