DIVERSITY LECTURE

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Unvoluntarily multilingual? Attitudes towards linguistic diversity and diversity management in tertiary education. A case study.

Thu, 19 May 2016, 7–9 pm

Iwalewahaus

This public lecture is part of the BIGSAS Gender and Diversity Programme.
Since their beginnings, universities are multilingual and had to be multilingual to fulfill their functions in research, teaching and administration. Universities deal with official languages of high prestige (Latin, national languages, English (predominantly as a lingua franca)), but there are also hidden languages (Vogl 2012), which are not documented, not used for official communication and not appreciated (Biber 2006, Veronesi et al. 2013). The presentation will take the University of Salzburg as an example of a rather small university (about 18,000 students) to discuss exemplarily the complex intertwining of language policy, linguistic diversity, and “internationalization” from the viewpoints of university management, teaching staff, students and administration.

