



***Choices and Responsibilities:
Higher Education in the Knowledge Society***

Programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education (IMHE)

**THE NEW UNIVERSITY LEGISLATION IN AUSTRIA:
FISCAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES AND THEIR EFFECTS**

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In 2002 a completely new legislation regarding the financing and organization of universities was introduced by the Austrian Government and Parliament. The guiding-lines on those of the New Public Management and New Economy – competition between the universities in Austria, and diversity of profiles in their organization, teaching and research. The paradigm change also includes the strengthening of the university management, the introduction of evaluation, and the changed role of university staff including the professors as employees with the Rector functioning as a kind of Director General. In my paper, I would give a survey of the implementation of the new legislation.