



AUCEN

Austrian University Continuing Education and Staff Development Network

Contact details

<http://www.aucen.ac.at>

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Background

AUCEN is a formal network of responsible persons for continuing education and staff development at Austrian universities. Since October 6, 2005, AUCEN is organised as registered association.

- Who are the network partners?
 - All 22 public universities in Austria can become members. To participate in the network a formal membership is required. For further information contact: aucen@univie.ac.at
 - Members delegate persons for university continuing education and staff development.
 - The aim is to build a cooperative network that involves functionaries (rectors and vice-rectors) and experts for continuing education and staff development within the universities.

- Who represents AUCEN?
 - Externally the network AUCEN is represented by a President and vice-chairman. The present chairman is Priv.-Doz. Mag. Dr. Nino Tomaschek MAS, Director of the Postgraduate Center at the University of Vienna. The present Vice-President is Mag. Anna Steiger, Vice-Rector for HR and Gender at the Technical University Vienna.
 - The AUCEN-office assists the president and vice president, performs organisational tasks and is the contact point for all members as well as for other institutions and persons.
 - The staff of the AUCEN office is partly financed by the annual fees of the members. The Office is institutionally anchored at the home university of the spokesperson.

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- How do the members network?
 - AUCEN can only exist because of the actions of responsible persons. Therefore AUCEN persists through contributions and commitments of all of its members.
 - Communication and networking mainly occur virtually, especially via e-mails.
 - Face-to-face contacts are made in semi-annual meetings: in plenary sessions and smaller working groups specific requests and topics are followed up.
 - In addition to these meetings, several persons and working groups meet each other to work out specific topics if required.

Focus

- Communication and Dialogue
 - AUCEN is a platform where responsible persons for continuing education and staff development at Austrian universities can exchange their experiences.
 - Available competencies and experiences are bunched together. Both subject areas shall be advanced and professionalised jointly and in a division of labour.
 - The dialogue between the AUCEN-network and other national and international bodies, institutions and networks shall be stimulated.
- Development of Quality and Quality Assurance
 - To develop and assure quality standards is a constant challenge.
 - Members of the AUCEN-network work on the advancement and assurance of quality criteria in both subject areas.
- Common Forum for University Continuing Education and University Staff Development
 - University continuing education and university staff development address different target groups.
 - The common interest is to exchange experiences and ideas and to strengthen the position of both subject areas by jointly strategies.
- Contribution to New Developments at the Universities
 - As universities become autonomous at the beginning of 2004, the external universities continuing education and the internal staff development play an important role.
 - The AUCEN-network pursues joint strategies and stimulates the implementation of new concepts.

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