

Election of the “Crisis Manager 2020”: Bronze for Michael Heritsch

“Crisis management is a team effort,” emphasizes the award winner in the “Education” category. As CEO, Heritsch steered FHWien der WKW safely through the Corona year.

Vienna, December 18, 2020 – Competent crisis managers were particularly valuable for companies in the Corona year 2020. In the education sector, too, it was necessary to maintain calm and an overview in the face of unprecedented challenges and to make the right decisions. This makes the excellent performance of Michael Heritsch, CEO of FHWien der WKW, in the “Crisis Manager 2020” election by Leadersnet all the more gratifying. In the category “Education” he reached the excellent third place and thus bronze. In the overall ranking, he was voted 18th.

Expert jury and audience evaluated over 300 managers

In the great election for the “Crisis Manager 2020” by Leadersnet, it was possible to vote on 300 executives of Austrian companies from 13 industries. The evaluation employed the school grade system. The result was based on the assessment of a top-class jury of experts as well as on a public vote in which 23,000 people cast their votes. Voting was possible until November 25, 2020. The expert jury consisted of managers and experts from all areas of Austria’s media landscape, including Brigitte Wolf, Regional Director of ORF Vienna, Horst Pirker, CEO of VGN Medien Holding, Kurier-Medienhaus Managing Director Thomas Kralinger and Hubert Patterer, Editor-in-Chief of Kleine Zeitung.

A tour de force that demanded everything from the FH team

“Crisis management is always a team effort, which is why the honor goes to the entire crisis management team at FHWien der WKW,” emphasized Michael Heritsch in his reaction to the award. As Managing Director, he steered FHWien der WKW safely through 2020, a year filled with unprecedented and unexpected challenges. At the beginning of the first lockdown in spring, things had to move quickly: Within a few days, all study programs at the university of applied sciences, which specializes in management and communication, was transferred to the Internet – a mammoth task for everyone involved, says Michael Heritsch, looking back on a labor-intensive time: “It was a tour de force for FHWien der WKW, which demanded everything from our employees and our many external lecturers. The positive feedback from many students and teachers was all the more gratifying.”

100 percent online teaching until the end of the semester

The current winter semester started at FHWien der WKW with a mix of face-to-face and online teaching. When the second lockdown was imposed in the fall, the recent switch to 100 percent distance learning was already proceeding with a certain routine. To make planning easier for students and faculty, teaching via the Internet will continue until the end of the semester.

Photo for the press release:

Ing. Mag. (FH) Michael Heritsch, CEO der FHWien der WKW

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FHWien der WKW University of Applied Sciences for Management & Communication

FHWien der WKW has been Austria's leading university of applied sciences for management & communication for over 25 years. Working in close contact with Austrian corporations, FHWien der WKW offers comprehensive and practice-oriented academic programs to over 2,800 Bachelor's and Master's students. Two thirds of our teaching staff have a background in business. Our programs are tailored to the needs of companies, optimally preparing our graduates – more than 11,800 to date – for their future careers.

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