UPCOMING EVENTS

“Tomorrow’s Heroes”
Cooperation with Metropole
Tuesday, May 10th, 07.00 pm
Kunsthalle Wien
1070 Vienna

AmCham Talks
Friday, May 20th, 08.15 am
“Learn From the Best: How Austrian Companies Can Profit From a Trip to Silicon Valley”
Dr. Evelyn Steinberger-Kern und Nikolaus Pelinka
Innovation Club
Hilton Vienna,
1030 Vienna

57. Generalversammlung
mit anschließendem Business Lunch
Donnerstag, 2. Juni
11 Uhr
Park Hyatt Vienna
1010 Wien

INNOVATIONEN, DIE UNSER LEBEN VERBESSERN

Gemeinsam mit Bristol-Myers Squibb, U.S. Commercial Service und den Pharma-Organisationen FOPI (Forum der pharmazeutisch forschenden Industrie in Österreich) und PHARMIG (Verband der pharmazeutischen Industrie Österreichs) lud die AmCham am 25. April in die Nationalbibliothek, um unter dem Titel „Innovationen, die unser Leben verbessern“ über die heilende Wirkung von Innovationen im Gesundheitssystem zu diskutieren.

Ein hochkarätig besetztes Podium diskutierte unter der Leitung von Helmut Brandstätter über die Rahmenbedingungen, die Innovationen am Gesundheitsmarkt benötigen.

Philosoph Peter Sloterdijk leitet mit einem biblischen Vergleich in das Innovations-Thema ein: „Wir leben am zehnten Tag der Schöpfungsgeschichte, in der die Kontrolle der Elemente und die Rekonstruktion des Lebens auf der Agenda stehen.“ Die Menschen verlieren ihre angeborene Demut und bauen durch den Gewinn der Kontrolle ein starkes Selbstbewusstsein auf, fasst der Universitätsprofessor zusammen.

Onkologe Christoph Zielinski setzt sich für Investitionen in die Gesundheitsforschung ein: „Wir brauchen alle anderen Innovationen nicht, wenn wir die Gesundheit nicht erhalten können.“ Als Beispiel führt er die relative Fünf-Jahres-Überlebensrate von Krebspatienten an, die in den letzten 20 Jahren durch neue Forschungserkenntnisse von 44 auf 61 Prozent gestiegen ist.

Ethiker Ulrich H. J. Körtner (Universität Wien) zeigt auf, dass die Zwei-Klassen-Medizin Realität geworden ist und die Verteilungsgerechtigkeit in der Solidargesellschaft bald ihr Ende erreichen könne. „Im Sinne der Ethik muss die Preisbildung im Gesundheitswesen transparent werden“, fordert er.

PHARMIG-Generalsekretär Jan Oliver Huber hingegen sieht eine hohe Transparenz in der Pharma-Forschung und begründet dies mit der Informationspflicht der börsennotierten Unternehmen gegenüber ihren Stakeholdern.

20.000 Beschäftigte in der Pharmawirtschaft leisten eine Wertschöpfung von zehn Milliarden Euro und sichern 60.000 Arbeitsplätze, unterstreicht Sylvia Hofinger vom Fachverband der Chemischen Industrie Österreichs.


Ulrike Rabmer-Koller, Vorstandsversitzende des Hauptverbandes der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger, ruft zum Miteinander aller Player im Gesundheitssystem auf, um es zukunftsfertig zu machen und finanziierbar zu halten. „Wir brauchen Mut, um die Effizienzpotenziale im System zu heben. Wir müssen den Patienten und nicht die Institutionen in den Mittelpunkt stellen!“
The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, through the Department of Commerce, announced that the goods and services deficit was $47.1 billion in February, up $1.2 billion from $45.9 billion in January, revised.

February exports were $178.1 billion, $1.8 billion more than January exports. February imports were $225.1 billion, $3.0 billion more than January imports.

**Producer Price Index Down**

The Producer Price Index for final demand fell 0.1 percent in March, seasonally adjusted, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Final demand prices decreased 0.2 percent in February and advanced 0.1 percent in January.

**Industrial Production down**

Industrial production decreased 0.6 percent in March for a second month in a row. For the first quarter as a whole, industrial production fell at an annual rate of 2.2 percent. A substantial portion of the overall decrease in March resulted from declines in the indexes for mining and utilities.

**GDP increased**

Real gross domestic product - the value of the production of goods and services in the United States, adjusted for price changes - increased at an annual rate of 1.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2015, according to an estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

In the third quarter, real GDP increased 2.0 percent.

**Consumer Price increased**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.1 percent in March on a seasonally adjusted basis, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Over the last 12 months, the all items index rose 0.9 percent before seasonal adjustment.

**Unemployment Rate unchanged**

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 215,000 in March, and the unemployment rate was little changed at 5.0 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Employment increased in retail trade, construction, and health care. Job losses occurred in manufacturing and mining.

**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®**

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. increased 0.2 percent in March to 123.4 (2010 = 100), following a 0.1 percent decline in February, and a 0.2 percent decline in January.

“With the March gain, the U.S. LEI’s six-month growth rate improved slightly but still points to slow, although not slowing, growth in the coming quarters,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director of Business Cycles and Growth Research at The Conference Board. “Rebounding stock prices were offset by a decline in housing permits, but nonetheless there were widespread gains among the leading indicators. Financial conditions, as well as expected improvements in manufacturing, should support a modest growth environment in 2016.”

**United States Economic Data**

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<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
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<td>March 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
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<td>Leading Indicators</td>
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<td>Unemployment</td>
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<td>Def. bn $</td>
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**Amway: Number 1 Direct Selling Company Worldwide**

Direct Selling news lists the biggest direct selling companies worldwide according to their revenues. With USD 9.5 billion in 2015, Amway reached number 1 for the fourth year in a row.

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**Binder Grösswang**

**“The Legal 500” ranks Binder Grösswang as Austrian top-tier firm**

Binder Grösswang has been recommended as an Austrian top-tier firm in the practice areas Banking and Finance, Capital Markets, Corporate/M&A, Dispute Resolution, EU and Competition and Projects and Energy. Binder Grösswang has also been recommended in all other practice areas in Austria: Administrative and Public Law, Construction, Employment, IT and Telecommunication, Insolvency and Corporate Recovery, Intellectual Property and Media, Private Client, Public Procurement, Real Estate and Tax.

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**Greiter Pegger Kofler & Partners**

Greiter Pegger Kofler & Partners, Innsbruck, advises “dennree group” in the acquisition of Zielpunkt stores

The German dennree group which runs organic food supermarkets under the name “denn’s”, recently purchased seven stores from the insolvent Zielpunkt GmbH. Legal advice and support was provided by Greiter Pegger Kofler & Partners. The team of specialists handled the antitrust requirements and the formal notification of the Austrian Federal Competition Authority and advised on the relevant matters involved in the purchase, especially in questions of lease and tenancy law. The dennree group’s bid for the seven stores was accepted by Zielpunkt’s liquidator. The Federal Competition Authority and the Federal Anti-Trust Attorney approved the purchase of the locations in question. At present, dennree has about 450 employees in Austria.

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**Anaplan**

Anaplan launches **Global Compensation for Banking app to provide financial institutions with an agile bonus modelling platform**

Anaplan, the enterprise planning Cloud Company, launched its Global Compensation for Banking app that provides improved transparency, enabling organizations to easily meet regulatory requirements. This secure, multi-dimensional app enables Reward teams to allocate a business’s total bonus pool across multiple organization levels. With full transparency over compensation models, firms can run “what-if” scenarios, deliver sophisticated bonus deferral calculations down to employee level, and analyse results in real time.

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**Pfizer & IBM**

**Pfizer Taps IBM for Research Collaboration to Transform Parkinson’s Disease Care**

Pfizer and IBM announced a first-of-its-kind research collaboration to develop innovative remote monitoring solutions aimed at transforming how clinicians deliver care to patients suffering from Parkinson’s disease. The experimental approach will rely on a system of sensors, mobile devices, and machine learning to provide real-time, around-the-clock disease symptom information to clinicians and researchers. The ultimate goal is to obtain a better understanding of a patient’s disease progression and medication response to help inform treatment decisions and clinical trial design, while also speeding the development of new therapeutic options.

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**Vienna University of Economics and Business**

**WU offers internships for refugees**

As part of its initiative in support of refugees, WU is providing 8 academic internship positions for displaced people. The internships are intended for people who have been granted asylum in Austria, especially refugees who have begun or partly or fully completed an education in the fields of economics, the social sciences, or other suitable academic disciplines. WU has established these internship positions with the support of the Berndorf Private Foundation. “WU wants to send a message of solidarity in difficult times. We are continuously expanding our activities in support of refugees, and our latest initiative in this respect is the creation of several academic internship positions for refugees,” says WU Rector Edeltraud Hanappi-Egger.
*Culture*

### Into the Woods
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine

April 27th – May 4th
Vienna’s English Theatre
1080 Vienna

What happens after happily ever after? This season’s Youth Ensemble production is the Tony Award winning musical Into the Woods; the story intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm fairy tales and explores the idea of the quest, and the consequences behind making your wishes come true. The musical is tied together by an original story involving a childless baker and his wife and their journey to lift the curse put on them by a vengeful witch. As the couple journeys into the woods to fulfill the tasks laid out for them by the witch, their story becomes tangled with those of Little Red Riding Hood and her Wolf, Jack (of Jack and the Beanstalk fame), Rapunzel and Cinderella, and their Princes Charming. What starts out being a happy ever after story ends up as a dark reminder that everything has its consequences and nothing is ever as straightforward as it appears in a fairy tale ending.

The Vienna’s English Theatre Youth Ensemble was started in 2011 to serve as a practical training ground for young actors and actors in training interested in performing in English.

### James Welling: Metamorphosis

May 4th - July 16th 2017
Kunstforum
Freyung 8, 1010 Vienna

James Welling is renowned as one of the pioneers of international contemporary photography. His work is characterised by its experiment and radical stylistic diversity; it unfolds in the liminal zones between photography and painting, film, architecture, sculpture and dance. While James Welling’s works tour through the leading USA museums, as yet he has seldom been seen in Europe. The exhibition Metamorphosis in the Bank Austria Kunstforum launches out from the 1970s and presents a selection of Welling’s picture series, reflecting the fundamental change in photography in recent decades. In sounding out the medium’s aesthetic and conceptual basics, Welling’s photography jumps continually from image to the material, from the process to the result, from physicality to reproduction, and back again.

### Boston Symphony Orchestra
Andris Nelsons, Conductor

Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Wien
Wiener Musikverein
1010 Vienna

The Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) is an American orchestra based in Boston, Massachusetts. It is one of the five major American symphony orchestras commonly referred to as the „Big Five“. Founded in 1881, the BSO plays most of its concerts at Boston’s Symphony Hall and in the summer performs at Tanglewood. Andris Nelsons is the current music director of the BSO.

Monday, May 9th, 07.30 pm
Dmitrij Schostakowitsch, Suite from the incidental music to Hamlet
Sergej W. Rachmaninow, Zdes’ khorosho (How fair this place), Op. 21, No. 7
Peter Iljitsch Tschaikowskij, Letter Scene from Eugene Onegin
Claude Debussy, La Mer
Maurice Ravel, La Valse

Tuesday, May 10th, 07.30 pm
Gustav Mahler, Symphony No. 9
AmCham Talks with George Nimeh, Nimeh & Partners, April 22nd
“This Revolution Will Not Be Televised”
Stefan Ludwig ist neuer Director of Sales & Marketing im The Ritz-Carlton. Davor war er im Fairmont-Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten in Hamburg und im Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa in Interlaken tätig.

Gregory Tessler, M.A.
Nach Geschäftserfahrung in über 5 Ländern gründet er seine erste Firma:
- English for Executives
- Personalberatung
- Wirtschaftsmidiation
gregorytessler.com

Oliver Loksa ist ab Mai 2016 als Anwalt für BINDER GROSSWANG tätig, wo er das Dispute Resolution- und Corporate/M&A-Team verstärkt.

Franz Stenitzer wechselt zu bpv Hügel. Er verfügt über Erfahrung bei der Beratung auf nationaler und internationaler Ebene in den Bereichen österreichisches und europäisches Kartell-, Beihilfen- und Vertriebsrecht.

Silvia Stassler ist Associate Director bei CBRE Österreich und kümmert sich um Vermietung von Shoppingcenterflächen.

Stephan Pachinger ist in die weltweite Partnerschaft der internationalen Anwaltssozietät Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer aufgenommen worden.

Michael Zettel übernimmt ab Mitte des Jahres als Country Managing Director die Standortleitung Österreich beim Technologieunternehmen Accenture. Er folgt Klaus Malle nach.