

Press Release

June 1, 2015

WU welcomes the Austrian Academy of Sciences to its new Department Building 5

WU is pleased to welcome the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW) to Campus WU. Starting August 1, the ÖAW's Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) will be renting offices in WU's newest department building (D5).

ÖAW will be renting an entire floor in the D5 building, with a total floor space of approximately 700m². Some 50 ÖAW employees will be working and conducting research in the building. "We are pleased to welcome the ÖAW to Campus WU. This will strengthen our already existing cooperation," says Rector Badelt.

Cooperation between WU and ÖAW

WU and ÖAW have worked together closely for some time. With WU's Demography Group, the WU Research Institute for Human Capital and Development, and ÖAW's Vienna Institute of Demography, the two institutions are concentrating their competences in the field of global demography under one roof, namely that of the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (in cooperation with the World Population Program of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis [IIASA] in Laxenburg). Both WU's Demography Group and the Research Institute for Human Capital and Development will also be moving to the new building along with the ÖAW institute. Founding Director of the Wittgenstein Centre is WU professor Wolfgang Lutz, who heads all three of the cooperating institutes/programs. "By moving into WU's new D5 building, we are taking a further step to strengthen Vienna as a center for demography research," says Lutz about the plans to unite both institutions under the same roof.

About the D5 Building

WU purchased the building, situated on the only available lot immediately adjacent to Campus WU, in late 2013 to be able to provide additional classrooms and office space. Construction on the complex began in September 2013 and was completed in April of 2015. The building has been in trial operation since May, this phase will be concluded at the end of June, when WU will take over operation of the building and start relocating offices over the summer. In addition to the ÖAW on the second floor, parts of the WU Department for Socioeconomics will be moving into the third floor. The remaining floors will be occupied by the WU Department for Strategy and Innovation. Like the other buildings on Campus WU, the ground floor of D5 is publically accessible and contains an auditorium seating 165 and a 60-seat seminar room. Up one open flight of stairs are a further 60-seat seminar room, three 30-seat seminar rooms, and an individual study zone for up to 40 students. The top five floors house office units. The basic design and all operational planning requirements conform to the standards in place on Campus WU, facilitating the uncomplicated integration of the new building into campus operations. The official opening will be held in September.

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