University of Vienna

International Report 2011
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Universities in the 21st century more than ever need clear international visions in order to achieve excellence in research and education. Consequently, the University of Vienna has established and pursued a clear internationalisation strategy, the main points of which are outlined in this report. The University of Vienna actively fosters the mobility of teachers and students, recruits renowned scholars from all parts of the world, and continuously extends its co-operation with the best institutions worldwide either via bilateral agreements or by collaborating in different types of networks.

Over the past few years the commitment to internationalisation has increased among the University of Vienna’s students and staff – founded not least on the conviction that the University’s research and educational processes are enriched by new perspectives from outside. Therefore, many successful initiatives in the field of internationalisation will be continued, and new avenues will have to be explored – only in this way the quality of the University of Vienna’s research and education will have the chance to develop properly.

Arthur Mettinger, Vice Rector Educational Program Development and Internationalization 1999–2011
Heinz Faßmann, Vice Rector for Human Resources Development and International Relations 2011–2015
The Internationalisation Strategy of the University of Vienna

As an internationally orientated leading European university, the University of Vienna considers the long-term implementation of the internationalisation strategy developed in co-operation with the University Council during 2008 and 2009 to be an essential element in achieving the following goals:

- Taking up a position as one of the best research universities in Europe
- Raising its international profile
- Establishing itself as an internationally recognised purveyor of education and competence.

In this context, the University of Vienna understands internationalisation as meaning both the process of integrating an international dimension into all levels and all areas of activity of the University and also the active participation in discussions on, and the creation of, European policy with regard to research institutions and universities. Concerning the geographical dimension, the University of Vienna is pursuing the following strategy:

- Europe/EU area with a focus on Eastern and South Eastern Europe
- Areas outside of Europe concentrating on North America, Asia and Australia
Internationalisation is considered to be the shared responsibility of all University employees and is focussed in particular on the following goals:

**Research**

- Increasing co-operation with the best universities and research institutions in the world in the various subject areas
- Augmenting participation in international projects, especially those activities arising out of the EU research programmes
- Intensifying co-operation between academics from the University of Vienna and international colleagues working on similar issues
- Increasing the share of publications involving collaboration with colleagues from other European or international universities in all subject areas
- Raising the profile of achievements in research in all subject areas: greater number of articles in leading international journals; more presentations of research results at international conferences as well as hosting internationally relevant seminars and conferences at the University of Vienna
- (Further) development of internationally attractive doctoral programmes in co-operation with leading European and non-European universities and research institutions
Study and Teaching

- Increasing the international appeal of the range of courses on offer: increasing the number of international students on master’s and doctoral/PhD courses
- (Further) development of programmes of study (master’s/PhD) conducted in a language other than German
- Increasing the mobility of lecturers
- A measurable increase in the mobility of students – differentiated according to bachelor’s/master’s/PhD
- Increasing the ability of both students and lecturers to use a foreign language.
Staff

- Increasing the proportion of international academics at all levels
- Further improving quality by increasing the number of appointments made from non-German-speaking countries
- Attracting highly qualified academics, including those from outside Austria, to take up Tenure-Track appointments
- Increasing the foreign language and intercultural competence of staff at the University of Vienna – establishing the use of English throughout all services

In order to make achieving these goals measurable and verifiable, a set of central internationalisation indicators has been developed which will be regularly assessed against current data. Furthermore, the topic of internationalisation has been given appropriate attention in the University’s development plan, the University’s internal target-setting agreements and the Agreement on Achievement (“Leistungsvereinbarung”) with the Federal Ministry for Science and Research.
**Facts and Figures**

Since 2008 the internationalisation of the University of Vienna has been measured against indicators. The set of indicators has been altered in some points after discussion with the Deans of all faculties in order to reflect appropriately the demands of the individual faculties. The cross-university figures shown here are also collected on a faculty basis and made available to the individual units.

Students at the University of Vienna come from 138 countries. The share of foreign students is currently 24% of the total.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students at the University of Vienna by country of origin (Selection) (as of winter semester 2010/11)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students at the University of Vienna come from 138 countries. The share of foreign students is currently 24% of the total.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active students*</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change compared to 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>61,933</td>
<td>61,523</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>6,948</td>
<td>6,322</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary</td>
<td>3,149</td>
<td>2,912</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia</td>
<td>1,769</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1,141</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>–10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>–1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>–5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>–1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Students who have sat at least one examination during the semester or who have passed the majority of the required examinations. The figures are based on the winter semesters 2009/10 and 2010/11.
In comparison with 2009 the number of Austrian students rose by 1%, the number of foreign students in the countries listed above by an average of 7%.

Number of students participating in international mobility programmes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student mobility at the University of Vienna</th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
<th>2009/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total outgoing</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of these mobility to EU countries</td>
<td>1492</td>
<td>1525</td>
<td>1526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of these mobility to non-EU countries</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total incoming</td>
<td>1622</td>
<td>1718</td>
<td>1706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of these students from EU countries</td>
<td>1202</td>
<td>1231</td>
<td>1195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of these students from non-EU countries</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>511</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Mobility is counted separately for both the winter and summer semester. Therefore students staying for one academic year are counted twice.
The mobility of outgoing students has increased by 3% in 2009/10, whereas the number of incoming students is slightly lower than in the previous academic year.

The figures show the increasing interest of students of the University of Vienna in participating in study-abroad programmes as well as the attractiveness of the University of Vienna as a host university for incoming students.
ERASMUS Programme

The University of Vienna offers many mobility programmes for students allowing them to undertake a one or two semester period of study abroad at a partner university. The best-known programme is ERASMUS (for study-abroad periods in Europe).

**ERASMUS outgoing students by destination (Top 10) (Academic year 2010/11)**

The most popular destinations in the ERAMUS Programme are France, Spain, United Kingdom, Italy and Germany. Scandinavian countries are also very attractive for students from the University of Vienna, not least because many Scandinavian universities offer a comprehensive range of courses in English.
Around 50% of incoming students come from Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Poland. In addition to Germany and Italy, many other neighbouring countries of Austria such as the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Hungary are well represented.

Joint Study Programmes

Joint Study Programmes give students the opportunity to study abroad for one or two semesters at a partner university of the University of Vienna outside Europe.

Australia, United States, Russia, Japan, Canada and Latin America are the most popular destinations. Most of the incoming students in Joint Study Programmes come from these countries/continents. The larger number of incoming students in comparison with outgoing students is due to short programmes (one month to ten weeks), which are very attractive for incoming students from the USA and Australia. In return students from the University of Vienna stay one semester at the partner institution.
Whereas the Erasmus Programme is financed by the EU (with support from the Austrian government), funding for outgoing students in Joint Study Programmes is provided by the University of Vienna and is based on agreements at university, faculty or departmental level. Exchange agreements are concluded to facilitate mobility at undergraduate and graduate levels including the exchange of PhD students and academic staff.

### Outgoing Students on Joint Study Programmes by destination (Top countries) (Academic year 2010/11)

- **Australia**: 30
- **USA**: 22
- **Canada**: 20
- **Japan**: 21
- **Russia**: 19
- **Argentina**: 7
- **China**: 6
- **Mexico**: 6
- **Chile**: 4

### Incoming Students on Joint Study Programmes by country of origin (Top countries) (Academic year 2010/11)

- **USA**: 90
- **Australia**: 49
- **Canada**: 15
- **Japan**: 22
- **Russia**: 11
- **South Africa**: 2
- **Singapur**: 2
- **Mexico**: 2
19.5% of all courses offered at the University of Vienna are taught in a foreign language.

Since the number of courses taught in a foreign language includes the courses offered by the Foreign Languages Departments, the calculated share of 19.5% can be seen as relatively low.

The University of Vienna intends to increase the number of courses taught in a foreign language in order to become more attractive to international students and in order to prepare its students better for an international working environment. In almost all areas of research it is imperative to be able to communicate in English.
Inter-university collaborations

Ranking of the partner institutions (QS World University ranking, formerly Times Higher Education Supplement ranking)

Partner universities as ranked in
QS World University ranking 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking according to QS World University ranking 2010</th>
<th>Number of partner universities of the University of Vienna</th>
<th>Number as a %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1–50</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51–100</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101–150</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151–200</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201–300</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301–400</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401–600</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unranked partner universities</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>51</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The University of Vienna has 51 partners at university level, including the University of Chicago, Stanford University, Australian National University and Peking University. Approximately one third of our partner universities are ranked among the top 100 world-wide. The University of Vienna’s internationalisation strategy is to develop few partnerships but with top class universities in North America, Australia and, in recent years, a growing number in Asia. In addition to the ranking of the partner university, common research and teaching interests and existing faculty links are a prerequisite for the conclusion of an agreement with a partner university.
Number of non-Austrians on the academic staff
(as at June 2011)

Composition of academic staff (total)
By place of origin (full-time equivalent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>EU</th>
<th>other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>count</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Composition of academic staff financed by third-party funding
By place of origin (full-time equivalent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>EU</th>
<th>other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>count</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total share of international academic staff at the University of Vienna is 34%. For those in receipt of third party funding, this figure increases to 44%.
Number of appointments from abroad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment of professors by country of origin</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

75% of the professors appointed in 2010 were appointed from abroad, clearly demonstrating that in this regard the University of Vienna has achieved its goal of becoming attractive to international academics. Of the 35 appointments made from EU countries, 26 were from Germany.

Internationally funded research projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project total (in Euro)</th>
<th>Projects funded by the EU</th>
<th>Projects funded by other countries</th>
<th>Projects funded by Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1,671</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1,814</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,965</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenue: Total amount of third party funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project total (in Euro)</th>
<th>Projects funded by the EU</th>
<th>Projects funded by other countries</th>
<th>Projects funded by Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>53,600,283</td>
<td>8,444,091</td>
<td>363,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>57,964,886</td>
<td>9,158,928</td>
<td>146,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>66,210,330</td>
<td>11,214,358</td>
<td>774,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compared to 2008, the number of third-party funded projects rose by 17% and the revenue by 28%.
Compared to 2009, the number of projects rose by 6%. The total amount of third party funding, however, increased by 14%. EU- and internationally funded projects together rose by 30%.
International co-operation is arranged nowadays through a variety of instruments. One of these is what is known as the university partnership agreement, which formalises the co-operation between universities through written contracts. This was established long before the many opportunities to develop links through participation in EU and other international research and mobility programmes were developed, and has contributed significantly to the consolidation of the University of Vienna’s focal points in Central Europe, North America, Australia and Asia.

Intensive, fruitful research links with academics in the USA have for decades been normal practice at the University of Vienna with its broad spectrum of subjects and methods. The sheer number and variety of shared academic publications provides concrete evidence of this fact. The “Advanced Graduate Exchange Programme” with Stanford University, the exchanges with the University of Chicago, Duke University or Georgetown University in Washington (one of the most long-standing partner universities of the University of Vienna – since 1988) are milestones in these relationships and are intended to enable young, highly qualified academics to create lasting contacts, to undertake co-operative research projects and to hold their own in teaching and lecturing abroad. These and other agreements with universities, such as the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, New York University or the University of Washington (Seattle), are of great importance for
student exchanges. The exchange places at these universities are very popular and enable students from the University of Vienna to gain a clear insight into a system of studying and teaching which has developed in a very different way from our own, thereby often acquiring new methodological approaches to their own subject area. This same kind of experience is had and enjoyed by students from the University of Vienna at top universities in Australia – such as the Australian National University or the Universities of Sydney, Melbourne or Queensland – and in Canada (among others the Université de Montréal, Carleton University in Ottawa or the University of Toronto). The number of incoming students from these same universities shows that studying at the University of Vienna is equally seen as highly desirable.

Given the central location of the University of Vienna in the heart of Europe and the links which have grown up over the centuries with universities in the countries which lie to its East and South East, the University of Vienna was determined long before the fall of the Iron Curtain to sustain the many relationships it had developed throughout history. Partnership agreements with Eötvös Lorand University Budapest and Warsaw University date back to 1977, the one with Charles University in Prague to 1987, and 1991 saw the signing of agreements with the Komensky (Comenius) University in Bratislava and the Masaryk University in Brno, followed some years later by agreements with the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, the University of Zagreb and most recently with the Lomonosov University in Moscow. These networks and the many contacts forged as part of the university partnerships have intensified
research relationships and have led, among other things, to more joint publications being produced, to jointly hosted congresses and symposia, and finally to increased use of the opportunities for cooperation provided by the EU Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development FP6 and FP7.

The expertise on Latin America which can be found at the University of Vienna is supported by formalised opportunities to co-operate with the Universidad de Chile, the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, the Universidad National Autónoma de México, as well as the CIESAS (Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology, Mexico). Naturally, the agreements with these universities offer a range of research and exchange opportunities to a variety of subject areas.

In addition to university-wide partnership agreements, there are a range of co-operation agreements which are carried out under strictly defined conditions in order to take account of departmental or subject-specific requirements, where this would not be possible without an agreement.

Student mobility and lecturer exchanges with universities in Europe (research in Europe is increasingly coming under the remit of FP6 and FP7) are predominantly arranged through the ERASMUS or CEEPUS (Central Exchange Programme for University Studies, created by Austria in 1995) programmes. ERASMUS is the major mobility programme for students and lecturers from the Member States of the European Union,
The University of Vienna boasts more than 350 universities throughout Europe as Erasmus partner universities and in terms of Erasmus mobility figures ranks among the top ten universities in Europe. With its very active participation in highly qualified consortia within the Erasmus Mundus and the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window Programmes, the University of Vienna sets another sign for world-wide co-operation going beyond Europe.

Current developments in European university systems are seen by the University of Vienna as being an ideal opportunity to strengthen its position as a research institution and to increase the attractiveness of studying here for international students. Forging sustainable links in many international networks is a necessity for a European research institution nowadays and contributes significantly to raising its profile. For this reason the University of Vienna is a member of the following networks at central level:

IAU (International Association of Universities) is the UNESCO-based worldwide association of higher education institutions, founded in 1950. It brings together institutions and organisations from more than 120 countries to reflect and act on common concerns, and collaborates with various international, regional and national bodies active in higher education. The University of Vienna has been a member for many years.
EUA (European University Association) – Umbrella organisation of European universities and national Rectors’ Conferences with more than 850 members in 47 countries. The University of Vienna is also a member of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education.

UNICA (Network of UNIversities from the CApitals of Europe) – 43 universities from 32 countries form this network and represent more than 120,000 employees and more than 1.5 million students. Representatives and employees of the University of Vienna are active in many of the UNICA Working groups. In 2010 the General Assembly and the 20th Anniversary of the founding of this network was held at the University of Vienna.

ASEA-UNINET (formerly: Austrian-South-East Asian University Partnership Network, since 1999: ASEAN-European Academic University Network) is a multilateral network initiated by Austria in 1994 which grew out of a bilateral agreement with a few Austrian universities, including the University of Vienna, and which now supports collaborative research with 35 South East Asian partner institutions.
EURASIA-PACIFIC UNINET is an educational network with more than 100 member institutions, which supports activities in Central and Eastern Asia and the Pacific area. It funds PhD and postdoctoral grants, teaching and research visits and research projects.

DRC (Danube Rectors’ Conference) is an association that was founded in 1983 (with the University of Vienna as one of the founders) with the aim of intensifying collaboration between the now 49 member universities from 13 countries of the Danube region. Here too the University of Vienna is represented in individual working groups.
University Partnerships outside Europe

Duke University, North Carolina
New York University, New York City
Georgetown University, Washington D.C.
University of Ottawa
Université de Montréal
Concordia University, Montreal
Washington & Jefferson College, Pennsylvania
University of Chicago
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Stanford University
New York University, New York City
University of Ottawa
Université de Montréal
Concordia University, Montreal
Washington & Jefferson College, Pennsylvania
University of Chicago
University of Washington, Seattle
Stanford University
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City
CIESAS (Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology), Mexico City
Universidad Nacional, Heredia
Universidad de Chile, Santiago
Countries with Partner Universities of the University of Vienna

- Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- University of Pretoria
- University of Sydney
- Tohoku University, Sendai
- Waseda University, Tokyo
- Tokai University, Tokyo
- Kyoto University, Kyoto
- Osaka University, Osaka
- Seoul National University
- Yonsei University, Seoul
- Korea University, Seoul
- Tamkang University, Taipei
- Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
- University of Western Australia, Perth
- University of Melbourne
- Monash University, Melbourne
- Australian National University, Canberra
- Macquarie University, Sydney
- Peking University
- Renmin University of China, Peking
- China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), Peking
- University of Melbourne
- Monash University, Melbourne
- Australian National University, Canberra
- Macquarie University, Sydney
Traditionally, the University of Vienna has always maintained good contacts with universities and academic institutions in Asia. Co-operations between the University of Vienna and international partners based on contractual agreements and participation in networks constitute an important instrument for the exchange of academics, in particular junior researchers. The internationalisation strategy developed by the Rectorate in 2008 summarises the core areas of the University of Vienna's international policy and its fields of activities.

The development of partnerships in Asia, in particular in China, Japan and Korea and via the ASEA-UNINET (previously: Austrian – South-East Asian University Partnership Network, since 1999: ASEAN-European Academic University Network) in South-East Asia is one of the main aspects of the internationalisation process. Agreements are generally concluded at university level with universities whose academic profile is comparable to that of the University of Vienna.

Formalised contacts to universities in Asia date back to the early 1990s, and were initially created within the framework of ASEA-UNINET.
For the Department of Sinology, established at the University of Vienna as long ago as 1973, the conclusion of a partnership agreement with the Peking University in 1997 constituted a milestone in the direct co-operation with China. An agreement concluded with the Renmin University of China in 2003 and a recent agreement with the Chinese University of Political Science and Law (CUPL) supports the activities of the Sinology Department, which focuses on area studies, teaching not only modern and classical Chinese, but also giving considerable attention to the communication of significant historical, cultural, economic and political background. It was in this context that the first Confucius-Institute in Austria was founded at the University of Vienna in September 2006. The Institute defines itself as a language and cultural institute that was set up as a co-operation between the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) and the University of Vienna. Thanks to its excellence in the field of the teaching of the Chinese language (in 2009, the Confucius-Institute at the University of Vienna achieved second place out of 25 countries in a worldwide Chinese competition for children) and over 100 events held so far, the Institute has become a place for encounter and a platform for many joint projects. It was only logical that the Department for East Asian Studies extended its China co-operation activities by means of an agreement for the creation of a “European Chinese Language and Culture Programme” at Peking University (jointly with the University of Würzburg) and an agreement with the Chinese Ministry of Education (Guojia Hanban) on the development of what is at present the only teacher training degree course for Chinese in Austria.
The fields of Japanese and Korean Studies are also prominently represented at the Department for East Asian Studies. Japanese Studies at the University of Vienna can look back on almost 50 years of institutional status. The first universities with which the University of Vienna concluded an agreement at university level in Japan were the universities of Kyoto (1993) and Waseda (2000). These were followed by Osaka, Tokai and Tohoku universities. Alongside agreements at university level, there are also a number of departmental agreements, including with Hosei University (Tokyo), the Metropolitan University Tokyo, the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Meiji University (Tokyo), Momoyama Gakuin University (Osaka) and Yokohama City University, which provide students of Japanese studies with a variety of opportunities for a study period in the target-language country and hence to encounter the teaching and learning culture of Japan as well as the country and its people.

In the academic year 2008/09, Korean Studies was finally able to complete its development from what was originally an “associated teaching and research sector” within the Department for Japanese Studies to an independent course of studies by means of the creation of two regular degree courses (bachelor’s and master’s in Korean Studies), and now constitutes the third subject within the Department for East Asian Studies. This development is backed by partnership agreements at university level with Seoul National University, Yonsei University and Korea University, which, like the departmental agreements with Kyunghee University (business management studies) and Kyungnam University (Korean studies), permit a lively exchange of academics and students.
In Taiwan, the University of Vienna co-operates with Tamkang University in the subjects of business management, European law, German studies and Sinology. The establishment of a Vienna Centre of Taiwan Studies is being considered with the National Chengchi University, and the Centre for Business Management co-operates with the National Chiao Tung University.

The expertise on Asia and its languages, cultures and philosophies at the University of Vienna is also reflected in the longstanding history of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies. Academic Austrian South Asian research began with the teaching of Sanskrit for the first time at the University of Vienna in 1845, and since then has been pursued by world-ranking academics. The focus was and is inter alia on the investigation of the history of Indian philosophy, work on Buddhist logics and epistemology, on Tibetan cultural and social anthropology and, most recently, on analyses of religious pluralism and ethnic minorities in modern South Asia.

Transnational interdisciplinary research approaches and a self concept as “area studies” are also characteristic of South Asian research; the creation of the “Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Documentation of Inner and South Asian Cultural History (CIRDIS)” in 2006 at the Department of History of Art is intended to develop new cross-disciplinary research models and in 2011 set up the doctoral college in “Cultural Transfers and Cross-Contacts in the Himalayan Borderlands” together with various other faculties at the University of Vienna.
In India, the University of Vienna holds an agreement with the University of Pune, providing for co-operation in Global, European, German, South Asian and English Studies and in Social Anthropology; an agreement with the Jawaharlal Nehru University in the field of art history; and agreements with the Indira Gandhi National Open University and the Indian International Multiversity, Pune, providing above all support for teaching and the development of (distance learning) curricula for German as a foreign language.

Alongside agreements at university level with Chulalongkorn University and the University of Chiang Mai, co-operation with Thailand is primarily via the ASEA UNINET. This network of universities promotes research co-operation with and in the countries of South-East Asia, and currently comprises 65 partner universities. The funding possibilities are above all used by academics from the field of the natural, legal and social sciences. Junior researchers are also increasingly submitting applications for projects, and the number of approved projects for the University of Vienna is around 30 each year. In recent years, the University of Vienna has been represented in the coordinating body by Vice Rector Mettinger.

The second large network that promotes co-operation with institutions in Asia is the Eurasia-Pacific UNINET (EPU), whose activities extend to Central Asia, East Asia and the Pacific region. Funding is provided for PhD and postdoctoral candidates, teaching and research visits by academics and for individual projects. The University of Vienna is also successful with applications within this network.
The quality-focused co-operation strategy has been continued through the Erasmus Mundus Partnership Programme since 2009. The University of Vienna is a partner in three major projects within this EU funding scheme.

In the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window, Lot 14 China, the University of Vienna, under the coordination of Lund University (Sweden), is intensifying its successful relationships with Chinese universities, inter-alia Peking, Wuhan and Fudan universities, and acts as host for incoming PhD candidates, postdocs and academics, while for its part also has the possibility of sending its own students and academics and teaching staff to the corresponding universities.

Within the EMEA (Erasmus Mundus Europe Asia), likewise a project coordinated by Lund University, the University of Vienna receives students and academics from universities in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

In the Gulf region, the University of Vienna co-operates under the coordination of the University of Deusto (Spain) in the “EM Strand 2 Lot 5 Gulf Countries” project inter alia with the King Abdullah University of Sciences and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia and the Sultan Qaboos University in Oman.

“The University of Vienna’s excellent networking with Asian universities is the result of a long-term co-operation strategy that focuses on quality”, states Vice Rector Arthur Mettinger.
Summer schools and summer universities provide an opportunity to acquire or consolidate specialist knowledge and/or linguistic skills in an atmosphere far removed from everyday teaching situations, and as a rule are characterised by the international composition and focus of the participants and the teaching staff. They are therefore ideal places for international encounter and dialogue.

The University of Vienna, and its faculties and departments, offer summer programmes in a wide variety of forms and specialisations. These comprise entirely subject-specific courses or courses that combine the communication of subject knowledge and language skills; “summer terms” in the course of which core elements of ordinary degree courses are offered a second time during the summer; and finally purely language courses. Some of the courses are held at the University of Vienna, some take place at various locations of scenic and cultural interest in Austria, while others are held entirely abroad. The target groups range from schoolchildren to doctoral students, and in some cases they are also aimed at those who are already pursuing their professional careers.
In recent years, the holding of summer universities and summer courses in co-operation with other national and international institutions has proved to be an increasingly successful approach, as have ERASMUS Intensive Programmes in the form of summer (and in some cases winter) schools. The language of the summer courses is as a rule either English or German, and in some cases a combination of the two. Successful completion leads to the award of ECTS credits or University of Vienna certificates. The summer schools presented below provide an insight into the wide range available at the University of Vienna.

The oldest of these summer schools is the International Summer Programme of the University of Vienna in Strobl/St. Wolfgang (SHS), which was set up as early as 1949, shortly after the end of the Second World War, and at that time constituted a clear symbol of the University opening its doors to the outside world. In the course of over 60 years, more than 5,000 students from all over the world have spent usually four weeks investigating Austrian and European culture, law, history and politics (European studies in the broadest sense) and at the same time learned German in language courses. The SHS is famous not only for the outstanding academic programme, but also for the venue: the banks of Lake Wolfgangsee in the heart of the Salzkammergut. The annual Summer Discourse within the framework of this summer university – a three-day event for managers from the fields of business, law and culture, launched in 2008 – enables the University of Vienna to fulfil its mission of being a place of reflection, systematic exchange of ideas and dialogue also outside of the academic year.
In 2010, the Vienna International Summer University – Scientific World Conceptions (VISU/SWC) celebrated its 10th anniversary. In collaboration with the “Vienna Circle” Institute (taking its name from an association of philosophers around Moritz Schlick, a professor at the University of Vienna in the 1920s and 1930s), two-week summer courses are held in English on current interdisciplinary philosophical topics from the natural and social sciences, which from the very beginning attracted top-quality academics as lecturers. The summer course is intended for graduates and young academics and is in addition an integral part of the curriculum of the three-year doctoral degree course in “The Sciences in Historical, Philosophical and Cultural Contexts”.

Dialogue is also at the heart of the Vienna International Christian-Islamic Summer University (VICISU), held at two-year intervals since 2008. This is a three-week summer programme that aims at bringing together students and graduates from a number of partner institutions in Europe, Africa and Asia. It evolved from the “Vienna International Christian-Islamic Round Table”, an initiative by academics from different fields of specialisation, such as theology, law and social sciences, in order to discuss the most important questions concerning our modern world from a Christian and a Muslim perspective.

The European Summer University on Jewish History and Culture at Hohenems, originally a summer university of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, has been a joint project of the latter, the University of Basel, the Hohenems Jewish Museum and the Universities of Vienna and Salzburg since 2009.

The Department for Papyrology and Epigraphy of the University of Vienna organises the Digital Media in Papyrology Summer School in co-operation with the Austrian National Library, which with roughly 180,000 items holds one of the world’s largest papyrus collections.
The Department for Theatre, Film and Media Studies at the University of Vienna has been a co-operation partner of the Summer School on Performance and Media Studies since 2010 together with the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz and Trinity College Dublin.

NICLAS (New International Constitutional Law Approach), an ERASMUS Intensive Programme, is a summer course which aims are to analyse the policy areas at stake by means of major ICL (International Constitutional Law) categories such as human rights, democracy and justice in the form of rule of law and good governance.

In order to develop CREOLE (a joint master’s programme on Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes) and then within the framework of this master’s programme, the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Vienna held summer courses through the ERASMUS Intensive Programme over nine consecutive years.

The CoWaSo (Cold War and Society) ERASMUS Intensive Programme, on the other hand, is held as a winter school and brings together PhD candidates from five countries to deepen the theoretical approaches to the analysis of the effects of the Cold War.

The Marie Jahoda Summer School of Sociology (named after the famous sociologist Marie Jahoda) of the Department of Sociology and the International Summer School on Communication and Media (ISCM) of the Department of Communication at the University of Vienna were offered for the first time in 2011. The “Marie Jahoda Summer School” held in German and English, is intended for interested doctoral students from Europe whose dissertations are related to the topic “Economy – Markets – Organisation: the Culture of the Modern Economy”, while the International Summer School on Communication and Media invited master’s and doctoral students from nine countries to exchange ideas on the topic of “Knowledge – Media – Society”.

In contrast, the Department of Social Studies of Science has for years been holding the Summer School in Raach am Hochgebirge within which its master’s and doctoral students present the latest state of their work and discuss it with renowned international guest commentators. The Summer School on the Current State of Research on Gender-Specific Violence also gives the next generation of scientists the opportunity to pursue an interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and consolidate their research specialisations.

The interdisciplinary Summer School on Media Anthropology is dedicated to media constructions and adjustments of the concept of man from the 18th to the 21st centuries, while the Numismatic Summer in Vienna dealt with questions of money and its history for the fourth time in 2011. The Faculty of Business, Economics and Statistics offers not only summer schools but also “summer terms” in Business Administration, within which a number of core elements of the ordinary degree course from the preceding summer semester are offered a second time in a block during the summer.

The Vienna Biocenter founded the VBC Vienna Biocenter Summer School in 2010, in which the Center for Molecular Biology of the University of Vienna took part. The success of this summerschool was repeated in 2011. The Summer School provides a unique opportunity for 25 undergraduate students interested in a graduate degree course in the life sciences arena to work side by side with leading researchers in a dynamic scientific environment.
The Summer Schools on NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) Spectroscopy in Liquids and Chromatography and Hyphenation with Mass Spectrometry organised alternately by the Departments for Organic and Analytical Chemistry in co-operation with other universities and the Austrian Chemical Society at two-year intervals can boast a longer tradition. The Summer School on Drug Design offered by the Department for Medicinal Chemistry is aimed at higher-semester students (in particular PhD candidates) and professionals who are specifically interested in computational technologies in drug design.

The Faculty of Physics offers three summer universities, providing further training in the fields of Basic Aerosol Sciences, Quanta – Atoms – Molecules (organized by the Vienna Doctoral Programme on Complex Quantum Systems [CoQuS] together with the Vienna University of Technology) and the Didactics of Physics and eLearning.

For schoolchildren, the Faculty of Mathematics has set up the regular Summer School in Mathematics together with the University of Innsbruck. Upper-grade pupils are introduced to various sub-areas of higher mathematics by university professors. Within the GEN-AU initiative (genome research in Austria), pupils from the 11th school grade upwards are given the opportunity to get to know the daily routine in a laboratory over several weeks in a summer internship in natural science subjects such as chemistry, molecular biology, biophysics and bioinformatics. The University of Vienna regularly participates in GEN-AU.
In order to prepare students at Austrian universities for international competition or a study abroad, the Austrian Ministry of Science has provided funds for **Summer Colleges/Bilateral Tandem Language Courses** for rarer languages since the early 1990s. In these summer colleges, Austrian students take courses in the language of the host country and at the same time students from the host country take German lessons. A large number of modern language departments at the University of Vienna have been involved in this initiative as organisers of extremely successful summer colleges since the very beginning. The colleges are offered by the University of Vienna in Portuguese, Catalan, Russian, Hungarian, Czech, Polish and Bulgarian. The courses usually take place in the target language countries and the experiences there often encourage the participating students to spend a period abroad.

An attraction for students from abroad and for non-native German speakers is the traditionally extensive range of **German Language Courses** offered by the Innovation Centre of the University of Vienna at a wide variety of levels and intensities during the summer months. Alongside the acquisition of language, considerable importance is also attached to the communication of cultural knowledge about Vienna and Austria by means of a varied programme of excursions and leisure activities. Not infrequently, the attendance at such a German course has also been a reason for students subsequently deciding to pursue an exchange semester or an entire degree course at the University of Vienna.

The variety of summer courses offered by the University of Vienna is impressive with regard to target groups, subject areas, venues and funding bodies and reflects the wide range of scientific disciplines represented at the University of Vienna.