

MEDIA LITERACY IN AUSTRIA: STATE OF THE ART

This report will complement the research carried out by Prof. Tapio Varis, University of Tampere, Finland on the State of the Art of Media Literacy in Europe and Claudia Alborghetti, Catholic University Sacro Cuore, Piacenza, Italy in the framework of the “European Centre for Media Literacy”, a project funded by the European Commission under the e-learning initiative.

The aim of this report is to list the main institutions and stakeholders in the field in Austria, their responsibilities and contributions and main contact persons in order to give an overview on the Austrian situation to international experts.

On National Level

In Austria, the Federal Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Culture has established several structures in order to follow the educational policies of media education and relevant initiatives in order to promote media literacy of the Austrian citizens.

I Media pedagogics/ Educational media/ Media service

In Austria, the department Z11 (IV/9) Media pedagogics/Educational media/Media service of the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture deals with media pedagogic topics. The “Grundsatzterlass Medienerziehung”, a decree for media education, was developed to cope with the requirements of media in educational contexts and it defines media education as an interdisciplinary educational principle. Beyond the working on the basics of media education the department provides educational materials and support for projects, such as the pupils radio. Further actions are the selection and recommendation of audiovisual educational materials and check-ups of films through an expert commission, which is appointed by the ministry. Since 1992, the magazine “Medienimpulse – Beiträge zur Medienpädagogik” is published four times a year. Additionally, teachers and educators can find educational materials, helpful suggestions and contents for theoretical and practical media education, lesson plans in relation to the Austrian syllabus, etc. at the department’s platform “mediamanual.at”. Further information to these activities is given in the following specifications.

Contact: MR Mag. Susanne Krucsay, e-mail: susanne.krucsay@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at>

Link: <http://www.mediamanual.at>

II Basic political programmes and documents

2. eFit Austria

eFit Austria is a government initiative launched in 2000 and directly refers to the eEurope 2000 action plan of the EU (eAustria in eEurope). The optimum, sustainable, and broad use of modern information and communication technologies in education, science, and culture is pointedly supported and promoted by the comprehensive initiative eFit Austria. It offers a continuously evolving platform for numerous initiatives and carries out projects that deal with topics of the future. The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (bm:bwk, dept. V/2) with the eFit Austria initiative secures a new access to teaching, learning, research, and culture for all people in Austria to be in line with the requirements of the knowledge society. Scopes of eFit Austria are:

- eEducation: integration of new media into the general and vocational system with the objective of a systematic improvement of quality and enhanced access to education.

Projects:

a) Notebook classes: eLearning-concepts are realised in many different subject areas at numerous school locations at sixth form schools through the help of notebooks. This project started in the year 2000.

b) e-Lisa Academy: e-Lisa internet training is offered for teachers for eLearning. It provides online courses of the e-Lisa summer academy. These courses impart basic knowledge of the Internet as well as advanced topics in media didactic and hints for the optimal use of the internet in class.

Contact: e-mail: info@e-LISA-academy.at

Link: <http://www.e-lisa.at> or <http://www.e-lisa-academy.at>

c) eFit CD-Rom: Within the online-teacher-training-system “eFit- All teachers go into the Internet” all teachers received the eFit-CD-Rom to acquire and upgrade internet skills. The CD-Rom offers concrete suggestions for the use of the internet in class and a collection of links to all relevant educational websites.

d) ECDL (European Computer Driving License): The ECDL is a certificate for IT-basis-knowledge including basics in hardware, office standard software and simple technical applications. The distribution of the ECDL is an important basis for the educational and occupational success.

e) “Intel: Teaching for the Future”: Within the focal point “Teaching with new media” problem-orientated teacher training in collaboration with the economy and industry takes place. The project aims at the increase of the competence to use IT-skills in class.

Contact: bm:bwk, MR Mag. Johann Wimmer: e-mail: Johann.Wimmer@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.intel.com/cd/corporate/education/emea/deu/index.htm>

f) Industry-certificates: The aim is the acquirement of IT-basic-knowledge and problem-orientated IT-skills as well as IT-special-subjects to lay the foundations for the IT-competitiveness in Austria. eFit Austria therefore supports all actions that focus on the qualification of teachers, pupils and students. The tests are accomplished by certificated assessment institutes (which are also described in this paper).

- eScience: focuses the use of IT in teaching, learning, and research in science and at universities and “Fachhochschulen”.

Projects:

a) “Neue Medien in der Lehre“: The initiative “New Media in Teaching at Universities and Fachhochschulen” has been launched in 2000 and aims at innovation and quality improvement of teaching through the use of new media, the ease of the education access, sustainability of developments, and at the fortification of contacts and networks of active participants.

Contact: e-mail: info@nml.at

Link: <http://www.nml.at>

b) Projects of the support programme “Multimedia-based educational materials”

- eTraining: pursues the strategy to develop and implement modern learning and communication techniques with the help of IT for life-long learning.

Projects:

a) “Online Education Advice”: <http://www.bib-infonet.at>

b) “eduVista” (Austrian educational offers): <http://www.eduvista.com>

c) “Women and IT” (Encouragement of IT-Trainings for women)

d) “Flexible Second-Chance Education”

- eCulture: intends to explore, preserve and access Austria's cultural and scientific heritage through modern information technologies.

Projects:

a) “Museum Online”: Cooperation project between schools and museums:
<http://www.museumonline.at>

b) Further projects: “Art-historical Museum Vienna“, “Albertina“, “Austrian Gallery Belvedere“, “Picture library Austria“, “Digital cultural heritage“, “MOM” (historical

cloistral documents), "Country exhibitions since 1959", "Information net for folk culture", "KHAOS-Database", "Film posters of the ÖNB", "Election of the National Council of the first republic in Vienna", "Nötscher Circle", "Art without borders", "The Heritage of Thomas Bernhard"

- eAdministration: intends to render education management more efficient and service-oriented through the use of IT.

Projects:

"ISO/I.DEAL" (electronic communication structure), "ePMP" (electronic project management platform), "Schoolbook-Action-Online" (schools order books online), "Datawarehouse" (construction of a datawarehouse)

- Infrastructure: intends to create the technical-organisational preconditions to enable the execution of tasks defined in the pre-mentioned activity areas.

Projects:

- a) ASN (Austrian School Network): Broad band internet for all un-commercial educational institutions.
- b) ACOnet: Academic computer network: <http://www.aco.net>
- c) Computer exchange of the bm:bwk: <http://www.infobrokers.at/ub/pc>
- d) AVD (Audiovisual media): Digitalisation of audiovisual educational materials
- e) IT-Equipment projects: IT-infrastructure for educational institutes
- f) IT for libraries: IT for Austrian School libraries
- g) Wireless LANs for computers and notebooks in the classes and schools
- h) IT-Monitoring: Permanent IT-Infrastructure inquiry
- i) Teleworking: Testing of new working forms

- eLearning portal: represents the central access to education, science and culture relevant information and offers a number of IT services for interested users.

Projects:

- a) "Bildung.at": Through the educational portal "Bildung.at" at <http://www.bildung.at> electronic teaching and learning materials as well as education-relevant information for schools in Austria are available. The portal established as central access point for all eLearning activities within the eFit-initiative of the bm:bwk: ECDL and learning contents, "School book Xtra" (SbX), Evaluation and Suggestions of Learning

Platforms, eContent decree. The main target is the further development to an eContent-clearinghouse, which offers attractive high quality educational and web supported materials for Austrian teachers and pupils. The portal is subdivided into an area for teachers and for pupils (with news, call for tenders, links to web magazines, tele-learning institutes in Austria and services, etc.), and a e-science area (with news, call for tenders, links and services for students, teaching persons, scientists and organisations).

Contact: e-mail: [bildungsportsportal@bmbwk.gv.at](mailto:bildungsportal@bmbwk.gv.at)

Link: <http://www.bildung.at>

b) "Bildungspool Austria": A central component of the portal is the "Education Pool Austria"/the eContent clearinghouse, which contains a content catalogue including a survey of all future and bm:bwk-supported electronic teaching and learning materials in Austria and is available for download at <http://elearning.bildung.at>.

c) eContent Cluster Austria: At the eContent cluster, which is an organised interconnection of local server, eContent is provided and used, and learning and content management systems are installed to support schools in the use of blended and collaborative learning.

d) Schoolbook Xtra (SbX): Schoolbook Xtra provides electronic contents, which are related to concrete schoolbooks at <http://sbx.bildung.at>, within the framework of the "Schoolbook Action".

e) Learnie Award: The Learnie Award is an eLearning award, which deals with submissions of self-created teaching and learning programmes of schools in Austria.

f) Further projects: Chip cards (Electronic students and pupils cards), eStipend, Study to the acceptance of media and technic use in schools, Mobile Computing and Teleworking

eFit-Contact: Dr. Rudolf Apflauer, e-mail: rudolf.apflauer@bmbwk.gv.at; Raphaela Psihoda, email: raphaela.psihoda@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.efit.at>

3. "Grundsatzterlass Medienerziehung"

The legal framework is constituted in the "Grundsatzterlass Medienerziehung" (2001 – <http://www.mediamanual.at/mediamanual/leitfaden/medienerziehung/grundsatzterlass/index.php>), a decree of the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, which contains the basics, the definition of media education and didactics, objectives of media education, guidelines and examples for the realisation of media education in relation to the syllabus. This document outlines, that media education in Austria is seen as educational principle, which should flow into teaching at all subjects. The four objectives of media education are media use, communication with and through

media, media as economic factor or mass media as institution, and own media productions. Additionally, the politico-educational purpose is described: “Facing the challenge by electronic media, schools must increasingly deal with the task to play a part in making pupils competent in communication and judicious, stimulate creativity and pleasure on own productions, and support the orientation of individuals in the society and the constructive-critical attitudes towards experiences within the educational principle “Media education”.

3. “e-Content-Erlass”

The “e-Content-Erlass” (<http://www.virtuelleschule.at/e-content/>), a decree of the ministry, includes guidelines for the production of e-content, the definition of learning objects, learning modules, learning units and learning sequences and shows practical examples.

II. Additional Papers and Guidelines

1. Papers: “Integrative Medienerziehung”

The papers “Integrative Medienerziehung” are provided by the ministry

at the site <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/medienpool/7832/PDFzuPubID407.pdf> for pupils aged 6 to 10,

at the site <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/medienpool/7833/PDFzuPubID408.pdf> for pupils aged 10 to 14,

at the site <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/medienpool/7834/PDFzuPubID409.pdf> for pupils aged 14 to 18 (AHS),

and at the site <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/medienpool/7835/PDFzuPubID410.pdf> for pupils aged 14 to 19 (BHS). It comprise guidelines and helpful suggestions for integrative media education.

2. Magazine: “Medienimpulse – Beiträge zur Medienpädagogik”

The magazine “Medienimpulse” is edited by the department “Media pedagogics” of the ministry four times a year. It is a collection of ideas and suggestions for media education as well as it deals with many media-relevant topics. One exemplar of the magazine is sent to every school in Austria for free.

III. Central and national institutions and initiatives

1. “ViS:AT“: Virtual School Austria

“ViS:AT” is a project of the bm:bwk (dpt. V/14: IT-systems for educational purposes) and is an active discussion, development and evaluation project for the use of IT in the field of education at national and international level. “ViS:AT” is the intermediary between Austria and the European School Net. Activities are networks, national and international ICT-initiatives as well as “thematically knowledge platforms”, on which teachers and pupils together carry out projects and produce multimedia learning materials, lesson examples, etc. with experts of different institutions.

Contact: bm:bwk, e-mail: virtuelleschule@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.virtuelleschule.at>

VIS Resources:

a) VIS-TV - IT-initiative in education

VIS-TV has been launched in 2004 by the dept. V/14 of the bm:bwk (Virtual School). Project executing organisations are the Virtual School Austria, bm:bwk (dept. V/14). Partners are the notebook classes. The target of the project “IT use in education” is a comparative analysis of different education models in notebook classes, whereas the use of different IT-tools in relation to special subjects are introduced, as well as the possibilities of collaborative learning. The recorded videos of lessons should not only show the application, but also be used for analysis within the education of (future) teachers. The target group of the project are teachers and teacher-educators. Events of the project are the presentation during educational fairs, conferences, speeches, and workshops.

Link: <http://www.virtuelleschule.at/film>

b) TOOLBOX

The toolbox has been launched in 2002, executing organisation is the bm:bwk (dept. V/14, Virtual School Austria). Partners are teachers and authors who program learning modules. The project target is the collection of tools for the content creation. Previous results can be seen at <http://www.virtuelleschule.at/lernmodule>.

Link: <http://www.virtuelleschule.at/toolbox>

VIS Initiatives (Cooperation):

a) “ENIS Austria“:

“ENIS Austria” has been launched in 1997 by the European Schoolnet together with the bm:bwk (dept. V/14). Project executing organisations are the European Schoolnet and the association “ENIS Austria”. Partners are the bm:bwk (dept. V/14), Virtual School (Operating partner) and ENIS national and international schools of

various school types. ENIS is a network of European Schools, in which information technologies play a primary role. In those certified schools the ICT network must be on an advanced stage and all didactic and methodical concepts have to be proved and already tested. Exchange of best practice examples and information on educational level is one of the main targets of this European network. Within ENIS there are 26 partner schools, which have received a certificate due to their special equipment and project work. Events are a yearly ENIS-Meeting in Austria, workshops, participation of Austrian representatives in international meetings, and the presentation during fairs and educational meetings – national and international.

Contact: "Verein ENIS Austria", European Network of innovative schools in Austria,
e-mail: office@enis.at
Link: <http://www.enis.at>

b) "Netdays-Austria"

Netdays Austria has been founded in 1997. Project executing organisations are the bm:bwk (dept. V/14 Virtual School Austria), the European Commission, and the "Salzburg Research Forschungsgesellschaft mbH". Partners are sponsors from the industry, media partners and educational institutions. Objectives are an action week on European level which takes place regularly in November and foster national activities for the promotion of creative involvement of new technologies/Internet. The target groups are youth (15 - 25 years), different schools of different types, polytechnics, and youth centres. Events are workshops, discussions, promotion of the "Young Creativity Awards" by Netdays Austria, prizing, project presentations, and the presentation in the course of different educational fairs.

Contact: bm:bwk, Abt. V/14a
Mag. Karl Lehner, e-mail: karl.lehner@bmbwk.gv.at
Link: <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at>

Contact: Salzburg Research

Link: <http://www.salzburgresearch.at>

<http://www.netdays.at>

c) "Infobroker"

Infobroker has been launched in 2005. Project executing organisation is the bm:bwk (dpt. V/14a, Virtual School). Partners are the "Leadership Forum I 2004", the schools inspectors of the countries and of the city Vienna and the schoolmasters. The main targets are the definition of the task area and the role of an active "Info-Broker" for the school sector, the use of ICT (School hompages, learning platforms, search engines, online-library) for information brokering, the presentation and public relation at school locations, the building of a network of multipliers for the efficient and

competent dissemination of appraised information in schools, the exhibition of workshops that aim at the introduction in the task area, and further training in the area of ICT. Previous results are the project planning.

Contact: bm:bwk, Abteilung V/14a

Mag. Karl Lehner, e-mail: karl.lehner@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.virtuelleschule.at/infobroker>

d) "BildungOnline"

"BildungOnline" was founded in 2000 by the Virtual School Austria in combination with "MuseumOnline". Project executing organisations are the association "BildungOnline", the Virtual School Austria (bm:bwk, dept. V/14), the bm:bwk (dpt. V/2 and dpt. V/3). Partners are schools and educational organisations, departments of the Virtual school Austria, companies of the IT and educational field, and every year there is another representative from the industry. "BildungOnline" is an educational fair which takes place once a year in Hall in Tyrol. In the course of the fair different schools present their projects which were developed through the use of new media and used for learning and teaching. Additionally, different companies and institutions have got the possibility to present themselves. Various workshops of the Virtual School as well as various subject-related lectures are realised. The organisers are supported by students in "Hall in Tyrol".

Contact:

bm:bwk, Abt. V/14

Reinhold Hawle: e-mail: reinhold.hawle@bmbwk.gv.at

Karl Lehner: e-mail: karl.lehner@bmbwk.gv.at

Elisabeth Zistler: e-mail: elisabeth.zistler@bmbwk.gv.at

Michaela Schaller: e-mail: michaela.schaller@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.virtuelleschule.at>

Contact: "Verein BildungOnline", e-mail: office@BildungOnline.at

Link: <http://www.bildungonline.at>

2. "e-Teaching Austria"

"e-Teaching Austria" is an initiative of the bm:bwk in order to develop content for the education in notebook classes and for computer based education, and to create a content collection. Today "e-Teaching Austria" is an established platform for educators in notebook classes under the direction of MR Dr. Christian Dorninger. The platform provides not only information and editorial features, but also content and subject-related learning materials. Content authors also get support service.

a) Project: “eLearningCluster” (eLC):

The advanced schools cooperate in eLearning-Cluster and design their learning culture and school programme with emphasis on electronic learning materials.

Contact:

bm:bwk: MR Dr. Christian Dorninger, e-mail: christian.dorninger@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: www.bmbwk.gv.at

Contact: Ruth Sattler, e-Mail: ruth@sattlercom.com

Link: <http://www.e-teaching-austria.at>

3. “e-Learning Austria” (Development of learning contents)

The association “e-Learning Austria” acts within the “eFit Austria”-programme of the bm:bwk and provides a website for eLearning in the Austrian education system. Its aim is to create, support, and integrate electronic knowledge and learning management systems. These activities are directly supported by the bm:bwk.

Contact: e-mail: office@it4education.at

Prof. Mag. Dr. Ernst KARNER: e-mail: ekarner@it4education.at

Link: <http://www.blended-elearning.at>

The association “e-Learning Austria” coordinates all initiatives of schools and economy in the field of electronic learning:

a) "IT in Schulen - Gesellschaft für technologische Ausbildungen mbH"

The association is a platform between educational institutions and economy. It allows pupils, teachers and schools to keep and maintain fit for the challenges of the information and innovation society. The “IT in Schulen – Gesellschaft für technologische Ausbildungen mbH” help schools to offer the ECDL and further IT certificates for their pupils and to qualify teachers higher.

Contact: e-mail: office@it4education.at

Prof. Mag. Dr. Ernst KARNER, e-mail: ekarner@it4education.at

Link: <http://www.it4education.at>

b) “CCIT - Koordinationsstelle für IT-Zertifikate an Schulen”

As a New Public Management-instrument of the bm:bwk it has the task to act as connector between the provider of certificates and schools, colleagues and pupils. Its target is to supply educators with documents and information in such a way as to enable them to prepare their pupils to these tests.

Contact: e-mail: ccit@it4education.at

Prof. Mag. Dr. Ernst KARNER, e-mail: ekarner@it4education.at

Link: <http://www.ccit.at>

c) “Verein ECDL an Schulen“

The association fosters the ECDL at schools and in the public administration and is one of about 300 Test Centre in Austria. It is official partner of the bm:bwk within the private public partnership, and works together with other public institutions as ministries, regional governments and schools inspectors.

Contact: e-mail: office@edu.ecdl.at

Prof. Mag. Dr. Ernst KARNER, e-mail: ekarner@it4education.at

Link: <http://www.edu.ecdl.at>

d) “FUBB - Fernunterricht in der Bildung Berufstätiger“

The proposer of FUBB is the bm:bwk. FUBB is an ESF-project, in which 15 project schools in the field of the education of employees take part. Students in these schools are taught through elements of distance learning via internet based electronic learning sequences and a learning platform. FUBB also provides teacher trainings to Blackboard and other author tools.

Contact: Prof. Mag. Dr. Ernst KARNER, e-mail: ekarner@it4education.at

Link: <http://www.esfubb.at>

4. “Mediamanual”

“Mediamanual” is the interactive platform of the bm:bwk for active media work at schools. It offers information, lectures, workshops to film & video, computer and new media. Additionally, “Mediamanual” provides support in practical media work.

Contact: e-mail: office@mediamanual.at

Link: <http://www.mediamanual.at>

5. “Schülerradio 1476“

The department “Media pedagogics” of the bm:bwk is the initiator of the radio project for pupils within the practical media education. Pupils create interviews, acoustic correspondences between schools, acoustic images, features, reportages, discussions, etc. for the broadcasts. “Schülerradio 1476” was launched in 1998 and shows exemplary, how the differentiated medial examination of current topics can be possible through project work. Professional technical support is given by the ORF

and the “Siemens Forum Wien”. The (children and youth) “Kurier” is responsible for the medial advertisement. Additionally, the “ÖKS” supports the project through advice and experts for the realisation. The “Deutscher Sparkassen Verlag” is co-financing the online version of the radio box.

Contact:

Dr. Huainigg, bm.bwk, e-mail: Schuelerradio@bmbwk.gv.at

Link: <http://www.schuelerradio1476.at/index.html>

6. “Schule.at”

The Austrian school portal “Schule.at” is organised through the “Education Highway Innovationszentrum für Schule und Neue Technologie GmbH” together with the bm.bwk. It supports teachers in preparing their lessons and in the use of new media in education. “Schule.at” is the biggest database for educational contents in the internet and provides a lot of contents concerning diverse topics. For the different subjects own areas are available.

Contact: email: redaktion@schule.at

Link: <http://www.schule.at>

7. “Teos-Online” – Shared school development

Teos-Online is an initiative of the Pedagogical Institute of the city Vienna and trains teachers, schoolmasters, and administrators in building cooperative eLearning in schools to improve the internal cooperation and organisation structures of schools.

Contact: Simone Atzesberger, e-mail: s.atzesberger@pi-wien.at

Link: <http://www.teos.at>

8. “school4you”

“school4you” provides a system for the simple and user-friendly creation of school websites for free. Through this, a new form of interaction and communication between pupils, teachers, parents and the society is possible. In cooperation with the bm.bwk together with testing schools the system was matched exactly to the needs of schools.

Contact: e-mail: office@schulweb.at

Project leader: Silvia NIKOLL, e-mail: nikoll@taoweb.at

Link: <http://school4you.schulweb.at>

9. “E-Levo”

“E-Levo” provides communication and information platforms for schools, pupils, parents and teachers. Additionally, it offers instructional help for teachers to plan lessons, internet portals and communication platforms for schools, as well as tools for the administration of schools.

Contact: DI Kendelöl & Partner IT Services GmbH, e-mail: office@kendoel.com

Link: <http://www.e-levo.at>

10. “Schooltalk” – The Austrian youth and school service platform

“Schooltalk” is the initiative of the higher education teacher Margit Polly and deals with the possibilities of educational work at school level in the age of internet based knowledge transfer and multimedia based learning. As a school and youth service platform, “Schooltalk” supports teachers, schools, parents and pupils.

Contact: Idea & Project leader: Mag. Margit Polly, e-mail: margit@polly.at

Link: <http://www.schooltalk.at>

11. “Children’s Universities”

The “Children’s Universities” in Austria can be found in Vienna, Innsbruck, Graz, Salzburg and Steyr. According to the range of lectures, several actions that foster media competence take place yearly. In Vienna, there is the additional option for children to act as “Children’s University-radio reporter”, “Children’s University-TV reporter” or to work in the “Children’s University- newspaper team”.

Contact:

“Kinderuniwien”, e-mail: info@kinderuni.at /Link: <http://www.kinderuni.at>

“Die junge Uni“ (“Leopold Franzens Universität Innsbruck“), Dr. Silvia Prock, e-mail: silvia.prock@uibk.ac.at / Link: http://www2.uibk.ac.at/public-relations/aktuelles/junge_uni/

“Kinderuni Graz”, e-mail: martina.mayerkrauss@uni-graz.at /Link: <http://www.kinderunigraz.at>

“Kinderuni Salzburg”, e-mail: kinderbuero@sbg.ac.at/Link: <http://www.sbg.ac.at/unikid/>

“Kinderuni Steyr”, e-mail: kinderuni@schlauerfuchs.at/Link: <http://www.schlauerfuchs.at>

12. “AT21”-Initiative

The initiative “AT21- IT forms the future” was initiated by the “Austrian Computer Society” (“Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft” – OCG) and organizes the biggest yearly meeting of the Austrian IT-sector. Together with important representatives and participants, the most important achievements, innovations and future developments are presented there. Additionally, several projects in the IT-field are carried out.

Contact: “Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft“ (OCG), e-mail: ocg@ocg.at

Link: <http://jiw.ocg.at>

13. E-bfi/Telelearning

The “e-bfi telelearning GmbH” provides seminars in the field of IT, languages and business in Austria. Additionally, it is involved in some EU-projects such as “Women and ICT in Burgenland” and “Embracing E-Learning”.

Contact: Thomas Putz, e-mail: thomas.putz@e-bfi.at or info@e-bfi.at

Link: <http://www.e-bfi.at>

14. Telewifi/Wifi eLearning

The institute WIFI already offers eLearning products since 8 years. It has developed an own eLearning platform and supports learner through advise and professional guide.

Contact: TeleWIFI

Link: <http://www.telewifi.at/>

15. IT-qualification offers

a) “e-Junior“ (Computer driving license for children)

“e-Junior“ is a programme within the ECDL initiative. The contents are the same as in the ECDL, but matched to the needs of young children and offered by the “Austrian Computer Society” (“Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft” - OCG).

Contact: “Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft“, Frau Mag. Daniela Lemmel-Seedorf, e-mail: daniela.lemmel@ecd.l.at

Link: <http://www.ejunior.ecdl.at> or <http://www.ocg.at>

b) “SAI - Sun Academic Initiative”

Within the initiative “SAI” Sun assures that schools and universities can use high quality technology infrastructure, students can prepare on a career in the net economy through the help of the internet, and research institutes can contribute to the development of future technologies. The initiative consists of the following components: Webtrainings to StarOffice, Java, Solaris for free; Use of Sun Software for teaching and research institutions for free; Cost-saving certificates for Java.

Contact: e-mail: ful_austria@sun.com

Link: <http://www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/edu/edusoft>

c) “IT-certificate for Linux in Austrian schools”

A broadly applied public-private-partnership between the bm:bwk as well as well-known IT provider and training companies assure new education standards for the open source software LINUX in Austrian schools. The bm:bwk, “IBM Austria” and the “Finance Academy Austria” – a big provider of trainings in the IT-field – set an important step in the direction of open source – working forms in informatics and knowledge certification for pupils, students and teacher. A package of teacher training, installation parties for pupils and recommendations for open source products supports the use of operating systems (Linux), office software and licenses for learning platforms that are free of charge. The main focus of the initiative is the open source certificate “Austrian Open Source Certificate, Level 1” (AOSC-1), which is provided for pupils, students and teachers.

Contact: bm:bwk Büro der Bundesministerin; Tel. +43 1 53120 – 5003

Link:

http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/ministerium/pm/archiv/Aktuelle_Pressemitteilung8241.xml

d) “Edusap”

Within a cooperation between the “Competence Centre for Information Technology” (CCIT), the bm:bwk and “SAP Austria” pupils get the opportunity to acquire a SAP-basic education and several international SAP-user certificates. Also teachers gain access to SAP education. This courses are provided by “SAP Austria” together with the pedagogical institutes in Austria for free.

Contact: through the homepage

Link: <http://www.sap.com/austria/services/education/edusap/index.aspx>

IV. Local institutions and initiatives

1. “Landesbildstellen“

The central task of the “Landesbildstellen” is to lend teachers educational media and to train media agents in schools. This so-called media centres can be found in each Federal State in Austria (with the exception of Styria). But only those, who can be seen as media-pedagogical service centres for educators will be below-mentioned. The intensity and effort of these offers are very different.

a) “media wien”

“media wien” is the biggest of the “Landesbildstellen” and has an own pedagogical department that deals with media pedagogic questions and practical media work, and tries to be connected with all relevant offers in Vienna. Pupils can make their first production experiences in the media studio or take part in the “Wiener RADIO-BANDe”, which creates regularly broadcasts for Orange 94.0, the free radio in Vienna. Teachers can get among the necessary technical equipment a lot of tips and support for concrete projects. Also regularly activities for further training, such as the first Austrian academic course for media pedagogic advisers (together with the Pedagogical Institute Vienna), are provided.

Contact: Head Office: Prof. Walter Sommer, e-mail: som-lbw@m13.magwien.gv.at

Link: <http://www.mediawien.at>

b) “NÖ Landesbildstelle“

The “NÖ Landesbildstelle” offers half-day trainings for parents and teachers to topics such as “The fascination telescreen” or “Chances and dangers of the internet”.

Contact: noemedia: e-mail: post.noemedia@noel.gv.at

or: “Interessensvertretung d. NÖ Familien“

Link: <http://www.noel.gv.at/service/lad/lad1/Adressen/Landesbildstelle.htm>

c) “Bimez“

The “BildungsMedienZentrum“ (Bimez) of the federal state Upper Austria is an expansion of the “Landesbildstelle” and provides advice, helpful suggestions, materials and further training for media education.

Contact: Bimez-Header: Eiselmair Peter, MAS, MSc: e-mail: peter.eiselmair@ooe.gv.at

Link: <http://www.bimez.at>

d) “Medienzentrum des Landes Tirol“

The media centre of the federal state Tyrol consists of eight media centres in the districts and lies its focal point on the allocation of educational media and on media techniques. Additionally, several media production workshops for youth are offered and media projects are carried out.

Contact: Header of the department organisation: Michael Kern, e-mail: m.kern@tirol.gv.at

or “Medienzentrum Tirol“, e-mail: medienzentrum@tirol.gv.at

Link: <http://www.tirol.gv.at/themen/bildung/einrichtungen/medienzentrum/index.shtml>

e) “Kärntner Medienzentrum“

The “Kärntner Medienzentrum” runs a media rental in Klagenfurt and a Centre for further education in “Spittal an der Drau”. In Spittal numerous projects in the field of active media work takes place. Among the support of schools, workshops and projects in the area of audio (pupils radio), video and photography are carried out.

Contact: “Fortbildungszentrum Spittal/Drau“: Hans Marizzi, e-mail: fortbildungszentrum.spittal@kmz.ksn.at

or “Kärntner Medienzentrum“, e-mail: kmz@ktn.gv.at

Link: <http://www.ksn.at/?mode=kmz>

2. Further Institutions (according to the Federal States)

2.1 VIENNA

a) “InternetCenter for Education” (ICE), “Wiener Bildungsnetz”

The “ICE-Vienna” is the responsible organisation of the “Vienna Educational Server” (“Wiener Bildungsserver” - wibs) and was initiated by the schools inspector for Vienna as well as by diverse magistrates, that deal with education and data processing. “ICE-Vienna” supports media activities in schools and extracurricular and its target is to allow all population levels the access to new information and communication technologies through the connection of schools.

Contact: Alexander Czerny (Business manager), e-mail: alexander.czerny@wbw.wien.at

Links: The ICE runs the domains:

<http://www.lehrerweb.at> (education-relevant platform for educators)

<http://www.kidsweb.at> (pedagogical platform for children)

<http://www.elternweb.at> (informative platform for parents)

<http://www.wiener-bildungsserver.at> (wibs – The Vienna Educational Server)

b) “wienXtra Media Centre”

The media centre of “wienXtra” is the media pedagogic service and further education place for extracurricular youth work and acts at four levels. The main activity is the direct support of media productions (audio, video, music) of youth. The second focus lies on the (further) education and advice of the staff of extracurricular children and youth work. The third level is constituted by the allocation service for audiovisual equipment for media projects, as well as places to cut the audio and video products and a library. The fourth level deals with the realisation of projects, which usually take place in cooperation with various pedagogical institutions. Furthermore, different events to media pedagogic topics and the presentation of youth media products take place.

Contact: e-mail: anu.poeyskoe@wienXtra.at

or medienzentrum@wienXtra.at

Link: <http://www.medienzentrum.at>

c) “Netbridge”

“Netbridge” is the coordinating place for new information and communication technologies in the extracurricular youth work in Vienna. It works by order of the “Landesjugendreferat der Stadt Wien” (LaJU). “Netbridge” is an educational pool for all multipliers and workers in the extracurricular youth work, for questions concerning the use of new technology. One main focus lies on the further education of multipliers, whereas primarily eLearning modules are offered, that takes place on a professional learning platform. Furthermore, “Netbridge” sometimes arrange information events to topics of youth, internet and new forms of communication. Further focal points are participation projects with youth, youth work and Linux, as well as the organisation of a mailing list for youth work.

Contact: Franz Kratzer, e-mail: franz.kratzer@netbridge.at

Link: <http://www.netbridge.at>

d) “Interface”

“Interface” is the youth, culture and educational workshop of the “Wiener Integrationsfonds” and aims at youth of all cultures. It provides resources in the areas art, theatre, music, radio, TV, print media, new media, sport and dance, as well as it

carries out diverse gender projects. It is therefore not only a media centre but a youth culture centre.

Contact: e-mail: info@interface.or.at

Link: <http://www.interface.or.at>

e) “public netbase” - Institute for New Culture Technologies

The organisation “public netbase” deals with the broad field of interaction between culture and technique, art and society, science and policy and offers non-profit internet services for the art and culture area and current information to projects all around the world. Furthermore, regularly workshops for youth take place.

Contact: e-mail: office@t0.or.at

Link: <http://www.t0.or.at>

f) “Echo”

“Echo” is a youth, culture and integration association, which aims primarily at youth in the second generation to encourage them to speak for themselves and actively present themselves in public. One of the most successful activities is the magazine “echo”, furthermore video projects, radio broadcasts, as well as other events take place sometimes.

Contact: e-mail: echo@non.at

Link: <http://www.echo.non.at>

g) “SaferInternet.at”

The mission of Saferinternet.at is to empower citizens to use the Internet, as well as other information and communication technologies, safely and effectively. Saferinternet.at is the Austrian awareness node in the European Internet Safety Network (INSAFE) and seeks to give children, youths, parents, teachers and other interested parties tips and support to highlight and avoid risks when using the Internet. The Austrian Institute for Applied Telecommunications (OIAT) is coordinator of Saferinternet.at. The Association of Austrian Internet Service Providers (ISPA) is consortium partner. Saferinternet.at co-operates intensely with public administrations, non-governmental organisations and businesses.

Contact: e-mail: office@saferinternet.at

Link: <http://www.saferinternet.at>

2.2 LOWER AUSTRIA

a) **“Medienpädagogische Beratungsstelle“/“Allianz für Medienkompetenz“ (Media pedagogic helpdesk/Alliance for Media Competence)**

The media pedagogic helpdesk is arranged at the “NÖ Landesakademie” and is a research, training and advice centre for media pedagogic topics. It aims at parents, educators, children, youth, politicians and journalists. For these target groups various workshops and courses, advice, media recommendations and information brochures, such as “Kids online – Sicher im Internet” (Internet safety), are offered. One focal point of the activities is the preschool media education.

Contact: Dr. Ingrid Geretschläger, e-mail: medienpaedagogik@kabsi.at

Link: <http://www.medienpaed.at>

2.3 UPPER AUSTRIA

a) **“Eduhi.at“**

In 1997, the idea of an Upper Austrian educational network was born with the “Education Highway”. With it Upper Austria developed a modern information and communication system to support all participants in the education sector and to face the challenge of the new technologies. Operating project partner was a consortium of the federal state Upper Austria, the “Landesschulrat für Oberösterreich”, the “Institut für Schulen und Neue Technologie” (“Institut für Schule und Neue Technologie” - IST), and the companies “Datacom Austria”, “Techcom Datenverarbeitungs GmbH”, and “OÖ Datenhighway-Entwicklungs GmbH” (ODE). The new legal basis for the “Education Highway” and IT research and development in the educational sector is the “Education Highway Innovationszentrum für Schule und Neue Technologie GmbH”. With this institution the work of the IST Linz is continued. The new association carries out research and development projects to the following topics: the interaction between new media and education, the development of information offers for educational institutes, and the evaluation of the usability of new products in education and training. The “Education Highway” practises with the “Eduhi.at” the biggest educational server in Austria. Teachers and pupils can find useful information for learning and teaching on numerous sites and in databases. A lot of addresses ease the internet access for teachers. An additional service feature is the webspace for schools and teachers.

Contact: Prof. Mag. Anton Knierzinger (Business manager), e-mail: office@eduhi.at

Link: <http://www.eduhi.at>

b) **“Medienwerkstatt Linz“**

The “Medienwerkstatt Linz” is an educational institution, that was initiated by the city Linz together with the “Arbeiterkammer OÖ”. It aims at an open access to the production of noncommercial radio and TV broadcasts and provides courses and an open access to technical equipment for its members. The productions of their members are broadcasted at Radio FRO, 105 MHz and at the ORF Landesstudio OÖ, “Lust auf Leben. Offenes Radio”, 95,2 MHz. The TV productions are broadcasted at regional cable TV.

Contact: Harald Wildfellner, e-mail: harald.wildfellner@mag.linz.at

or e-mail: info@medienwerkstatt-linz.at

Link: <http://www.medienwerkstatt-linz.at>

c) “Oberösterreichische Medienwerkstatt“

The “Oberösterreichische Medienwerkstatt” of the Upper Austrian “Kinderfreunde” aims at children and youth and offers a mobile media workshop, which organises - with the necessary equipment and trained personal - activities to topics such as video, radio, desktop publishing, sound, etc. Furthermore, long-ranging media projects are advised and the “Computer Clubhouse Linz” is run. The “Oberösterreichische Medienwerkstatt” provides diverse online texts for media education in the family for parents.

Contact: contact@ooe-medienwerkstatt.at

Link: <http://www.ooe-medienwerkstatt.at>

d) “Servus.at“

“Servus.at” is the Upper Austrian interface for the critical discussion of telecommunication, media and networks, which was initiated by the “Stadtwerkstatt Linz”. It arranges workshops and hosts numerous Upper Austrian art and culture initiatives at a web platform. In addition, links to shareware, e-zines and search engines are provided.

Contact: servus@servus.at

Link: <http://www.servus.at>

e) “MEDEA“ – Association for Media pedagogics

“Medea” is a platform for active media and culture work and focuses on the project work with migrants and Austrian people. “Medea” carries out projects, that exceed limits on purpose and develops new forms and methods of culture work.

Contact: Andrea Reisinger, e-mail: medea@servus.at

Link: <http://www.servus.at/medea>

2.4 SALZBURG

a) “aktion film salzburg“

The “aktion film salzburg” is an educational and consultancy institution, which lies its main focus on photo, video and media pedagogics. It provides workshops, supports youth film, video and photo clubs and arranges together with other initiatives in Salzburg the youth film festival “klappe”. A new projects is “<http://www.medienpädagogik.net>”, an initiative to keep the media pedagogical discourse in the federal state Salzburg active.

Contact: Martin Seibt, e-mail: seibt@aktion-film-salzburg.at

or e-mail: office@aktion-film-salzburg.at

Link: <http://www.aktion-film-salzburg.at>

b) “studio west”

The “studio west” is a film and video initiative to carry out cooperative and participative film and video projects with children, youth, seniors, handicapped, and social excluded persons. It is co-organiser of the film festival “klappe”.

Contact: Karin Helml, e-mail: contact@studio-west.net

Link: <http://www.studio-west.net>

c) “Spektrum“

The association “Spektrum” is the responsible body for five institutions in the socio-cultural district work: “Adventure playground”, “SPF- Sozialpädagogische Familienbetreuung”, “Mobile animation – games bus”, “Communication centre”, “Children and youth centre Lehen”. The following projects of “Spektrum” acts in the area of media pedagogics: 1) “ibus – the interactive multimedia mobile”: It is a mobile computer workshop, which visits youth centres, schools and other institutions. The central element is the bus, which on the one hand transports computers and technical equipment, and on the other hand is the place where media projects are

carried out. 2) “spectrum on air”: Youth create their own radio broadcasts on the frequency of the “Radiofabrik 107,5”.

Contact: DSA Mag. Thomas Schuster (Business manager), e-mail: thschuster@spektrum.at

Link: <http://www.spektrum.at>

2.5 TYROL

a) “Tibs” (“Tiroler Bildungsservice”)

“Tibs” is the “Tyrolean educational service” with the area “Communication and Media” provides information to media pedagogics and media didactics, especially to topics of print media and communication forms.

Contact: “Tibs”, Andreas Heimerl, e-mail: a.heimerl@bildungsservice.at

Link: <http://www.tibs.at>

V. Universities, academies, education and training

Media pedagogics is still at the beginning at Austrian universities and academies and implemented in two different ways: As separate courses for media pedagogics or within several seminars in the studies pedagogics and communication science.

1. University Innsbruck: Study and Science focus “Media pedagogics and Communication Culture”

The study and science focus “Media pedagogics and Communication Culture” works on the interfaces of growing up, working, education, training, learning and communication processes of medial developments, as well as the concretion of questions and traditions on the background of the societies need for media reflection and orientation offers.

Contact: A.Univ.Prof.Dr. Theo Hug, e-mail: theo.hug@uibk.ac.at

Link: <http://homepage.uibk.ac.at/~c60357/>

2. “University Innsbruck: Department for New Media: “eCampus – Online Learning in Tyrol”

“eCampus” is the name of the learning platform, which is operated by the University Innsbruck by the Department for New Media. “ECampus Tyrol” is a cooperation of the University Innsbruck with the “Tiroler Bildungsservice” (TiBs) and aims to

organise a favourable access to a learning platform. Through “eCampus” a net-based integrated learning environment is realised, that allows teachers to create and manage online courses without special IT-knowledge.

Contact: e-mail: e-campus@uibk.ac.at

Link: <https://e-campus.uibk.ac.at/webapps/login>

3. University Vienna: Faculty for Philosophy and Educational Science: Professorship for Media pedagogics

Since September 2004, the University Vienna has a professorship for media pedagogics. Additionally, the course “Knowledge Experts” is build up and a eLearning Curriculum for the teacher is developed to expand the use of computer technology in education education together with the “Institut für die schulpraktische Ausbildung”. In addition, the University Vienna shall be involved in the Joint Master programme “Media and Culture”, which is already provided at universities in the USA, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany. Also a virtual eLearning lab will be launched.

Contact: Prof. Dr. Christian Swertz, Institut für Bildungswissenschaft, e-mail: christian@swertz.de

Link: http://www.dieuniversitaet-online.at/index.php?id=70&tt_news=2419

<http://www.swertz.de/>

<http://isa.univie.ac.at/>

4. “Danube University Krems“: Centre for Education and Media

The Centre for Education and Media provides in cooperation with other educational institutes post-gradual education and training (mainly master studies). These courses last approximately four semesters and focus on media pedagogics, media didactics, eLearning and planning of media use. The central concern is the practical teaching of conceptual, didactical and technological skills. Educational methods are practical online-exercises in PC-labs and team work in practical projects.

Contact: Univ. Doz. Dr. Michael Wagner (Manager of the course), e-mail: michael.wagner@donau-uni.ac.at

Link: <http://www.donau-uni.ac.at/zbm>

5. “Danube University Krems“: Centre for new Media

The Centre for New Media deals with the management, planning, conception and creation of interactive systems. The main focus lies on management competencies and IT-user-skills. The use of communication forms and communities in the field of new media is the focal point of research and consulting. Additionally, the centre provides seminars and courses.

Contact: Mag. Thomas N. Burg, e-mail: thomas.burg@donau-uni.ac.at

Link: <http://www.donau-uni.ac.at/znm>

6. “FH JOANNEUM”: Centre for Multimedia Learning

The Centre for Multimedia Learning was initiated by the FH JOANNEUM and acts in the area of new media in education. It carries out research, development and service projects. Furthermore, it provides eLearning trainings and workshops, such as the “Train the trainer”-workshop.

Contact: Mag. Dr. Jutta Pauschenwein (Manager), Linda Kramer, e-mail: Linda.Kramer@fh-joanneum.at

Link: <http://zml.fh-joanneum.at>

7. “Mozarteum Salzburg”: Media Lab

The media lab, a space for the creative work with new media, makes efforts for the integration of new media in education and also offers the course “New Media in Music Pedagogics”.

Contact: e-mail: medialab@moz.ac.at

Link : <http://www.medialab.moz.ac.at/>

8. “Religious-pedagogical Institute of the diocese Linz”: Academic course “Media pedagogics”

The academic course: “Media pedagogics” aims at persons, which works in the school and educational sector, as well as the staff of youth work and adult education. The participants should get competences in the whole bandwidth of the media landscape (radio, video, computer, ...) and not only deal with media practically, but also critically. The aim of the course is to enable the participants to use media competent in education and train them to media contact persons in their institutions.

Contact: Martin Bauer, Thomas Schlager-Weidinger: e-mail: rpi.schlager-weidinger@eduhi.at or e-mail: rpi.office@eduhi.at

Link: <http://www0.eduhi.at/rpi/>

9. “Pedagogical Institute Salzburg”: Focal Point “Media pedagogics“

In the academic years 2003-2005 the PI Salzburg tries to offer a lot of events, (academic) courses, etc. in the area of media pedagogics.

Contact: e-mail : aps@pi.salzburg.at

Link: <http://www.pi.salzburg.at>

10. “Pedagogical academy of the diocese Linz”: Multimedia Course

The aim of the course, that lasts four semesters, is to make the participants able to organise and evaluate interdisciplinary multimedia projects.

Contact: office@padl.ac.at

Link: <http://www.padl.ac.at>

11. “Pedagogical Institute Vienna” and “media wien”: Academic course

The Pedagogical Institute Vienna together with “media wien” provides the academic course: “Media pedagogical advisors in schools”. The alumni of these course should go to schools on inquiry and show the possibilities of active media work and integrative media education.

Contact: Christian Berger: e-mail: ber-lbw@m13.magwien.gv.at

Link Study plan: <http://www.pi-wien.at/studien/studienplaene/pistupl-Medienpaedagogische-Berater-innen-in-Schulen.pdf>

12. “wienXtra Media Centre“: Basic course “Media education”

The contents of teaching are basic technical skills and project management in the area of media pedagogics, as well as legal and media-politic questions. The course lasts for two semesters and its target groups are multipliers in the extracurricular children and youth work.

Contact: medienzentrum@wienXtra.at

Link: <http://www.medienzentrum.at>

VI. Competitions

With the following paragraph it is tried to present the most common competitions which are initiated in Austria or in the German-speaking area, in which Austrian pupils can take part in. But it is clear that this list can't be exhaustive.

1. "Media Literacy Award" (mla)

The platform "mediamanual.at" of the department Z11(IV/9) Media pedagogics/Educational media/Media service of the bm:bwk hosts annually a competition - the media literacy award [mla] - for the best and most innovative educational media projects in European schools. Video, radio, print media & comics, and multi-media – in all these categories the submission of entries is possible. The projects should be innovative, amusing, original, exciting and/or experimental. Mini-dramas are as welcome as research projects in as far as they are unusual contributions to the theme. A jury assesses the entries and the best are presented at an award ceremony at the "Youki - International Youth Media Festival" in Wels.

Contact: [MR Mag. Susanne Krucsay](mailto:MR.Mag.Susanne.Krucsay@bmbwk.gv.at)

Link: <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at>

Link: <http://www.mediamanual.at/mediamanual/projekte/mla.php>

Link: <http://www.youki.at>

2. "L@rnie Award"

The "L@rnie Award" aims at web lectures and learning modules of subject-related contents in relation to the syllabus of Austrian schools, which as an example contains webquests, interactive tests, learning games, simulations, etc. Additionally, a didactical concept for the use of the web lectures is desired. Project executing organisation is the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (bm:bwk). The preparation of the award is undertaken and the jury is build up by the "bit media e-Learning solution", "pib-innovate", "e-Lisa", teachers, representatives of universities, experts of the economy, "Wirtschaftskammer Österreich" under the auspices of the bm:bwk.

Contact:

bm:bwk: MinR Dr. Robert Kristöfl, e-mail: robert.kristoefl@bmbwk.gv.at

bm:bwk: Dipl.-Ing. Michael Lückl, e-mail: michael.lueckl@bmbwk.gv.at

pib Wien: Mag. Silvana Rameder, e-mail: silvana.rameder@pib-wien.ac.at

Link: <http://www.bildung.at>

3. "Join Multimedia"-Award of the Siemens AG

The target is to create informative and enjoyable multimedia-presentations with the help of computers – in German or English. Pupils aged 12-21 of all European countries are invited to take part in the competition in teams. School teams are constituted by participants of one school, country teams of pupils of maximal three countries. Especially for the country teams a virtual working platform for the exchange of data files and communication, has been founded. Additionally, all teachers, who coach the projects, can take part in accompanying eLearning courses for free. The main jury is build up by representatives of the educational policy, media, schools, youth, and representatives of the Siemens AG.

Contact: through the homepage

Link: http://www.siemens.com/join_multimedia

<http://www.siemens.com/knowledge-zone>

4. “Jugendsoftwarepreis“ (“Youth software prize”)

The “Klaus Tschira Stiftungs GmbH” invites young people to create multimedia programmes and presentations (with simulations, etc.) which help pupils to understand scientific topics (mathematics, science, computer science). The motto of the competition is: Software by pupils for pupils. All pupils in Austria, Germany and the Switzerland can take part in the competition. Prizes are laptops, journeys, PDA´s and software. Additionally, the “Klaus Tschira Stiftungs GmbH” supports the prize winners to market their programmes.

Contact: “Klaus Tschira Stiftung GmbH” , Markus Bissinger, e-mail: info@jugendsoftwarepreis.de

Link: <http://www.jugendsoftwarepreis.de>

5. “u19 – freestyle computing“

The “u19 – freestyle computing” is the biggest computer competition in Austria, which is carried out within the international “Prix Ars Electronica” since the year 1998. The submission of projects and workings that are realised and designed through the computer, is possible. The use of all tools is allowed, as the name freestyle computing already says. Austrian children and youth aged not older than 19 can take part in the competition alone, in project groups or within school and class projects.

Contact: “Prix Ars Electronica” , Gerlinde Pöschko, e-mail: info@u19.aec.at

Link: <http://www.aec.at/de/prix/u19/index.asp>

6. “Jugend Informatik Wettbewerb“ (“Youth Informatics Competition“)

The “Youth Informatics Competition” is a project competition for pupils and youth in the field of information technologies and informatics and is carried out by the “Austrian Computer Society” (“Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft” - OCG) in cooperation with bm:bwk. The submission of all projects that are realised through information technologies in a meaningful and creative way is possible. The competition is divided into three age classes. In all categories single projects as well as group projects or class projects are allowed.

Contact: “Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft“ (OCG), e-mail: gabriel@ocg.at

Link: <http://jiw.ocg.at>

7. “Informatik-Olympiade“ (“Informatics olympic games”)

Every year the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture together with the “Austrian Computer Society” (“Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft” - OCG) carry out the “Informatik-Olympiade”. Each pupil of a higher education school can take part in the competition. The sender of the best works are invited to a week-long training camp by the ministry. The best four of them qualify for the participation in the international “Informatik-Olympiade”. The participants of all competitions get diplomas and book prizes.

Contact: bm:bwk (dept. I/7),

VB Sigrid Burger, e-mail: sigrid.burger@bmbwk.gv.at

Prof. Achleitner, e-mail: achi@bgamstetten.ac.at

Prof. Fellner, e-mail: j.fellner@tsn.at

“Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft“ (OCG),

Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Futschek, e-mail: futschek@ifs.tuwien.ac.at

Fr. Maier-Gabriel, e-mail: gabriel@ocg.at

Link: <http://ioi.ocg.at>

Link: <http://ioinformatics.org/>

Link: <http://olympiads.win.tue.nl/ioi/>

8. “Cyberschool“-Competitions

“Cyberschool” is the biggest Austrian-wide school competition in the field of internet and multimedia. Within the competition, pupils can realise their know-how in the form of practical projects and then present it. Public partner are the bm:bwk and the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour (bm:wa). “Cyberschool” aims at the development and improvement of the communication between the economy and schools and at pupils’ practical and economic-orientated examination with the medium computer and internet in Austrian schools. There are four categories: Junior 6-10 and 10-14, Classics, and Technics (15-19). Additionally the category girls only was initiated in the year 2004. The ten best works are nominated to take part in the masterships of the federal states, the winner of the masterships may present their works at federal level in Vienna.

Contact: Cyberschool Office, e-mail: office@cmk.at

Link: <http://cyberschool.at>

9. “Computer Contest Austria” (Computer olympiade)

The “Computer Contest Austria” is a competition for all pupils in Austria and is initiated by the “TOC – Team Organisatoren Austrian Computer Contest”, an association that carries out Austrian knowledge events. The entries are appraised in different age classes.

Contact: e-mail: Boerni@ContestAustria.at or TOC@ContestAustria.at

Link: <http://computer.contestaustria.at>