

## *friday lectures*

### ***Discussion of the Developments in Higher Education 2011: Changes and Future Developments***

Resuming the discussion of last winter term, the friday lectures deal with the subject of university from the perspective of possible changes and developments. They start with critical reflections on the subject and examine the question of necessity, possibility and impossibility of education within the medium of science.

For lecturers, researchers and students, but also for the management and administration staff, identifying with a demanding development of higher education means facing new challenges, tasks and roles. Between the world of science and the world of administration a “Third Space” is evolving. This “In-Between” entails new areas of responsibility at the interfaces, which require university specialisation and professionalisation, thus academic education and socialisation as well as teamwork and scientifically sound approaches. The friday lectures focus on the international discussion of new professional identity concepts of “Third Space Professionals” at universities.

A further emphasis is put on questions of how to develop quality and content structure of study programmes in accordance with the European study reform. Special attention is directed towards a familiar form of teaching – the seminar – which is examined from a historical as well as didactic perspective.

As usual the friday lectures also deal with questions of gender and diversity in connection with equal opportunities and justice. The growing heterogeneity of the students can be considered as both chance and challenge, which have to be met with new study and teaching concepts in higher education.

#### **response and moderation**

The thematic connection to both the state of the international discussion and the requirements of the University of Vienna is ensured by the contributions of experts from other universities as well as by the response of scientists, Third Space Professionals and students of the University of Vienna. The moderators of the friday lectures – mostly journalists on science, politics and social topics – offer a professional view from outside of university.

#### **turn it digital**

Students of the University of Vienna prepare themselves for the friday lectures in the seminar ‘Rethinking Studying: Knowledge Production and Audiovisual Practices’. They conduct interviews with the experts and produce videocasts, which will then be published on the website of the CTL and on YouTube.