



Deaf education in Austria

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Deaf education in Austria

- Deaf Schools / Bilingual Schools
 - Sign language skills?
 - Recognition „Austrian Sign Language 2005“
 - Evaluation:
 - <http://www.univie.ac.at/designbilingual/>
 - <http://www.univie.ac.at/sprachemachtwissen/>

Deaf education in Austria

- University until 2010:
 - Students had to organise interpreters themselves
 - Budget: 2-3 courses per semester (long period of study)
 - VOEGS – Austrian Deaf Student Association
 - Project Idea „GESTU“ 2006; „Study Now“
 - Unibrennt 2009 („University on fire“)
 - GESTU started in 2009/2010

Sign language interpreters in Austria

- OEGSDV 2016 (Austrian Sign Language Interpreter Association)
 - 105 members (5 Deaf Interpreters)
 - Education
 - University Graz (<https://translationswissenschaft.uni-graz.at>)
 - GESDO Linz (<http://www.gesdo.at/>)
 - AFL (<http://www.oegsdv.at/>)
 - Future plan: part-time studies
 - University course LOGO (<http://www.logo-salzburg.at/>)
 - Deaf Interpreter

Sign language interpreters in Austria

GESTU

- Interpreter pool 2010: Interpreter pool 2016:
 - 16 ÖGS interpreters - 29 ÖGS interpreters
 - 5 captioners
- Competence for tertiary level?
- Technical terms in sign language → sign language dictionary?

GESTU Sign Language Dictionary

- Students' initiative
- Students + interpreters develop new signs
- Video recordings for archiving
- Online platform: <http://fachgebaerden.tuwien.ac.at>

GESTU Sign Language Dictionary

Working process

- Students collect technical terms
- Look them up (ÖGS-dictionary, other SL-dictionaries)
- They present them in work groups
- Discussion about how to best translate them into ÖGS
- When everybody agrees sign is recorded + uploaded

GESTU Sign Language Dictionary

Work group

- Deaf student(s)
- Deaf linguist
- Native signer
- Interpreter(s), technician, experts in the field

GESTU Sign Language Dictionary

Linguistic restrictions

- Agreed upon:
 - Handshape
 - Place of articulation
 - Orientation
 - Symmetry restriction
 - Related signs
 - Iconicity
 - „Decency“
 - No initialising

→ embedding in a sentence as a test

GESTU Sign Language Dictionary

Linguistic restrictions

- Still in discussion:
 - Length of sign
 - Mouthing
 - Finger spelling
 - Synonyms

Thank you!