

## Fundamental Research at a World-class Level in Klosterneuburg



### IST Austria at a Glance

The Institute of Science and Technology Austria (IST Austria) in Klosterneuburg on the outskirts of Vienna is a PhD granting research institute. Opened in 2009, the Institute focuses on basic research in the natural sciences, mathematics and computer science. IST Austria employs professors according to a tenure-track model and postdocs, as well as PhD students in an international graduate school. In addition to the commitment to basic science, which is solely curiosity-driven, the Institute holds the rights to all resulting discoveries and promotes their exploitation.

### History and Future

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| 2009 | Campus opening, 37 employees, Thomas A. Henzinger appointed as first President |
| 2010 | first PhD students join IST Austria  |
| 2015 | first PhD students graduate from IST Austria                                   |
| 2020 | 861 employees, among them 59 professors and 250 students                       |
| 2026 | around 90 professors, approx. 1,000 employees                                  |
| 2036 | around 150 professors, approx. 1,500 employees                                 |

### Interdisciplinary Basic Research

The currently 67 groups conduct research in the fields of mathematics, computer science, physics, chemistry, neuroscience, biology, and earth sciences. Both theoretical and experimental research groups work at IST Austria. An essential factor for the Institute's success is that traditional boundaries between disciplines are broken down and cooperation between groups is encouraged.

IST Austria will continue to grow in the coming years. In 2026, up to 90 research groups will work in an international environment with state-of-the-art infrastructure. Until 2036, the Institute is projected to grow to its full size of 150 research groups.

## Scientific Achievements and Awards

- More than 3,000 scientific publications
- In 2019, the renowned science magazine *Nature* ranked IST Austria in 3<sup>rd</sup> place among the world's best research institutions.
- 52 ERC grants for 43 professors (prestigious grants for basic research from the European Research Council)
- Awards and distinctions (selection):
  - Darwin-Wallace Medal: Nick Barton
  - EMBO Gold Medal: Jiri Friml
  - Wittgenstein Award: Thomas A. Henzinger, Peter Jonas, Herbert Edelsbrunner
  - START Award: Michael Sixt
  - Microsoft Research Faculty Fellowship: Krishnendu Chatterjee
  - Technical Achievement Award of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences („technical Oscar“): Bernd Bickel

## Financing

IST Austria is funded by the Republic of Austria and the State of Lower Austria. One third of the budget is conditional, tied to the successful acquisition of third-party funding and the fulfillment of research-immanent quality criteria.

## Management

Management, Board of Trustees and Scientific Board monitor the quality of IST Austria.

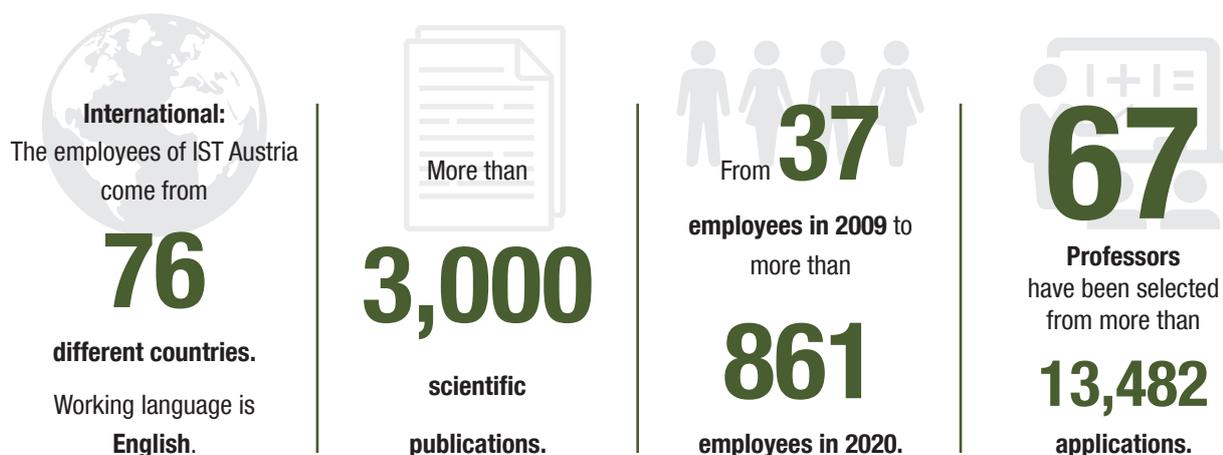
The first **President** of IST Austria is Thomas A. Henzinger, a renowned computer scientist and former professor at UC Berkeley, US, and the EPFL in Lausanne, Switzerland. His presidency has already been reconfirmed twice – most recently in 2020.

Professor Gaia Novarino serves as **Vice President for Science Education** and professor Bernd Bickel as **Vice President for Technology Transfer**. Professor Michael Sixt is **Executive Vice President** overseeing the Scientific Services at IST Austria and professor Eva Benkova is **Dean of the Graduate School**.

The **Board of Trustees** oversees the Institute's development. It has 17 members: Ten members are internationally renowned scientists, four are appointed by the federal government, and three are appointed by the government of Lower Austria.

The **Scientific Board** puts forward proposals for the Institute's scientific development and for ensuring the continued high scientific capacity. The Scientific Board consists of internationally well-known scientists as well as one non-voting member, who is distinguished by exceptional experience in management.

## IST Austria in Numbers



### Want to know more?

IST Austria's Media Relations Team is happy to help.

email: [communications@ist.ac.at](mailto:communications@ist.ac.at) phone: +43 (0)2243 9000 1092

[www.ist.ac.at](http://www.ist.ac.at)