

FHWien CEO Michael Heritsch Elected “Crisis Manager 2021”

“Crisis management is always a team effort,” says the winner in the “Education” category in the voting organized by Leadersnet.

Vienna, December 28, 2021 – Competent crisis managers are particularly important in the never-ending corona crisis. In the face of unprecedented challenges, it is also important for universities to maintain calm and an overview as well as to make the right decisions. This makes the victory of Michael Heritsch, CEO of FHWien der WKW, in the “Education” category of Leadersnet’s “Crisis Manager 2021” election even more gratifying.

High-quality education even in a pandemic

“Crisis management is always a team effort,” emphasizes Michael Heritsch. “That’s why the award is also due to the entire crisis management team at our university of applied sciences.” Only together, he says, was it possible to maintain academic operations at the usual level of quality – despite frequently changing conditions and long lockdown phases. “For students, faculty and staff of FHWien der WKW, the second year in the pandemic was equally demanding. We did our best and always kept two goals in mind: to continue to offer students a practical education that opens up the best job opportunities and at the same time to protect the health of everyone involved,” Heritsch continued.

Evaluation by expert jury and audience

In the election of the “Crisis Manager 2021” organized by Leadersnet, around 400 managers of Austrian companies and organizations from 14 industries could be voted for. The areas of “digital competence”, “ability and credibility” and “flexibility” were surveyed. The evaluation was made using a star system. The result was based on the assessment of a jury of experts as well as a public survey in which 30,000 people cast their votes.

About Michael Heritsch

Ing. Mag. (FH) Michael Heritsch, MSc is the CEO of FHWien der WKW. In this role, he is responsible for the continuous growth and successful development of the university of applied sciences. Heritsch, who comes from Graz, began his career in the Austrian Armed Forces. Positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Motorola followed. In 2003 he joined FHWien der WKW, where he had completed a part-time degree program in executive management two years earlier, as Head of IT and Finance. In 2006 he was appointed CEO. The number of graduates from the university of applied sciences, which specializes in management and communication, has risen from 2,000 to over 12,700 during his tenure.

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Michael Heritsch, CEO of FHWien der WKW, won Leadersnet’s „Crisis Manager 2021“ election in the „Education“ category.

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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 – around 12,700 to date – for their future careers.

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