

Modellversuch "Informatik für Blinde"

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Studying in Linz. The University of Linz is a campus: Institutes, student homes, classrooms etc. are arranged on or around the campus. The vast pedestrian zone and the immediate connection to the public net of traffic are a particularly advantage to the visually impaired.

Technical Equipment. New technology opens to the visually impaired independent and efficient access to information and, therefore, to teaching materials also. At the University of Linz, this technology is available, trained, and maintained:

Adapted computers are available at the most important locations of the university. They are linked into a local area network, which by itself is connected to the university LAN and, therefore, gatewayed onto international networks. Two magnification reading devices, one swell paper copying machine, and two printers (one for normal print and one for Braille) supplement the equipment. For learning at home and for working in class (reading, writing, presenting) it is necessary for the students to have personal, preferably portable, equipment available. The personal workplaces can also be linked to the network.

Preparation of Studying Materials. The kernel of support activities is the digital preparation of all studying materials such as books, lecture notes, overhead sheets, exercises, contents of the blackboard and so forth, by tutors who are students in an advanced semester. Materials that are already present in digital form are converted to a format suitable for the vision impaired. Materials present in printed form are processed by a scanner.

Initial and Accompanying Support. Informational days, support in the initial phase at University, special examination conditions (e.g., oral exams instead of written ones, and/or prolonged examination time), meetings with lecturers, practical training in industry, consulting and tutoring for education-related or personal issues are offered to make integration possible.

Educational Consulting. As a special service, educational consulting for the vision impaired - independent of the particular place Linz - is offered. In particular, the technical possibilities of support for the vision impaired can be covered. In cooperation with the Austrian Student Association and with the psychological department of the University, finding decisions shall be supported profoundly.

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Johannes Kepler
Universität Linz



Visually Handicapped Students at University

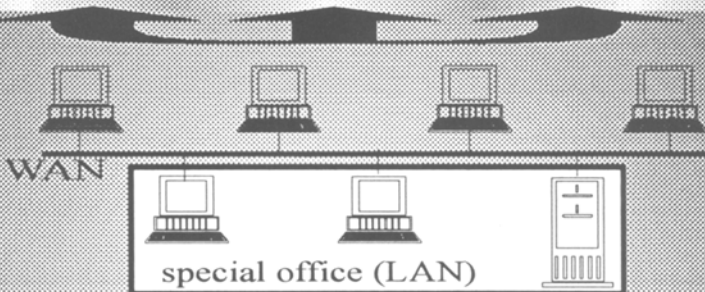
Program of Support at the
University of Linz

Technical
Sciences

Social and
Economic
Sciences

Law

Technical
Support

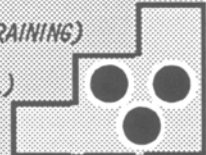


Adaptation (integration) of computers at
different locations (libraries, labs) at the campus

FIRST STEPS INTO WORKING LIFE (CONTACTS TO COMPANIES, PRACTICAL TRAINING)

COUNSELLING AND CARE (TUTORIALS, MOBILITY TRAINING, ...)

INFORMATION, TECHNICAL SUPPORT, PREPARING MATERIALS FOR STUDY



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