

SILVA Network Conference

Should all Forestry Students learn the same?

Generalization versus Specialization

16. – 18. April, 2015

Second announcement



Conference Venue

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna
Augasse 2-9, A-1090 Vienna

Organizer and Contact details

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Should all Forestry Students learn the same? Generalization versus Specialization

On behalf of the SILVA Network, the Department of Forest and Soil Sciences, BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria, and the IUFRO education group we invite you for the upcoming conference on Forestry Education.

Tentative Programme



Prior to the SILVA Network conference an ICA-Edu Symposium “Educating Life Science Graduates Fit for Europe” will take place (cf. www.ica-ls.com). Participation is encouraged.

Thursday: 16. 4. 2015

12:00 – 14:00 Registration, Lunch organized by BOKU

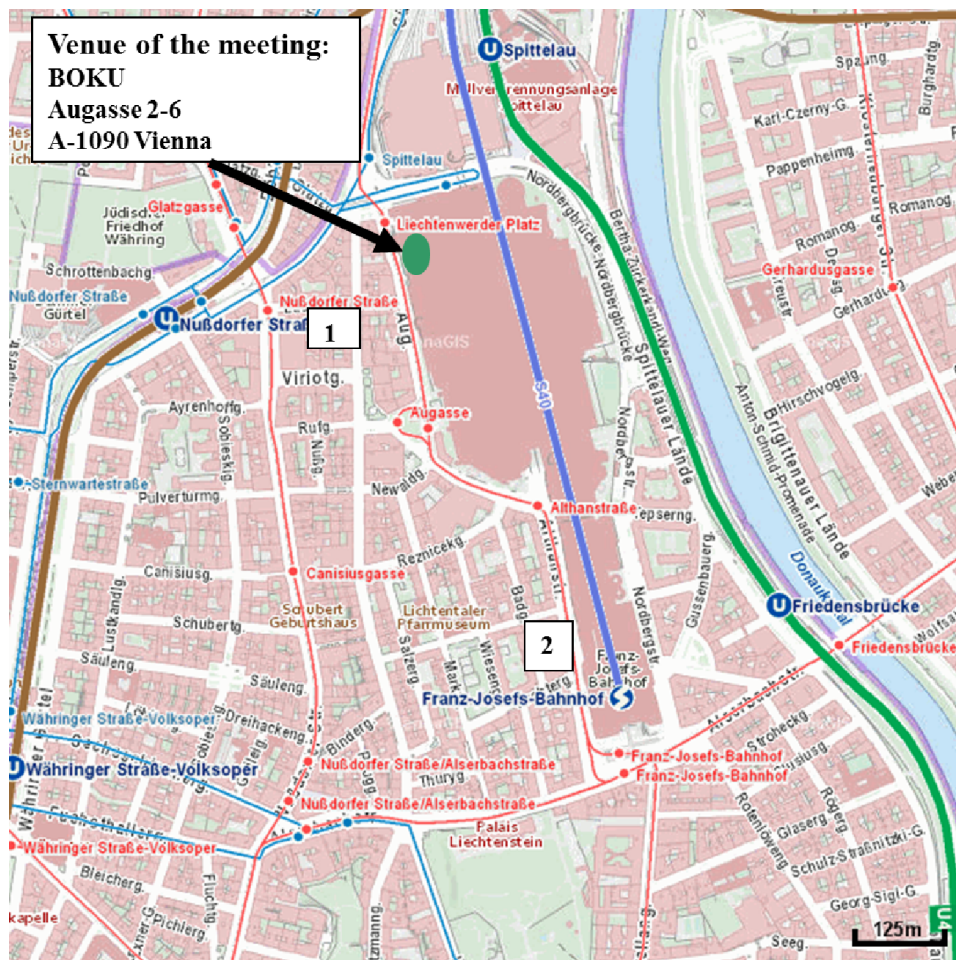
14:00 – 14:30 Welcome address and opening of the Silva Conference

14:30 – 17:30 Technical Sessions

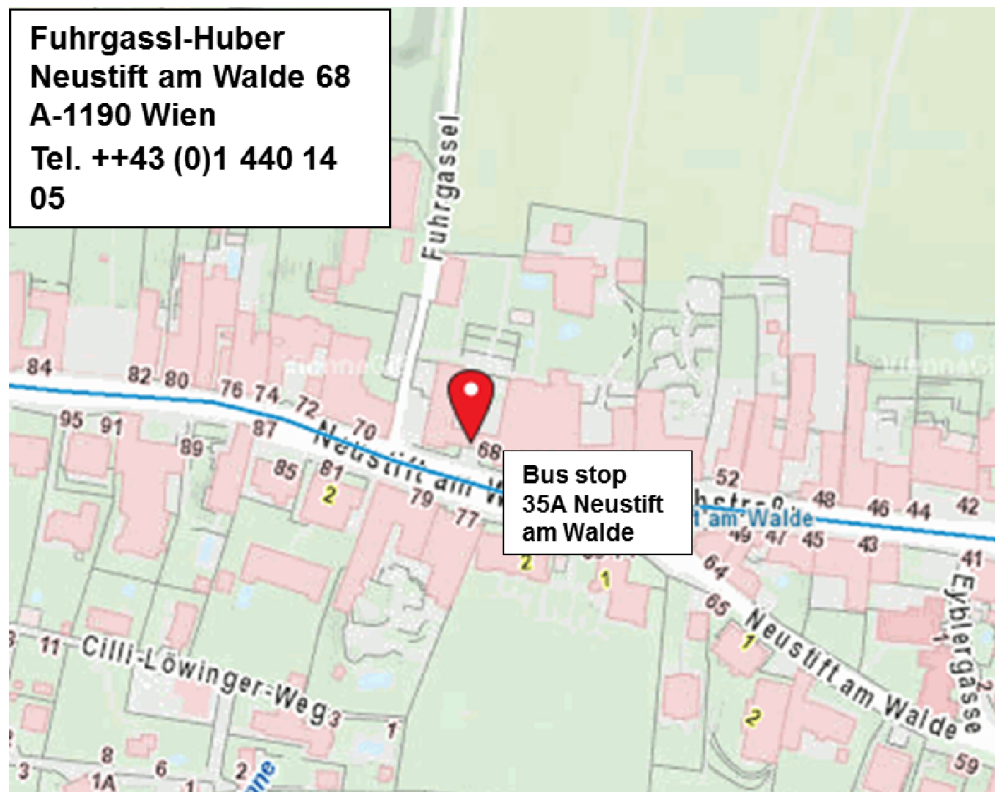
18:30 Dinner at a Heurigen Restaurant organized by BOKU (see map below)

Location of the Conference “Alte WU”: Augasse 2-6, 1090 Vienna

Also in the map: Hotels Alexander (1) and Bellevue (2)



Location of the Heurigen Restaurant “Fuhrgassl-Huber” (winery)



Friday: 17. 4. 2015

9:00 – 12:00 Technical Sessions,
including General Assembly and Working Groups

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch organized by BOKU

13:00 – 17:00 Technical Sessions

Free evening, Guided tour through the city of Vienna can be organized upon request

Saturday: 18. 4. 2015

8:00 – 18:00 Excursion to the Experimental Forest of the Department of
Forest and Soil sciences Forest Sciences, Rosalia
Lunch and a visit to a local restaurant will be organized by BOKU



Background and Topic

The discussion of a standard curriculum of forest sciences, e.g. throughout Europe, and a standard competence profile of the graduates is not new. There was an “undefined consensus”, that forest graduates should have a certain know how to meet the expectations of the forestry sector. With the implementation of the Bologna process, which strongly focusses on learning outcomes and competences. this discussion has gained new attention.

Curriculum development is an ongoing process, strongly driven by enhancements in science and society needs. However some of key challenges remain for all Forestry Bachelor and Master programmes across Europe:

- typical standard competences versus individual profiles to meet the expected future job perspectives of the graduates
- subject specific knowledge versus generic competences of the graduates
- general standard curricula versus specialized programmes addressing the regional needs and strengths of the Forest Faculties and/or Universities
- general approach in the curriculum development: (i) outcome/competence oriented (looking at the graduates), or (ii) scientific discipline based (science driven).
- definition of the field of forestry: a more narrow application oriented approach, versus a wider, covering also neighboring disciplines
- learning paradigm versus instruction paradigm

At the SILVA Network conference 2005 in Wageningen we asked about the future minimum standard for forest education in Europe at the Bachelors and Masters level. The conclusion was (see also in the proceedings on our homepage):

(i) There is no consensus about content and workload for curricula like we had in our traditional university and “Fachhochschule”

(ii) There is a strong regional differentiation related to the backyard of the university (e.g. region, country), which reflects the regional society demands, and this diversity persists

The importance of the local situation seems to have a lasting impact on both the type of universities and the contents of the academic forestry education. There will be no uniformity, but different profiles of curricula in different places, which – with a growing mobility – highly increases the students’ opportunities for individual qualification profiles.

The universities will cooperate, even share resources in joint activities like teaching, but they will also compete more than before. The individual competence profiles of the graduates depend on the possibility of choosing elective courses or limited specializations in different lines of studies – examples ranging from traditional high proportions of compulsory courses to elaborated ways of offering different options to the students. Ten years later it seems worthwhile to reconsider core studies and specialities and assess the ongoing developments.

Call for contributions

We invite you to prepare a presentation in closer or wider connection with the theme of the conference. Student participation is encouraged. Please send by e-mail an abstract of up to 300 words to Siegfried Lewark, copy to Hubert Hasenauer by e-mail (cf. below) till February 10, 2015. The organizing committee will decide on contributions; all applicants will be informed as soon as possible.

Venue and Fees

Participation fee is 150 € (special fees for students), which will include: 3 lunches, the conference dinner, tea/coffee breaks during the conference, and the field trip. Fees must be paid in cash at the registration.

Travel arrangements

Participants have to make their travel arrangements themselves, at own cost. Vienna can easily be reached by air as well as by train.

Location of the venue

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU)
Lecture hall: HS 05
Augasse 2-6
1090 Vienna

Public Transport:
Underground Line U6 "Nußdorfer Straße"
U6/U4 "Spittelau"
Tramway D "Lichtenwerder Platz"
Bus 35A/37A "Spittelau"

Accommodation

Participants have to make their own accommodation arrangements, at their own cost. Hotels next to BOKU with BOKU prices. Please contact the hotel directly and refer to BOKU

Suggested hotels within walking distance

1. Hotel Alexander*** (2 minutes to walk)
Augasse 15
1090 Wien
Tel.: (+43-1) 3171508
Fax: (+43-1) 317150882
E-Mail: hotel@alexander.co.at, info@alexander.co.at
www.alexander.co.at

Single room EUR 64,00/night
Double room EUR 84,00/night
Triple room EUR 108,00/night
Breakfast included.

2. Hotel Bellevue**** (10 minutes to walk)
Althanstraße 5
1091 Wien
Tel.: (+43-1) 31348-0
Fax: (+43-1) 31348-801
E-Mail: bellevue@austria-hotels.at
<http://www.schick-hotels.com/Park/park.htm>

Single room EUR 89,00/night
Double room EUR 99,00/night
Breakfast included.

Other suggested hotels with BOKU prices

Please contact the hotel directly and refer to BOKU

Hotel Regina****
A-1090 Wien, Rooseveltplatz 15
Tel: (+43 1) 404 46 - 0
Fax: (+43 1) 408 83 92
Regina@kremslehnerhotels.at
<http://www.kremslehnerhotels.at/de/hotel-regina-wien/>

Single room EUR 95,00/night
Double room EUR 140,00/night
Breakfast included.

Transport link: 37 or 38 (tram) to Nußdorfer Straße U

Pension Ani**
Kinderspitalgasse 1
1090 Wien
Tel: (+43-1) 4081060
Fax: (+43-1) 4081082
ani@freerooms.at
<http://www.freerooms.at/>

Single room EUR 46,00/night
Double room EUR 66,00/night
Breakfast included.

Transport link: U6 (Alser Straße) to Nußdorfer Straße U

Hotel-Pension Bleckmann***
Währingerstraße 15
1090 Wien
Tel: (+43-1) 408 08 99
Fax: (+43-1) 402 20 24
info@hotelbleckmann.at
www.hotelbleckmann.at
Single room EUR 68,00/night
Double room EUR 83,00/night
Breakfast included.

Transport link: 37 or 38 (tram) to Nußdorfer Straße U

Hotel Boltzmann****
Boltzmanngasse 8
1090 Wien
Tel: (+43-1) 354 500
Fax: (+43-1)354 50816
info@hotelboltzmann.at
http://www.hotelboltzmann.at/

Single room EUR 82,00/night
Double room EUR 104,00/night
Breakfast included.

Transport link: 37 or 38 (tram) to Nußdorfer Straße U

Hotel Parkvilla****
Hasenauerstr. 12
1190 Wien
Tel.: 0043-1-367 57 00
Fax: 0043-1-367 57 00 41
office@parkvilla.at
http://parkvilla.at/

Single room from EUR 88,00/night
Double room from EUR 128,00/night
Breakfast included.

Transport link: 37A (bus) to Nußdorfer Straße U

Vienna tourism link: <http://www.wien.info/en>