

**25<sup>th</sup> Conference of  
Rectors and Presidents of  
European Universities of Technology**

**Research at Universities of Technology:  
National, European & International Aspects**

**Programme**

**14-15 September, 2006**

**2006 Conference Host:  
Vienna University of Technology  
Austria**

**The meetings will take place in the  
Boeckl Hall, main building of  
Vienna University of Technology  
Karlsplatz 13, A 1040 Vienna, Austria**

## **Background of the Conference:**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of Rectors and Presidents of European Universities of Technology is organised at a point in time when important decisions on future European research and technological development activities are due to be taken:

- The preparations for the 7<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration will be far advanced;
- In addition, the discussions on the European Institute of Technology will be still on the agenda.

In addition, there is clear evidence that we are witnessing the evolution of a European Knowledge, Research and Innovation System encompassing and linking the regional and national systems of the member states. Thus, there is a clear need to discuss the different roles and functions regional, national, European and international research programmes and activities are playing. Coordination and creating synergies between the different elements of the systems will become more and more important tasks.

In the implementation of the Lisbon agenda, the universities and their research portfolio are playing an ever-increasing role. For university leaders it is becoming a major challenge to ensuring a stimulating environment for research activities utilizing and nurturing specific research interests and interests. At the same time, there is a need for developing a specific institutional research profile and portfolio supporting a prominent position in the European Research Area and world wide.

The well established forum of this conference will offer an excellent opportunity to take stock of recent developments and discuss inputs for the ongoing political decision processes. Conference host and coordinator are looking forward to welcome you in Vienna in September.

Prof. Peter Skalicky  
Rector  
Vienna University of Technology  
2006 Conference Host

Prof. Manfred Horvat  
Conference Coordinator

# Programme

**Day 1, 14 September, 2006**

- 13:00 - 13:30    Arrival and registration of participants at Conference site  
Coffee, tea and biscuits
- 13:30 - 14:00    **Welcome and Official Opening**  
Peter Skalicky, Rector, Vienna University of Technology, Austria  
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, Vienna University of  
Technology, Austria  
Elisabeth Gehrler, Minister for Education, Science and Culture, Austria
- 14:00 - 14:30    **The Role of University Research for the Development of the  
Knowledge Society and Economy in Europe**  
Janez Potocnik, Commissioner for Research and Science, European  
Commission (Video statement)  
Jerzy M. Langer, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Physics, former  
State Secretary for Science and Research, Poland, Member of EURAB
- 14:30 - 15:00    **Discussion**
- 15:00 - 15:30    **Break**
- 15:30 - 16:00    **The European Research Council (ERC) and the “Ideas” Programme  
of the 7<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme: New dimensions for university  
research in Europe**  
Helga Nowotny, Vice-President, Scientific Council, European Research  
Council (ERC), 7<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme for Research, Technological  
Development and Demonstration
- 16:00 - 16:30    **Research and economy: Partners or “partners”**  
Gunter Leising, Lumitech Production and Development GmbH, and  
Professor, Institute for Solid State Physics, Graz University of Technology  
and Institute for Nanostructural Material and Photonics, Joanneum  
Research, Austria
- 16:30 - 17:15    **Discussion on the future of basic or frontier research in Europe**
- 17:15 - 17:30    **Conclusions from Day 1**

**Accompanying persons' afternoon programme:**

**Walk to and visit to the Hofburg (Imperial Silver Collection) followed by coffee  
or tea at K.u.K. (Imperial and Royal) Court Confectionary Bakery Demel**

**Evening programme:**

**19:00: Conference Dinner, Technisches Museum Wien**

## Day 2, 15 September, 2006

### Perspectives of European Universities of Technology in promoting their national, European and international research activities

#### 09:00 - 10:30 **Session 1**

##### 09:00 - 09:30 **Is it possible to shape a university's research portfolio and to develop synergies between top down and bottom up approaches?**

- Peter Skalicky, Rector, Vienna University of Technology, Austria
- Bill Wakeham, Vice-Chancellor, University of Southampton, United Kingdom

##### 09:30 - 09:45 **Discussion**

##### 09:45 - 10:15 **University research and regional and national innovation systems**

- Pavel Jura, Vice-Rector, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic
- Adriano de Maio, representative of the President of the Region Lombardia for Higher Education, Research and Innovation; former Rector of Politecnico di Milano, Italy

##### 10:15 - 10:30 **Discussion**

#### 10:30 - 11:00 **Break**

#### 11:00 - 12:30 **Session 2**

##### 11:00 - 11:30 **Is it a task for university management to contribute to creating the European Research Area?**

- Georg Winckler, Rector, Vienna University, and President, European University Association (EUA)
- Janusz Rachon, Rector, Technical University of Gdansk, Poland

##### 11:30 - 11:45 **Discussion**

##### 11:45 - 12:15 **Why having a university strategy for international research cooperation and how to implement it?**

- Manuel Seabra Pereira, Vice-Rector, Lisbon University of Technology, Portugal
- Paul De Boeck, Vice-President for Research, Catholic University Leuven, Belgium

##### 12:15 - 12:45 **Discussion**

#### 12:45 - 13:00 **Final general discussion and conference conclusions**

#### 13:00 - 13:15 **Outlook to the 26<sup>th</sup> Conference**

Konrad Osterwalder, Rector, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), Switzerland; Host of 2007 Conference  
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, Vienna University of Technology, Austria

#### 13:15 - 14:15 **Conference closing followed by a light buffet lunch**

Peter Skalicky, Rector, Vienna University of Technology, Austria

**Afternoon & Evening**    **Excursion to Schoenbrunn Palace,  
Informal dinner buffet at a typical Viennese wine yard restaurant**

## **2006 Conference host:**

**Prof. Peter Skalicky**  
Rector  
Vienna University of Technology  
Austria

## **2006 Conference organisation:**

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## **Conference homepage:**

<http://www.bit.or.at/crp>