

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
*Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies*

Between the  
Governors of the University of Alberta  
and the  
Federal Minister for Science and Research of the Republic of Austria

1. The Governors of the University of Alberta ("UAlberta") and the Austrian Federal Minister for Science and Research herewith newly agree on a programme of cooperation designed to make possible the continued operation of a centre devoted to Austrian studies at UAlberta.
2. For the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding, Austrian studies continues to be understood in the broad historical sense of the word, rather than being narrowly defined as a concentration on the geographic area covered by the present Republic of Austria. The subject of the programme envisioned is a focus on broad Central European area studies with a central Austrian core.
3. UAlberta maintains an academic centre, called the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies (formerly the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies), herein referred to as the "Institute".
4. UAlberta recurrently appoints a Director to head the Institute. The Director must be a senior scholar with an academic specialization in the field of Austrian and Central European History and have a full-time tenured appointment within the Department of History and Classics. This full-time position is wholly financed by UAlberta. The Director of the Institute reports to the Dean of Arts.
5. UAlberta has established two undergraduate core courses in the field of Austrian/European Studies. These two courses (1) a survey of Austrian and Habsburg History, and (2) an interdisciplinary course, *The Culture and Civilization of Austria: An Introduction* are to be taught annually. The former course is taught by the Director of the Institute and the latter by the visiting assistant or associate professor funded by Austria.
6. UAlberta, through the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, with the support and co-sponsorship by the appropriate Austrian institutions in Canada and in Austria, will assist and co-sponsor conferences, symposia and other scholarly events with an Austrian topic.
7. UAlberta provides funding annually to the Institute to assist it in carrying on its activities. Annual budget allocations will take account of the development of overall financial resources of the Faculty of Arts.

8. UAlberta has helped to establish and will continue to maintain fruitful links between the Institute and University of Alberta Press to facilitate publication of Austrian related materials.
9. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research will provide appropriate funding to enable the appointment of an assistant or associate professor subject to the provision of a teaching load of a minimum of six (6) hours per week guaranteed by UAlberta. Each appointment will last for a period of up to three (3) years, and may be renewable for an additional two (2) years beyond that. The tasks of this assistant or associate professor are:
- a) six (6) to nine (9) hours of teaching per week;
  - b) subject to enrolments, teaching the interdisciplinary course "*The Culture and Civilisation of Austria: An Introduction*" as well as an additional undergraduate course on an Austrian and Central European subject appropriate to the academic specialization of the individual concerned;
  - c) teaching, where possible, a graduate course appropriate to the academic specialization of the individual concerned established in one or more of the three divisions of the Faculty of Arts:
    1. Fine Arts
    2. Social Sciences
    3. Humanities
  - d) providing scholarly and organizational input for the preparation of Wirth Institute events such as symposia, conferences, etc.
- The Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research will either transfer the funds for the costs associated with this assistant or associate professor every six (6) months in advance to the University of Alberta as the assistant or associate professor's employer, or pay the salary directly to the candidate.
10. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research will provide appropriate funding, paid directly to the candidate, for a twelve-month postgraduate scholarship for dissertation research. The scholarship holder will be obliged to carry out twenty (20) hours of administrative and organizational work per week at the Centre. The University of Alberta will assist in securing affordable accommodation for the scholarship holder.
11. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research will advertise widely within Austria for the position of an assistant or associate professor according to the necessary formal criteria among the full range of disciplines mentioned under 9 in the fine arts, social sciences and humanities and prepares a list of applicants for consideration by the University of Alberta. The final selection of the assistant or associate professor rests with the Dean of Arts of UAlberta on the advice of the Director of the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies and with the agreement of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research.

12. The Centre for Canadian Studies (Zentrum für Kanadastudien an der Universität Innsbruck) is designated by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research (Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Forschung) as the institution responsible for all administrative and organizational matters and the coordination within Austria relating to the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies.
13. Both sides welcome bilateral cooperation between Austrian institutions of higher education and UAlberta. The Wirth Institute facilitates, wherever possible, arrangements for cooperation among the academic institutions concerned.
14. In its current programme of subsidizing and facilitating lecture tours by scholars and performance tours by artists from Austria and Canada, the Embassy of Austria in Ottawa will encourage and give priority within Canada to visits to UAlberta.
15. Through its bilateral programme of scholarly and scientific cooperation, the Austrian side will continue to support research and other related activities carried out by or in cooperation with the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies.
16. The Austrian side and UAlberta agree that the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies continues to:
  - a) coordinate Austrian and Central European studies at UAlberta to encourage a clear understanding of Austrian literature in their various course offerings;
  - b) work with the UAlberta libraries and the Embassy of Austria in Ottawa to maintain a resource centre for Austrian studies for the use of scholars throughout Canada and the United States;
  - c) coordinate and, where appropriate, provide instruction of the core courses in Austrian studies stipulated by this Memorandum of Understanding;
  - d) focus and support research work on Austrian topics in Canada, and organize suitable scholarly activities such as conferences, symposia and colloquia;
  - e) facilitate interdisciplinary graduate degrees (MA, PhD) in the area of Austrian studies, and recruit graduate students in this area;
  - f) interview and screen Austrian scholars who have applied for the position of the assistant or associate professor and advise the Dean which candidate to appoint;
  - g) meet on a regular basis with the representatives of the Austrian Embassy in Ottawa and with Austrian government, ministries (esp. the Austrian Federal Ministry of European and International Affairs and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research), and university officials in Austria and report on the Institute's activities; coordinate visiting faculty from Austria to UAlberta and other universities in Canada where possible; cooperate with the Austrian Centre for Canadian Studies at the University of Innsbruck, the Centre for Canadian Studies at the University of Graz and the Centre for Canadian Studies at the University of Vienna and assist in the development of Canadian studies in Austria;

- h) publish a brochure or other printed or electronic materials advertising the benefits of the UAlberta for potential graduate and undergraduate students; and
- i) submit an annual report to the Austrian coordinator.

17. All notices to be given pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding will be sent in writing to the following coordinators:

**for the Austrian Federal Ministry  
of Science and Research**  
Dr. Christoph Ramoser  
Head of Department  
Federal Ministry of Science and Research  
Minoritenplatz 5  
1014 Vienna  
Austria

Telephone: +43-1-531-20-6791  
Fax: +43-1-531-20-99-6791  
E-mail:  
christoph.ramoser@bmwf.gv.at

**for the University of Alberta**

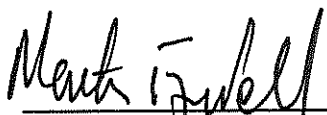
Dr. Joseph Patrouch  
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Central European Studies  
University of Alberta  
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- 18. The sides acknowledge that UAlberta is a public body subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Alberta)* ("FOIP"), as amended. For further information about FOIP see [www.ipu.ualberta.ca](http://www.ipu.ualberta.ca).
- 19. The present Memorandum of Understanding does not result in the creation of any new obligations regarding international law nor will it have any effect on existing legislation.
- 20. The cancellation of this Memorandum of Understanding will not prejudice the completion, in accordance with their terms, of any on-going projects or activities under this Memorandum of Understanding.
- 21. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from the date of the last signature, with the understanding that it may be cancelled by the appropriate authorities of either side giving twelve (12) months' notice to the other party in writing, unless an earlier cancellation date is jointly decided. The Memorandum of Understanding may be changed or extended by mutual written consent of the two sides.

Signed in Edmonton, on 9 October 2013. Done in two copies in English language.

For the Governors of the  
University of Alberta:

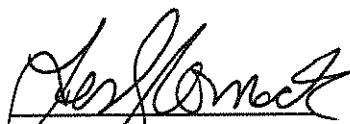


Dr. Martin Ferguson-Pell  
Acting Provost and Vice-President Academic

For the Federal Minister for Science and  
Research of the Republic of Austria:



Mag. Barbara Weitgruber, MA  
Director General for Scientific Research and  
International Relations



Dr. Lesley Cormack  
Dean, Faculty of Arts

Edmonton, October 9, 2013