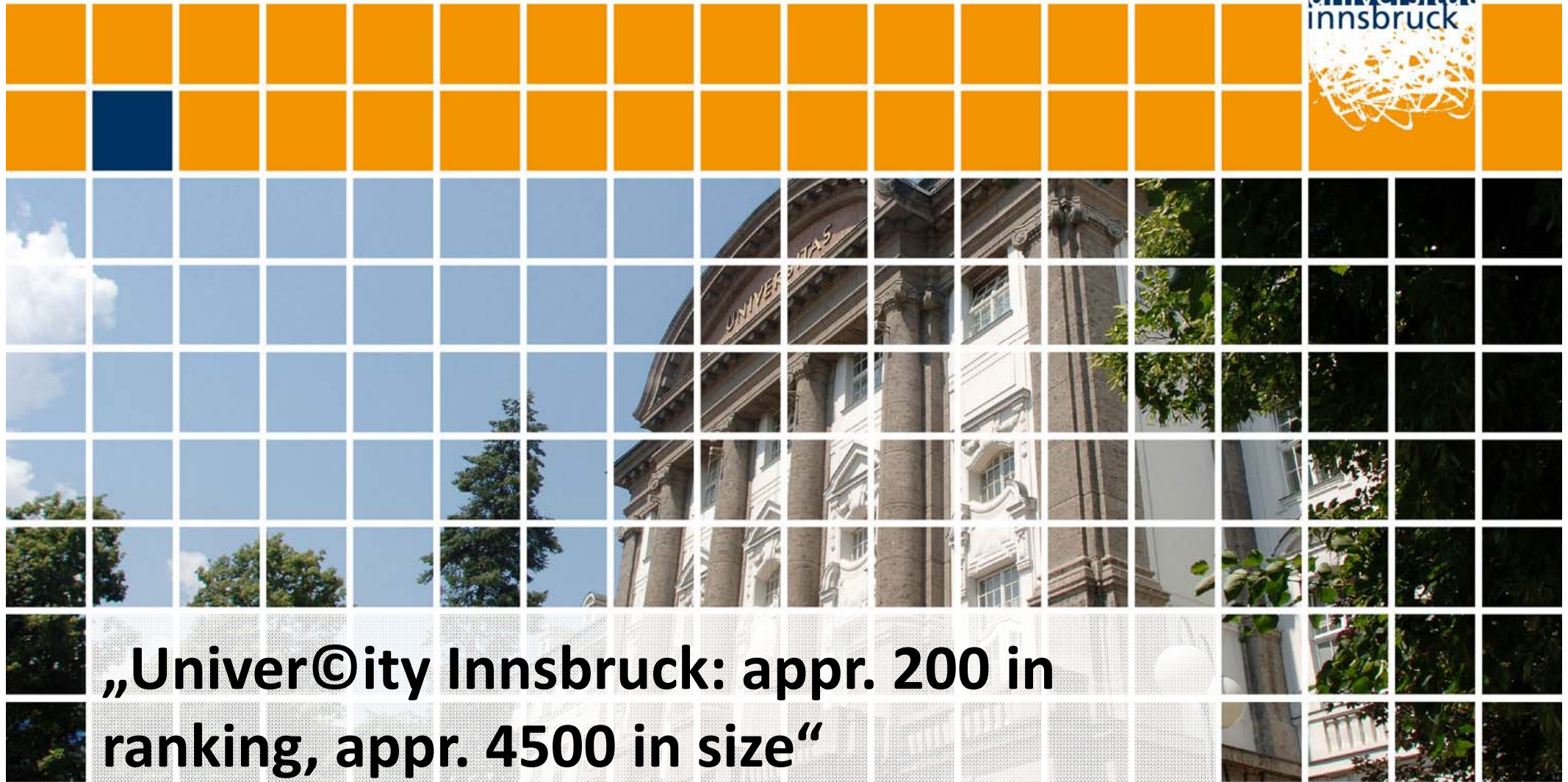


universität innsbruck



**„Univer@ity Innsbruck: appr. 200 in  
ranking, appr. 4500 in size“**

Tilmann Märk and Thomas Baumgartner

Conference “Mapping Univer@ities”, 23.02.2017, Universität Innsbruck



## Response: The American and the Austrian case

University of Chicago Students:		<b>15.726</b>
Population City of Chicago:	appr.	<b>2.7 million</b>

Students @ Penn State University Park:	<b>46.000</b>
Population State College:	<b>42.161</b>
(Population State College Urban Area:	<b>87.454)</b>



„Die Stadt Innsbruck hat ohnstreitig alle Eigenschaften, die zu einer Universitätsstadt erfordert werden. Die gesunde Luft, und die wenige Gelegenheit zur Zerstreuung sind vorzügliche Empfehlungen. Hierzu ist noch der wichtige Vortheil zu rechnen, den die Lage Tirols anbietet. Wen so zu sagen ganz Deutschland die harten Schicksale der mörderischen Kriege empfindet; so kann der Jüngling von allen Sorgen befreit ruhig zu Innsbruck den Musen opfern, da ihm die ungeheuren Alpengebirge vor jedem feindlichen Ueberfall in Sicherheit setzen...“ Der erste Chronist der Innsbrucker Universität, Ignatz de Luca, empfiehlt den Besuch der Alma Mater Oenipontana aufs Wärmste. Abbildung: Innsbruck um 1780.

~300 students  
4 faculties  
~6000 inhabitants

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## Innsbruck University (1669) - Facts & Figures

16 Faculties, 80 Departments, 4.600 staff members

2016: **28.560 students (125 study programmes)**, **4.000 degrees (238 PhD)**,

20 „Habilitationen“, 20 professorial appointments, 3.750 publications p.a.

Federal budget: 220 Mio. Euro, Third-party funding: 50 Mio. Euro (both p.a.)

5 main research areas

4 research platforms

38 research centres

1 CD Labors, 2 ÖAW Departments

3 coordinated SFBs, 6 DK's

1 Boltzmann-Institute

2 K-Centres and several K-Projects

65 buildings throughout the city





## Innsbruck

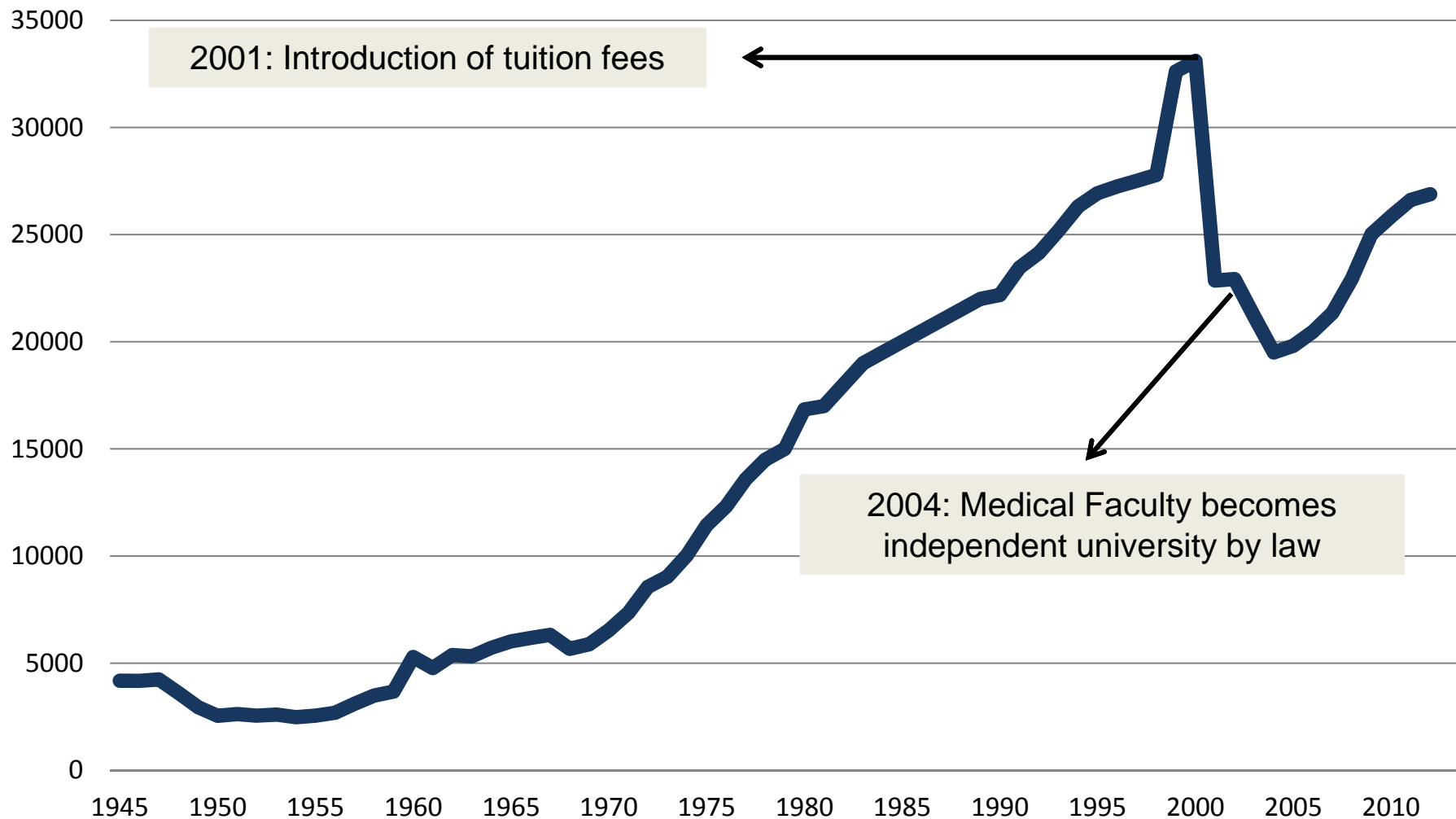
- Capital city of Tyrol, cultural and economic center of western Austria
- Population: 133.222 (Salzburg: 153.766, Linz: 203.957 Graz: 282.479)
- Most famous for hosting the Olympic Winter Games 1964 & 1976
- But also: Over 36.000 students enrolled in 5 higher educational institutions

Bild: By Pahu (Own work) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC-BY-SA-3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons





## Innsbruck University: Student numbers 1945-2016

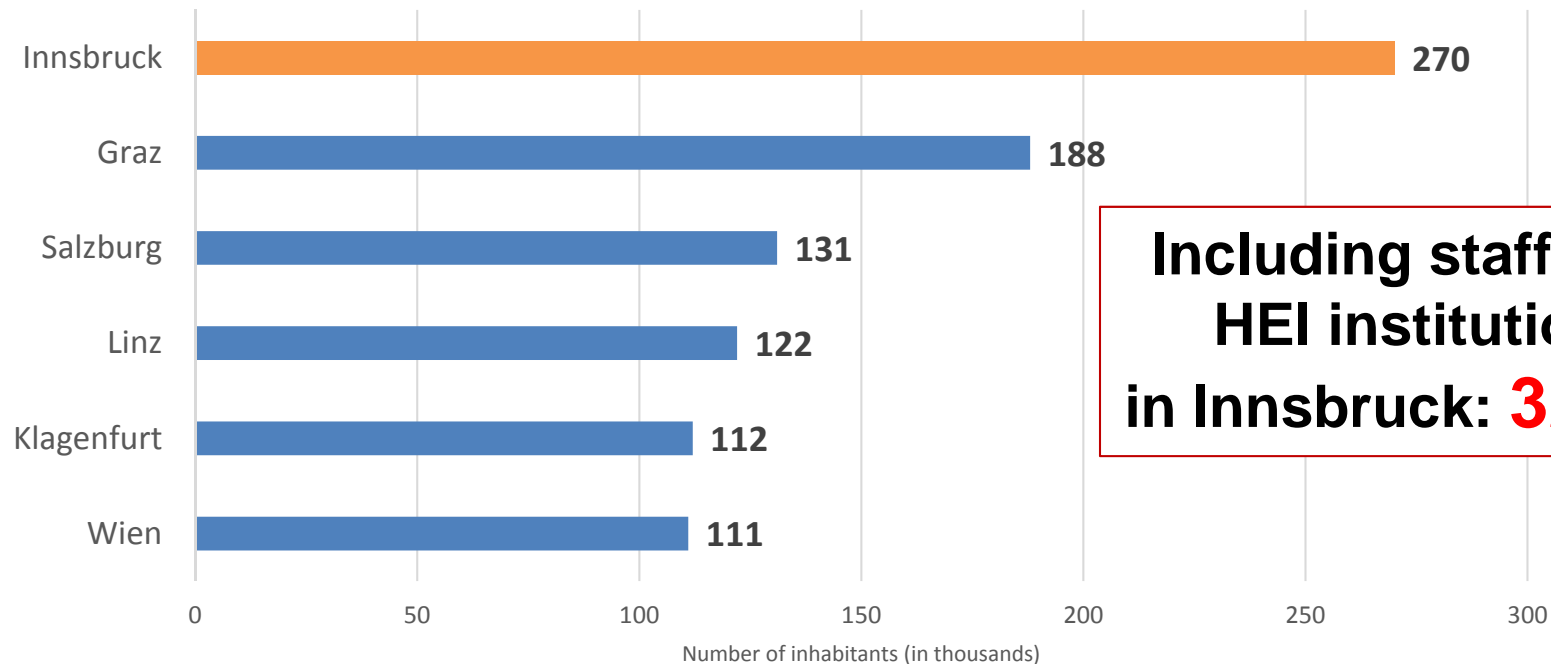






## Student Population

per 1000 inhabitants (2016)



**Including staff of all  
HEI institutions  
in Innsbruck: 32,54%**

- **More than ¼ of the population** of Innsbruck are students
- Around 80% of them are enrolled at Innsbruck University
- Highest ratio in Austria, making Innsbruck a city of students and universities



## Universities and their contribution to urban and societal development I

In order to understand the relationship between university and city it is important to elucidate the function of university within society.

Role of the university and viceversa the expectations from the public have changed.

In principle the mission of universities:

excellent education of the youth, and at the same time carry out research at the cutting edge.

Tasks of Universities (UG 2002):

- “[...] contribute to the personal development of the individual, and to the welfare of society and the environment.”
- „[...] with the goal of helping a society in transition to master the challenges it faces in a humane and gender equal fashion.”





## Universities and their contribution to urban and societal development II

- **Means:** Transfer of knowledge into cities not only through research activities that are aimed at community problems, but also through well educated university graduates and joint projects
- **Aims:** Mobilizing the University's know-how to promote and support urban and societal development and change



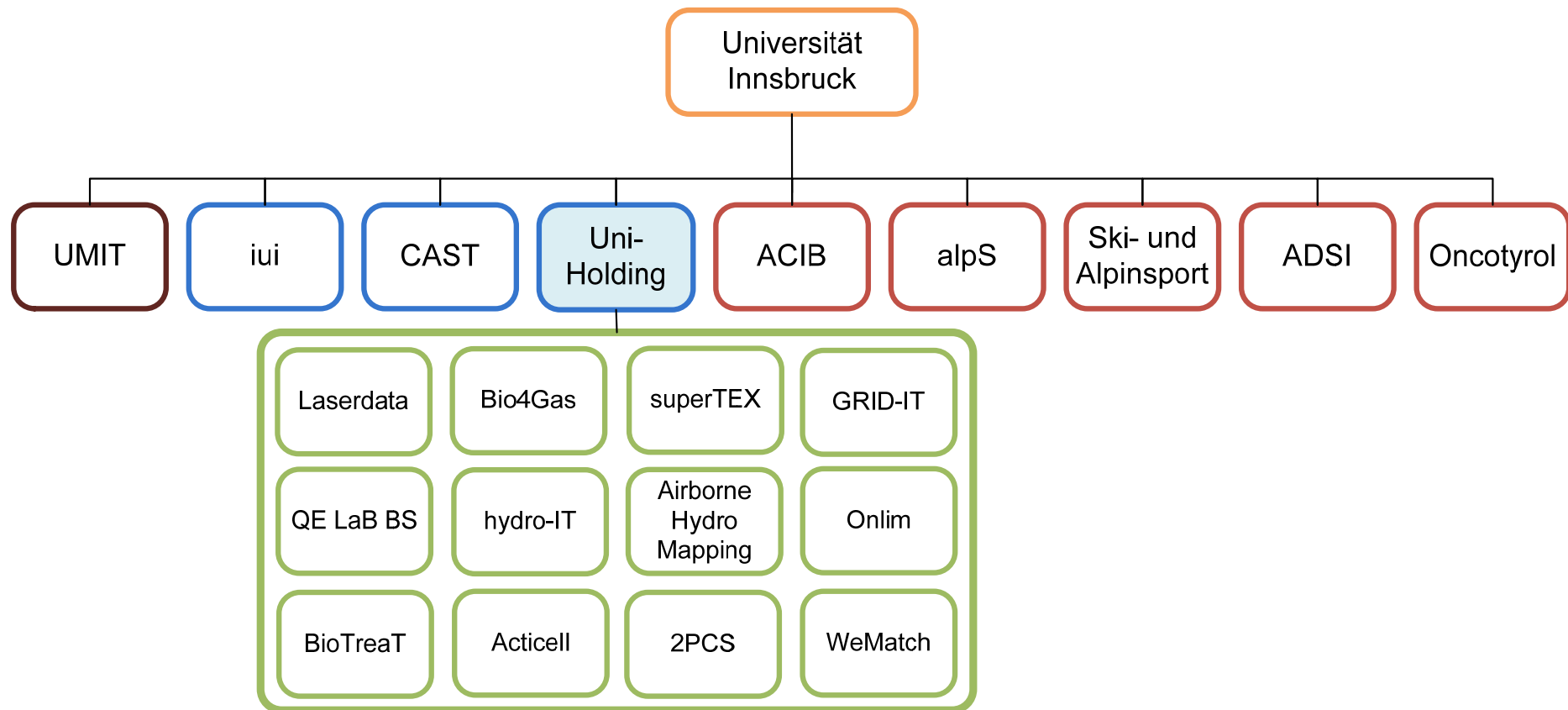
## Added value for the City of Innsbruck by Innsbruck University

- **Most important player:** in research, development, education and life long education in western Austria (full-fledged university)
- **Economic relevance:** Increased purchasing power due to 30.000 students, and 5000 academic staff and administration (~ 1 billion euro p.a.)
- Students/academic staff shape the city **socially and intellectually** (70 buildings)
- „**Window to the world**“, both ways: 40% foreign students and faculty, hundreds of collaborations
- Vibrant university **attracts** new enterprises and investors→ transfer of knowledge and technology to society and industry. The university itself acts as an entrepreneur

**Conclusio #1: Universities act as change agents within a urban community and determine their socio-economic fate**



## Science and Technology Transfer – Spin-Offs





## „Cohabitation“ between cities & universities is crucial for success

- **Added value** for cities by the universities is **not** commonly **known**
- General problem of universities: **Bad at communicating** their work and achievements
- Universities are **taken for granted** („*have always been here, will always be here*“)
- A **good relationship** between city authorities and universities doesn't come by itself or just naturally

### Conclusio #2:

necessity exists to raise awareness and do a lot of communication, public relations and **projects** within the municipality (and province)





## Best practice examples in Innsbruck:

**1. Joint Projects**

**2. Support by the City of Innsbruck and by the State of Tirol**

## Revival of Botanical Garden

- Run by Innsbruck University in a suburb of Innsbruck, renovation needed in 2013
- After several talks, renovation was funded by the City of Innsbruck
- **Long term mission:** Besides research, positioning the Botanical Garden as a recreational and educational area for the local population
- Big success at re-opening celebration

Bilder: Universität Innsbruck







## Historical site: Victor-Franz-Hess Lab – Hafelekar mountain

- On the Hafelekar mountain (2334m) in Innsbruck, Victor Franz Hess undertook most of his research that led to the discovery of cosmic radiation (Nobel Prize in Physics 1936)
- The research cabin of Hess needs serious maintenance work
- Innsbruck University and the City of Innsbruck are currently discussing, how the cabin could be used best in the future (museum, tourist attraction, research station,...)

Bilder: Universität Innsbruck





## Support by the State of Tyrol

- 4 Mio € Tiroler Research Fund TWF (every year since 2014):

Back up to FWF

- Studies not only in the central metropolitan Innsbruck area, but also in the more remote areas, e.g. in Landeck, Lienz,

Feldkirch:

Additional delocalized university programs

Bild: Universität Innsbruck







## Four prerequisites on a successful relationship between cities and universities

- **Awareness 1:** Prejudice of „ivory tower“ must be overcome (target group: population)
- **Awareness 2:** Universities must be perceived as crucial factors for urban development (target group: city authorities)
- **Common projects:** Projects of shared interest foster/improve the relationship between universities and city authorities (and hence the population)
- **Understanding:** A good personal relationship between university and city executives makes life easier



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**