



NEWSLETTER 1/2006

www.donauhochschule.de

Dear DHU Partners,

one year ago most of you have met at Ulm for the first DHU Symposium.

We have started to join forces from universities along the Danube River for the development of sustainable energy systems and efficient use of energy. During our final workshop we evaluated five action items:

- Biomass/Biogas/Geothermal
- Efficient Energy Usage
- Solar Energy
- Fuel Cells
- Joint BSc/MSc Course on Renewable Energy

You will find actual status and first results of the follow up workshops below.

On the European level 2006 was an excellent year for the Danube Region. Brussels got aware about the Danube region at several occasions.

Myself I have been part of a delegation from Ulm that presented the Danube Region at Brussels to Commissioners and members of the European Parliament. All these activities helped to prepare the ground for our next steps at the DHU.

With this Newsletter I also have the pleasure to introduce to you Prof. Gerd Heilscher, who started at the University of Applied Science at Ulm in October. His main topic is energy data management for decentralized and renewable energy systems. He is financed from the local utility (SWU) and will organize and further steps of the DHU and act as your contact point.

I'm looking forward to see you again in 2007 and hope that our joined forces along the Danube River help to realize

Yours sincerely

Jürgen Dangel

University of Novi Sad

Thanks to the excellent organisation of Prof. Milos Tesic and Mrs. Branka Nakomčić, the follow up workshop on **Geothermal and Biomass Energy** was held on 27.5.2006 at Novi Sad.

With 25 participants from five countries the actual status of Geothermal and Biomass Energy systems in the participating countries has been evaluated. The main topics and next steps of this working group are:

- Analysis of the potential
- Machbarkeitsstudie
- Site evaluation
- Joint R&D projects
- Local dissemination activities

The conclusion showed that these sustainable energy sources seem to have a great potential along the Danube River. Biogas technology is not widely known up to now. Several existing Biogas pilot plants do not work properly. Therefore the investment into education and joint forces to establish successful R&D projects is the first step. Additionally dissemination activities have to be developed to make use of the expected potential of these technologies.

Baja University

On 15th and 16th of May the follow up workshop for the **Joint International BSc/MSc Course in Sustainable Energy Systems** was held at Baja. The workshop and the accompanying program was perfectly organized by Dr. Agnes Lehoczky.

In the first step the individual motivation of the participants has been exchanged. It was mentioned that a joint course on RE Systems will help to meet the EU Directive on Renewable Energies and to get students



NEWSLETTER 1/2006

www.donauhochschule.de

attracted by an international BSc/MSc Course to join the participating university.

Concerning the organisation of a joint course the aim is to start with a **summer school**. An next step could be the **exchange of professors** for 1 to 2 weeks to offer workshops. The **exchange of students** has proven organisation and financing solutions from the EU and other financial sources. In the second step a joint BSc/MSc could be developed.

Until end of 2006 all partners will choose **lectures** and describe **facilities for practical training** that they want to offer for the joint course.

Zentrum Solar Wasserstoff

At the **Fuel Cell Training and Education Centre (WBZU)** at Ulm, from 29th to 30th of June the follow up workshop was held.

The participants discussed their common vision to establish a decentralized sustainable energy system for the Danube Region, where Fuel Cells would play an important role due to its high conversion efficiency and the combined heat and power supply.

During the presentation of the local activities it became obvious that many more people in the Danube region are active or interested in fuel cells than were able to join the 1st workshop. Therefore everybody is asked to contact other interested parties and ask them to join the network and bring their topics on the table.

Everybody will identify additional topics for demonstration projects in the Danube region.

To develop education and training as well as public awareness activities in the Danube region all parties shall identify the specific needs and the potential governmental (including European) funding possibilities.

DHU 2007 Outlook

Dear DHU partners,

It is a great pleasure for me to come on board of the DHU project. As introduced by Jürgen Dangl, I will take care off organisational and communication matters for the Donauhochschule Ulm.

With the existing funding from Solarstiftung Ulm we are able to ensure limited grants for a second follow up meeting of all working groups. This gives us also the chance to integrate the missing topics Solar Energy and Energy Efficiency which did not take place until now. These workshops should be held in the time from Jan to April 2007. The main topic is the development of a project description and the evaluation of possible funding sources for each individual working group.

In the second quarter 2007 representatives from all working groups and participating universities will meet at Ulm to discuss their findings and develop a strategy to ensure EU funding for our educational and R&D projects.

I'm looking forward to see you in 2007.

With kind regards

Gerd Heilscher

Contact: DHU-Donauhochschule Ulm
Prof. Gerd Heilscher
Eberhard Finckh Str. 11, D-89075 Ulm
Phone: +49 731 5028 360
Fax: +49 731 5028 363
Email: heilscher@hs-ulm.de

The Donauhochschule Ulm is a project of Ulm University of Applied Sciences, University of Ulm and Centre for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research (ZSW) supported by Solar Foundation of Ulm /Neu-Ulm and Donau Büro Ulm.