Third Campus Ball Krems: a success for education, research and the region

Over 1,300 people attended the third Campus Ball Krems held on 10 June 2017. Lower Austria’s unique summer ball was opened by the Provincial Governor of Lower Austria, Johanna Mikl-Leitner, and representatives of the evening’s hosts: Danube University Krems, IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems and Karl Landsteiner University of Health Sciences. A specular programme ensured guests were thoroughly entertained and a great time was had by all.

Strolling along the campus esplanade, dancing in the packed ballroom and grooving on down in the clubbing area: more than 1,300 guests attended the third Campus Ball Krems on 10 June 2017. Following a wonderful orchestral overture to accompany a procession of over 140 guests of honour, the ball was opened by the Rector of Danube University Krems, Friedrich Faulhammer; CEO of IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems, Ulrike Prommer; Rector of Karl Landsteiner University of Health Sciences, Prof. Rudolf Mallinger, and the Provincial Governor of Lower Austria, Johanna Mikl-Leitner. In their welcome addresses the dignitaries from the three universities and the Provincial Governor all emphasised the very important role the ball plays in building bridges in a social setting between education, science and research at Campus Krems and in the region. The numerous personalities from education, science, politics, business, and arts and culture in attendance underlined the national significance of the event.

Friedrich Faulhammer, Rector of Danube University Krems, said that Campus Ball Krems has become a firm fixture on the Wachau valley social calendar: “*Education, science and research – and so the institutions based at Campus Krems – are an important part of society. We want to make a statement with the Campus Ball Krems, and also create the conditions for dialogue in a relaxed setting. It is an opportunity for people from science, education and the region to socialise and network in a very special atmosphere. I’m looking forward to a wonderful evening and the chance to meet up again with students, graduates, colleagues, partners and guests from the local area and all over the world.”*

Prof. Rudolf Mallinger, Rector of Karl Landsteiner University of Health Sciences, highlighted the excellent way in which the three institutions cooperate with each other: *“The great thing about this ball is that it brings together the three Campus Krems-based institutions for a single event. It’s an extension of what we do so successfully on a daily basis – when we’re not dancing in the ballroom. The three universities complement each other perfectly in terms of the education and research opportunities they offer. In the context of this diversity, we purposely work together to exploit the mutual opportunities. The Campus Ball Krems is certainly evidence of how fruitful this inter-university collaboration is.”*

Ulrike Prommer, CEO of IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems, identified several factors that make the Campus Krems Ball such a special event: *“We are in Austria’s most livable city – Krems. I also think we’re on the country’s most attractive campus. But the mix of guests is what is so special. There are so many partners of all three universities here; from politics, business, science and research. There are also lots of students and lecturers, as well as local Krems residents. I’m especially pleased to see so many graduates at the ball, who have returned for this festive occasion.”*

Provincial Governor of Lower Austria Johanna Mikl-Leitner summed up the efforts made by the Province in establishing the science hub, setting out a vision of continued development of the education and research location and, most importantly, promotion of the next generation of talent: *“We have invested more than EUR 600 million over the last 20 years. In the coming years we are going to invest a further EUR 300 million in science. My major goal for the next few years is attracting children and young people to science. Science is where the greatest innovative strength lies.”* The Governor saw no contradiction in combining research with social gatherings: *“The people involved in research and education at Campus Krems work hard and should be able to have fun and socialise. At a ball like this, it’s inevitable that people will make new contacts, strengthen existing relationships and, above all, have the chance to showcase specific achievements to a wide audience.”* She also mentioned the Province’s science outreach activities over the next few months, including the Lower Austria research weeks, which will be taking place for the first time this autumn, the research festival at Palais Niederösterreich on 15 September 2017 and the science gala on 5 October, where researches will receive recognition for their achievements.

**From dirty dancing to sounds of science**

Campus Krems was once again transformed into Austria's most beautiful indoor and outdoor ball venue with the esplanade, ballroom, clubbing area and the various lounges bathed in golden light and carpeted in the official ball colour, magenta. As usual, the guests at the third Campus Ball Krems were treated to a varied programme of entertainment, culinary delicacies and local wines. After their performance last year, the Hippmann dance school – which has won awards internationally – returned again for the opening show: a fantastic routine featuring music from classic movie Dirty Dancing. The musical accompaniment in the ballroom came courtesy of seasoned ball orchestra Black & White,

where at midnight guests joined in the traditional public quadrille led by the Hippmann dance school.

The University of Vienna jazz quartet delighted guests with a swinging repertoire in the Lower Austria Science Longue. Meanwhile on the show stage in front of the lounge exciting new soundscapes could be heard emanating from a combination of conventional instruments such as the electric violin, cello and guitar as well as unusual science-fiction sounding inventions like the laser harp and theremin. The result of the collaboration between the musicians and members of the Science Pool association was a very special acoustic experience.

It was jazz all the way in the Piano Lounge with Krems musician Klaus Bergmaier, while DJ Sustep took to the turntables in the clubbing area, keeping the party atmosphere going with his mixes until four in the morning.

View photos of the third Campus Ball Krems at [http://www.campusball.at](http://www.campusball.at/en/209-2/program/)

Press contact

An event jointly hosted by the three universities located at Campus Krems:

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