

**Survey, Systematisation and Comparison of
Professional, Advanced and Continuing Training
Programs for Osteopathy available in Austria in the
Winter Term 2006/2007**

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis was to present a survey of the professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy currently on offer in Austria and to subsequently compare them, work out and describe differences as well as similarities. The status of this paper is the winter term 2006/2007.

Osteopathy is an independent, medical-scientific, holistic and manual method of treatment, but as such is not recognised in Austria. Currently no form of legal regulation for osteopathy exists. The main problem that results from this absence of legislation is the impossibility to contain and distinguish osteopathy. Therefore it is not possible to present a comprehensive list or survey of all current professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria, and it became necessary to develop a systematisation. In the framework of this thesis “professional training programs in osteopathy” are distinguished from “osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs”. Graduating a “professional training in osteopathy” can in no way be compared to attending “osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs”. These two groups differ relevantly, foremost in respect to contents, instructors, participation requirements and the complete conveyance of the holistic concept of osteopathy.

To undergo a “professional training in osteopathy” in Austria is currently only possible in the framework of an extra occupational part-time training, which requires a basic qualification as doctor or physiotherapist. The professional training programs in osteopathy that are currently on offer in Austria have many common characteristics but at the same time differ in relevant details. As a result the problem of quality management of training and osteopathic professionalism arises in Austria. The legal regulation of osteopathy is urgently needed, because the basic problem of a non-existent regimentation for osteopathy in Austria is carried out on the back of the patients. The aim of an official recognition of osteopathy as an independent treatment and profession in the sense of a medical-scientific manual method of treatment, and not as a “specialisation” of medical professions, is inevitable in the future.

Keywords: osteopathy, professional, advanced and continuing training programs, manual method of treatment, holistic treatment;

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PREFACE

When I was deciding on training as an osteopath I encountered great difficulties in orienting myself in the “vast jungle” of osteopathic training programs on offer in Austria. In my everyday work as osteopath and physiotherapist doctors and patients, who are interested in osteopathic treatment, inquire about my training and the concepts of osteopathy. Repeatedly I meet patients, who have already been treated by “osteopaths”. What is striking about all these “osteopaths” is the fact that diverse professions with different standards of training offer and perform osteopathic treatments. If one bears in mind that osteopathy is a legally neither regulated nor recognized professional field in Austria, the reports on the performed treatments were partly very positive but some were very negative. The thesis at hand is intended to contribute to clarification and quality management in the field of osteopathy, but is also of profession political interest.

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ABSTRACT

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Keywords: osteopathy, professional, advanced and continuing training programs, manual method of treatment, holistic treatment;

A List of abbreviations

A.A.O.	American Academy of Osteopathy
ÄrzteG	Ärztegesetz
ASO	American School of Osteopathy
AVT-College	Advanced Training in Osteopathy-College
B.Ost.Med.	Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine
BCNO	British College for Naturopathy and Osteopathy/London
BCOM	British College of Osteopathic Medicine
BGBL	Bundesgesetzblatt
BMBWK	Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Kultur
BMGFJ	Bundesministerium für Gesundheit, Familie und Jugend
BMWA	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit
BSc (Hons)	Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy
BSO	British School of Osteopathy/London
CBO	Collège Belge d'Ostéopathie/Brüssel
CD-ROM	Compact Disc Read-Only Memory
CFD	Cranial Fluid Dynamics
CH	Schweiz
CIDO	Collège International d'Ostéopathie/St. Etienne
COF	Collège Ostéopatique Français/Paris
CSIR	Cranio Sacrale Impuls Regulation
CST	Cranio sacral Therapy
D.O.	Diplom für Osteopathie; Diplomierte/r OsteopathIn; Doctor of Osteopathy
DAAO	Deutsch-Amerikanische Akademie für Osteopathie e.V.
DFP	Diplomfortbildungsprogramm
DROM	Deutsches Register Osteopathischer Medizin
DS	Diploma Supplement
DUK	Donau-Universität Krems (Universität für Weiterbildung Krems)
DVD	Digital Video Disc
e.V.	eingetragener Verein
ECTS	European Credit Transfer System
EFO	European Federation of Osteopaths
ERPO	European Register for Professional Osteopaths e.V.
ESMO	École Suisse de la Médecine Ostéopatique
ESO	European School of Osteopathy/Maidstone
EU	European Union
F	Frankreich
FBZ Klagenfurt	Fortbildungszentrum Klagenfurt
FH	Fachhochschule
FHStG	Bundesgesetz über Fachhochschul-Studiengänge
GB	Great Britain
GBP	Great Britain Pounds
GCRN	General Council and Register of Naturopaths
GOsC	General Osteopathic Council/London
HebG	Hebammengesetz
HVLA	High Velocity Low Amplitude (spezielle osteopathische Mobilisationstechniken)
I.A.O.	International Academy of Osteopathie
ISO 9001	Qualitätsmanagement-Norm
IST	Internationale Studiengemeinschaft e.V.
IWGS	Institut William Garner Sutherland/Paris-Brüssel
MA	Master of Arts
MAS	Master of Advanced Studies
MD	Medical Doctor
MDT-Gesetz	Bundesgesetz über die Regelung der gehobenen medizinisch-technischen Dienste
MMHmG	Medizinischer Masseur- und Heilmasseurgesetz
MSc	Master of Science
MWE	Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar
N.R.O.	Niederlande vom Nederlands Register voor Osteopathie

N.V.O.	Nederlandse Vereniging voor Osteopathie
NARIC	National Academic Recognition Information Centre
NESO	New England School of Osteopathy
O.M.T.	Osteopathische Mobilisationstechniken
ÖÄGMM	Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin
ÖÄGO	Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Osteopathie
ÖÄK	Österreichische Ärztekammer
ÖAMM	Österreichische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Manuelle Medizin
OCC	Osteopathic Center for Children/London
ÖGO	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie
ÖGS	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Sportphysiotherapie
OHG	Oberster Gerichtshof
OIA	Osteopathic International Alliance
OSEAN	Osteopathic European Academic Network
OSR	Oberster Sanitätsrat
PCOM	Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/USA
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
Physio Austria	Österreichischer Bundesverband für PhysiotherapeutInnen
PT	PhysiotherapeutIn
R.O.B.	Register voor de Osteopaten van België
S.A.O.M.	Swiss Association of Osteopathic Medicine
SCS-I	Strain-Counterstrain-I-Kurs
StGG	Staatsgrundgesetz
TCM	Traditionelle Chinesische Medizin
TU	Teaching Units
UE	Unterrichtseinheiten
UK	United Kingdom
ULB	Université Libre de Bruxelles/Brüssel
USA	United States of America
VerG	Vereinsgesetz
VHS	Volkshochschule
VOD	German Osteopathic Association/Verband der Osteopathen Deutschland
VÖSM	Vereinigung österreichischer Sportmasseure und Sporttherapeuten
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIFI	Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut
WKO	Wirtschaftskammer Österreichs
WOHO	World Osteopathic Health Organisation
WSO	Wiener Schule für Osteopathie
WVSOM	West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine/Lewisburg, USA
www	World Wide Web
ZÄG	Zahnärztesgesetz

1 Introduction

1.1 Preliminary Remarks

This paper represents a survey, systematisation and comparison of professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy on offer in Austria during the winter term 2006/2007.

This paper is neither an analysis of the contents and quality of the discussed training programs nor an evaluation or rating of these training programs. General framework such as structure, organization, costs, time period, instructors, quality management, graduation, title, degree and recognition serve as criteria for the comparison.

This critical comparison of professional, advanced and continuing training programs in the field of osteopathy is not intended to divide the programs into “good” and “bad”. The order in which the programs are discussed is purely random and in no way represents a rating of their quality. There is no intention of claiming the concept, holistic conceptual basics, philosophy and techniques of osteopathy for a specific program or different trainees (people with different basic qualifications).

Training programs, laws, decrees and institutions are time related. In regard to this paper, it was necessary to take a “snap shot” of the current situation. Therefore, the paper only shows the status quo of the winter term 2006/2007.

The author is a graduate of the Viennese School for Osteopathy (WSO) and participant of the University Study Course in Osteopathy at the Danube University Krems (DUK). These factors have to be considered while reading this paper. This master thesis was originally written in German and then translated into English.

Currently, no comparable publication exists in Austria. The topic of this paper is very complex and required extensive research. In many cases it was not possible to obtain the sought after information on the programs from the institutions’ course agendas, advertisements and information leaflets or the world wide web. This made it necessary to

personally contact the schools (administration/head office, registration office) via telephone, email or visits. As a consequence many quotes are transcripts of personal communication. The author emphasizes the fact that each time she sought contact with the administration/head office and registration office of a school or participated in an introductory course, she always stated her name, occupation and participation in the university study course in osteopathy at the Danube University Krems and the reason for her research, namely her master thesis.

In some cases the program providers showed little to no cooperativeness. In order to enable a comparison it was therefore necessary to personally address and interview participants in the different programs. Especially in these cases neither the author nor the contacted interviewees (participants) accept legal liability for the statements. Prior to the finalization of this paper a legal advisor was consulted.

To facilitate reading it is abstained from using gender specific differentiations such as masseuse in the course of this thesis. In accordance to the principle of equality, the respective terms apply to both genders. For the same reason the terms “cranio sacral” and “visceral” received a uniform nomenclature.

1.2 General Introduction

1.2.1 Historical Development of Concept of Osteopathy

“Osteopathy” was founded by A. T. Still (1828-1917).¹ According to Hartmann, the philosophy of the “triune man” lies at the centre of Stills approach to osteopathy. In the concept of the “triune man” (the threefold entity of man), the entity of body, mind and soul Still recognises a perfect self healing mechanism given by creation. The ideal functioning of the body essentially depends on the body’s supply and disposal of nerves, blood and lymph. If these channels are blocked, the self healing mechanism breaks down and respective organs sicken. According to Still, the centre of the peripheral supply lies in the spinal area. Therefore he searched for displaced vertebral bodies in most illnesses, even if they were internal. He assumed that this defective position disabled the adjoining nerves and vessels and therefore attempted to bring them back into their individual position through soft manipulations. By

¹ HARTMANN 2005

manipulating one bone (gr. osteon) the supply and disposal can be restored, the self healing mechanism can once again unfold and the suffering (gr. pathos) is positively influenced. In Still's opinion the use of medication manifests a lack of confidence in the abilities of nature. He categorically refused their use as well as premature surgical intervention. According to Still an osteopath was merely a complexly thinking "mechanic" and creation was the "healer". Hence the osteopath is never directly responsible for healing, but rather acts as a mediator between patient and the free workings of creation. In 1892 at the age of 64 Still finally founded the first osteopathic education facility, the "American School of Osteopathy" (ASO) Kirksville.²

By Hartmann's account in 1910 the "American Medical Association" initiated a federal inquiry of all medical training facilities in America. Only the candidates that complied with specific criteria in this evaluation should henceforth receive federal funding. The standards of the medical universities (including their "materia medica" and pharmacology) served as a basis for this evaluation. As a consequence of the so called Flexner-Report, almost all osteopathic colleges distanced themselves from Still's original concept in order to secure their financial survival. This is the reason why manual techniques are of no importance to most American osteopaths. Even worse: the core concept of the "triune man", which represents the belief in a perfect self healing mechanism that is subordinate to a spiritual entity, was eliminated from osteopathy. Thus osteopathy inevitably drifted into the direction of allopathic medicine, but Still determinately refused any kind of medication. In 1917 Still died as the discoverer of one of the most important medical philosophies in the history of mankind: osteopathy and at its core the "triune man" as part of a perfect creation.³

John Martin Littlejohn (1866-1947) introduced osteopathy in Europe. In 1917 he, a student of Still, founded Europe's first osteopathic school, the British School of Osteopathy in London.⁴ Starting from England osteopathy conquered Europe.

In the beginning ligaments and muscles (structural osteopathy) were at the centre of osteopathic diagnosis and treatment. Later methods that included the central nervous system (cranio sacral osteopathy) were added to the concept of osteopathy. Lastly, motion and dysfunction of motion of the internal organs were researched and suitable therapies were

² HARTMANN 2005

³ ibidem

⁴ WERNHAM 2005

developed (visceral osteopathy).⁵ In the opinion of the “Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO), osteopathy can only comply with its holistic claim by including all human apparatuses.

1.2.2 Osteopathy Today

Currently various different approaches to defining the osteopathic practice respectively the conceptual foundations of the profession of “osteopathy” exist. Numerous organisations represent osteopathic interests on a national, European and international level,⁶ but the definitions of osteopathy as well as the legal recognition of osteopathy as an independent profession differ worldwide.

The World Osteopathic Health Organisation (WOHO) defines osteopathy as follows: *“Osteopathy is an established recognized system of healthcare which relies on manual contact for diagnosis and treatment. It respects the relationship of body, mind and spirit in health and disease; it lays emphasis on the structural and functional integrity of the body and the body's intrinsic tendency for self-healing. Osteopathic treatment is viewed as a facilitative influence to encourage this self regulatory process. Pain and disability experienced by patients are viewed as resulting from a reciprocal relationship between the musculoskeletal and visceral components of a disease or strain.”*⁷

By the account of the “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO), osteopathy is an independent, holistic and manual method of treatment that is based on the knowledge that a smooth, healthy progression of vital functions relies on the unimpeded mobility of the body's structures.⁸ In the OEGO's codex “The Osteopathic Standard” from the year 2005 it is put down in writing that osteopathy distinguishes itself by using individually chosen manual osteopathic techniques that comply with osteopathic principles, to enhance and support the self-healing abilities of patients.⁹ Furthermore, the osteopathic profession is founded on osteopathic principles, which are scientific (comprehensible, traceable and justifiable).¹⁰ In

⁵ <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed:2006-12-30

⁶ Compare chapter 5.1

⁷ <http://www.woho.org/>, Accessed: 2006-11-05, compare chapter 5.1.3

⁸ Compare <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

⁹ OEGO 2005b, p 4

¹⁰ OEGO 2005b

the OEGO's opinion, osteopathy can only comply with its holistic claim by including all human apparatuses (structural/functional system, visceral system and cranio sacral system).¹¹

Although the various approaches to define osteopathy differ in some respects, they all agree that it is a holistic manual method of treatment, and that osteopathic treatment is viewed as a facilitative influence to encourage the self regulatory process.

Despite of the growing prevalence of the osteopathic idea and the consequential establishment of institutions that represent osteopathy, osteopathy is still not recognised and integrated internationally: „Individual countries establish the national, academic, and professional standards for non-physician and physician osteopaths practising within their countries.”¹² “Osteopathic literature is diverse and covers 125 years of practice history. Most osteopaths should have a grounding in common osteopathic principles and techniques, however, there is variation in breadth and depth of different topics and techniques. Additionally, some are trained as full physicians, some are trained as physiotherapists. Avenues to certification or registration by governments and other regulatory bodies varies among nations.”¹³

In the United States of America, D.O.'s (Doctor of Osteopathy, osteopathic physicians) are considered equal to their MD (Medical Doctor, allopathic physician) colleagues. Osteopathic physicians can perform surgery and prescribe medications. They can either be primary care physicians or specialists (cardiologist, neurosurgeon, ophthalmologist, etc.) The training for osteopathic medicine in USA is almost identical to the allopathic medicine (MD) training. Osteopathic physicians are still trained in manipulation in USA, but they use the manipulation to complement all other aspects (drugs,surgery,etc.) of modern medicine.¹⁴

Within the European Union (except United Kingdom – see below) there is hardly no standardised training or regulatory framework for the profession, although attempts are being made to coordinate the profession within the EU. Here some examples:

- In the United Kingdom the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC) regulates the practise of osteopathic medicine under the terms of the Osteopaths Act 1993. A person cannot

¹¹ Compare <http://www.OEGO.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

¹² <http://www.oialliance.org/>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

¹³ http://www.woho.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=9&Itemid=31, Accessed: 2006-11-05

¹⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osteopathic_medicine, Accessed: 2006-10-29

practise unless they register with the General Medical Council or GOsC. The General Osteopathic Council has a statutory duty to promote, develop and regulate the profession of osteopathy in the UK.¹⁵ It fulfils its duty to protect the interests of the public by ensuring that all osteopaths maintain high standards of safety, competence and professional conduct throughout their professional lives. This Act provides for “protection of title”.¹⁶

- The Belgian parliament passed a law legalizing the practise of osteopathy in 1999, but osteopathy is still not regulated.¹⁷
- There is presently no official recognition of the profession of osteopathy in Germany. This means that practically anyone can call himself or herself an osteopath, and there are no national standards in osteopathic education. However, Germany is currently in the process of establishing regulations and standards. Non-physician osteopaths in Germany officially work under the “Heilpraktiker” law.¹⁸
- The Swiss government does not recognize osteopathic medicine, but osteopathy has then been established as a profession under Article 16 along with other complementary professions including homeopathy, acupuncture, and traditional Chinese medicine.¹⁹

1.2.3 Problem Outline

In Austria the term “osteopathy” as well as the job title “osteopath” are not subject to legal regimentation and are used by various occupational groups with different training standards.²⁰ At the moment the job title is not legally protected, training is not legally regulated and no direct legal basis for exercising this profession exists. By law osteopathy is neither recognised nor is it prohibited. This situation complicates the separation from occupational groups in and outside of the medical field. Hence the problem of securing quality management of training and professionalism arises. Furthermore, patients experience great conflicts concerning the selection criteria for a suitable osteopath. For outsiders it is difficult to discern medically trained therapists from laymen who have not undergone a legally regulated basic medical training. A survey and comparison of the professional, advanced and continuing training

¹⁵ http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/about_gosc/, Accessed: 2006-11-12

¹⁶ http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/about_gosc/about_act.php, Accessed: 2006-11-12

¹⁷ OSTEOPATHIC INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE 2006a

¹⁸ OSTEOPATHIC INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE 2006b

¹⁹ OSTEOPATHIC INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE 2006c

²⁰ OEGO, 2005b

programs for osteopathy therefore represents a profession political basic paper, which aims at pointing out the necessity of basic legislation concerning osteopathy in Austria. Many questions arise:

- Who offers professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy, what are the qualifications and how comprehensive are they?²¹
- Can graduating a professional training be compared to graduating sub areas in Osteopathy?²² (What is the difference between “classical” training in osteopathy and a separate training in visceral/cranio sacral/structural osteopathic mobility techniques?)
- What is the difference between the various opportunities of training in cranio sacral osteopathy (e.g. cranio sacral therapy, cranio sacral integration, Cranial Fluid Dynamics) and osteopathy?²³
- Which criteria can be used to compare training programs?²⁴
- What is the difference between osteopathy and osteopathic medicine?²⁵
- Who and from which level in training on, can call himself osteopath in Austria?²⁶

In Austria it has been possible to train as an osteopath at the Viennese School for Osteopathy (WSO) since 1991.²⁷ From then on diverse professional, advanced and continuing training programs with different standards, focuses and aims have emerged.²⁸ The aim of this paper is firstly to produce a survey of the current training programs for osteopathy in Austria and secondly to compare, objectively analyze and edit the differences and similarities of the programs.

Chapter 1.3 presents the problem and working hypothesis and chapter 1.4 explains materials and methods. In chapter 2 the survey of professional, advanced and continuing training

²¹ See point 2

²² See point 6 and 7

²³ See point 5.3

²⁴ See point 4

²⁵ There are great international differences in the definition of osteopathy and osteopathic medicine. In general osteopathic physicians (they possess a graduate degree in osteopathic medicine f. e. UK, USA – see point 1.2.2) can be compared with doctors or are doctors, who are trained in osteopathy. Osteopaths possess a degree in osteopathic training and in most cases they also complete additional medical training (for the most part physiotherapy). Individual countries establish their national, academic, and professional standards for non-physician and physician osteopaths practicing within their countries. (<http://www.oialliance.org/>, Accessed: 2006-11-11)

²⁶ See point 5.2

²⁷ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-07-02

²⁸ See point 2

programs in Austria is presented, systematized and discussed. For better comprehension of the following chapters, chapter 3 offers a summary of higher education in Austria and the implementation of the Bologna-process in Austria. The comparison of osteopathic training programs (in the narrow sense) and an analysis based on elaborated criteria are presented and discussed in chapter 4. In chapter 5 the representatives of osteopathic interests are introduced and the legal as well as the profession political basis for osteopathy in Austria is presented and discussed. The summary and conclusions as well as a critical contemplation of the thesis make up chapter 6. The author's personal comments are presented in chapter 7. The bibliography can be found in chapter 8. Chapter 9 contains the appendix.

1.3 Problem and Hypothesis

Problem: Which professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy are on offer in Austria? Do these programs differ? How do they differ?

Hypothesis: The term “osteopathy” as well as the job title “osteopath” is currently not legally regulated in Austria. The osteopathy training also is not subject to any form of legal regulation.²⁹ Various occupational groups with different training standards use the term “osteopathy”.³⁰ Due to these facts differences in the professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria are to be expected.

1.4 Methods and Materials

This paper is a descriptive and comparative survey, methodical in the sense of a qualitative survey. In respect to the special topic of this thesis no previous papers exist. The sources of information for this survey of professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria were:

- Information booklets and course agendas provided by the different organisations, as well as ads from journals such as the journal of the Austrian Federal Association of

²⁹ See point 5.2

³⁰ OEGÖ, 2005b

Physiotherapists (Physio Austria); the mentioned information leaflets, course agendas and contact addresses can be looked up in the appendix in chapter 9.

- Personal contact (on the telephone, in person and via email): contacting the course offices, the training heads and participants of the respective professional, advanced and continuing training programs; the conversation and telephone protocols as well as the emails can be found in the appendix in chapter 9.
- The authoress' participation in the introductory course of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O); the material³¹ provided at the course and the protocol³² have been added to the appendix, chapter 9.
- Information on the legal status in the republic of Austria stems from the federal law gazettes with the corresponding legal provisions.
- Information on the applied implementation of the current legal status in Austria was obtained from the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Employment, the Federal Ministry for Health, Family and Youth as well as the Federal Ministry for Education, Art and Culture. The respective protocols can be found in the appendix, chapter 9.
- Research concerning the implementation of the Bologna-Process and higher education in Austria was done primarily through contact with the Federal Ministry for Science and Research, in particular with the "ENIC NARIC AUSTRIA". The Austrian NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centre) is the official contact point for all transnational authentication questions concerning higher education. The respective protocols can be found in the appendix, chapter 9.
- Research through the use of the world wide web;
- Prior to finalising this paper a legal advisor was consulted.

In principle advanced and continuing training and professional training programs have a different legal standing. Continuing training programs are constructive, which means they do not qualify the participants for a completely novel vocational field. The terminology and legal basis are not always uniform.³³ In this paper the terms advanced, continuing and professional training are not used in their legal meaning. The authors systematisation is presented in chapter 2.

³¹ FOLDER EINFÜHRUNGSSEMINAR IAO 2006

³² STROBL 2006

³³ HACKL 2007

In the framework of this paper all programs fall under the category professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy that either:

- use the term “osteopathy” in their training title
- use the term “osteopathy” to describe the contents of their course or program
- or train/teach sub areas of osteopathy (e.g. cranio sacral osteopathy, structural osteopathic mobilisation techniques such as strain-counterstrain techniques, courses for visceral osteopathy etc.)

2 Survey and Systematisation of Professional, Advanced and Continuing Training Programs for Osteopathy in Austria

The main problem that the non existent legislation for osteopathy in Austria³⁴ creates is the impossibility to precisely define “osteopathy”. Therefore it is impossible to make a comprehensive list of all currently available professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria. In this paper the terms professional, advanced and continuing training are not used in their legal definition. In the framework of this paper all programs fall under the category professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy that either use the term “osteopathy” in their training title, use the term “osteopathy” to describe the contents of their course or train and teach sub areas of osteopathy. It is assumed that osteopathy as a holistic concept has to include all its sub areas. With the term “sub area of osteopathy” this paper addresses:

- structural/functional osteopathy
- visceral osteopathy
- cranio sacral osteopathy

and their techniques (e.g. cranio sacral osteopathy, structural osteopathic mobilization techniques such as strain-counterstrain techniques, courses for visceral osteopathy etc). Particularly, in the field of cranio sacral osteopathy innumerable professional, advanced and continuing training programs are on offer. Due to the extensive amount of professional,

³⁴ See point 5

advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy that are available in Austria, it became necessary to systematise them. This paper distinguishes between:

- Professional Training Programs in Osteopathy (see chapter 2.1; these are more precisely compared in chapter 4) and
- Osteopathic Advanced and Continuing Training Programs (see chapter 2.2).

2.1 Professional Training Programs in Osteopathy

The selection criteria for the training programs, which will be compared in detail in the framework of this paper, will be equated with the requirements to obtain a full membership in the “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO).³⁵ Nationwide the OEGO currently recognises the training of the Viennese School for Osteopathy (WSO) and the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O). Although the courses for osteopathy that the “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin” (ÖÄGMM, president: Prof. Dr. Hans Tilscher) offers, are not acknowledged by the OEGO due to the short duration of training,³⁶ they still will be included in the detailed comparison:

One reason for comparing these three training programs in detail is the fact that the training covers all sectors of osteopathy (structural/functional, visceral and cranio sacral osteopathy) and thereby complies with the holistic conceptual basics of osteopathy.³⁷ A further reason is the fact that all three institutions cooperate with universities and solely admit people who have undergone basic medical training.³⁸ In this paper the comprehensive comparison of professional training programs for osteopathy in Austria (in chapter 4) is limited to the following training programs for osteopathy:

1. Five year extra occupational basic training course in osteopathy at the Viennese School for Osteopathy (WSO) and subsequent university study course in osteopathy (WSO in cooperation with the University of Continuing Education Krems (Danube University in Krems (DUK)))

³⁵ See point 5.1.1

³⁶ KRÖNKE 2006

³⁷ <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³⁸ See point 4.2

2. Five year extra occupational training in osteopathy at the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O), location: Vienna. Subsequent Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) in cooperation with the University of Westminster in London.
3. Osteopathy courses provided by the “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin.V.”. President: Univ. Prof. Dr. Hans Tilscher (ÖÄGMM) in cooperation with the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), Pennsylvania, USA

2.2 Osteopathic Advanced and Continuing Training Programs

This category includes all advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria that are not listed in chapter 2.1. The numerous listings in this chapter prove the necessity to present and compare the different training programs for osteopathy in Austria. It becomes apparent that the absence of a basic legislation produces ambiguity and that innumerable advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy (in the broader sense) are on offer. The succession is purely incidental. The listing is not exhaustive.

This chapter offers a brief description of the individual osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs (e.g. name, contents, instructors, costs, and admission criteria). A summary and discussion follows in chapter 2.3.

2.2.1 Upledger Institute

Currently the Upledger Institute Austria offers the following courses:³⁹

- Upledger Cranio Sacral Therapy® (CST)⁴⁰
 - Course I and II each last 6 days, the costs are € 540,- per course⁴¹
 - Course Pregnancy lasts 3 days, the costs are € 270,-⁴²
 - Course Advanced I and II each last 5 days, the costs are € 610,- per course⁴³
 - Course Exam A and B each last one day, the costs are € 140,- per course⁴⁴

³⁹ <http://www.upledger.at/institut/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-08

⁴⁰ KURSPROGRAMM UPLEDGER 2006/07

⁴¹ ibidem

⁴² ibidem

⁴³ ibidem

Course Certification lasts two days, the costs are € 180,- or € 240,-⁴⁵

- Somato Emotional Release® (course I and II each last 6 days, the costs are € 540,- per course)⁴⁶
- Cranio Sacral Therapy in Paediatrics (course I : 4 days, costs: € 450,- or € 470,-; course II: five days, costs:€ 550,-)⁴⁷
- Visceral Manipulation (courses I to III: each 6 days, costs: € 540,- per course)⁴⁸
- Spinal Osteopathic Techniques (strain and counterstrain of the spine and the pelvis: 5 days, costs: € 470,-; Muscle Energy Technique of the Spine and Pelvis: 5 days, costs:€ 450,-)⁴⁹
- ShareCare® (1 day, costs: € 88,-)⁵⁰

ShareCare® is a one day seminar, in the course of which people without prior medical knowledge learn techniques stemming from the concept of Cranio Sacral Therapy (CST). In Dr John Upledger's opinion, even people without anatomical knowledge can learn certain techniques from the CST concept. From the content description of the ShareCare® course:⁵¹

- introduction into the perception of the cranio sacral system's rhythm through gentle touch
- theoretic and practical learning of the following techniques: stillpoint technique, v-spread-technique, jaw joint relaxation technique⁵²

Cranio Sacral Therapy (CST) were the manual treatment of the cranio sacral system (and its associated structures) using the techniques that Dr John E. Upledger described⁵³ (compare chapter 5.3). *“All symptoms that can be attributed to a possible decrease in performance of the nervous and endocrine system are indications for a check up of the status of the cranio sacral system, and they should be treated with cranio sacral therapy. Examples for such symptoms are: migraine and headache, chronic neck and back pain, stress and tension related dysfunctions, coordinative dysfunctions, especially during infancy, status after a*

⁴⁴ KURSPROGRAMM UPLEDGER 2006/07

⁴⁵ ibidem

⁴⁶ ibidem

⁴⁷ ibidem

⁴⁸ ibidem

⁴⁹ ibidem

⁵⁰ <http://www.upledger.at/patienteninfos/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-08

⁵¹ ibidem

⁵² ibidem

⁵³ ibidem

*trauma of the brain and spinal cord, dysfunctions of the central nervous system or the endocrine system, concentration-, learning and speech, reading and writing impairments, orthopaedic back problems, as well as chronic fatigue and exhaustion and functional vegetative impairments.”*⁵⁴ These courses fall into the category of continuing training and consequently, considering the current legal status, are no job training.⁵⁵

The continuing training courses offered by the Upledger-Institute teach sections of osteopathy. The information presented on the Upledger-Institute’s website does not clearly state, if there are any admission criteria for the Upledger Institutes’ courses. The following statements can be read on the web site:

- *“ShareCare® is a course that teaches people without prior medical knowledge/training techniques from the concept of cranio sacral therapy. Dr. John Upledger (founder of the CST) believes that people, who do not have any anatomical knowledge, can also learn certain CST techniques.”*⁵⁶
- *“General terms of admission to advanced training courses: The institute reserves the right to set requirements for admission to the courses or to decline admission if necessary.”*⁵⁷

Furthermore, the Upledger Institute’s website refers to “job profile” and “occupation profile”⁵⁸, but referenced terms and information can not be found on the website. Among the techniques taught to people without anatomic and medical knowledge are stillpoint and v-spread-technique. The instructors are mentioned by name, but not with their qualification.

⁵⁴ <http://www.upledger.at/patienteninfos/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-08

⁵⁵ *ibidem*

⁵⁶ <http://www.upledger.at/patienteninfos/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-08, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵⁷ *ibidem*

⁵⁸ <http://www.upledger.at/patienteninfos/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-08

2.2.2 Courses in Visceral Osteopathy and Cranio Sacral Therapy offered by the Austrian Federal Association of Physiotherapists (Physio Austria) in Cooperation with the Upledger Institute

The course agenda of Physio Austria 2006/2007 lists the following courses:

- Visceral Manipulation II (duration: 6 days, costs as a Physio Austria member: € 540,-, non members: € 720,-)⁵⁹
- Cranio Sacral Therapy I (duration: 6 days, costs: Physio Austria members: € 540,-, non members: € 720,-)⁶⁰
- Cranio Sacral Therapy II (duration: 6 days, costs: Physio Austria members: € 540,-, non members: € 720,-)⁶¹

The course instructors are Mark Larsen and Gabriele Cinerova (both physiotherapists) and Dr. Natasha Letonia.⁶² They are representatives for continuing training, working for the Upledger Institute Austria. No participation requirements are mentioned.⁶³

The courses (continuing training) offered by Physio Austria in cooperation with the Upledger Institute are € 180,- more expensive for non members than the same courses offered directly by the Upledger Institute (see chapter 2.2.1). Sections of osteopathy are taught. There is no mention of participation requirements. The instructors are representatives of the Upledger Institute Austria.

⁵⁹ <http://www.physioaustria.at/modules.php?op=modload&name=Kurse&file=index&type=view&eid=1048>,
Accessed: 2006-11-09

⁶⁰ PHYSIO AUSTRIA 2006

⁶¹ <http://www.physioaustria.at/modules.php?op=modload&name=Kurse&file=index&type=view&eid=1215>,
Accessed: 2006-11-09

⁶² PHYSIO AUSTRIA 2006

⁶³ <http://www.physioaustria.at/modules.php?op=modload&name=Kurse&file=index&type=view&eid=1213>,
Accessed: 2006-11-09

2.2.3 Courses in Osteopathy and Cranio Sacral Osteopathy at the “Fortbildungszentrum” (FBZ) Klagenfurt

The course agenda of the FBZ Klagenfurt 2006/2007 lists the following courses:⁶⁴

- CPM (Clinical Patients Management) – Basics: visceral osteopathy: Norbert Folkman: PT, MT, osteopathy – D; 3 day course, costs: € 340,-⁶⁵
- Cranio Sacral Therapy (CST) “Introduction”: Baerbel Born-Vonhoff and Antje Hallier; 3 days, costs: € 350,-⁶⁶
- Cranio Sacral Therapy Adults 1A and 1B: Baerbel Born-Vonhoff, Antje Hallier: two times 6 days, costs: € 1.330,-⁶⁷
- Cranio Sacral Therapy Adults 2A and 2B: Baerbel Born-Vonhoff, Antje Hallier: two times 6 days, costs: € 1.330,-⁶⁸
- Cranio Sacral Child Osteopathy: Baerbel Born-Vonhoff, Antje Hallier: three times 4 days, costs: € 1.350,-⁶⁹
- Osteopathy (Viennese School of Osteopathy): Since January 2005 the opportunity to undergo the osteopathy training of the WSO in the FBZ Klagenfurt (a branch of the WSO, see chapter 4.1.1) exists.⁷⁰ Osteopathy Introductory Course/ WSO: requirement for the osteopathy training program. Walter Krasser; PT, D.O., instructor of the Viennese School of Osteopathy,⁷¹ see chapter 4.2.1.
- Visceral Osteopathy: Marc De Coster; PT. Mt., O.-B; basic training: 4 days, costs: € 420,-⁷²
- Myofascial Release: Mag. Christopher Veeck; Certified advanced Rolfer. Basic training: 2 days, costs: € 240,-/ Myofascial Release Advanced I: 3 days, costs: € 290,-/ Myofascial Release II: 3 days, costs: € 290,-⁷³

⁶⁴ <http://www.fbz-klagenfurt.at/>, Accessed 2006-11-11

⁶⁵ KURSPROGRAMM FBZ KLAGENFURT PHYSIOTHERAPIE 2006/07

⁶⁶ ibidem

⁶⁷ ibidem

⁶⁸ ibidem

⁶⁹ ibidem

⁷⁰ JANDA 2006

⁷¹ KURSPROGRAMM FBZ KLAGENFURT PHYSIOTHERAPIE 2006/07

⁷² ibidem

⁷³ ibidem

Physiotherapists and occupational therapists are admitted to these courses.⁷⁴ The courses in cooperation with the WSO have the same admittance requirements as the WSO.⁷⁵ The respective course contents cover sections of osteopathy. The courses provided by the WSO at the FBZ Klagenfurt are compared and discussed in chapter 4. The qualifications of the instructors in cranio sacral osteopathy are: Baerbel Born-Vonhoff is a masseuse and acknowledged therapist for cranio sacral osteopathy in Germany; Antje Hallier is an alternative practitioner and cranio sacral instructor from Germany.

2.2.4 Courses in Osteopathy and Cranio Sacral Osteopathy – Dr. Vodder School in Walchsee

The Dr. Vodder School in Walchsee offers continuing training for doctors, physiotherapists and German masseurs. From the course agenda:⁷⁶

- CS Part I – Basic Course: instructor: Iris Wolf: 5 days, costs: € 411,-⁷⁷
- CS Part II – Specific Cranial Techniques and Jaw Treatment: instructor: Iris Wolf. Course duration: 5 days, costs: € 411,-⁷⁸
- CS Part III Advanced Course I – Functional Indirect Technique and Cranio Sacral Techniques according to G. Laughlin & Ed. Stiles, D.O.'s (A. T. Still Technique): instructor: Iris Wolf. Course duration: 5 days, costs: € 411,-⁷⁹
- CS Part IV Advanced Course II – Myofascial Full Body Treatment & Fluid Techniques: instructor: Iris Wolf. Course duration: five days, costs: € 411,-⁸⁰
- Osteopathy – Muscle Energy Technique: further training for doctors, physiotherapists, German masseurs; instructor: Iris Wolf. Course duration: 6 days, costs: € 495,-⁸¹

⁷⁴ Occupational therapists can participate in the following courses: Cranio Sacral Therapy Introduction, Cranio Sacral Therapy Adults 1A and 1B, Cranio Sacral Therapy Adults 2A and 2B, Cranio Sacral Child Osteopathy. KURSPROGRAMM FBZ KLAGENFURT ERGOTHERAPIE 2006/07

⁷⁵ See chapter 4.2.1

⁷⁶ <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

⁷⁷ <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/sc/fortbildung/kursdetail?kid=12>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

⁷⁸ ibidem

⁷⁹ ibidem

⁸⁰ ibidem

⁸¹ <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/sc/fortbildung/kursdetail?kid=14>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

- Osteopathy – Visceral Manipulation (organ treatment): Courses I to III: instructor: Konrad J. Obermeier, alternative practitioner, Certified Advanced Rolfer. Course duration: 3 x 4 days, costs: € 328,- per course part⁸²
- Osteopathy – Positional Release Technique (Jones Strain/Counterstrain): instructor: Iris Wolf, course duration: 6 days, costs: € 496,-⁸³
- Osteopathy – Functional Indirect Technique: instructor: Iris Wolf, course duration: 6 days, costs: € 496,-⁸⁴

The offered courses are conducted by Iris Wolf: she is a physiotherapist, instructor for manual therapy and osteopathy in Oregon/USA, as well as assistant at the Upledger Institute in cranio sacral and visceral Therapy in USA. The respective course contents cover sub areas of osteopathy. Doctors, physiotherapists and German masseurs are admitted to participate.

2.2.5 O.M.T. - Osteopathic Mobilisation Techniques – Continuing Training Course

In the summer of 2007, Prim. Dr. Andreas Kainz (head of the department of physical medicine at the “Wiener Privatklinik”, head of the university study course in osteopathy at the University of Continuing Education Krems/DUK, D.O. and lecturer at the WSO and DUK), in cooperation with the VÖSM (“Vereinigung Österreichischer Sportmasseure und Sporttherapeuten”) and the ÖGS (“Österreichische Gesellschaft für Sportphysiotherapie”), plans to conduct a course in osteopathic mobilisation techniques. The course is planned to last one and a half days. Masseurs and physiotherapists are admitted.⁸⁵ The costs are € 250,- for members of the VÖSM & ÖGS and € 300,- for non-members. Sub areas of osteopathy are taught. From the course agenda:

- Diagnosing functional disorders in the musculoskeletal system. Special attention is paid to the influence of traumata on whole motion chains.
- Mobilization techniques for the hand, elbow joint, shoulder, shoulder girdle, tarsal, ankle joint, knee, hips, pelvis, cervical spine, thoracic spine and lumbar spine.

⁸² <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/sc/fortbildung/kursdetail?kid=26>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

⁸³ <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/sc/fortbildung/kursdetail?kid=20>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

⁸⁴ <http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/sc/fortbildung/kursdetail?kid=43>, Accessed: 2006-11-10

⁸⁵ SEKRETARIAT VÖSM u. ÖGS 2006

- Mobilizing work on myofascial structures, in order to recover the gliding planes between the tissue layers.⁸⁶

2.2.6 Body Flow – Osteopathy, Energy Activity and the Shamanic Tradition

Training manager Joakim R. Gritsch (osteopath, kinesiologist, physiotherapist, physioenergist, „Naturkünstler“ and story teller)⁸⁷ offers a training in “Body Flow-Osteopathy, energy activity and shamanic tradition for body, heart and conscience” together with experts for the heart, body, mind, energy, nature and space.⁸⁸ *“I will lead You as osteopath, kinesiologist, and nature artist on this journey from Your old patterns in body and mind to a new freedom.”*⁸⁹ Body Flow is an extra occupational training cycle that lasts two years, runs in two phases and can be graduated with a certificate.⁹⁰ During this period the conscience is supposed to be expanded to each level of being.⁹¹ *“BODYFLOW developed from diverse arts, sciences and philosophies. Elements from osteopathy, physio energetics, naturopathy, energy activity, ayurveda, TCM⁹² and different shamanic traditions were some of its lovable godparents.”*⁹³

Duration: After a year (8 weekend workshops each three days) one receives the certificate of Body Flow-practitioner, after two years (5 more weekend workshops) one receives the certificate of Body Flow-Master. In addition consolidating modules and self awareness modules are on offer. Two supervisions are scheduled. Participation requirements are not mentioned, the costs are € 120,- per day and person.⁹⁴

This concept is mentioned, because Joakim R. Gritsch uses the term “osteopathy” in his course title as well as in his job title. No traceable connection between the course contents and osteopathy seems to exist. As for the qualifications of the instructors: Who are the experts for body, heart, mind, energy, nature and space and what are their qualifications? The course

⁸⁶ WERBEANZEIGE 2006

⁸⁷ <http://www.dream-time.at/index1.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-15

⁸⁸ BODY FLOW AUSBILDUNGSÜBERSICHT 2006/07

⁸⁹ <http://www.dream-time.at/index1.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-15; translated by J. Stark 2007

⁹⁰ BODY FLOW AUSBILDUNGSÜBERSICHT 2006/07

⁹¹ ibidem

⁹² Traditional Chinese Medicine

⁹³ <http://www.dream-time.at/index1.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-15, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁹⁴ <http://www.dream-time.at/index1.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-15

costs run up to € 1.080,- just for the first three courses. Since there is no mention of further course dates, the complete costs for the two year training are not assessable. There is no mention of participation requirements.

2.2.7 Cranial Fluid Dynamics/Cranial Work of the “Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kinesiologie”

Since 1991 the “Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kinesiologie” develops and organises seminars in the field of health. Among the offered courses are training programs in different forms of manual work on the body (e.g. Cranial Fluid Dynamics and Cranial Work), as well as courses in the field of self-development.⁹⁵ Over the last years, the organisation of these courses was more and more assigned to professional partner organisations, among them institution like the “Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut der Wirtschaftskammer” (WIFI).⁹⁶

Cranial Fluid Dynamics (CFD) is a form of manual work on the body. The osteopathic rhythm (a specific body vibration) is used to find grid-locked areas of the body.⁹⁷ *“The CDF-Practitioner” listens with his hands [...] and the body lets go of its blocked old pattern.”*⁹⁸ For this purpose, classic as well as modern manual techniques are instructed. Kinesiologic muscle tests were added to the concept of CFD.⁹⁹ The training structure of CFD:

- Basic Courses: Cranial Fluid Dynamics 1-8; each three days
- Advanced Courses: Cranial Fluid Dynamic 1-4; each three days¹⁰⁰

The course fees for the first 8 courses (three days per course; 232 training units) at the WIFI Upper Austria conducted in 2006 amounted to € 3.150,- (a three day course costs € 393,75). Admittance requirements are not listed.¹⁰¹

“Cranial Work”, as well as “Cranial Fluid Dynamic (CFD)”, is a form of manual work on the body. Manual techniques, conversations and energy work are supposed to “update” the

⁹⁵ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/ueberuns/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

⁹⁶ The WIFI Upper Austria in Linz e.g. offers courses in Cranial Fluid Dynamics starting in may 2007. http://www.ooe.wifi.at/Cranial_Fluid_Dynamics_-_CFD.pid.0264.htm, Accessed: 2007-02-05

⁹⁷ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/seminare/cfd/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

⁹⁸ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/seminare/cfd/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁹⁹ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/seminare/cfd/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹⁰⁰ ibidem

¹⁰¹ http://www.ooe.wifi.at/Cranial_Fluid_Dynamics_-_CFD.pid.0264.htm, Accessed: 2007-03-17

client's body structure. The aim of this approach is the optimal support of all tissues. Aside from the direct work on the body cranial work-practitioners learn to handle "energetic qualities".¹⁰² The website of the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kinesiologie"¹⁰³ provides no information on the training structure of "Cranial Work", costs and course dates.

Sub areas of osteopathy are instructed in Cranial Fluid Dynamics and Cranial Work. The instructors of both course cycles are introduced by name and qualification. They come from medical and non-medical backgrounds.¹⁰⁴ There is no mention of participation requirements. An accurate discrimination between "Cranial Fluid Dynamic" and "Cranial Work" is inconceivable. Both terms are described as forms both of manual work on the body (which utilise the "osteopathic rhythm")¹⁰⁵ in combination with kinesiological methods. In this case also, the title does not include the term "therapy" and "clients" are referred to as "customers".

2.2.8 Cranio Sacral Impuls Regulation / Internationale Studiengemeinschaft e.v. (IST)

Cranio Sacral Impulse Regulation (CSIR) represents a modification of "Cranio Sacral Work", which is supposed to be especially suitable for children.¹⁰⁶ *"The concept of CSIR is not solely targeted at professionals who work with people, but also at motivated laymen who seek a new direction in life."*¹⁰⁷ The basic course consists of four two-day seminars, the course fees amount to € 300,- per seminar, which equals € 1.200,- for the complete basic course. In addition, the IST offers intensive and practical experience courses as well as workshops and other continuing training courses. The instructors are partly mentioned by name.¹⁰⁸

The denotation does not bare the term "therapy". Sub areas of osteopathy are conveyed. There are no restrictions in admission. The website contains little information. The training courses are not described in detail. The course contents are not published.

¹⁰² <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/seminare/cw/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹⁰³ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹⁰⁴ <http://www.kinesiologie.cc/trainer/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹⁰⁵ It is assumed that in this case the "osteopathic rhythm" is equal to the "cranio sacral rhythm". Assumption of the author.

¹⁰⁶ <http://www.csir.at/>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹⁰⁷ <http://www.csir.at/>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹⁰⁸ <http://www.csir.at/>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

2.2.9 Polarity-Training/Polarity Centre Vienna

“Polarity represents an energetic method of treatment, which is based on traditional healing methods from different cultures. [...] It aims at maintaining and enhancing health, at detecting and dissolving disorders and blockages of the energy flow and helping to find a state of inner order. To accomplish this aim, different methods and means are used. At the centre lies polarity work on the body with its manifold and complex manual applications.”¹⁰⁹
”To accomplish this diverse qualities of physical touch are applied. Gentle touches as well as vibrant, activating impulses and profound contacts.”¹¹⁰ In the Polarity vocational training program (see below) one learns basic conceptions of osteopathy.¹¹¹ The training at the Polarity Centre Vienna runs in two stages:

The basic training lasts one year and consists of seven weekend courses or 175 teaching units, of which 140 take place in class and 35 take place outside of class in the form of 30 treatment protocols and five personal sessions with an acknowledged polarity therapist. This basic training is self contained and teaches the essential basics of polarity therapy in theory and in practice. The costs for this basic training amount to € 1.560,-.¹¹²

The vocational training is a continuation and consolidation of the basic training. It lasts two years and covers all essential theoretic aspects and a wide range of practical methods of treatment. The vocational training consists of 14 weekend courses and 40 supervision units, which adds up to 440 teaching units. 320 units take place in class and 120 units take place outside of class in the form of 70 treatment protocols, 10 personal sessions with an acknowledged polarity therapist and regular participation in the peer groups. The fees for the vocational training amount to € 3.600,-.¹¹³

Both stages can be graduated with a certificate. From the agenda vocational training:¹¹⁴

- *“Basic grips of osteopathy: adjustment of the cranial bones, balancing of the cranio sacral rhythm, dissolving of joint blockades in carpus, tarsus and*

¹⁰⁹ <http://www.polarity-center.at/polarity.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹¹⁰ <http://www.polarity-center.at/methoden.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹¹¹ <http://www.polarity-center.at/polarity-grundausbildung.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹¹² <http://www.polarity-center.at/termine-kosten.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹¹³ ibidem

¹¹⁴ <http://www.polarity-center.at/polarity-grundausbildung.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

- metatarsus, activation of the thymus gland, grips for detoxifying the liver and spleen, dissolving of blocked abdominal viscera and midriff. [...]*
- *Nervous system, balancing of the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous system, work on the perineum*
 - *Dissolving of the midriff, gas release [...]*
 - *Diagnosis and adjustment of leg length differences*
 - *Balancing of different organ systems (colon, bladder, duodenum etc.)*
 - *Relieving blocked back muscles, harmonizing buttocks and shoulders, relieving blocked muscles adjoining the hip joint, balancing the back and spine, inspection and palpitation, [...]*
 - *Balancing the sacrum, inspection and palpitation, correction of the sacrum”¹¹⁵*

Participation requirements are age (one has to be 18 years of age), physical and mental health. It is pointed out that the training is no alternative to medical or psycho therapeutic treatment and the participants are personally responsible.¹¹⁶ Training managers are Sigrid Wieltschnig, registered polarity practitioner and certified polarity educator, and Dr. Irmi Nolz-Brunner.¹¹⁷

This training program also covers sub areas of osteopathy. There are no admittance restrictions to this three year extra occupational training. The instructors are mentioned by name and qualifications (medical and non-medical). The costs of the complete training amount € 5.160,- which is considerable. The layout and arrangement of the website seem subjectively concise. The website also provides a detailed statement concerning the legal regulations in Austria (see chapter 5):

“Polarity therapy according to Dr Randolph Stone serves the regeneration and harmonization of the body’s own energy fields, channels and structures. It does not represent a treatment [...]. Polarity therapy is a method, which is not acknowledged by orthodox medicine and therefore is not reserved to doctors. Polarity therapists are not allowed to perform measures that are reserved to health professionals (doctors, psychotherapists, clinical psychologists). This means: no treatment of illnesses, no diagnosing in the medical sense, no performance of psychological or psychotherapeutic treatment.”¹¹⁸

¹¹⁵ <http://www.polarity-center.at/polarity-grundausbildung.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹¹⁶ <http://www.polarity-center.at/termine-kosten.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹¹⁷ <http://www.polarity-center.at/lehrer.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹¹⁸ <http://www.polarity-center.at/termine-kosten.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-06, translated by J. Stark 2007

2.2.10 Viennese School of Cranio Sacral Biodynamic

The Viennese School of Cranio Sacral Biodynamic wants to offer a cranio sacral training program (biodynamic) that complies with European and northern American standards. Cranio sacral biodynamic is a form of cranio sacral osteopathy.¹¹⁹ *"This training program is geared to its founder William Sutherland and his disciples Rollin Becker, Franklyn Sills and James Jealous and includes insights of John Upledger."*¹²⁰

The basic training consists of 15 courses (47 training days). It takes two to two and a half years. Scripts are provided. By the end of the training participants must have attended 12 personal sessions with an experienced cranio therapist and six sessions with DDr. Gerhild Tanew (psychotherapist). The courses build on each other. After the completion of the 15 courses it is possible to acquire a certificate.¹²¹

Everybody who is interested in his own personal growth can participate. Other requirements:

- participation at a trial day or weekend
- a psychotherapeutic orientation interview with DDr. Gerhild Tanew (costs: € 200,-/ double hour = unit)
- decision to complete the whole training¹²²

The costs amount to € 300,- per course. It is recommended to effect a cancellation insurance. Additional costs arise for the personal therapy sessions. The instructors are:

- Dr. Susanne Herrgesell (general practitioner in Vienna)
- Karin Klinke and Barbara Blumenreisinger (just mentioned by name)
- As well as other instructors from Germany and Switzerland (no mention by name)¹²³

This program covers sections of osteopathy. The instructors are partly mentioned by name. The costs of the basic training amount to € 4.700,- (not including the additional costs). There are no admittance requirements for this training program.

¹¹⁹ <http://www.herrgesell.at/>, Accessed: 2007-04-15

¹²⁰ <http://www.herrgesell.at/>, Accessed: 2007-04-15, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹²¹ <http://www.herrgesell.at/>, Accessed: 2007-04-15

¹²² ibidem

¹²³ <http://www.herrgesell.at/>, Accessed: 2007-04-15

2.2.11 Cranio Sacral Balance Workshop/ Adult Education Centre Landstrasse

This workshop is organized by the Adult Education Centre “Volkshochschule” (VHS) Landstrasse. It is a one day workshop. The course location is the VHS 3/Vienna and is headed by Angelika Sperl. The fees amount to € 70,-. After an introduction into the basics and effectiveness of cranio sacral work, participants have the opportunity to feel this rhythm on themselves and others. Furthermore participants shall be introduced to relaxing body exercises that enhance and balance the cranio sacral impulse.¹²⁴

This course covers sub areas of osteopathy. There are no participation requirements. The instructor is mentioned by name. The inclusion of this workshop into this paper is meant to exemplify how endless the list of osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs would become if each offering were listed.

2.3 Results and Discussion

The professional training programs for osteopathy (chapter 2.1) are compared and discussed in detail in chapter 4.

Results and discussion of the osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs, which are listed in chapter 2.2:

- All of the osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs have in common that they teach sub areas respectively isolated sections of osteopathy. The term “sub area” in this paper refers to the different fields of osteopathy (structural/functional system, visceral system, cranio sacral system) and their concepts and techniques as for example cranio sacral osteopathy, structural osteopathy, structural osteopathic mobilization techniques like strain-counterstrain techniques, courses for visceral osteopathy and so forth. Osteopathy’s claim of a holistic conceptual foundation¹²⁵ is forfeited.

¹²⁴ <http://www.vhs.at/Kursdetail.do?id=778058&mID=2020&nb=4&term=Cranio+Sacral+Balance&category=-1&mainCategory=-1&fromDate=&orderBy=-1&pS=10&hit=0&sB=send&vhs=-1>, Accessed: 2006-12-06

¹²⁵ <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

- Physiotherapists and occupational therapists are admitted to participate in the courses of the “Fortbildungszentrum” (FBZ) Klagenfurt. The Dr. Vodder School admits doctors and physiotherapists as well as German masseurs. The continuing education courses in chapter 2.2.5 admit masseurs and physiotherapists. No participation requirements are listed for the courses offered by the Austrian Federal Association of Physiotherapists (Physio Austria) in cooperation with the Upledger Institute (compare chapter 2.2.2). The statements concerning the admission requirements¹²⁶ of the courses offered by the Upledger Institute are ambiguous. All other offered osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs (chapter 2.2.6 to 2.2.11) do not have participation requirements. The respective osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs are consequently accessible for medical laymen. One can conclude that osteopathic treatment in the broadest sense is also performed by medical laymen. Compare chapter 5.
- In the framework of the osteopathic training “Body Flow-Osteopathy” (chapter 2.2.6), the term “osteopathy” (respectively in the job title of the head of training) is used without any comprehensible connection to the content or field of osteopathy. Furthermore, the instructors are neither mentioned by their name or their qualifications: Who are these “experts for body, heart, soul, energy, nature and space?”
- The mentioned instructors of the remaining osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs come from medical backgrounds and from non-medical backgrounds. They are partly just mentioned by name,¹²⁷ but partly their qualification¹²⁸ is also mentioned. The listed qualifications of the instructors with a medical background comprise alternative practitioners, masseurs and physiotherapists from Germany¹²⁹, as well as physiotherapists and doctors from Austria.¹³⁰

¹²⁶ Compare chapter 2.2.1

¹²⁷ Compare chapter 2.2.1, 2.2.8, 2.2.10 and 2.2.11

¹²⁸ Compare chapter 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.2.4, 2.2.5, 2.2.7 und 2.2.9.

¹²⁹ See chapter 2.2.3 and 2.2.4

¹³⁰ See chapter 2.2.2 and 2.2.5

Remark: The costs of the offered advanced and continuing training programs are listed in all cases. One has to note that considerable differences in pricing exist: the greatest difference in costs (one day courses) amounts to 100%!¹³¹

Conclusions:

Since a great number of the aforementioned advanced and continuing training programs are accessible for medical laymen, one could conclude that these laymen also offer osteopathy in the broadest sense or perform osteopathic treatment (see chapter 5). Therefore a basic legislation to distinguish and to protect the term “Osteopathy” and the job title “Osteopath” from these medical laymen would be of great importance and should be aspired. In no way it is the aim to claim the holistic conceptual basics, concepts and techniques of osteopathy as such to one specific (medical) profession!

3 Austrian Higher Education and the Implementation of the Bologna-Process in Austria

For better comprehension of the following chapters (in particular chapter 4.9) a brief outline of Austrian higher education and the implementation of the Bologna-Process in Austria are given.

3.1 General Structure of Higher Education in Austria

In Austria the post secondary sector at university level (higher education sector at universities) comprises 22 universities, which are sustained by the state.¹³² Among these universities are for example the University of Vienna, the University of Graz but also the Danube University in Krems¹³³ (University for Continuing Education).¹³⁴ At the moment an

¹³¹ One day courses cost from € 70,- to € 140,-; two day courses range from € 180,- to € 300,-; three day courses range from € 270,- to € 393,75; four day courses range from € 328,- to € 450,-; five day courses range from € 411,- to € 610,- and six day courses range from € 495,- to € 665,-.

¹³² KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 96

¹³³ KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 100ff

¹³⁴ Since the coming into effect of the “Donau-Universität Krems Gesetz 2004”, BGBl. I Nr. 22/2002, § 2 the Danube University Krems carries the title “University for Continuing Education Krems”. (BGBl. I Nr. 22/2004, 2004a)

old system and a new system in the hierarchy of studies in the higher education sector (regular studies) exist:¹³⁵

1. The old system is the system of graduate studies (“Diplomstudien”). The basis for starting studies is usually the matriculation examination. The graduation of diploma studies qualifies for the admission to doctorate studies. A diploma degree (the complete purport is “Magister/Magistra” and “Diplom-Ingenieur/in”, with the exception of human medicine and dentistry) is awarded by the universities after completion of diploma studies with 240 to 360 ECTS-credits. In studies of human medicine and dentistry the first academic degree that is awarded after the completion of diploma studies with 360 ECTS-credits is the “Doctor medicinae universae” or “Doctor medicinae dentalis”. At “Fachhochschul-Studiengängen” a “Fachhochschul-Diplomgrad” (“Diplom-Ingenieur/in (FH)” in the technical fields respectively “Magister/Magistra (FH)” in the other fields; 240 to 300 ECTS-credits) is awarded.¹³⁶
2. The new system distinguishes between bachelor studies and master studies. *“According to the regulations of the “Universitätsgesetz 2002” master studies are those regular studies, which serve the consolidation and complementation of the scientific and artistic professional pre-education in the form of bachelor studies. The admission to master studies requires the graduation of respective bachelor studies or respective “Fachhochschul”-baccalaureate studies or equal studies at a recognised national or international post secondary educational institution. According to the “Universitätsgesetz 2002” baccalaureate studies can only be offered as regular studies. Irregular academic bachelor studies do not exist.”*¹³⁷ Respectively, a Bachelor Degree (title “Bachelor of...”; 180 ECTS-credits) and a Master Degree (title “Master of...”; 120 ECTS-credits) are awarded. The academic degrees carry the same title in universities and “Fachhochschulen”.¹³⁸

Holders of diploma degrees or master degrees (regular studies) are qualified for admission to doctorate studies. The doctorate degree (with the title “Doctor.....”) is awarded after completion of studies with 120 ECTS-credits, the academic degree “Doctor of Philosophy” (PhD) is awarded after completing research oriented studies with 240 ECTS-credits. An

¹³⁵ KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 96

¹³⁶ ibidem

¹³⁷ NEUMEISTER 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹³⁸ KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 96

amendment, which stipulates general three year doctorate studies, is to be expected in the near future.¹³⁹ In addition to regular studies, which have been discussed above, there are irregular studies¹⁴⁰ among which are counted:

- a) University Study Courses
- b) Attendance of Singular Courses at the University
- c) “Fachhochschul-Studiengänge”¹⁴¹

Ad a) University Study Courses

In the university sector continuing education is mainly provided in the form of university study courses. The senate of the respective university decides which continuing education courses it wants to offer and can constitute internationally customary master degrees (e.g. Master of Advanced Studies (MAS), Master of Arts, Master of Laws, Master of Public Health, Master of Science (MSc)...).¹⁴² For this purpose the university study courses have to comply with the respective master studies in admission requirements, contents and comprehensiveness. Furthermore they must at least cover 60 ECTS-credits.¹⁴³ The University of Continuing Education Krems (DUK) has the explicit assignment of academic continuing education, primarily through installation of university study courses:¹⁴⁴ e.g. university study course in osteopathy (WSO in cooperation with the University of Continuing Education Krems (Danube University in Krems (DUK), compare chapter 4). Universities are authorized, to offer university study courses.¹⁴⁵ The legal regimentation is provided by the “Universitätsgesetz 2002”.¹⁴⁶

¹³⁹ KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 96 f

¹⁴⁰ KASPAROVSKY 2006, p 97

¹⁴¹ ibidem

¹⁴² KASPAROVSKY 2006

¹⁴³ KASPAROVSKY, WADSACK 2004, p 21

¹⁴⁴ BGBI, I Nr. 22/2004, 2004a, § 4

¹⁴⁵ BGBI, I Nr. 120/2002, BGBI, I Nr. 120/2002, 2002c, § 56

¹⁴⁶ BGBI, I Nr. 120/2002, BGBI, I Nr. 120/2002, 2002c, § 56 and 58§

Ad c) “Fachhochschul-Studiengänge”

The legal regimentation of courses for continuing education at university of “Fachhochschulen (FH)”- study programs is provided in the “Fachhochschul-Studiengesetz 1993”.¹⁴⁷ This law defines the teaching assignments of FH study programs with general circumscriptions (guarantee of a practice related training on higher education level; conveyance of expertise, that enables students to fulfil the tasks set by their professional field according to the latest standards of science and practice; promotion of permeability in the education system and professional flexibility of the graduates).¹⁴⁸ FH study programs have the aim to provide scientifically based professional training and are tailored to specific professional fields.¹⁴⁹ *“This is effected by FH-Diploma study programs (240 to 300 ECTS-credits), [...] the establishment of FH- Baccalaureate Studies (180 ECTS- credits) and FH-Magister Studies (60 to 120 ECTS-credits) enables. Doctorate studies are not available in the FH sector.”*¹⁵⁰ In the respective curricula it is allowed to appoint internationally customary master degrees (e.g. Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Science (MSc))¹⁵¹ if the study programs comply with the standards of the respective master studies in admission requirements, contents and comprehensiveness.¹⁵²

3.2 The Bologna-Process and its Implementation in Austria

In 1999 the Bologna-Declaration was signed by 29 European government representatives.¹⁵³ The essential and extraordinary element of the Bologna process is the voluntary harmonization of European higher education systems (in contrast to a binding legal agreement). The international trend is evolving towards “rivalry over students”; in this context only a credible European university will be able to compete. The Bologna-Declaration stands out from all other non-binding declarations because of its clearly defined aims and set timeframe. In the meantime the implementation of the Bologna Declaration is being referred to as the Bologna-Process.¹⁵⁴

¹⁴⁷ BGBI, I Nr. 58/2002, 2002a

¹⁴⁸ BGBI, I Nr. 58/2002, 2002a, § 3

¹⁴⁹ KASPAROVSKY, WADSACK 2004, p 5

¹⁵⁰ KASPAROVSKY, WADSACK 2004, p 39, translated by J. Stark 2007

¹⁵¹ KASPAROVSKY, WADSACK 2004, p 42

¹⁵² KASPAROVSKY, WADSACK 2004, p 40

¹⁵³ BOLOGNA-DECLARATION 1999

¹⁵⁴ <http://www.bmukk.gv.at/bologna.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-12

The aim of the Bologna-Declaration is the establishment of a joint European higher education area (more compatibility and comparability) until 2010.¹⁵⁵ In the meantime 45 “European” nations have joined the Bologna-Process in the terms of a legally non-binding agreement. At the biennial ministerial meetings (2001 in Prague, 2003 in Berlin, 2005 in Bergen, 2007 in London) they officially state, which aims are to be achieved in the framework of the Bologna-Process.¹⁵⁶

- implementation of an easily comprehensible and comparable system of certifications (diploma supplement)
- establishment of a two-tier system of studies (undergraduate and graduate)
- implementation of a merit-point-system according to the ETCS-model
- promotion of the highest possible mobility among students, teachers, scientists and administrative personnel
- advancement of European cooperation in quality management
- advancement of the European dimension in higher education¹⁵⁷

The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, accompanies the inner Austrian implementation of the aims of the Bologna-Process with a monitoring project. Through regular monitoring of the current status of the inner Austrian implementation, deviations from the aims can be detected. The first monitoring report was published in 2001, the second one in 2004 and the third one in 2005. The monitoring report 2007 (reference period 2005-2006) is expected to be released in May 2007.¹⁵⁸ Important steps towards implementing the Bologna-Declaration so far are the “Universitätsgesetz 2002”¹⁵⁹ as well as the “Fachhochschul-Studiengesetz 2002”¹⁶⁰.

A credit system serves the purpose of systematically ascertaining a study program by allotting credits to its individual components. The specification of credits in higher education can be based on different parameters, for instance on the students’ workload, the study results and the periods. The European system for transferring and accumulating study achievements

¹⁵⁵ <http://eu2006.bmukk.gv.at/bologna.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-12

¹⁵⁶ ibidem

¹⁵⁷ BOLOGNA-DECLARATION 1999

¹⁵⁸ <http://archiv.bmbwk.gv.at/europa/bp/umsetzung.xml?style=text>, Accessed: 2007-03-12

¹⁵⁹ BGBI, I Nr. 120/2002, 2002c

¹⁶⁰ BGBI, I Nr. 58/2002, 2002a

(European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)) is based on the workload that the students have to fulfil, in order to achieve the aims of their study program.¹⁶¹ Main issues:

- It is agreed upon that the workload of a full-time student during the course of one academic year equals 60 ECTS-credits. In Europe the average workload (full-time studies) amounts to 1500-1800 hours per year. In this case one credit equals 25-30 hours of work.¹⁶²
- The students receive these ECTS-credits after they have successfully completed the workload and after their achievements have been graded.¹⁶³
- In the ECTS the workload of students includes the time they spend on attending lectures and seminars, on private study, on preparing for and attending exams ect.¹⁶⁴
- Credits are accorded to all educatory components of a course of studies (e.g. modules, courses, placements, thesis/final papers ect.) and reflect the workload.¹⁶⁵
- The merit-rating of the students' performance is documented in the form of nationally defined grades. It is good practice (especially in the case of a transfer of credits) to add an "ECTS-grade". The ECTS-rating scale classifies the students' performance according to statistical factors; therefore statistical data on the students' performance is prerequisite for utilizing the ECTS-rating system.¹⁶⁶

Miscellaneous on the ECTS:

- The allotment of ECTS-credits to individual courses is carried out at the university that develops the program of studies. No central institution is responsible for credit allotment. In some fields of study such as chemistry and pharmaceutics, national and international umbrella organisations provide a

¹⁶¹ <http://www.bmbwk.gv.at/europa/bp/aktuell.xml>, Accessed: 2006-11-12

¹⁶² BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR UNTERRICHT, KUNST UND KULTUR 2004

¹⁶³ ibidem

¹⁶⁴ ibidem

¹⁶⁵ ibidem

¹⁶⁶ ibidem

basic framework of the curriculum and consequently the ECTS-credits that most universities adhere to.¹⁶⁷

- „ECTS does not guarantee automatic academic recognition. The degree awarding institution decides on what credits to accept for a specific programme. [...] The ECTS Transcript of Records and the Diploma Supplement facilitate swift and informed recognition decisions.“¹⁶⁸
- In exceptional cases, when an academic program of study clearly exceeds the European average of around 1500/1800 hours per year, an academic year could contain more than 60 credits per year. These cases must be well documented and justified in the Information Package or Course Catalogue. A program designed to require 52 weeks of full-time study without holidays, would normally lead to 75 credit points. The ‘high intensity’ or ‘special quality’ of a course is not a reason to give more credits.¹⁶⁹

The diploma supplement (DS) is a document that is attached to the diploma. The DS serves the purpose of ameliorating the international transparency as well as facilitating the professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates etc). The DS consists of eight points (particulars about the persona of qualification holder, the qualification, the level of qualification, the contents of the qualification and the achieved results as well as on the purpose of the qualification and further information, authentication of the supplement and particulars on the national higher education system). Institutions must apply the same authentication processes on the supplement as they do on the diploma.¹⁷⁰ The DS does not automatically guarantee the recognition of a diploma.¹⁷¹ The DS is necessary because the rapid political, economical and technological changes entail new qualifications and education structures.

¹⁶⁷ CARSTENSEN 2007

¹⁶⁸ DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE 2005

¹⁶⁹ ibidem

¹⁷⁰ http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/rec_qual/recognition/diploma_de.html, Accessed: 2007-03-21

¹⁷¹ ibidem

4 Comparison of Professional Training Programs in Osteopathy

In this chapter the professional training programs for osteopathy that are to be compared in detail will be described on the basis of defined criteria and discussed comparatively:

1. Five year extra occupational Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO) and subsequent University Training Course in Osteopathy (WSO in cooperation with the University of Continuing Education Krems (Danube University in Krems (DUK))).
2. Five year extra occupational Training in Osteopathy at the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O), location: Vienna. Subsequent Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) in cooperation with the University of Westminster in London.
3. Courses in Osteopathy organised by the “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin e.V.” president: Univ. Prof. Dr Hans Tilscher (ÖÄGMM) in cooperation with the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), Pennsylvania, USA.

Comments:

In the following text the term “Osteopathic Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)” always refers to the five year part-time training in Vienna. The university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) as well as the Conversion Course at the BCOM are conducted independently from the basic training course of the WSO and the osteopathy training at the I.A.O.. In order to simplify matters, since the complete training in both cases consists of a five year “basic training” and a subsequent “university study course”, the following comparisons will be drawn between:

- the University Study Course (WSO/DUK) combined with the five year Basic Training Course at the WSO, and
- the Conversion Course of the BCOM combined with the five year Osteopathy Training at the I.A.O.

The description of the criteria for comparison and discussion will be carried out separately.

As criteria for comparison serve:

- General information as e.g. founding year, branches, participants/graduates (chapter 4.1)
- Admission requirements (chapter 4.2)
- Structural organisation of the training programs (chapter 4.3)
- Aims of the training programs (4.4)
- General set-up/framework/ training duration (chapter 4.5)
- Instructors (chapter 4.6)
- Comprehensiveness of the practical training (chapter 4.7)
- Training costs (chapter 4.8)
- Exams/degrees/titles, diplomas, academic degrees/recognition (chapter 4.9)
- Measures for quality management of the training programs (chapter 4.10)
- Design of the websites (chapter 4.11)

The comparative discussion is integrated into the respective chapters. A summary can be found in chapter 6.

4.1 General Information on the Training Programs

This chapter provides the following information on the different training programs:

- Founding year
- Legal structure
- Number of current graduates and number of students with completed training (graduates nationwide)
- Branches
- Cooperation with universities
- Extra occupational part-time or fulltime training

Addresses and contacts (school, course office, secretariat) can be found in the appendix in chapter 9.

4.1.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy WSO

The WSO was founded in 1991 (100 years after Stills first school in Kirsville/USA was founded) and was the first school of osteopathy in Austria. Currently it is possible to undergo a extra occupational part-time training as osteopath at the WSO. Since the academic year 2005/2006 WSO students have the opportunity to participate in a university training course in osteopathy in cooperation with the Danube-University in Krems.¹⁷²

The legal foundation for the Viennese School of Osteopathy is the association “International School of Osteopathy” (Austrian law).¹⁷³ At the moment, 382 students are participating in ongoing training groups at the WSO (course years 1-5). So far about 230 students have graduated the training.¹⁷⁴ Currently in total there are 79 first year students, 72 second year students, 92 third year students, 68 fourth year students and 65 fifth year students.¹⁷⁵ The WSO runs two classes per training course. In January 2005 the WSO opened a branch at the “Fortbildungszentrum Klagenfurt” (see chapter 2.2.3).¹⁷⁶

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

Since the academic year 2005/2006 WSO (basic training course) students have the opportunity to participate in a university training course in osteopathy at the Danube-University in Krems (DUK).¹⁷⁷ The institution that is responsible for this course in osteopathy is the Danube-University Krems (DUK). All participants become students of the DUK. The training course is conducted in cooperation with the Viennese School of Osteopathy, and has the approval of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The training course is headed by Prim. Dr. Andreas Kainz.¹⁷⁸ At the moment 179 students are participating in the

¹⁷² <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-14

¹⁷³ ibidem

¹⁷⁴ LEHNER 1/2006, LEHNER 3/2006

¹⁷⁵ LEHNER 1/2007

¹⁷⁶ JANDA 2006

¹⁷⁷ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-14

¹⁷⁸ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

university training course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK).¹⁷⁹ Course locations of the university training course DUK/WSO:

- Viennese School of Osteopathy, Frimbergergasse 6, A-1130 Vienna
- Willi Dungal's Chinese Centre of Healthcare; Gars/Kamp (25 km north of Krems)¹⁸⁰

4.1.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)

The I.A.O. was founded in 1987.¹⁸¹ The I.A.O. has been operating the Austrian branch since 2003.¹⁸² Information on the legal structure of the I.A.O. was not provided. Of the 1500 current students¹⁸³ about 700 come from Germany,¹⁸⁴ about 50 from Austria¹⁸⁵ and the remaining students come from Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland and the Netherlands.¹⁸⁶ Because the Austrian branch has only been in operation since 2003 and basic training takes five years, there are momentarily no I.A.O. graduates from Austria. The I.A.O. operates a total of 20 branches in Germany¹⁸⁷, Belgium,¹⁸⁸ Switzerland (Brunner),¹⁸⁹ Denmark (Copenhagen),¹⁹⁰ Netherlands (Utrecht),¹⁹¹ and in Austria (Vienna).¹⁹²

Comment: In addition to part-time training courses for medical professionals, the I.A.O. also offers a three or four year fulltime training as osteopath in Gent (Belgium).¹⁹³ The Austrian

¹⁷⁹ LEHNER 1/2006

¹⁸⁰ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

¹⁸¹ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-14

¹⁸² PICHLER 2006

¹⁸³ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 2

¹⁸⁴ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 4

¹⁸⁵ This question wasn't answered by the I.A.O.. According to a participant about five Austrian students are in their fourth year of studies and about 15 students respectively in the third, second and first year of studies, which comes to a total of about 50 Austrian students. PICHLER 2006

¹⁸⁶ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 2ff

¹⁸⁷ Berlin, Dortmund, Dresden, Frankfurt/Main/Bad Orb, Goettingen/St. Andreasberg, Hamburg, Leipzig, Memmingen/Bonlanden, Munich/Ismaning, Neuss, Osnabrueck, Regensburg/Regenstauf and Stuttgart. INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 4

¹⁸⁸ Louvain-la-Neuve, Antwerp and Gent; INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 4; STROBL 2006

¹⁸⁹ STOBL 2006

¹⁹⁰ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 4

¹⁹¹ ibidem

¹⁹² ibidem

¹⁹³ Gent houses the only branch of the I.A.O. that offers a fulltime training in osteopathy. The other branches only offer extra occupational part-time training courses. On fulltime training: "*Students with a medical*

branch offers extra occupational part-time training.¹⁹⁴ Current training location of the I.A.O. in Austria is the Hotel Modul, Peter-Jordan-Strasse 78, A-1190 Vienna.¹⁹⁵

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

After graduating training at the I.A.O., students have the opportunity to participate in the Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM), which is recognised by the University of Westminster in London.¹⁹⁶ The number of participants in the Conversion Course, which have graduated the I.A.O. part-time training, was not disclosed. The course location is at the BCOM in London, UK.

4.1.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztegesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

In cooperation with the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), Pennsylvania, USA, the following institutions offer courses in osteopathic medicine, which are coextensive and interchangeable:¹⁹⁷

1. “Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar“, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE)¹⁹⁸
2. “Österreichische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Manuelle Medizin“, Graz (ÖÄMM)¹⁹⁹
3. “Österreichische Ärztegesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“, Vienna (ÖÄGMM)²⁰⁰

The ÖÄMM in Graz offered courses in osteopathy from 2000 to 2005. The ÖÄMM has no osteopathy courses planned for the academic year 2006/2007.²⁰¹ The ÖÄGMM in Vienna has

background who wish to obtain their D.O. within a shorter period of time, can follow our three year full-time course in Gent, Belgium. A D.O. is given after a student has successfully completed the annual exams, written a thesis, and passed the osteopathic board exam. Students wishing to become osteopaths without a medical background can do so by following our four year full-time course in Gent, Belgium. After passing each year successfully a D.O. is awarded after the completion of a thesis, and after passing the final osteopathic board exam.” http://www.iao.be/ndl/gent_fulltime.htm, Accessed: 2007-03-17

¹⁹⁴ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

¹⁹⁵ <http://www.iao.be/deu/wien.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

¹⁹⁶ http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12

¹⁹⁷ <http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kursinformation.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-17

¹⁹⁸ The MWE was founded in 1953 as “Gesellschaft der Ärzte für Manuelle Wirbelsäulen- und Extremitätentherapie” by Dr. Karl Sell, md. Today this society carries the name: “Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar Neutrauchburg (MWE) e.V.”. The MWE founded the German-American Academy of Osteopathy (DAAO) in 2001. <http://www.daaoinfo.internet/ueberdaao/mwe.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-31

¹⁹⁹ Österreichische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Manuelle Medizin nach Dr. Karl Sell e.V.

²⁰⁰ <http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kursinformation.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-17

been offering courses in osteopathy since 1999 and currently is the only provider of this specific form of training in Austria.²⁰² This training program represents an extra occupational part-time training.²⁰³ On the homepage the ÖÄGMM is characterized as an incorporated association,²⁰⁴ but the ÖÄGMM did not comment on this fact.

Despite several requests, the ÖÄGMM was neither willing to disclose a list of osteopathy graduates nor the number of current students.²⁰⁵ According to a participant²⁰⁶ about 15 to 20 students from Austria graduate the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM at the PCOM per year. Considering that the courses have been on offer since 1999 (7 years), 105 to 140 people should have graduated the training of the ÖÄGMM so far. On the osteopath list of the DAAO (German-American Academy of Osteopathy) only 12 Austrian doctors can be found.²⁰⁷ One explanation for this discrepancy could be that the presence on DAAO listing of osteopaths is linked to a membership. The courses are conducted in Vienna or Pörtlach.²⁰⁸ The “clinical week” is conducted in Philadelphia, USA.²⁰⁹

4.1.4 Results and Discussion

The WSO was founded in 1991 and therefore represents the oldest school of osteopathy in Austria. Since 1991 the ÖÄGMM has been offering osteopathy courses in Austria. The I.A.O. was founded in 1987, but the Austrian branch has only been in operation since 2003. All three programs cooperate with federally recognised universities and offer extra occupational part-time trainings.

The size of the institutions that provide the training programs in osteopathy differs considerably: although the I.A.O. represents the biggest European organisation of the three, it only operates one branch in Austria. The WSO currently offers the osteopathy training courses at two branches, and at present represents the largest and eldest institution for osteopathy training in Austria.

²⁰¹ LANG 2006

²⁰² WITTY 1/2006

²⁰³ ibidem

²⁰⁴ <http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kursinformation.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-07

²⁰⁵ WITTY 1/2006, WITTY 2/2006, WITTY 3/2006

²⁰⁶ DE MARE 2/2006

²⁰⁷ <http://www.daaio.info/internet/osteopathenliste/oesterreich.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-17

²⁰⁸ <http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/veranstaltungen.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-17

²⁰⁹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-17

If one adds the numbers of participants that were provided (WSO, DUK, I.A.O. and ÖÄGMM), one comes to the conclusion that more than 626 people²¹⁰ are currently undergoing a professional training in osteopathy and at least 230 people²¹¹ have graduated the Basic Training Program in Osteopathy at the WSO. When interpreting these numbers, one must bear in mind that official numbers concerning the I.A.O. and ÖÄGMM are not available.

If one assumes that all currently accounted participants (basic training courses at the WSO and the I.A.O. as well as osteopathy courses at the ÖÄGMM) graduate their osteopathy training, the number of graduated osteopaths²¹² will increase considerably. Arithmetically speaking if all participants graduate their professional training this would mean that:

- at the WSO about 75 people per year²¹³ graduate the five year basic training in osteopathy,
- at the I.A.O. about 13 participants²¹⁴ graduate the five year training in osteopathy at the Austrian branch per year,
- and about 18 people would annually graduate the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM.²¹⁵

Overall this would mean that, considering the current information status, about 106 people annually graduate osteopathy training courses (basic training courses at the WSO and the I.A.O. as well as osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM). Additionally one must consider the 179 students of the current university training course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK), who are expected to graduate in 2007. This great number of students results from the fact that the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) has only been on offer since the winter term 2005/2006 and many earlier graduates of the WSO want to make use of the opportunity to achieve an academic degree. It would be wrong, to include these 179 students of the university training course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK, first year since the winter term 2005) into the annual average.

²¹⁰ 328 participants WSO, 179 students DUK, 50 participants I.A.O.: 15 participants ÖÄGMM

²¹¹ The Austrian branch of the I.A.O. doesn't count any graduates because of its founding date. The ÖÄGMM didn't provide a list of graduates.

²¹² Graduates of these three compared training programs are referred to as "osteopaths" in this context.

²¹³ Currently: 79 first year students, 72 second year students, 92 third year students, 68 fourth year students and 65 fifth year students. LEHNER 1/2006; LEHNER 1/2007

²¹⁴ According to a participant: 5 fourth year students, 15 third year students, 15 second year students and 15 first year students; in total about 50 students. PICHLER 2006

²¹⁵ According to a participant, about 15 to 20 participants from Austria annually graduate the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM at the PCOM. DE MARE 2/2006

4.2 Admission Regulations, Introductory Course

4.2.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube University Krems(DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

Doctors, dentists, veterinarians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and midwives are admitted to the WSO training courses.²¹⁶ As of the winter term 2007/2008 the WSO will only admit doctors and physiotherapists.²¹⁷ The one-day introductory seminar is a compulsory requirement for starting training at the WSO. The introductory-seminar costs € 95,- and includes a joint lunch.²¹⁸ The introductory seminar in Vienna is conducted by Raphael Van Assche, D.O. (director of the Viennese School of Osteopathy) with the support of several assistants.²¹⁹ Course location is the WSO or respectively the FBZ-Klagenfurt.²²⁰ The seminar gives a brief survey of the fundamental concepts of Osteopathy. This seminar serves the purpose of decision guidance for all people who are contemplating on undergoing the complete professional training program.²²¹

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

Requirements for admission to the university training course in osteopathy are a completed training as doctor, dentist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or midwife or an internationally comparable training as well as a basic training in osteopathy in the amount of at least 1100 teaching units (over at least a four year stretch).²²²

²¹⁶ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-09-12. As of the academic year 2007/08 the WSO will only admit doctors, dentists and physiotherapists. <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²¹⁷ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2007-04-18

²¹⁸ http://www.wso.at/cgi-bin/wso/GetSeminar.pl?sem_nr=17985, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²¹⁹ JANDA 2006. The introductory seminar in Klagenfurt is conducted by Walter Krasser (PT,D.O.).

http://www.wso.at/cgi-bin/wso/GetSeminar.pl?sem_nr=11122, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²²⁰ See chapter 2.2.3

²²¹ http://www.wso.at/cgi-bin/wso/GetSeminar.pl?sem_nr=17985, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²²² BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

4.2.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

The training is conceived for holders of a medical diploma: in Austria this means physiotherapists and doctors.²²³ The half-day introductory course is free of cost and not obligatory.²²⁴ On the 2nd of September 2006 the introductory course at the Hotel Modul was conducted by Tobias Strobl D.O. (I.A.O.), who by his own account²²⁵ had just graduated the basic training course at the I.A.O.. The introductory course is supposed to convey all aspects of osteopathy. Every participant receives a comprehensive information folder and a CD-ROM containing a power point presentation and numerous video clips, showing osteopathic techniques.²²⁶ The course location is the Hotel Module, Peter Jordan Strasse 78, A-1190 Vienna, Austria.²²⁷

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

*„Since the course is both taught and assessed in English, students whose first language is other than English must be able to demonstrate "Use of English" oral and written, to the level (or equivalent of) IELTS 6.5 (medical English).“*²²⁸ Applicants to the Conversion Course must normally have:

- *“completed the four year full-time Diploma Course in Osteopathy at the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) and have been awarded a D.O.”*²²⁹,
- *OR completed a similar full-time Diploma course (minimum of 4 years duration) to that above,*

²²³ STROBL, 2006. In Germany doctors, physiotherapists, alternative practitioners, masseurs, manual therapists and balneotherapists with manualtherapeutic training are admitted. The studies at the I.A.O. require precognition in anatomy and physiology. This knowledge is an admission requirement and has to be verified with a certificate. <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-09-01

²²⁴ Starting in 2007 the introductory course lasts two hours. <http://www.iao.be/deu/schnupperkurse.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²²⁵ STROBL, 2006

²²⁶ FOLDER EINFÜHRUNGSEMINAR I.A.O. 2006 (incl. CD-ROM) can be found in the appendix.

²²⁷ <http://www.iao.be/deu/schnupperkurse.htm>, Accessed: 2006-09-01

²²⁸ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2007-03-31

²²⁹ Diploma in Osteopathy

- *AND possess full professional registration with an osteopathic registering body in their country of domicile,*
- *AND have submitted a Curriculum Vitae plus course resume (together with osteopathic and clinical transcripts),*
- *AND have attended an interview to assess their suitability to meet the aims of the course.”²³⁰*

4.2.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

Only doctors are qualified to participate in the osteopathy courses provided by the ÖÄGMM. A verification of training in the form of a certificate copy is required for registration.²³¹ No introductory course in the classical sense is scheduled.²³² The first course module (see chapter 4.3.3) is called ”basic course/introduction”.²³³

Comments: According to the web site of the ÖÄGMM a completed training in manual medicine is a participation requirement of the osteopathy courses provided by the ÖÄGMM²³⁴, but according to the course office of the ÖÄGMM this is currently not the case.²³⁵ In the course agenda of the ÖÄGMM a completed manual medicine training is also not specifically listed under participation requirements.²³⁶ In order to participate in the “coextensive and interchangeable” courses at the “Dr. Karl –Sell Ärzteseminar”, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE) one has to be approbated as doctor as well as skilled in chirotherapy.²³⁷

²³⁰ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2007-03-31

²³¹ WITTY 2/2006; WITTY 3/2006. The course agenda does not specifically mention a completed training in manual medicine as participation requirement for the ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses.

²³² WITTY 1/2006

²³³ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07

²³⁴ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-17

²³⁵ WITTY 2/2006; WITTY 3/2006; WITTY 4/2006. The course agenda does not specifically mention a completed training in manual medicine as participation requirement for the ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses.

²³⁶ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07

²³⁷ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-21

4.2.4 Results and Discussion

The one day introductory course at the WSO (five year basic training/part-time) is mandatory for starting the training and subject to charges while the half day introductory course at the I.A.O. (five year part-time basic training) is free of charge and not mandatory. The ÖÄGMM does not offer an introductory seminar in the classical sense. The introductory course represents an important decision aid for beginners and conveys a general impression to the participants. The instructors of the introductory course (WSO) and the introductory course (I.A.O.) differ in their qualifications:

- Raphael van Assche is the head of the WSO, D.O. and possesses long time professional experience as physiotherapist, physio energist, osteopath and lecturer.
- Tobias Strobl is a D.O. (I.A.O.), has just graduated his osteopathy training at the I.A.O. and is currently participating in the Conversion Course of the BCOM.²³⁸

The information booklets on the training courses provided by the I.A.O. and the WSO are similar, but the layout of the I.A.O. booklet subjectively seems to be more concise and informative.²³⁹ Furthermore, I.A.O. participants receive a folder and CD-ROM.²⁴⁰ The WSO introductory course also consists of a practical part,²⁴¹ which is conducted with the aid by assistants. The ÖÄGMM does not provide information booklets, only course agendas.²⁴²

Apart from physiotherapists and doctors (I.A.O.), the WSO also admits midwives, occupational therapists, dentists and veterinarians. Starting with the academic year 2007/2008 the WSO also will only admit doctors, dentists and physiotherapists. The ÖÄGMM only admits doctors.

Although the web site of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) states that only graduates of at least 4 years of fulltime training in osteopathy are admitted, the graduates of the I.A.O. part-time training (five years) nevertheless seem to be admitted to the Conversion Course/BCOM.²⁴³

²³⁸ STROBL 2006

²³⁹ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006

²⁴⁰ FOLDER EINFÜHRUNGSSEMINAR I.A.O. 2006

²⁴¹ JANDA 2006

²⁴² KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07

²⁴³ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 7f; http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm,

Accessed: 2006-12-12

It is also interesting to compare the admission regulations of the university training course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) and the Conversion Course (BCOM): Theoretically the graduates of the five year in office basic training course of the I.A.O. could also enrol in the master studies course in osteopathy at the DUK/WSO.²⁴⁴ The WSO did not explicitly comment on this.²⁴⁵ For more details see chapter 4.5. If vice versa the graduates of the five year basic training course of the WSO or graduates of the university training course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) can participate in the Conversion Course of the BCOM is ambiguous. An inquiry into this matter was not answered by the BCOM.

4.3 Structure of the Training Programs

This chapter provides the following information:

- Survey of the training programs
- Length of the academic year
- Duration of the training contract
- Stays abroad
- Catching up on missed courses
- Pausing in the framework of the training course/re-entry criteria
- Maximum group size
- Compulsory attendance

4.3.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

Starting with the academic year 2005/2006 the osteopathy training at the WSO consists of two parts: The 10 semester basic training course is conducted as hitherto by the WSO. The basic training course is followed by a three term university training course in cooperation with the state-run Danube-University Krems (DUK).²⁴⁶ The basic training course as well as the university training course is held in the form of extra occupational block courses.²⁴⁷

²⁴⁴ See chapter 4.5.2

²⁴⁵ ENGEL 2007

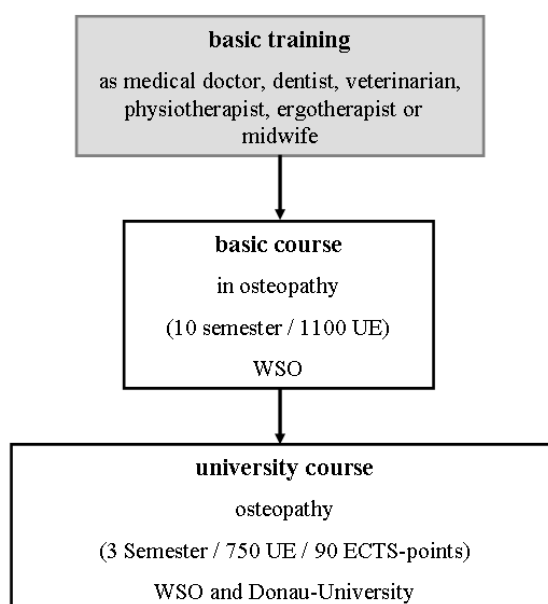
²⁴⁶ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-23

²⁴⁷ JANDA 2006

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

The five year basic training course (WSO) consists of a one-day introductory course, four or five-day seminars and one practical course each year. At the WSO the academic year starts in September and the binding commitment (training contract) always runs for one year.²⁴⁸ The last year of training requires an obligatory stay abroad at the European School of Osteopathy (ESO), Maidstone/London.²⁴⁹ Missed courses can be made up on in the parallel year group (in Vienna or Carinthia). In case this is not possible, missed units can be attended in the following year. Training pauses: It is possible to re-enter training after a one or several year pause. Re-entry criteria: if the pause lasts longer than two years it is necessary to repeat the final exams of the last year one attended studies, even if one has already passed the exams.²⁵⁰ The maximum group size is currently 46 students (depending on the size and structure of the course room). Compulsory attendance: A general rule of five days of allowed absence per course year applies.²⁵¹

Figure 1: Diagram of the Complete Training in Osteopathy at the WSO/DUK²⁵²



²⁴⁸ LEHNER 1/2006, LEHNER 3/2006

²⁴⁹ LEHNER 2/2006

²⁵⁰ ibidem

²⁵¹ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-23; LEHNER 3/2006

²⁵² <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-23

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The university training course (DUK) consists of 750 teaching units (TU) á 45 min (thereof 340 TU tuition in three terms and 410 TU internship).²⁵³ The university training course requires 80% compulsory attendance. A pause during the university training course is not scheduled.²⁵⁴

4.3.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

The five year osteopathy training at the I.A.O. consists of “standard studies” and “complementary studies”²⁵⁵ (details in paragraph a)). Subsequently students have the opportunity to participate in the Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM).²⁵⁶ This course as well as the I.A.O. curriculum is recognised by the University of Westminster in London.²⁵⁷ (details see the following text). The training courses of the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course of the BCOM are conducted as extra occupational part-time block seminars.²⁵⁸

a) Osteopathy Training at the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.):

The academic year at the I.A.O. starts in September. A training obligation applies to the currently registered course.²⁵⁹ Pauses in training: The training is conducted in modules and courses, which can partly be taken flexibly.²⁶⁰ The students can pause after each course. The I.A.O. did not comment on re-entry criteria after a pause of more than two years.²⁶¹ The maximum group size per course is 25 students.²⁶² No information on obligatory attendance of students was given.²⁶³ Stays abroad are not prescribed during the standard studies (except to

²⁵³ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-23

²⁵⁴ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

²⁵⁵ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6

²⁵⁶ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

²⁵⁷ <http://www.iao.be/deu/fragen.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

²⁵⁸ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6

²⁵⁹ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6; STROBL 2006; <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

²⁶⁰ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6

²⁶¹ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1/2006; SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2006

²⁶² <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

²⁶³ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2006

catch up on missed courses). During the complementary studies stays abroad have to be reckoned with, since the I.A.O. does not guarantee that the 10 modules will be conducted in Austria.²⁶⁴ In principle the basic training at the I.A.O. (part-time, five years) consists of standard studies and complementary studies:

On the Standard Studies

The standard studies can be graduated after five years. Each academic year four courses (in total 20 courses) are conducted. Each of these courses covers one body region in theory and practice.²⁶⁵

Figure 2: Survey of the five year Standard Studies (I.A.O.)²⁶⁶

	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
1st year	Ileum	Pelvic Organs	Lumbar Spine	Clinical Work
2nd year	Hip Knee	Foot Cause-Effect-Chain	Sacrum Body Adjustment	Clinical Work
3rd year	Kidney	Thoracic spine Ribs	Diaphragma Liver/Bile	Clinical Work
4th year	Bowel	Stomach/Duodenum Pancreas/Spleen	Shoulder Elbow Wrist	Clinical Work
5th year	Heart Lung	Cervical Spine	Fascial Therapy Strain und Counterstrain	Clinical Work

On the Complementary Studies

The second part of the training comprises 10 more modules (to consolidate the standard sciences), which run parallel to the basic studies. The modules are conducted 10 times and

²⁶⁴ STROBL 2006

²⁶⁵ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

²⁶⁶ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23; oder: INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6

each lasts four days. They can be attended individually or parallel to the standard studies.²⁶⁷
The modules 10, 11 and 12 (compare figure 3) can not be attended until the fourth year of training.²⁶⁸

Figure 3: Survey of the 12 modules of the Complementary Studies (I.A.O.)²⁶⁹
(module 5 and module 6 are not compulsory)²⁷⁰

Module 1	Science 1: Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology in the osteopathic practice	Module 2	Science 2: applied physiology of the osteopathic practice
Module 3	Science 3: applied embryology in Osteopathy; X-ray in the course of safety	Module 4	Science 4: Pathology and Semiology in the course of exclusion diagnostics
Module 5	Science 5: How to write a thesis	Module 6	Science 6: Nutrition
Module 7	Cranial 1 (Cranial Osteopathy): Introduction, Anatomy, Sutures, PAM, Cranial Base Release, Membrane	Module 8	Cranial 2 (Cranial Osteopathy): 10 Steps, SSB, New borns (Child Osteopathy), Somato Emotional Release (SER)
Module 9	Cranial 3 (Cranial Osteopathy): Viscerocanium, Kinesiology, Temporomandibular joint, Integration	Module 10	Cranial 4 (Cranial Osteopathy): Cranial Nerves (<i>starting 4th year</i>)
Module 11	Integration 1 (<i>starting 4th year</i>)	Module 12	Integration 2 (<i>starting 4th year</i>)

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

The Conversion Course is conducted in London/UK (two times one week).²⁷¹ The course language is English.²⁷²

²⁶⁷ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23, STROBL 2006

²⁶⁸ STROBL 2006

²⁶⁹ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23; oder: INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 7

²⁷⁰ STROBL 2006

²⁷¹ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

²⁷² See chapter 4.2.2; <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

It is a nine month part-time course, which consists of two parts.²⁷³

PART I/taught modules:

Provides 60 hours of tuition, tutorials and workshops in two blocks, each of one week duration. Contents:

- A) Methods of Enquiry and Research Unit: critical evaluation of scientific literature, research design, questionnaire design, descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, writing a dissertation protocol.
- B) Advances in Osteopathic Medicine: implementing research into practice, inter-professional contact and referral, medico-legal matters and reports, hydrotherapy, research dietetics and osteopathic sports medicine.²⁷⁴

PART II/dissertation see chapter 4.9.2²⁷⁵

4.3.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

This training is subdivided into a basic training program and an advanced program (extra occupational block seminars) and a clinical week, which is conducted at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia (PCOM)/USA.²⁷⁶

The basic training consists of eight courses. The courses following the introductory course can be attended in any order with the integration course being the last one of the basic courses: introductory course, strain-counterstrain-I-course (SCS-I), muscle energy course, myofascial release course, cranio sacral course I, visceral course, lymphatic/LAS-course and integration course.²⁷⁷

The participation in the advanced training requires having graduated the basic training. The attendance of the following courses is optional, but a minimum of four courses have to be attended: cranio sacral course II, cranio sacral course III, Still/FPR-techniques, special

²⁷³ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

²⁷⁴ ibidem

²⁷⁵ ibidem

²⁷⁶ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 21;

http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html: Accessed: 2006-11-13

²⁷⁷ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 21

osteopathic manipulation techniques (HVLA) and paediatrics from the osteopathic point of view.²⁷⁸ Remark: The current course agenda of the ÖÄGMM could not be extracted from the ÖÄGMM website because of topicality reasons.²⁷⁹ The ÖÄGMM provided the agenda in the form of a word document, which has been added to the appendix.²⁸⁰

Clinical Week at the PCOM:

The admission to the clinical week requires having attended all basic and advanced courses.²⁸¹ The clinical week comprises:

- Revision of terminology, diagnostics, treatment techniques²⁸²
- Sitting in on consultation hours of the course instructors at the PCOM (Philadelphia)²⁸³
- Exam: see chapter 4.9.3

Since the courses of the ÖÄGMM and the courses of the “Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar”, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE) are coextensive and interchangeable, it is possible to catch up on missed courses in Germany.²⁸⁴ Stays abroad are unavoidable when it comes to the clinical week in Philadelphia/USA.²⁸⁵ An academic year in the classical sense does not exist, because the entire training program can theoretically be completed in one year²⁸⁶ (see chapter 4.5.3). In 2007 the training courses in osteopathy start in February.²⁸⁷ The training commitment is legally binding for the current course. Pauses between the courses are possible at any time.²⁸⁸ There are no statements by the ÖÄGMM concerning long pauses, maximum group sizes and compulsory attendance.²⁸⁹

²⁷⁸ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 21

²⁷⁹ <http://www.manuellemedizin.org>, last access: 2007-01-08

²⁸⁰ WITTY 4/2006; KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07

²⁸¹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-22

²⁸² DE MARE 3/2006

²⁸³ ibidem

²⁸⁴ http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kurse_2007.html, Accessed: 2007-03-18

²⁸⁵ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 22

²⁸⁶ DE MARE 2/2006

²⁸⁷ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 19

²⁸⁸ DE MARE 2/2006

²⁸⁹ WITTY 2/2006

4.3.4 Results and Discussion

All compared training programs are conducted as extra occupational part-time block seminars. The principal structure of the I.A.O. five year part-time training and the ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses as a flexible “course program” seems similar. This training program structure entails a great amount of flexibility: pausing and catching up on missed courses is possible at any time and the training can be arranged individually and flexibly. If courses are made up for abroad, the costs (see chapter 4.8) and the expenditure of time (outward journey) increase. The training programs of the ÖÄGMM and I.A.O. (especially the complementary studies) also have draw backs, as for example the fact that the students never are on the same level of training.

The training program of the WSO is school-like in regard to compulsory attendance, training pauses and re-entry criteria. The WSO also provides the opportunity to make up for missed courses. The school-like structure as well as the facultative repeating of the last exams (in case of a pause in training longer than two years) guarantee an equal level of quality for all students. A legally binding commitment in form of a training contract that runs for one year (WSO) could entail disadvantages.

The structure of the professional training programs of the WSO and the I.A.O. also seem similar. Both basic training programs run for five years and are extra occupational part-time programs. In both cases students who graduate the basic training can attend a university training course. This is not possible in the case of the ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses.

The interpretation of the maximum group sizes (WSO: max 46 people, I.A.O.: max 25 people) has to be done carefully, because the WSO has strict guidelines concerning the students/assistants ratio (see chapter 4.5.1). All three training programs include stays abroad. The highest expenditures in time as well as costs probably arise at the I.A.O. (see chapter 4.8.4).

4.4 Training Aims

4.4.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

Training Aims of the WSO (basic training):

- *“to offer a well-founded and high quality training, which complies with international standards and aids students in becoming effective and assured osteopaths*
- *to convey the entire spectrum of osteopathy*
- *to spread the fundamental ideas of osteopathy and combine them with modern didactic methods and novel scientific findings*
- *to appoint course instructors who are renowned for their competence, long time experience and didactic-methodical skills*
- *to teach the fundamentals of scientific work and the ability to critically analyze medical literature*
- *to offer post-graduate courses and conferences for the continuing job training of the graduated osteopaths*
- *to enhance the familiarity and standing of osteopathy in Austria*
- *to contribute to the world wide development of osteopathy by collaborating in international organisations such as the OSEAN or WOHO*
- *to keep up with the current trends in osteopathy by collaborating with other European and American schools.”*²⁹⁰

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

Aims of the University Study Course in Osteopathy/DUK:

“This study course aims at presenting all facets of osteopathy comprehensively. From the newest medical developments and current research to detailed medical knowledge and

²⁹⁰ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-20, translated by J. Stark 2007

specific cranial or visceral techniques. The repertoire of techniques that students learned in their first year of basic training shall be enlarged in all directions and consolidated. Another important part of the training program is the consolidation of knowledge and research. The university training course conveys practice-oriented knowledge and skills in the field of osteopathy, which are based on current scientific findings. Detailed medical knowledge as well as specific cranial or visceral techniques is taught. The repertoire of techniques, which was acquired in the first year of basic training, shall be enhanced in every sub area. Another relevant part of this program is the interpretation of medical reports from the osteopathic point of view. The university study course scientifically aids the professional and personal development of the students. The main focus lies on critically analyzing the newest research results in the area one is majoring in and on conveying the required competence in therapy. [...] Thereby the necessary link between practice and theory in the practice oriented areas of osteopathy shall be made.”²⁹¹

4.4.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

Training Aims of the I.A.O.:

“In the framework of the training at the I.A.O. You learn:

- to establish a structured anamnesis*
- to discern patients who can be treated from patients who can not be treated with osteopathic means and measures*
- to recognize all contraindications, which let You become an assured and competent therapist*
- to practically apply basic medical sciences such as anatomy, biomechanics, neurology and pathology in physical examination and treatment*
- to conduct a structured osteopathic examination, in which You learn to discern primary lesions from mobility impairments in their sequences; in the musculoskeletal, visceral as well as the cranio sacral apparatus*

²⁹¹ <http://www.donau-uni.ac.at/de/studium/osteopathie/index.php>, Accessed: 2007-03-18, translated by J. Stark 2007

- *to discern structural from functional lesions*
- *in which way the interactions of the musculoskeletal, the visceral and the cranio sacral apparatus have to be integrated in practice*
- *to conduct structured examinations of all parameters of each joint in the musculoskeletal, visceral and cranio sacral apparatus*
- *to manipulate each joint adequately and safely. In this context only manipulations that can be performed safely and without force (with a short handle as well as a long handle) are taught.*
- *to safely and adequately mobilise each joint. Mobilisations are taught, which quickly, efficiently correct non-physiological motion axes, and thereby influence the blood circulation and neurological performance of an impaired structure.*
- *to safely and optimally drain congestions (inefficient blood circulation of one body region)*
- *to equilibrate muscular imbalances by applying adequate neuromuscular techniques*
- *to normalise agglutinations between different body structures (even visceral)*
- *specific functional techniques such as “Spontaneous Release” according to L. H. Jones, “Muscle Energy” according to F. Mitchell, “neurolymphatic reflexes” according to F. Chapman, inductions, etc.*
- *dietary advice*
- *adapted treatments for infants, children, adolescents, adults and seniors*
- *to apply the tests and techniques in an integrated manor, in each and every course*

At the I.A.O., You learn to perform osteopathic examinations efficiently by applying a special examination model, to develop and apply a strategy of treatment, to provide the patient with a suitable prognosis and to accomplish results in treatment.”²⁹²

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

“Many osteopaths want to take their qualifications to the academic level-that’s why we have created conversion course.”²⁹³

²⁹² <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11, translated by J. Stark 2007

²⁹³ KOWALSKA 2007

On the Training Aims of the Conversion Course (BCOM):

- „*Methods Of Enquiry And Research Unit (Critical Evaluation of scientific literature, Research design, Questionnaire design, Descriptive statistics, Inferential statistics, Writing a dissertation protocol)*
- *Advances in Osteopathic Medicine (Implementing research into practice, Inter-professional contact and referral, Medico-legal matters and reports, Advances in Osteopathic Medicine: Hydrotherapy, Research Dietetics, Osteopathic Sports Medicine*”²⁹⁴

4.4.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

The ÖÄGMM has not stated any comment on training aims.²⁹⁵

4.4.4 Results and Discussion

The stated training aims concerning the basic training in osteopathy (five years, part-time) at the I.A.O. and at the WSO seem very similar in content. One could also draw parallels between the Conversion Course (BCOM) and the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK). The ÖÄGMM has not stated any training aims.

Comment: The stated aims were downloaded from the respective websites. The comparison of training aims is in no way intended to substitute a comparison of the training contents. A qualitative-content related comparison of the training programs (e.g. by comparing the curricula) would go beyond the scope of this paper.

²⁹⁴ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

²⁹⁵ WITTY 2/2006; DE MARE 2/2006

4.5 Duration of the Complete Professional Training/ Framework/ Organisation

This chapter contains the following information:

- Complete duration of training (years, teaching units, hours)
- Timetable
- Course language
- Library
- Office/secretariat
- Students domain on the homepage
- Teaching aids, learning materials, room setup/infrastructure
- Filming and taking pictures during class
- Assistants
- Students council
- Journal

The structure of the diverse training courses can be looked up in chapter 4.3.

4.5.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

The five year basic training course (WSO) comprises 1100 teaching units (TU) a'45 min²⁹⁶ which are conducted over a period of 10 terms (4 or 5 seminars each lasting 5 days and one two-day practice course per year).²⁹⁷

Instruction periods of the seminars:²⁹⁸

1st day: 9.30h to 18.30h

2nd-4th day: 9.00h to 18.30h

5th day: 9.00h to 13.00h

²⁹⁶ ENGEL 2/2007

²⁹⁷ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-24

²⁹⁸ LEHNER 2/2006

Normally three breaks are scheduled per day (two short breaks of 15 min in the morning and afternoon; the lunch break is scheduled from 13.00h-14.30h).²⁹⁹ The classes are conducted in German, English and French. The English and French instructions are translated (also at the practice courses and the courses abroad). The same applies to the material provided by the instructors, which is translated into German if necessary. Most material is provided for. The library of the WSO offers students access to difficult to obtain or very expensive books as well as the most important journals³⁰⁰ but it does not publish an in-house journal.³⁰¹ The office hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.00h to 15.00h and Tuesday from 9.00h to 11.00h.³⁰²

Information on the school can be accessed on the WSO website. A special domain for students enables access to information such as newsletters, web links, curriculum, subject matter of exams or the library catalogue. The website also contains an internet forum, where students can communicate with each other as well as the instructors. In 2000 the WSO initiated the “Osteopathic Research Web”. The aim of this project is to compile osteopathic master theses and relevant research results in a database, which is accessible to the public via internet. The current status of this project can be accessed at <http://www.osteopathic-research.com>.³⁰³

A considerable amount of teaching material is available and classes are conducted with the use of modern audio visual technologies. In principle filming and photographing during class is permitted, but it should be arranged with the instructor before class.³⁰⁴ The beds, which are used in class, can be manually adjusted in height.³⁰⁵ Assistants are employed in the ratio 1:10 (instructors/assistants to participants) and for the most part are WSO graduates.³⁰⁶ At the WSO class has its own speaker, who represents the students before the WSO. Furthermore, regular meetings (almost in every course) of students and the administration/instructors are scheduled.³⁰⁷

²⁹⁹ LEHNER 2/2006

³⁰⁰ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-21

³⁰¹ JANDA 2006

³⁰² LEHNER 2/2006

³⁰³ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html> Accessed: 2006-11-21

³⁰⁴ VAN ASSCHE 2006

³⁰⁵ LEHNER 1/2006

³⁰⁶ ibidem

³⁰⁷ VAN ASSCHE 2006

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The university study course (DUK) comprises 750 teaching units (TU) a 45 min (340 TU tuition in 3 terms and 410 TU internship).³⁰⁸ 750 TU equal 50 term periods.³⁰⁹ Classes are conducted as block seminars. The seminars last 2,5 to 4,5 days.³¹⁰ The regulations of the WSO (basic training course) on timetable, course languages, teaching aids, library, office, internet forum, material as well as filming and photographing also apply to the university study course, which is a cooperation of WSO and DUK.

4.5.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

The osteopathy training at the I.A.O. (part-time training in Vienna) takes a minimum of five years and is divided into “standard studies” (a total of 20 courses) and “complementary studies” (a total of 10 modules).³¹¹ The I.A.O. does not state the number of teaching units of the complete training at the I.A.O.. On the telephone the secretariat of the I.A.O. referred to the fact that the comparability of training courses is not oriented along the number of periods but along the contents and ECTS (see chapter 4.9.2).³¹² In the framework of this paper the duration of training will also be mathematically calculated (see below).

Class periods of the courses/modules (each 3,5 days):³¹³

1st-3rd day: 8:00h to 18:45h

4th day: 8:00h to 11:45h

Recess regulations: one coffee break in the morning (about 15min), a one hour lunch break and two 15 min breaks in the afternoon.³¹⁴ All classes are conducted in German.³¹⁵ The

³⁰⁸ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-24

³⁰⁹ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

³¹⁰ ibidem

³¹¹ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³¹² SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2006

³¹³ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³¹⁴ PICHLER 2006

³¹⁵ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

Austrian branch currently does not possess a library and does not provide a local contact person. The secretariat of the I.A.O. is not located in Austria and can be reached under a German telephone number.³¹⁶ The office can be called weekdays from 8.00h to 17.00h.³¹⁷ The I.A.O.'s website provides a chat room, a monthly newsletter, information on international meetings, references to further training events and interesting links. The homepage also contains a separate domain for students.³¹⁸ A comprehensive amount of teaching aids is available and classes are conducted with the use of modern technologies.³¹⁹ Filming and photographing during class are permitted.³²⁰ The I.A.O makes a point of always providing up to date teaching material for each course (scripts and DVD's).³²¹ The beds, which are used in class, can be manually adjusted in height.³²²

Student council: a system of class representatives makes sure that the suggestions of students from all branches are heard.³²³ Although the employment of assistants is principally intended, currently no assistants are attending the courses in Austria. The I.A.O. does not publish a journal.³²⁴

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

The Conversion Course is a 9-month part-time course, which consists of two parts. It provides 60 hours of tuition, tutorials and workshops in two blocks, each of one week duration.³²⁵ The course language is English, language skills are premised (see chapter 4.2.2 and 4.3.2).³²⁶

³¹⁶ STROBL 2006

³¹⁷ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1/2006

³¹⁸ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³¹⁹ ibidem

³²⁰ PICHLER 2006

³²¹ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³²² PICHLER 2006

³²³ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

³²⁴ PICHLER 2006

³²⁵ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

³²⁶ ibidem

4.5.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

Theoretically the training can be completed in one year. The ÖÄGMM explicitly advises against completing the training in one year.³²⁷ The training program, including the clinical week in Philadelphia, comprises 360 teaching units (TU) = hours:³²⁸

- The eight basic courses equal 200 TU.³²⁹
- In the advanced program (four arbitrary courses) each course equals 25 TU (total: 100 TU).³³⁰
- The “Clinical Week” at the PCOM equals 60 TU.³³¹
- The complete training totals 360 TU.³³²

Comment: although the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM and the “Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar”, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE) are supposed to be coextensive and interchangeable,³³³ the duration of the complete training differs:

- In the basic program (eight courses) each course equals 30 teaching units (TU), which adds up to 240 TU.³³⁴
- In the advanced program (three arbitrary courses) each course equals 30 TU,³³⁵ which adds up to a total of 150 TU according to the website.³³⁶
- The “Clinical Week” at the PCOM equals 60 TU.³³⁷
- The complete training consists of 390 TU.³³⁸

During the basic training and the advanced training the courses always last three days, course hours are from 9.00h- 12.30h and from 14.00h-18.00h.³³⁹ Recesses: a ten minute break in the

³²⁷ DE MARE 2006

³²⁸ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 22

³²⁹ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 21

³³⁰ ibidem

³³¹ ibidem

³³² KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 22

³³³ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 20

³³⁴ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-21

³³⁵ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-21; http://www.aerzteseminar-mwe.de/internet/osteopathie/frameset_2.html, Accessed: 2007-03-21

³³⁶ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-21

³³⁷ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-21; http://www.aerzteseminar-mwe.de/internet/osteopathie/frameset_2.html, Accessed: 2007-03-21

³³⁸ ibidem

morning and afternoon and the lunch break from 12.30h to 14.00h are scheduled.³⁴⁰ The course language is English,³⁴¹ and translation is not provided.³⁴² Two assistants are mentioned by name in the course agenda,³⁴³ but they are currently not employed in the courses.³⁴⁴ Neither a library nor a student council or an internet platform for students is available.³⁴⁵ The office is open weekdays, but the office-hours were not stated.³⁴⁶

The class rooms are equipped with modern audio-visual appliances and classes are mostly conducted with power point presentations. The beds can not be adjusted in height, teaching aids such as skeletons and skulls are available. Filming and photographing in class is permitted. The students are provided with English scripts in the form of power point presentations.³⁴⁷ As member of the ÖÄGMM/ÖÄMM one receives the journal “Manuelle Medizin”, published by Springer-Verlag.³⁴⁸

³³⁹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-12

³⁴⁰ DE MARE 2006

³⁴¹ WITTY 2/2006

³⁴² DE MARE 2/2006

³⁴³ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 25

³⁴⁴ DE MARE 1/2006

³⁴⁵ ibidem

³⁴⁶ WITTY 1/2006

³⁴⁷ DE MARE 2/2006

³⁴⁸ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-12

4.5.4 Results and Discussion

On Framework and Organisation

Table 1: Survey: Framework and Organisation

	WSO/DUK	IAO Basic Training	Osteopathy courses ÖÄGMM
teaching unit	50 min/45 min	not specified	60 min
teaching hours	9 am - 6:30 pm	8 am - 6:45 pm	9 am - 6 pm
morning break	15 min	15 min	10 min
lunch break	90 min	60 min	90 min
afternoon break	15 min	2x15 min	10 min
teaching language	german/english/french	german	english
interpreter	yes	not necessary	no
library	yes	no	no
office	in Austria weekdays	via phone weekdays	in Austria weekdays
office availability	in person via phone email	only via phone via phone email	in person via phone email
webpage	yes	yes	yes
student area on webpage	yes	yes	no
filming/photos during course	allowed	allowed	allowed
journal	no	no	yes
students council	yes	yes	no
manuals	mainly german script	german script, DVD/video	english script
assistent	yes	no	no

Recess schedules and class-periods can be looked up in table 1. The teaching aids, learning material, beds and room setup (audio visual appliances) provided by the WSO, I.A.O. and the ÖÄGMM seem to be comparable. All programs make use of power point presentations in class. Filming and photographing is generally permitted.

The scripts provided by the I.A.O. deserve special mention, because they are identical in all branches, very detailed and authored in German. Furthermore, the I.A.O. is the only organisation that provides videos/DVDs of the techniques that are taught in class.

Currently the WSO is the only organisation that employs assistants in class and has a clearly defined ratio of students to assistants, which is essential for quality management of the training.

The ÖÄGMM as opposed to the WSO and I.A.O. does not offer a student council or student domain on the website. As a member of the ÖÄGMM/ÖÄMM one receives the journal “Manuelle Medizin” (publisher: Springer-Verlag).

The courses of the ÖÄGMM are conducted in English³⁴⁹ and are not translated as at the WSO. The Conversion Course (BCOM) is also conducted in English and requires English skills. The WSO is the only school with an adjoining library at the course location.

On the Duration of Training

Some preliminary comments on the comparison of the duration of training:

- In table 2 the diverse details regarding the teaching units (TU) of the different training programs were converted into hours (a' 60 min) to enable a comparison.
- The duration of the I.A.O. training was mathematically calculated in hours. This calculation is based on the official class and recess schedule.³⁵⁰
- The comparison of the duration of training in hours solely reflects the time expenditure of course hours and has to be contemplated in relation. The comparison of ECTS-credits (see chapter 4.9) seems to bear more significance.
- At the I.A.O. and ÖÄGMM the complete duration of training in years refers to the minimum duration of training. The structure of the programs allows a prolongation of training at any time, and the ÖÄGMM even recommends such a prolongation.
- In order to provide a concise survey the hours were rounded up to the sequent integral number.

³⁴⁹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-12. The homepage of the ÖÄGMM states that translators are employed if necessary, but in practice translations are currently not provided. (DE MARE 2006)

³⁵⁰ The daily course hours are from 8.00 to 18.45, which totals 10 hours and 45 min. The recess periods amount to 1 hour and 45 minutes per day. This results in 9 hours (a' 60 min) of class per day. If one considers that the last day of each course/module only lasts 3,5 hours one comes to a total of 30,5 hours per course/module. <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11. Adding these numbers, the basic training equals 915 hours.

Table 2: Duration of Training: Survey

	teaching units	hours	duration (years)
WSO Basic Training Course	1100 TU	825	5
WSO/DUK University Course	750 TU	563	1,5
WSO/DUK Total Training	1850 TU	1388	6,5
I.A.O Training		915	5
BCOM Conversion Course		60	1
Total Training (I.A.O. + Conversion Course BCOM)		975	6
ÖÄGMM Basic Program	200 TU	200	
ÖÄGMM Advanced Program	100 TU	100	
ÖÄGMM Clinical Week	60 TU	60	
ÖÄGMM Total Training	360 TU	360	1

The osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM last at least one year and comprise 360 hours. Due to the short length of training, it is difficult to compare the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM with the training offered by the WSO/DUK and the I.A.O./BCOM. Comment: although the courses offered by the ÖÄGMM and the “Dr.Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE) are supposed to be coextensive and interchangeable,³⁵¹ the complete duration of training differs. Compare chapter 4.5.3.

Converted into hours of training the basic training offered by the WSO, which comprises 825 hours, is briefer than the osteopathy training at the I.A.O. (part-time five year training), which comprises 915 hours of class in five years. For this reason graduates of the I.A.O. training (part-time, five years) can theoretically attend the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK). Compare chapter 4.2.4. The university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) comprises 563 hours and lasts significantly longer than the Conversion Course at the BCOM (60 hours). The complete professional training at the I.A.O and BCOM comprises 975 hours (calculated from the class and recess times) and lasts a minimum of five years and nine months. The complete professional training of the WSO/DUK, which comprises 1388 hours and lasts 6,5 years is by far the longest training of the compared programs.

As a concluding remark in this chapter I want to cite A. T. Still’s stance on the duration of training in osteopathy: *“This is an informal school taught at my request for your benefit. If*

³⁵¹ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 20

you make one subject complete, it will take all your brains. [...] If you do it in five years you will do better than I did in thirty-five. [...] Motion begins in the human foetus at about four an one-half months after conception. Mental activity or the Osteopathic student begins at about the same date. After one year in school, you will arrive at the stage where, without proper guidance, you are likely to take a hammer to a looking-glass. At the end of eighteen month, provided you have gone out into the world, you reach the point where you are anxious to see `Pap`. In two years you just begin to learn that steam can bow up, and you do not know how to control it.”³⁵²

4.6 Course Instructors

4.6.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

The instructors (with the exception of speakers in fundamental medical fields) are graduated osteopaths from diverse European countries, the USA and Australia. This manifold international composition of instructors enables the WSO to convey the complete spectrum of osteopathy in its courses.³⁵³ Excerpt (abbreviations can be looked up in the abbreviation index).³⁵⁴

- Bernard LIGNER, D.O., director and cofounder of the WSO/Vienna, osteopath in Annecy (F) and Geneve (CH), lecturer/assistant professor at the CIDO
- Raphael VAN ASSCHE, D.O., PT, director and cofounder of the WSO/Vienna
- Jean ARLOT, D.O., lecturer at the CIDO
- Jean-Pierre BARRAL, D.O., long-time director of the CIDO, lecturer at innumerable international institutions, author of many osteopathic text/reference books, osteopath in Grenoble/France
- Peter BLAGRAVE, D.O., osteopath in Poole/ UK
- Susie BOOTH, D.O., Osteopathic Centre for Children, London/UK
- Joe BUEKENS, D.O., osteopath in Luxemburg/Luxemburg

³⁵² STILL 2000, p 222ff

³⁵³ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

³⁵⁴ ibidem

- Franz BUSET, D.O., cofounder of and lecturer at the CBO, lecturer at the ESO and other European schools
- Dr. Jane CARREIRO, D.O., lecturer at the NESO/USA, osteopath in Maine/USA
- Mag. Heidi CLEMENTI, social scientist in Vienna
- Dr. Georg HARRER, doctor of emergency medicine and osteopath in Vienna
- Dr. Andreas HOELL, general practitioner and osteopath in Vienna
- Pascal JAVERLIAT, D.O., osteopath in Vichy/France, president of the “Registre des Osteopaths Français” (ROF)
- Prim. Dr. Andreas KAINZ, D.O., head of the department of physical medicine at the “Viennese Private Clinic”, osteopath
- Dr. Paul KLEIN, D.O., lecturer at the ULB in Brussels/Belgium
- Dr. Bernhard KUTZLER, assistant professor of/in mathematics at the University Linz/Austria
- Gez LAMB, D.O., osteopath in Chesham/ UK
- Christl LIEBEN, physiotherapist in Vienna
- Marc LUNATTI, D.O., osteopath in Eybens/France
- Dr. Erich MAYER-FALLY, general practitioner and osteopath in Vienna
- Renzo MOLINARI, D.O., director of the ESO, osteopath in London/UK
- Dr. Michael MULHOLLAND-LICHT, D.O., osteopath in Sydney/Australia, president of the “WOHO”
- Hanneke NUSSELEIN, D.O., lecturer at the ESO, osteopath in London/UK
- Steven SANDLER, D.O., osteopath in London/UK
- Barry SAVORY, D.O., lecturer and long-time director of the ESO, osteopath in London/UK
- Dr. Thomas SHAVER, D.O., osteopath in Hawaii/USA
- Peter SOMMERFELD, D.O., physiotherapist and osteopath in Vienna/Austria
- Susan TURNER, D.O., lecturer at the ESO, osteopath in London/UK
- Patrick VAN DEN HEEDEN, D.O., osteopath in Orroir/Belgium
- Sarah WALLACE, D.O., osteopath in London/UK
- Fiona WALSH, D.O., osteopath in London/UK
- Joanna WILDY, D.O., osteopath in Richmond/UK
- Frank WILLARD, Ph.D., professor of anatomy at the University of New England/USA
- Nicholas WOODHEAD, D.O., osteopath in Nottingham/UK
- Dr. Christian WUTZL, D.O., general practitioner and osteopath in Vienna/Austria³⁵⁵

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The lecturers of the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) are international and national university professors, lecturers and practitioners.

³⁵⁵ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

Among the intended lecturers are (excerpt):³⁵⁶

- Prof. Jane Carreiro D.O., professor at the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine/University of New England Biddeford/Maine/USA
- Mag. Heidemarie Clementi, social scientist, Vienna/Austria
- Dr. Georg Harrer, general practitioner and osteopath, Vienna/Austria
- Prim. Dr. Andreas Kainz D.O., general practitioner and osteopath, Vienna/Austria
- Prof. Michael Kuchera D.O., professor at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Philadelphia/Pennsylvania/USA
- Gerald Lamb D.O., osteopath, Maidstone/UK
- Christl Lieben, psycho therapist, Vienna/Austria
- Bernard Ligner D.O., director of the Viennese School of Osteopathy, osteopath in Annecy/France
- Dr. Erich Mayer-Fally, general practitioner and osteopath, Vienna/Austria
- Renzo Molinari D.O., director of the European School of Osteopathy, Maidstone/UK
- Peter Sommerfeld D.O., osteopath, Vienna/Austria
- Stephen Tyreman, M.A., D.O., PhD, British School of Osteopathy
- Raphael Van Assche, D.O., director of the Viennese School of Osteopathy, Vienna/Austria
- Patrick Van den Heede, D.O., osteopath, Belgium
- Patrick Van Dun, D.O., scientific head of the Sutherland College of Osteopathic Medicine, Wiesbaden, osteopath in Antwerp/ Belgium
- Steven Vogel, D.O., PhD British School of Osteopathy, head of the research centre
- Fiona Walsh, D.O., osteopath in London/GB
- Sarah Wallace, D.O., osteopath in London/GB
- Prof. Dr. Frank Willard, PhD, osteopath in Biddeford/Maine/USA
- Dr. Erich Wühr, dentist and osteopath, Koetzing im Bayerischen Wald/Germany³⁵⁷

4.6.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

The I.A.O.'s international team of lecturers consists of university professors, doctors and osteopaths who are very experienced in their profession and in teaching. At the I.A.O. the lecturers for osteopathy have acquired the university diploma "Bachelor of Science with

³⁵⁶ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

³⁵⁷ ibidem

Honours in Osteopathic Medicine”.³⁵⁸ A list of the I.A.O. lecturers at the Austrian branch was not provided.³⁵⁹

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

A list of lecturers who conduct the Conversion Course at the BCOM was not provided.

4.6.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

Univ. Prof. Dr. Hans Tilscher is the residing president of the ÖÄGMM. The lecturers are doctors (doctor of osteopathy) of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Department of Manipulative Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA who are authorized to train students.³⁶⁰

- Prof. Dr. Alexander Nicholas, Chairman of the Dept. of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, PCOM
- Prof. Dr. Michael Kuchera, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Prof. Dr. Evan Nicholas, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Prof. Dr. John Jones, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Prof. Dr. Tom Crow, FLH, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Prof. Dr. Jane Carreiro, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Prof. Dr. Laura Rampil, PCOM and Florida Hospital East Orlando
- Prof. Dr. Peter Adler-Michaelson, DAAO, Germany, Philadelphia³⁶¹

4.6.4 Results and Discussion

Beginning this chapter with A. T. Still's words: *"To be qualified for a profession you must have a complete training from person who understand the science thoroughly, and know how to teach it."*³⁶²

³⁵⁸ <http://www.iao.be/deu/dozenten.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-23

³⁵⁹ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2006

³⁶⁰ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-13

³⁶¹ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 25

³⁶² STILL 2000, p 152

The lecturers of the WSO/DUK, the I.A.O. and the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM seem to be comparable, are highly trained, skilled and experienced professionals, which thoroughly qualifies them as lecturers.

4.7 Practical Training

4.7.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

The practical training comprises:

- 1100 teaching units (TU), the contents of which are partly theoretical and partly practical³⁶³
- One “practice course” per training year³⁶⁴ (= supervised practical training)³⁶⁵
- “Clinical Afternoon”: compulsory once per training year in the first four years of training (1st and 2nd year of training: treatment of patients by lecturers, 3rd year of training: a student treats another student under the supervision of a lecturer or an assistant, 4th year of training: student treats patient under the supervision of a lecturer or an assistant).³⁶⁶
- A total of four supervised treatments in the 4th and 5th year of training³⁶⁷ (compare below)

³⁶³ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

³⁶⁴ ibidem

³⁶⁵ LEHNER 2/2006

³⁶⁶ ibidem

³⁶⁷ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The practical training comprises:³⁶⁸

- 340 teaching units (TU) of tuition partly instructing theory and partly instructing practice³⁶⁹
- 410 TU of internship (proof of internship - own practice), practice-statistics³⁷⁰
- Three supervised treatments³⁷¹ (see below)
- Practice-résumé (see below), personal competence profile, portfolio-coaching (three units)³⁷²

A “supervised treatment” is the treatment of a patient by a student under the supervision of a qualified supervisor.³⁷³ This supervised treatment enables students to assess their work by applying and combining the learned techniques. Furthermore it is important to receive feedback on the manner in which one communicates with and treats and handles the patients. A total of seven supervisions are scheduled in the last three years of training. These supervisions as well as the exams are requirements for advancing to the next year of training. One hour is scheduled for each supervision treatment. The student briefly informs the professor about anamnesis and previous treatments and then performs the tests and treatment in real practice. The supervised treatment is followed by a joint evaluation (student and supervisor) of the student’s performance.³⁷⁴

Practice- résumé: building on the experience gained from practical training (students keep a practice diary), the courses and the supervised treatments, students have to summarise their experience, their recognised strong points and weak points, their measures for improvement and the results they achieved through these measures. This résumé serves as the basis for a self-assessment, which follows the same profile that is used during the supervised profiles (=personal competence profile). After having written the practice-resumé and the personal profile, students communicate their learning process in three private coaching-hours.³⁷⁵

³⁶⁸ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

³⁶⁹ ibidem

³⁷⁰ ibidem

³⁷¹ ibidem

³⁷² RICHTLINIEN FÜR DAS PRAKTIKUM DUK-WSO 2005

³⁷³ Supervisors are all lecturers/instructors of the WSO respectively graduates of a supervision workshop conducted by the WSO. LEHNER 3/2006

³⁷⁴ <http://www.wso.at/studenten>, Accessed: 2006-11-19

³⁷⁵ RICHTLINIEN FÜR DAS PRAKTIKUM DUK-WSO 2005. The Coaches are participants of the coaching workshop conducted by the WSO/DUK. LEHNER 2/2006

4.7.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

The classes are principally conducted in theory and practice. The last course in each year of the standard training is a practical course called “Clinical Work”. In this course the acquired theoretical knowledge is integrated into practice. “Authentic” cases are discussed in group, students are permitted to bring along patients, which are then treated by the instructor. A proof of practice or internship is not intended.³⁷⁶ Modules 11 and 12 “Integration 1 and 2” serve the purpose of integrating the acquired theoretical knowledge into practice (see chapter 4.3.2).

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

If one considers the structure of the Conversion Course (see chapter 4.3.2), practical training does not seem to be intended. An inquiry into this matter was not responded to by the BCOM.

4.7.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

Apart from the theoretical and practical classes conducted in the framework of the courses, the ÖÄGMM offers a form of practical training, which is titled “Integration Course” and is the last course of the basic program.³⁷⁷ In this course the acquired knowledge is integrated into practice and treatment techniques are practised. The “clinical week” in Philadelphia, which can be attended after completing the basic and advanced training, also offers practical training under supervision (see chapter 4.3.3). A verification of internship is not provided.³⁷⁸

³⁷⁶ STROBL 2006

³⁷⁷ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-17

³⁷⁸ DE MARE 1/2006

4.7.4 Results and Discussion

At the WSO/DUK, the I.A.O. and the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM classes are conducted in theory and practice. In addition each school offers a form of “practical course” (integration of acquired knowledge into practice, supervised practice) at the end of each year of training (WSO: “Practice Course”, I.A.O.: “Clinical Work” and the modules “Integration 1 and 2”, ÖÄGMM: “Integration Course”).

The WSO/DUK in particular has set extensive requirements concerning the practical training (verification of internship, practice course, supervised treatments, portfolio-coaching, clinical afternoons).

A. T. Still’s opinion on the practical part of osteopathic training is as follows: *“Like the qualified diplomats of any trade or profession, an Osteopath is not made in a day or a single year. Simply standing by and seeing work done by a competent operator will not qualify you to take the responsibilities to life in your hands.”*³⁷⁹

4.8 Training Costs

4.8.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The costs of the basic training (WSO) and the university study course (WSO/DUK) are listed in table 3.

Comments:

- The list of costs concerning the basic training was provided by the secretariat of the WSO.³⁸⁰ The costs of the university study course amount to € 6.800,-.³⁸¹

³⁷⁹ STILL 2000, p 152

³⁸⁰ LEHNER 3/2006

³⁸¹ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

- The costs cover not only the training but also scripts, exam fees, coffee breaks, mentoring of the master thesis and the coaching. Not included in the costs are supervised treatments. These are listed separately and amount to € 75,-.³⁸²
- Since the binding training commitment always lasts one year and the yearly fee is relatively high, the WSO offers the opportunity to pay the course fees by instalments.³⁸³
- Attention: the course fees DO NOT cover travel costs and daily expense allowances!

Table 3: Survey of Costs WSO/DUK³⁸⁴

WSO Basic Seminar (compulsory)	€ 95,-
WSO Costs 1st year	€ 2.800,-
WSO Costs 2nd year	€ 2.800,-
WSO Costs 3rd year	€ 2.850,-
WSO Costs 4th year	€ 3.480,-
WSO Costs 5th year	€ 3.630,-
Supervision (4 x € 75,-)	€ 300,-
WSO Total costs Basic training course	€ 15.955,-
average costs per year (WSO Basic Course)	€ 3.191,-
University Training Course WSO/DUK	€ 6.800,-
Supervision (3 x € 75,-)	€ 225,-
WSO/DUK total costs University Training Course	€ 7.025,-
Support for Masterthesis	included in course fee
Coaching	included in course fee
Examination fee	included in course fee
Total Costs of Training Courses (WSO Basic Training Course and WSO/DUK University Training Course)	€ 22.980,-

³⁸² JANDA 2006

³⁸³ Paying by instalments marginally increases the course fees. JANDA 2006

³⁸⁴ The list of costs was provided by LEHNER 3/2006

4.8.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

The costs of the osteopathy training of the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course of the BCOM are listed in table 4.

Comments:

- The fees for the osteopathy training at the I.A.O. amount to € 477,- per course or module.³⁸⁵
- The costs of the Conversion Course at the BCOM amount to £ 2.000,-.³⁸⁶ Since the price of the Conversion Course is listed in GBP, the exchange rate of 0,6776 from 24th of November 2006 was used as a base for the conversion into Euro. For easier reading numbers were rounded up to the following integral number.
- The additional costs for the mentoring of the master thesis and the exam fees for the final exam of the I.A.O. standard training amount to € 130,- each.³⁸⁷
- Aside from the actual training the course costs cover scripts, DVD's, coffee breaks and lunch. Each course and each module is paid for separately, since at the I.A.O. everyone can study at his own pace.³⁸⁸
- The list of training costs per year includes the 10 modules, which have to be attended over five years in addition to the standard courses. These modules increase the cost expenditure per year by € 954,-. This amount is included in the expenditure of costs per year of € 2.862,- (compare table 4).
- Attention: the course fees DO NOT cover travel costs and daily expense allowances!

³⁸⁵ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11. Comment: *"If required the I.A.O. is authorized to adapt the fees to changed economic circumstances by a maximum of three percent at the end of an academic year."* translated by J. Stark 2007 <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11. The INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006 lists the fees with € 463,- per course/module. The amount was raised in 2007.

³⁸⁶ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22; STROBL 2006

³⁸⁷ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1/2006

³⁸⁸ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

Table 4: Survey of Costs I.A.O./BCOM

I.A.O. Basic Seminar	free
I.A.O. costs per year	€ 2.862,00
I.A.O. costs Total Training (incl. extra costs)	€ 14.570,00
BCOM costs Conversion Course £ 2000,-	€ 2.952,00
Extra costs:	
I.A.O. Support for Masterthesis	€ 130,00
I.A.O. Examination fee	€ 130,00
Total Costs (I.A.O and BCOM Conversion Course)	€ 17.522,00

4.8.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztegesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

The costs of the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are listed in table 5. In order to display the costs for the ÖÄGMM's osteopathy courses, it is necessary to list the costs for members (€ 330,- per course) and non-members (€ 390,- per course). The ÖÄGMM membership can be applied for in writing at the ÖÄGMM board. A verification of training respectively profession must be enclosed in the application. The acceptance is verified by the board in writing and the statutes are mailed subsequently. The membership runs for one calendar year. The yearly membership fee 2007 came to € 59,- including the journal "Manuelle Medizin", (publisher: Springer-Verlag).³⁸⁹ The costs of the clinical week in Philadelphia/USA amount to US \$ 670,- and the exam fee for the final exam of the clinical week is US \$ 90,-.³⁹⁰

Table 5: Fees of the Osteopathy Courses ÖÄGMM

	non members ÖÄGMM	members ÖÄGMM
costs per course	€ 390,00	€ 330,00
costs basic program (8 courses)	€ 3.120,00	€ 2.640,00
costs advanced program (4 courses)	€ 1.560,00	€ 1.320,00
clinical week in Philadelphia (US \$ 670,-)	€ 512,00	€ 512,00
Examination fee PCOM (US \$ 90,-)	€ 69,00	€ 69,00
Membership fee ÖÄGMM		€ 59,00
Total Costs Osteopathy courses OAGMM	€ 5.651,00	€ 4.600,00

³⁸⁹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2006-12-22

³⁹⁰ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 24

Comments:

- Because the costs of the clinical week in Philadelphia and the exam fees are listed in US dollars, the currency exchange rate of 1,3098 on 24th of November 2006 was used as a base for the calculation. To facilitate reading the numbers were rounded up to the following integral number.
- The course fees include training, scripts and coffee breaks.³⁹¹
- If one assumed that a completed training in manual medicine is a participation requirement (compare chapter 4.2.3), one would have to include the costs for the training in manual medicine into the total costs of the ÖÄGMM courses.
- Attention: the fees DO NOT cover travel costs and daily expense allowances!

4.8.4 Results and Discussion

While reading table 6 one must bear in mind that:

- The costs not only cover training but also scripts and coffee breaks. At the I.A.O. lunch is also included in the fee.
- Calculable additional costs (such as supervisions (WSO), exam fees (I.A.O.)) are included into the costs of the complete training while incalculable additional costs such as travel costs are not included in the list.
- As member of the ÖÄGMM/ÖÄMM one not only receives a reduction in course fees but also the journal “Manuelle Medizin” (publisher: Springer-Verlag). The yearly membership fee was € 59,- in 2007.
- The length of the I.A.O. training in hours was mathematically calculated (compare chapter 4.5.2)
- The base of the calculation (time units) was the respective training duration in hours. For the calculation of the costs per hour of training of the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) 340TU = 255 hours were used as a base. The internship (no costs arise) which comprises 410TU = 307,5 hours was not included in the calculation.
- To enable a relatively objective comparison of costs, these were calculated per hour of training. The numbers were not rounded.

³⁹¹ DE MARE 2/2006

Table 6: Survey: Comparison of the Complete Costs

	WSO/DUK	IAO/BCOM	ÖÄGMM non members	ÖÄGMM members
Total costs Basic Training	€ 15.955,00	€ 14.570,00	€ 3.120,00	€ 2.540,00
Average costs per year (Basic Training)	€ 3.191,00	€ 2.862,00	-	-
Costs University Training Course (WSO/DUK)/Conversion Course (BCOM)	€ 7.025,00	€ 2.952,00	-	-
Total costs Complete Training	€ 22.980,00	€ 17.522,00	€ 5.261,00	€ 4.600,00
Costs per hour (University Training Course WSO/DUK, Conversion Course BCOM)	€ 27,54	€ 49,20		
Costs per hour (Basic Training: WSO, I.A.O., ÖÄGMM)	€ 19,34	€ 15,92		
Costs per hour (Total Training)	€ 16,55	€ 17,97	€ 14,61	€ 12,78

The interpretation of the cost-survey has to be regarded in relation, because it only contains the objectifiable fixed costs. One has to consider that the comprehensiveness of the training programs of the WSO (6,5 years/calculated 1388 hours) and the I.A.O. (min. 6 years/calculated 975 hours) is only relatively comparable with the training of the ÖÄGMM (min. one year/calculated 360 hours).³⁹²

Not included in the comparison of costs are incalculable additional costs such as travel costs and daily expense allowances, which have to be added to the complete expenditure of costs (compare chapter 4.5):

- The least costs for stays abroad arise at the WSO. Only one compulsory five day stay abroad in Europe (Maidstone/GB) is scheduled.
- The second highest expenditure in travel costs arises at the ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses. One has to reckon with at least one one-week stay in Philadelphia/USA. If certain courses have to be attended at the “Dr.Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar” (MWE) in Germany further costs arise.
- The probably highest costs for stays abroad have to be reckoned with at the I.A.O. (five year part-time training of the I.A.O. and Conversion Course/BCOM): on the one hand two compulsory one week stays in London/GB for the Conversion Course/BCOM are scheduled and on the other

³⁹² See chapter 4.5

hand not all modules are conducted in Austria. One can assume that further stays abroad (Germany) and therefore additional costs have to be reckoned with.

- Since the office of the I.A.O. is not located in Austria and can only be reached under a German telephone number, one also has to include the long distance phone calls in the calculation of costs.

Conclusions:

- The most expensive but also longest complete professional training is offered by the WSO/DUK and amounts to a total of € 22.980,-.
- The complete training (osteopathy courses) of the ÖÄGMM can not be included into the comparison because of its short duration. It can only be said that the complete training costs as ÖÄGMM member are reduced by € 661,-. A membership can only be recommended!
- If one compares the five year basic training of the WSO with the five year part-time training of the I.A.O. one comes to the conclusion that the basic training at the WSO is more expensive than the osteopathy training of the I.A.O.: this applies to the average annual costs as well as the complete costs of training. To facilitate an objective comparison (since the length of training in hours differs in both cases) the costs per hour of training were calculated: from this angle too the costs per hour of training at the WSO with € 19,34 are considerably higher than the costs of an hour of training at the I.A.O (an hour of training costs € 15,92).
- The fees of the university study course in osteopathy/DUK are considerably higher (€ 7.025,-) than the fees of the Conversion Course/BCOM (€ 2.952,-). One has to bear in mind that the training of the university study course (WSO/DUK) lasts three terms (563 hours = 750 TU) and is more comprehensive than the Conversion Course (BCOM), which lasts 9 months (60 hours of class). Therefore the costs per hour of training were also compared in this case: the university study course in osteopathy of the WSO/DUK costs € 27,54 per hour of training and is app. 80% cheaper than the Conversion Course of the BCOM, which costs € 49,20 per hour of training.

- The comparison of the costs per hour of training if one calculates the total costs is very interesting: The complete training at the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course/BCOM has the highest hourly rate, namely € 17,97/hour.³⁹³ In comparison an hour of training at the WSO/DUK costs € 16,55 and, seen from this angle, is cheaper. The hourly rates of the ÖÄGMM are € 12,78 for members and € 14,61 for non-members. Concerning the hourly rate the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are the lowest.

Comment: The osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are coextensive and interchangeable with the osteopathy courses of the “Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar”, Isny-Neutrauchburg (MWE, compare chapter 4.1.3), but the course fees are higher there:³⁹⁴ *“Members of the DAAO € 410,00, members of the MWE € 460,00, non-members € 510,00 and the clinical week in Philadelphia € 710,00.”*³⁹⁵

4.9 Exams, Certificates (Titles, Diplomas, Academic Degrees), Recognition and European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)

This chapter contains the following information:

- Exams
- Scientific work (master thesis/diploma thesis/dissertation)
- Certificates (titles, diplomas, academic degrees)
- ECTS- credits
- National and European recognition

Specially for the better comprehension of this chapter, chapter 3 “Austrian Higher Education and Implementation of the Bologna-Process” was written.

³⁹³ Also concerning the incalculable additional costs (stays abroad, telephone calls) the training at the I.A.O. is the most expensive. One has to consider that lunch is included in the fees.

³⁹⁴ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/organisatorisches.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-26

³⁹⁵ <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/organisatorisches.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-26, translated by J. Stark 2007

4.9.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

a) Basic Training in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)

Table 7 presents a survey of the exams of the basic training at the WSO. The exams are graded with “passed with honours”, “passed” or “failed”. Failed exams have to be repeated in the following course. If one fails an exam twice, the whole course year has to be repeated. Absence at an exam is only authorised in cases of grave impediment such as illness.³⁹⁶ To graduate the basic training students do not have to hand in a scientific paper, nevertheless an “introduction to scientific work” is conducted. No titles or diplomas are awarded and a rating in ECTS-credits is not intended.³⁹⁷

Table 7: Survey of Exams of the WSO Basic Training³⁹⁸

WSO	exam	date
1st year	biomechanics (oral) structural techniques 1 (peripher joints, oral and practical)	end of year end of year
2nd year	general osteopathic treatment (oral and practical) anatomy (written)	middle of year end of year
3rd year	biomechanics 2 (oral) structural techniques 2 (peripher joints, oral and practical) structural techniques 3 (vertebral column, oral and practical)	end of year end of year end of year
4th year	cranial techniques 1 (oral and practical)	end of year
5th year	structural techniques 4 (oral and practical) visceral techniques (oral and practical) cranial techniques 2 (oral and practical)	end of year end of year end of year

³⁹⁶ <http://www.wso.at/studenten>, Accessed: 2006-11-19

³⁹⁷ VAN ASSCHE 2006

³⁹⁸ <http://www.wso.at/studenten>, Accessed: 2006-11-19

b) University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

Exams:

- A) Osteopathic diagnosis and treatment (oral)
- B) Osteopathic diagnosis and treatment ³⁹⁹ (practical exam on the patient in front of an international commission as well as the medical director and the directors of the WSO).⁴⁰⁰

Master Thesis:

The concept is read and evaluated by a school-internal jury. The English version of the master thesis is graded by members of an international jury. The admission to the defence of the master thesis requires having passed the exams and a positive evaluation of the master thesis.⁴⁰¹ Basic research and clinical case studies require a minimum of 12.000 words and literature analysis require a minimum of 18.000 words.⁴⁰²

Students graduate the university study course/DUK with the academic degree "Master of Science/Osteopathy (MSc Osteopathy)", which is awarded by the Danube University. The academic degree is post nominal.⁴⁰³ In addition the WSO awards the title "D.O. (Diplom-Osteopath)".⁴⁰⁴

On the Rating According to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS):

The graduation of the university study course WSO/DUK is awarded 90 ECTS-credits.⁴⁰⁵ Currently the basic training at the WSO is not accorded ECTS-credits.⁴⁰⁶

³⁹⁹ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

⁴⁰⁰ LEHNER 2/2006

⁴⁰¹ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

⁴⁰² RICHTLINIEN MASTERTHESIS DUK-WSO 2005/06

⁴⁰³ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

⁴⁰⁴ <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-24

⁴⁰⁵ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

⁴⁰⁶ VAN ASSCHE 2006

On the Recognition of the Awarded Titles and Academic Degrees:

The title “D.O. (Diplom-Osteopath)” of the WSO is not subject to legal regulations in Austria and therefore is legally not recognised. The Austrian Society of Osteopathy (OEGO) recognises the title. Compare chapter 5.

Regarding the academic degree “Master of Science (Osteopathy)” the following can be stated: *“Principally academic degrees, which are awarded by institutions of higher education, are recognised throughout Europe.”*⁴⁰⁷ The recognition of academic titles “Master of Science/Osteopathy (MSc Osteopathy)” (WSO/DUK) is valid throughout Europe. Further information is presented in the discussion of this chapter. Post-graduate PhD⁴⁰⁸ studies are currently not offered in Austria, but can not be foreclosed abroad (e.g. UK).⁴⁰⁹

4.9.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

a) Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.)

In the framework of the five year basic training students have to sit a facultative exam⁴¹⁰ in every “clinical work” course, and in the framework of the complementary training students are supposed to take facultative⁴¹¹ exams at eight modules.⁴¹² The secretariat emphasises that all annual and module exams should be taken and passed.⁴¹³

⁴⁰⁷ KASPAROVSKY 1/2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁰⁸ Doctor of Philosophy

⁴⁰⁹ ENGEL 2/2007

⁴¹⁰ *facultative*: free choice, at one's own : opposite: obligatory (Brockhaus 2005)

⁴¹¹ *ibidem*

⁴¹² <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11; INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6f

⁴¹³ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2007

The diploma “Diplom der Osteopathie (D.O.) I.A.O.” can be acquired at the end of the basic training⁴¹⁴ and requires:

- passing the exams of the standard and complementary training⁴¹⁵
- a practical exam before an international jury in Gent. No direct patient treatment is performed (patient simulation by a colleague).⁴¹⁶
- writing a diploma thesis: 8.000-10.000 words, hand-in in German (abstract in English).⁴¹⁷

Although 700 people annually participate in the osteopathy training of the I.A.O.⁴¹⁸ in Germany, only 14 people in Germany obtain the D.O./I.A.O per year.⁴¹⁹

On the rating according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), the following information can be obtained from the I.A.O. website: *“The training at the I.A.O. complies with the European Higher Education Norm in accordance with the Bologna-Declaration. Furthermore the I.A.O. curriculum is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).”*⁴²⁰ The following information can be gathered from the information booklet I.A.O. 2006, p 9 (“INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 9”): *“Requirement for the recognition by both British Colleges is a training in accordance to the European Higher Education Norm (Bologna-Declaration). The I.A.O. therefore uses a curriculum based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).”* Neither from the website nor from the information booklet I.A.O. 2006 one can ascertain exactly how many ECTS-credits are accorded to the training. An inquiry on the exact number of ECTS- credits that are accorded to the training provided the following information:

1. In December 2006 the I.A.O. secretariat orally stated: *“60 ECTS-credits are accorded.”*⁴²¹

⁴¹⁴ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

⁴¹⁵ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2/2007; STOBL 2006

⁴¹⁶ STROBL 2006

⁴¹⁷ STROBL 2006; INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 8f; <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

⁴¹⁸ STROBL 2006

⁴¹⁹ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 4

⁴²⁰ http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴²¹ SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1/2006, translated by J. Stark 2007

2. The written inquiry on the grading of the I.A.O. training was answered by the head office of the I.A.O. (PETERS 2007) as follows: *"Our training programs are accorded the following ECTS-credits:*

- *Fulltime four years (matriculation standard) = 480 British credits (= 240 European credits)*
- *Fulltime three years (physiotherapy or medicine) = 360 British credits (= 180 European credits)*
- *Part-time (physiotherapy or medicine) = 300 British credits (=150 European credits)"*⁴²²
- The question whether the 150 ECTS-credits apply to the five year part-time training, the Conversion Course at the BCOM or the complete training (five year basic training AND Conversion Course) was not answered by the I.A.O.⁴²³

The I.A.O. "Diplom der Osteopathie (D.O.)" is legally not recognised in Austria, because osteopathy is no legally regulated profession in Austria. Compare chapter 5. The I.A.O. "Diplom der Osteopathie (D.O.)" is recognised by several national professional institutions throughout Europe:

- *"in Germany by the "Deutsches Register Osteopathischer Medizin"(DROM) and the "Verband der Osteopathen Deutschlands" (VOD)*
- *In Switzerland by the Swiss Association of Osteopathic Medicine (S.A.O.M.)*
- *In Austria by the "Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie"(OEGO)*
- *In Belgium by the „Register voor de Osteopaten van Belgie“ (R.O.B.) as well as the "Fachverband ABRO" member of The European Federation of Osteopaths-E.F.O.*
- *In the Netherlands by the "Nederlands Register voor Osteopathie" (NRO) as well as the "Nederlandse Vereniging voor Osteopathie" (N.V.O.)"*⁴²⁴
- *Furthermore a membership in the American umbrella organisation American Academy of Osteopathy (A.A.O.) can be acquired.*⁴²⁵

⁴²² PEETERS 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴²³ The inquiries were made on 10.1., 11.1 and 13.1. 2007 via emails. After the 13th the addressee could no longer be reached by email.

⁴²⁴ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-28

⁴²⁵ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 7f; http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12

b) Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

Graduates of the part-time training of the I.A.O. who hold the “Diplom der Osteopathie (D.O.)” of the I.A.O. can participate in the Conversion Course of the BCOM and acquire the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc.(Hons) Osteopathy)”.⁴²⁶ This degree is validated by the University of Westminster.⁴²⁷ Postgraduate Master and PhD Studies are possible.⁴²⁸ The Conversion Course lasts two weeks tuition in 9 month. Furthermore students have to write two essays and one dissertation.⁴²⁹ Exams do not seem to be intended in the framework of the Conversion Course: neither the I.A.O.’s nor the BCOM’s website mentions exams in connection with the Conversion Course/BCOM.⁴³⁰ The BCOM did not provide any information on this subject. One dissertation is part of the Conversion Course (compare chapter 4.3.3): *“Part II/Dissertation consists of an in-practice research element including collecting patient data and data processing with supporting theory and proposal. There will be regular contact with supervisors personally or by telephone, fax or e-mail, which culminate in the presentation of a dissertation. This second element will follow within a month of Part I. The dissertation timetable will enable the student to have sufficient time to choose a suitable topic, collect data and write up the dissertation of 8-10,000 words. The subject chosen should be within the scope of the holistic osteopathic profession.”*⁴³¹

An enquiry on the rating of the Conversion Course of the BCOM in accordance with the ECTS was answered as follows: *„ECTS. For the Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine, after 4 years students get 480 UK credits which is equivalent to 240 ECTS credits. It is more complicated with BSc (Hons) Osteopathy degree and to be honest I'm not 100% sure how the European system would calculate it. In the UK, the conversion course gives 360 UK credits (equivalent to 3 years BSc degree, although it is only one year course). If we take the equivalent of 360 UK credits it would be 180 ECTS credits (3 years x 60 credits) BUT*

⁴²⁶ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 7f; http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12

⁴²⁷ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 8; KOWALSKA 2007

⁴²⁸ KOWALSKA 2007; http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12

⁴²⁹ <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, 2006-11-11

⁴³⁰ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2007-03-21;

<http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>, Accessed: 2007-03-21

⁴³¹ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-22

because ECTS gives credits based on the length of the course, I really do not know how they would credited this degree.“⁴³²

On the Recognition of the Awarded Diploma and Academic Degrees:

Regarding the recognition of the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc.(Hons) Osteopathy)” the following applies: *”In principle all academic degrees, which are awarded by recognised institutions of higher education, are recognised throughout Europe.”*⁴³³ The academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” (I.A.O./BCOM) is recognised throughout Europe. Nonetheless, one must consider the following:

- a) *“The main difference between BSc (Hons) Osteopathy degree and Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine degree is that the first degree was created for osteopaths (people with D.O.), who wanted to achieve academic qualifications (in other countries in Europe, students who graduate from osteopathic institutions get only Diploma in Osteopathy (D.O.). This was the case also in the UK but since the BCOM validated its degrees with University of Westminster, the graduates get D.O. as well as an academic degree). Many osteopaths want to take their qualifications to the academic level - that's why we have created conversion course. It's a 9 months course, where at the end students have to submit a dissertation. The B.Ost.Med degree is for anyone, who wants to become an osteopath. It's a 4 year, full-time course where students are taught everything from 'scratch', in years 3 and 4 they gain clinic experience etc. And at the end they have to submit a dissertation.”*⁴³⁴
- b) The academic degree “B.Ost.Med” can be acquired through a four year training at the BCOM for example. *“The B.Ost.Med (Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine) degree includes the Diploma in Osteopathy and Diploma in Naturopathy, which are professional awards denoting*

⁴³² KOWALSKA 2007

⁴³³ KASPAROVSKY 1/2007

⁴³⁴ KOWALSKA 2007

clinical competence and are GOsC and GCRN⁴³⁵ accredited, enabling appropriate professional registration.”⁴³⁶ The registration at the “General Osteopathic Council” (GOsC) is compulsory for practicing osteopathy in the UK, compare chapter 1.2.

- c) The academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” of the BCOM is not sufficient for a registration at the GOsC.⁴³⁷

This means that, even though the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” is awarded by a British university, this training (graduation of the Conversion Course at the BCOM) is not sufficient to entitle graduates to practice osteopathy in the United Kingdom!⁴³⁸

4.9.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztegesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

Every course is completed with a respective certificate,⁴³⁹ but no exams are held during the courses.⁴⁴⁰ The final exam can be taken at the end of the training during the “Clinical Week” and consists of a theoretical (oral, written) and practical (on the patient) exam.⁴⁴¹

The “Zertifikat für Osteopathische Medizin” of the German-American Academy for Osteopathy (DAAO)” is awarded by the ÖÄGMM after completion of the basic program (eight basic courses). A “Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin” of the DAAO can be applied for at the DAAO, Prof. Dr. Peter Adler-Michaelson, after completing the seminars and taking the exam at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia (PCOM).⁴⁴² A diploma thesis respectively a scientific paper is not required.⁴⁴³ The PCOM does not award a title or academic degree.⁴⁴⁴ A rating of the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM in accordance

⁴³⁵ General Council and Register of Naturopaths

⁴³⁶ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses#bom>, Accessed: 2006-12-16

⁴³⁷ <http://www.bcom.ac.uk/courses/conversioncourse>, Accessed: 2006-12-12

⁴³⁸ ibidem

⁴³⁹ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 22

⁴⁴⁰ DE MARE 1/2006

⁴⁴¹ ibidem

⁴⁴² <http://www.daao.info/internet/kurse/kursordnung.html>, Accessed: 11-12-2006; COURSE AGENDA

OEAEGMM 2006/07, p 22

⁴⁴³ DE MARE 2/2006

⁴⁴⁴ NICHOLAS 2006

with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is currently not intended.⁴⁴⁵ The ÖÄGMM osteopathy courses are rated according to the Diploma Further Training Program (DFP) of the Austrian Medical Association (ÖÄK).⁴⁴⁶

The ÖÄGMM provided no information on the recognition of the “Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin” of the DAAO by national umbrella organisations in Europe. The legal recognition of the “Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin” of the DAAO in Austria is ambiguous: Generally Osteopathy is not a recognised profession in Austria, but in this case, the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are approbated for the DFP of the ÖÄK.

4.9.4 Results and Discussion

At the I.A.O. as well as at the WSO/DUK exams (oral, written, practical) are held on a regular basis throughout the basic training. The ÖÄGMM does not hold exams during the current courses. The participants only receive a certificate for their attendance. The final exams of all three training programs consist of theoretic parts (oral and/or written) and a practical part.

Scientific Work:

The WSO/DUK as well as the I.A.O and BCOM require a scientific paper (master thesis/diploma thesis/dissertation) to graduate the training. The ÖÄGMM does not require a scientific paper to graduate the training. For the conclusion of the complete training at the I.A.O. AND the BCOM (Conversion Course) with the academic degree “Bachelor of Science in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” actually two scientific papers are required:

- The “diploma thesis” in the framework of the basic training of the I.A.O.(to acquire the title D.O./I.A.O.), which must comprise 8.000 – 10.000 words (to be handed in in German language).

⁴⁴⁵ WITTY 3/2006

⁴⁴⁶ KURSPROGRAMM ÖÄGMM 2006/07, p 21. The Diploma-Further-Training-Program (DFP) is the structured further training program of the Austrian Medical Association and is facultative. It aims at verifying quality managed, medical further training. In the framework of the DFP uniform quality standards for medical further training are developed and maintained. The DFB is structured uniformly in all of Austria. As a verification of the successful completion of the DFP, the Austrian Medical Association is introducing a further training diploma, which can be awarded to a doctor if applied for. All doctors that want to acquire a further training diploma of the Medical Association, must account for 150 further training credits in three years. Guideline on the continuing further training of doctors, December 15th, 2006, part 2, § 4 and 6

- The “dissertation” at the BCOM (Conversion Course), which must comprise 8.000-10.000 words.

The university study course/DUK requires a master thesis (to be handed-in in English): basic research and clinical case studies must comprise a minimum of 12.000 words and literature analysis must comprise a minimum of 18.000 words.

On the Recognition of the Titles/Diplomas/Academic Degrees:

1. Legal recognition of titles/diplomas in osteopathy in Austria: The title “Diplom-Osteopath (D.O.)” of the WSO (awarded after graduating the university study course WSO/DUK) as well as the diploma “Diplom der Osteopathie (D.O.)” I.A.O. (awarded after graduating the five year part-time training at the I.A.O.) is not subject to legal regulations (compare chapter 5.2). Currently these titles and diplomas are not legally recognised in Austria.⁴⁴⁷ The legal recognition of the “Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin” of the ÖÄGMM respectively the DAAO (German-American Academy for Osteopathy) in Austria is ambiguous: Generally osteopathy is not a recognised and legally regulated profession, but in the case of the DAAO diploma one has to bear in mind that the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are approbated for the diploma further training program (DFP) of the Austrian Medical Association (ÖÄK).
2. Recognition of the titles and diplomas by umbrella organisations for Osteopathy: In Austria the title “D.O./WSO” is currently recognised by the “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO) (compare chapter 5.1.1). The “Diplom der Osteopathie/D.O.” of the I.A.O. is recognised throughout Europe by national professional organisations in Germany, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The multiple national recognition of this title in Europe represents a definite plus of graduating the I.A.O. training. The ÖÄGMM did not render any statement on the recognition of the “Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin” of the DAAO by professional organisations.

⁴⁴⁷ Furthermore it is to consider, that the abbreviation „D.O.“ has different national and international senses: e.g. „Diplom-Osteopath“/WSO, „Diplom in Osteopathie“/I.A.O., „Doctor of Osteopathy“/USA, a.s.o.

3. Legal recognition of the awarded academic degrees: *“In general, academic degrees, which are awarded by recognised institutions of higher education, are recognised throughout Europe. This does not exclude the possibility that amendments concerning the contents may be required. This does not mean that the complete studies are subject to doubt. The decision is subject to the national law of the respective country.”*⁴⁴⁸ The academic degrees “Master of Science/Osteopathy (MSc Osteopathy)” (WSO/DUK) and “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” (I.A.O./BCOM) are recognised throughout Europe. If one considers this question differentiated, one realises that:

- Because of the current legal status in Austria, the academic degree “Master of Science” (as graduation of a university study course or a training course for continuing education at “Fachhochschul-Studiengänge”) represents the graduation of *irregular studies*. This academic degree can not be compared with the academic degree/title “Master....”, which is awarded at the completion of master studies according to the new system of studies (*regular studies*). These studies also differ in the sum of accorded ECTS-credits (compare chapter 3).
- From the legal point of view, the university study course in osteopathy (WSO/DUK) falls into the category “academic continuing education”.⁴⁴⁹ University study courses are regulated in the “Universitätsgesetz 2002”⁴⁵⁰, and the Danube University Krems (University of Continuing Education Krems) has the explicit assignment of academic continuing education by way university study courses.⁴⁵¹ According to particulars published on the website of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture the university study course in osteopathy (MSc) is graduated with the title “Master of Science in Nursing”.⁴⁵² The regulation of the academic title “Master of Science”, university study course “Nursing Science” of the Danube University Krems BGBI. II Nr. 174/2003, in the version of the regulation BGBI. II Nr 539/2003

⁴⁴⁸ KASPAROVSKY 1/2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁴⁹ Compare chapter 3

⁴⁵⁰ BGBI. I Nr. 120/2002, 2002c, § 56 and 58

⁴⁵¹ BGBI. I Nr. 22/2004, 2004a, § 4 para. 1 and 2

⁴⁵² http://archiv.bmbwk.gv.at/universitaeten/studieren/wb_univ/osteopathie.xml, Accessed: 2007-03-26

applies.⁴⁵³ In the framework of this regulation the term “osteopathy” is not mentioned.⁴⁵⁴ In the bulletin 18/2005 of the Danube-University Krems the “24th regulation on the establishment and curriculum of the university study course “osteopathy” with a degree Master of Science (Osteopathy) – MSc dated 3.5.2005.” figured.⁴⁵⁵ A specific regulation for the academic degree “Master of Science/Osteopathy”, university study course “osteopathy” at the DUK (as Federal Law Gazette) on federal law level does not exist. “*The curriculum of the university study course “osteopathy”, which was decided upon at the division meeting of the department of environmental and medical sciences on May 10th 2004 and passed by the board of trustees of the Danube University Krems on January 24th 2005, was received by the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (BMBWK) on February 17th 2005 and was not interdicted by the BMBWK until April 21th 2005 and the opposition respite expired. Legal Basis for the establishment of the university study course for osteopathy are § 24 para. 3 of the Federal Law on studies at the universities (Universitäts-Studien-Gesetz (UniStG)), BGBI. I Nr. 48/1997 in combination with § 3 para. 4 of the Federal Law on the Establishment of the University-centre of Continuing Education with the Denomination Danube-University Krems, BGBI. Nr. 269/1994. The primary publication was released in the bulletin Nr. 18/05, a re-release of the regulation occurred in bulletin Nr. 35/05.*”⁴⁵⁶

- Even though the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” is awarded by a British university, the training (Conversion Course at the BCOM) is not sufficient to acquire an authorisation to practice osteopathy in the UK and therefore substantially differs from the academic degree “Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine (B.Ost.Med.)”. These degrees also differ in the number of accorded ECTS-credits.⁴⁵⁷
- One can only assume that a fundamental difference between the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” and the academic degree “B.Ost.Med (Bachelor of Osteopathic

⁴⁵³ BGBI. II Nr. 174/2003, 2003a; BGBI. II Nr. 539/2003, 2003b

⁴⁵⁴ BGBI. II Nr. 174/2003, 2003a; BGBI. II Nr. 539/2003, 2003b

⁴⁵⁵ Mitteilungsblatt 18 / 2005 (Donau-Universität Krems), 2005a, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁵⁶ SCHAUER 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁵⁷ Compare chapter 4.9.2

Medicine)” exists in the UK according to the conditions of study (legal basis). If one drew parallels to the Austrian system, one could assume that the academic degree “B.Ost.Med (Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine) corresponds with Bachelor Studies and the academic degree “Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)” represents the graduation of another category of studies. An analysis of the higher education system in the UK would go beyond the scope of this paper.

- One advantage of the Conversion Course at the BCOM lies in the possibility to undergo post graduate Master or PhD studies in the UK. This possibility does not have to be ruled out completely for the graduates of the university study course of the WSO/DUK, although postgraduate PhD studies are not on offer in Austria.

On the Rating of the Training Programs in Compliance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS):

The osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are not distributed any ECTS-credits. The university study course (WSO/DUK) is accorded 90 ECTS-credits, but for the basic training at the WSO no ECTS-credits are distributed.

The status on rating the five year part-time training of the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course of the BCOM according to the ECTS is ambiguous, although the I.A.O. website as well as the I.A.O information booklet 2006 states that the curriculum of the I.A.O. is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS): an exact listing of credits can not be found. Statements made by the I.A.O. and the BCOM differ (compare chapter 4.9.2). It is not clear, if and how many ECTS-credits are accorded for the part-time training at the I.A.O., the Conversion Course/BCOM respectively the complete training (= part-time training at the I.A.O. AND Conversion Course/BCOM). Despite great efforts it was not possible to obtain a statement on this matter, neither by the I.A.O. nor by the BCOM.

If one assumed that the nine month Conversion Course of the BCOM is accorded 180 ECTS-credits,⁴⁵⁸ one would have to reconsider this assumption in regard to its compliance with the Bologna-Declaration, which, in exceptional cases only (no holidays), allows a maximum of

⁴⁵⁸ KOWALSKA 2007

75 ECTS-credits per academic year (equals two terms), the common average of credits per academic year is 60 ECTS-credits.⁴⁵⁹

The presumption that the training at the I.A.O. and at the BCOM (recognised by the University of Westminster) were primarily rated according to the UK-Credit and Transfer Scheme (UK-credits) and subsequently converted into ECTS-credits is obvious. Compare with the statements of KOWALSKA 2007 and PEETERS 2007 in chapter 4.9.2. In both cases a conversion ratio of UK-credits to ECTS-credits 2:1 was applied, e.g. *“part-time (physiotherapy or medicine) = 300 UK-credits (=150 European credits)”*⁴⁶⁰ or *“If we take the equivalent of 360 UK credits it would be 180 ECTS-credits”*.⁴⁶¹

Whether a validated conversion ratio of UK-credits into ECTS-credits exists, could not be clearly ascertained. To the enquiry which criteria the UK-credits are based on, if a conversion of UK-credits into ECTS-credits is possible and which ratio has to be applied, the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture answered: *“The same as in ECTS- the basis is the students’ workload. The conversion-ratio to my knowledge is: 1 ECTS-credit=1,5 UK-credits (which means that 30 ECTS-credits equal 45 UK-credits).”*⁴⁶² The multiple direct enquiries at the University of Westminster regarding the questions which credit transfer system is applied, and in the case the ECTS is not primarily applied, whether a validated conversion factor exists, were not answered.

The Bologna-Process represents a voluntary approximation of higher education systems in Europe.⁴⁶³ The aspiration to approximate the training of the WSO/DUK and the I.A.O./BCOM by attaining a diploma-supplement (compare chapter 3) is desirable, because the problem of non-recognition (or insufficient recognition) is not just an Austrian problem, but contemporaneously is a global problem.

⁴⁵⁹ Compare chapter 3; DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE 2005

⁴⁶⁰ PEETERS 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁶¹ KOWALSKA 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁶² EDLINGER 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁶³ <http://www.bmukk.gv.at/europa/03/umsetzung.xml>, Accessed: 2007-03-12

4.10 Quality Management

4.10.1 Basic Training Course in Osteopathy at the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO)/University Study Course in Osteopathy (WSO/Danube-University Krems (DUK))

The WSO/DUK set a high value on the continuing quality management. Administrative and teaching processes as well as the achievements of students are subject to evaluation:

- The University of Continuing Education Krems is legally obligated to install a quality management system in order to assure quality and performance.⁴⁶⁴
- From the start the quality of the university study course in osteopathy WSO/DUK is constantly evaluated. Two forms of evaluation are applied:⁴⁶⁵
 - a) Self evaluation: Routine evaluation of the instructors and the curriculum by way of anonymous questionnaires, which are filled out by the students. Meetings of the instructors: At these meetings the instructors discuss the subject matter of their courses. This measure serves the purpose of better coordination among the courses.⁴⁶⁶
 - b) External evaluation: Evaluation performed by the scientific advisory council: Subject to evaluation are all aspects of the study course such as organisation or improvement of pointed out deficiencies.⁴⁶⁷
- Every teaching unit at the WSO/DUK is rated on its quality by the students through a daily anonymous questionnaire and a system of class-representatives ensures that the suggestions of students are heard by the lecturers, instructors and the administration. During the seminars lecturers and assistants hold regular meetings.⁴⁶⁸
- The lecturers at the WSO/DUK are nationally and internationally recognised osteopaths and doctors.⁴⁶⁹

⁴⁶⁴ BGBI. I Nr. 22/2004, 2004a, § 2

⁴⁶⁵ BEWERBERINFORMATION DUK-WSO 2006/07

⁴⁶⁶ ibidem

⁴⁶⁷ ibidem

⁴⁶⁸ LEHNER 2/2006

⁴⁶⁹ Compare chapter 4.6.1

- The re-entry criteria after a pause in training longer than 2 years represent a quality management measure.⁴⁷⁰
- Every class held at the WSO is recorded in writing twice: by an assistant and by the instructor. These protocols are routinely compared with the curriculum. Thus missing subject matters can be made out and caught up on in later courses.⁴⁷¹
- The clear statement on compulsory attendance in class represents a further measure of quality management.⁴⁷²
- To ensure the safe practice and the correct learning of osteopathic techniques, students are supervised and supported by instructors and assistants. A maximum of five practice beds (10 students) is attended by one person.⁴⁷³
- Regular, course accompanying monitoring of the standard of knowledge: annual exams (oral, practical, written), supervised treatments.⁴⁷⁴
- The obtained information (from meetings, administration, lecturers, assistants, students, feedback questionnaires....) is evaluated on a regular basis. Measures to ameliorate the quality of training and administration are developed and implemented. Thereafter a re-evaluation is performed.⁴⁷⁵
- Current projects to enhance the quality at the WSO are: re-structuring the curriculum, conducting methodical-didactic further training seminars, advancing research, installing a “document control”.⁴⁷⁶

4.10.2 Osteopathy Training of the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O)/Conversion Course of the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM)

A requirement of the recognition of the I.A.O. training by the British partner institutions of higher education (BCOM and University of Westminster) is that the I.A.O.’s curriculum complies with the higher education standard.⁴⁷⁷ All lecturers hold an academic degree in

⁴⁷⁰ Compare chapter 4.5.1

⁴⁷¹ LEHNER 2/2006

⁴⁷² Compare chapter 4.5.1

⁴⁷³ ibidem

⁴⁷⁴ Compare chapter 4.7.1 and 4.9.1

⁴⁷⁵ LEHNER 2/2006

⁴⁷⁶ ibidem

⁴⁷⁷ http://www.iao.be/deu/unsere_starken.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-12

medicine or osteopathy and are experienced in practice and didactics.⁴⁷⁸ Every teaching unit is rated by the students in an annual anonymous questionnaire and a system of class representatives ensures that the suggestions of students from all branches are heard.⁴⁷⁹

In addition the I.A.O. undergoes an external quality evaluation: The renowned Lloyd's Quality Assurance Company audits and certifies the I.A.O. in accordance with the European Quality Norm ISO 9001. ISO 9001 is a quality management system that has become the norm throughout Europe and is based on the specification and standardisation of work processes with the aim of eliminating sources of error in detail and thereby ensuring the product respectively service quality as a whole. The certification is performed by an independent, external evaluator and occurs every two years in the framework of a quality management audit.⁴⁸⁰

The BCOM did not render a statement concerning measures of quality management (Conversion Course).

4.10.3 Osteopathy Courses of the „Österreichischen Ärztegesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin“ (ÖÄGMM)

The ÖÄGMM did not render a statement concerning measures of quality management.

4.10.4 Results and Discussion

The I.A.O. has high standards concerning quality management. These are most of all shown in the external quality evaluation and the certification in accordance with the European quality norm ISO 9001. The WSO and the DUK also attach great importance to quality management of the training (the DUK is legally obligated to do so) and have developed their own criteria for evaluation. The ÖÄGMM renders no statements on quality management.

⁴⁷⁸ Compare chapter 4.6.2

⁴⁷⁹ INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 5

⁴⁸⁰ http://www.iao.be/deu/iso_9001.htm, Accessed: 2006-12-30

4.11 Arrangement of the Websites

The websites of the institutions that provide training programs in osteopathy are of course subject to time. In the period from February 2006 until April 2007 these websites were repeatedly visited by the author of this paper. Subjectively the following could be ascertained:

- The website of the I.A.O. (<http://www.iao.be/>) seems to be arranged clearly and informatively. The data is demonstrably updated.
- The website of the WSO (<http://www.wso.at/>) also seems to be arranged clearly and informatively, although the website has been “under construction” for about six months and the information therefore is not up to date. An update and a revision would be desirable measures.
- The website of the ÖÄGMM (<http://www.manuellemedizin.org>) lists the course schedule of the previous year, the current course schedule of the year 2007 is not accessible (Accessed: 2007-01-08). The Course agenda 2006/2007 was provided by the secretariat and was added to the appendix. The website should be updated as soon as possible. Comment: in the meantime the current course schedules were published on the website.⁴⁸¹

⁴⁸¹ http://www.manuellemedizin.org/html/kurse_osteopathie.html, Accessed: 2007-03-24

5 Profession-Political and Legal Status of Osteopathy in Austria

In this chapter the representatives of osteopathic interests are briefly introduced. This introduction is followed by an account of the legal foundation of osteopathy in Austria, in particular of the sub field cranio sacral osteopathy. The last part of this chapter contains the results and a discussion.

5.1 *Bodies Representing the Interests of Osteopathy*

5.1.1 Lobbies for Osteopathy in Austria

A) “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO)

The OEGO is the professional representation of osteopaths practicing in Austria.⁴⁸² It is a registered association that is non profit oriented and a member of the European Federation of Osteopaths (EFO).⁴⁸³ Since 1995 the OEGO unites all osteopaths with a completed training in osteopathy as well as students (from the fourth year on) and aims a progressive recognition of osteopathy in Austria. All osteopaths, graduated osteopaths (D.O.) and students of an osteopathy school who have completed 1500 hours of tuition can become full members, if they hold an Austrian citizenship or have resided in Austria for a minimum of three years.⁴⁸⁴

The OEGO recognises the training of the WSO/DUK and the I.A.O., but not the osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM.⁴⁸⁵

Comment: At the General Assembly of the OEGO on April 20th 2007 the “articles of association “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie”” and “the training criteria of the OEGO” were revised.⁴⁸⁶

⁴⁸² <http://www.oego.org/index.php>, Accessed: 2006-12-30

⁴⁸³ The European Register of Osteopaths which was created in 1992 and then renamed European Federation of Osteopaths, aims to promote and regulate the education and deontology of the Osteopathic profession. (<http://www.e-f-o.org>, Accessed: 2006-11-18) See chapter 5.1.2

⁴⁸⁴ <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=6>, Accessed: 2006-12-30

⁴⁸⁵ KRÖNKE 2006

⁴⁸⁶ MÜCKLER 2/2007

B) “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Osteopathie” (ÖÄGO)

Another association (from doctors for doctors) that aims at the recognition and high quality in training of osteopathy in Austria is the “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Osteopathie” (ÖÄGO). The ÖÄGO’s aim is the propagation of osteopathy in Austria. Special attention is paid to a high standard of quality in training. The training of the ÖÄGO is currently conducted in cooperation with the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO).⁴⁸⁷ The ÖÄGO is subject to the umbrella organisation “Österreichische Ärzte für Ganzheitsmedizin”.⁴⁸⁸

5.1.2 European Representatives of Osteopathic Interests

On the European level, the most notable associations engaged in implementing the legalisation and recognition of osteopathy in the EU-member countries are the European Federation of Osteopaths (EFO, compare below) and the Osteopathic European Academic Network (OSEAN, compare below). The European Register for Professional Osteopaths e.V. (ERPO, compare below) lobbies for the academisation of osteopathy.

The EFO (organisation of organisations) shall coordinate all efforts by professional associations of D.O. to gain legal recognition of osteopathy in each EU member country. It will propose draft criteria for professional practice, a professional code of ethics and minimal training standards for all EU countries. It will stimulate consultation among all EU countries in order to promote the creation of a European Academy of Osteopathy, which would be autonomous and independent of the EFO. It will act as spokesperson for European osteopaths D.O. with the Commission of the European Communities and the European Parliament. It will avoid undue interference into national policies concerning the profession. The European Federation of Osteopaths also wishes to see other osteopathic organizations support their actions and participate in their efforts to be recognized and to have the freedom to practice their art.⁴⁸⁹

⁴⁸⁷ <http://www.wso.at/aerzte/gesellschaft.html>, Accessed: 2006-12-30

⁴⁸⁸ The association was founded in 1989 and is the largest federation of doctor’s associations for complimentary medicine in Austria. It’s assignment/task is the representation of common interest of its member-associations before the outside world (chambers, authorities, health counsel, media, patient information) and to guarantee the quality of complementary medicine through/by competent doctors.

<http://www.ganzheitsmed.at/gesellschaften.htm>, Accessed: 2006-11-17

⁴⁸⁹ <http://www.e-f-o.org/link3.html>, Accessed: 2007-02-10

OSEAN's objectives are to promote cooperation in osteopathic education and to develop a common core curriculum for part-time and full-time schools throughout Europe. OSEAN is composed of like-minded osteopathic educational institutions with a common mission which may be summarised as follows:

- to develop a rigorous and standardised model of osteopathic education throughout Europe
- to ensure that in every country osteopathic educational establishments possess a comparable resource base
- to establish and develop common research streams
- to develop active scientific, academic and professional communication links – essential for the development of osteopathy, both as an independent, clearly identifiable entity, and in its relationship with other professions in the health care sector
- to achieve for osteopathy academic recognition in all countries (achievement of professional recognition is beyond the present scope of OSEAN, but academic recognition is a necessary first step).⁴⁹⁰

Together with the AVT-College⁴⁹¹ the I.A.O. founded the European Register for Professional Osteopaths e.V. (ERPO). In addition to the founding members the European Register for Osteopathic Practitioners (EROP) participates in the ERPO as supporting member. The aim of ERPO is the academisation of osteopathy (as is the case in the UK and the USA). It aims at enhancing the level of training and practice and promoting a uniform European standard of health for the benefit of patients.⁴⁹²

The WSO is a member of the OSEAN, which the I.A.O./BCOM and ÖÄGMM are not. Furthermore the OEGO is a member of the EFO. The I.A.O. on the other hand is a founding member of the ERPO. The question arises, if a merger of these organisations would not be desirable.

⁴⁹⁰ <http://www.osean.com/joomla/>, Accessed: 2007-02-10

⁴⁹¹ <http://www.avt-osteopathie.de/index.html>, Accessed: 2007-04-24, AVT-College (Advanced Training in Osteopathy-College) BECK 2007

⁴⁹² http://www.iao.be/deu/dachverband_bao.htm, Accessed: 2007-03-24

5.1.3 Worldwide Representations of Osteopathic Interests

The Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA) and the World Osteopathic Health Organization⁴⁹³ (WOHO) share a vision for the future of osteopathy. The OIA is an organization of organizations. The OIA and the WOHO are the only two worldwide organizations representing the needs and aspirations of osteopaths and osteopathic physicians. The OIA serves as a clearinghouse of information monitored by the OIA secretariat with a view of obtaining, reviewing and distributing the most accurate information currently available regarding the osteopathic profession internationally. The OIA clearinghouse serves as a credible, reliable source of information for the use of participating organizations as well as interested governmental, regulatory, and non-governmental bodies that are advancing the interests of osteopathy and promoting health care globally. The purpose of the Osteopathic International Alliance is to advance the philosophy and practice of osteopathic medicine and osteopathy throughout the world. From the 5th to the 7th of October 2006 there was an annual general meeting of the OIA - Schlangenbad, GERMANY, in conjunction with the German Osteopathic Association (VOD) Meeting. The board discussed and approved their first full version of the Policy & Procedures Manual.⁴⁹⁴

One has to note that the German-American Academy of Osteopathy (DAAO) is a full member of the OIA while the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.) is an associate member of the OIA. No Austrian organisation is currently a member of the OIA: the WSO, DUK or the OEGO are neither full members nor associate members of the OIA.

⁴⁹³ WOHO is a membership organization from OIA and the members are individual osteopaths and osteopathic physicians." *The new organization's goal statement includes: To promote, develop, protect and establish throughout the world, the study, knowledge, philosophy and practice of osteopathy its application and research for the benefit of the peoples of all nations; To ensure the worldwide availability of the practice of osteopathy at the highest possible standards.*"

(http://www.woho.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=8&Itemid=34, Accessed: 2007-03-12)

⁴⁹⁴ <http://www.oialliance.org/events.htm>, Accessed: 2006-12-31

5.2 Legal Foundations of Osteopathy in Austria

Osteopathy is an independent holistic manual method of treatment,⁴⁹⁵ but is currently not recognised as such in Austria. From the legal and mechanical standpoint mechano therapeutic measures are applied in the framework of an osteopathic treatment. A direct legislation for “osteopathy” does not exist in Austria:

- The use of the job title “osteopath” or the title “D.O.” (graduate osteopath) is currently not protected by law.
- No legal regulations for providing professional, advanced and continuing training programs in osteopathy currently exist.⁴⁹⁶
- The practice of “osteopathy” is neither legally regulated nor monitored. In Austria, osteopathy is neither recognised nor prohibited and can be practiced by different people with different professional qualifications, with or without medical background in training⁴⁹⁷ (compare below).
- In Austria it is legally unclear if osteopathy represents a “specialisation” of medical-scientific professions (e.g. doctor, physiotherapist) or if it is an “independent” treatment method.

A fundamental question is if the term “treatment” (“Heilverfahren”) is subject to legal regimentation. An explicit legal norm for treatment, in particular regarding osteopathy does not exist in Austria. Who and with which methods and concepts is permitted to “heal” respectively perform treatments on patients, can be gathered from the respective medical fields.⁴⁹⁸ ”Osteopathy” or sectors thereof (e.g. cranio sacral therapy, visceral osteopathy, structural osteopathy) are performed by people with or without medical-scientific basic-training. In this chapter the circumstances that among others currently would enable this are presented:

- a) Possible legal foundation for practicing osteopathy: people with medical-scientific basic training background
- b) Possible legal foundation for practicing osteopathy: people without medical-scientific basic training (“medical laymen”)

⁴⁹⁵ <http://www.oego.org/ziele.php?zaehler=11>, Accessed: 2006-11-11

⁴⁹⁶ “*Science and its teaching is free.*” Staatsgundgesetz 1867, Artikel 17, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁴⁹⁷ OEGO 2005b

⁴⁹⁸ KIEREIN 2007

Ad a) Possible Legal Foundation for practicing Osteopathy as Person with basic medical-scientific Training

In Austria the basic legislation for medical professions is subject to precise regulations:

- For doctors the “Ärztegesetz”⁴⁹⁹ and for dentists the “Zahnärztegesetz”⁵⁰⁰ applies.
- For physiotherapists and occupational therapists the federal law “Bundesgesetz über die Regelung der gehobenen medizinisch-technischen Dienste (MTD Gesetz)” applies.⁵⁰¹
- Midwives are subject to the “Hebammengesetz”.⁵⁰²
- For medical masseurs („Medizinischer Masseur“) and remedial masseurs („Heilmasseur“) the “Medizinische Masseur- und Heilmasseurgesetz (MMHmG)”⁵⁰³ applies.
- The commercial masseur (“gewerblicher Masseur”) is a regulated trade.⁵⁰⁴

The “Ärztegesetz” comprehensively regulates and puts down in writing that practicing the profession of medical doctor includes every task based on medical-scientific knowledge that is performed directly on a person or for the person. In particular are meant the examination in order to detect possible physical or mental illnesses or dysfunctions, handicaps or deformities and anomalies, as well as their evaluation by utilising medical-diagnostic aids, as well as the treatment of such states. The prevention of illnesses is also included.⁵⁰⁵ According to the current legal status, the performance of osteopathy (as mechano therapeutic measure of patient treatment) by doctors is possible.

The “Zahnärztegesetz” comprehensively regulates and puts down in writing that the profession of a dentist comprises every measure based on dentistry-scientific knowledge that is performed directly on or indirectly for a person, including complementary- and alternative medical treatment. The field of profession reserved to dentists in particular comprises the

⁴⁹⁹ BGBI. I Nr. 169/1998, 1998

⁵⁰⁰ BGBI. I Nr. 126/2005, 2005c

⁵⁰¹ BGBI. Nr. 460/1992, 1992

⁵⁰² BGBI. Nr. 310/1994, 1994b

⁵⁰³ BGBI. I Nr. 169/2002, 2002d

⁵⁰⁴ BGBI. Nr. 194/1994, 1994a

⁵⁰⁵ BGBI. I Nr. 169/1998, 1998, 2 and 3

examination on the presence or non-presence of illnesses and anomalies of the teeth, the mouth, the jaws and the respective tissues. Furthermore the “Zahnärztegesetz” includes the evaluation and treatment of the afore mentioned states using dentistry diagnostic aids and the prevention of illnesses of the teeth, the mouth and the jaws including the respective tissues.

⁵⁰⁶ The performance of osteopathy (as mechano therapeutic measure of patient treatment) by dentists is not clear according to the current legal status, but not principally impossible.

In the federal law on higher medical-technical services (“MTD Gesetz”), the services of physiotherapists and occupational therapists among many other groups are legally regulated:⁵⁰⁷

- It is comprehensively regulated and put down in writing that physiotherapeutic services comprise the independent application of all physiotherapeutic measures, which were prescribed by a doctor, in intra-and extramural areas, paying special attention to functional connections between the fields of health-education, prophylaxis, therapy and rehabilitation. To these count mechano therapeutic measures, such as all forms of mobility therapy, perception, manual therapy of the joints, breathing therapy, all forms of remedial massages, reflex-zones therapies, lymph drainage, ultra sound therapy, as well as all electro-, thermo-, photo-, hydro- and balneo therapeutic measures and diagnostic measures and the participation in electro diagnostic examinations. Without doctors’ orders the “MDT-Gesetz” for physiotherapists comprises the advice and education of healthy individuals in the afore mentioned fields.⁵⁰⁸
- Occupational therapeutic services comprise the independent treatment of ill and handicapped people on doctors orders through handcrafts and creative activities, the training in self help and the production, application and instruction in the use of aids including splints for the purposes of prophylaxis, therapy and rehabilitation; without doctors’ orders the advisory and instructional activity in the field of ergonomics as well as the field of general joint prophylaxis with healthy individuals.⁵⁰⁹

⁵⁰⁶ BGBI. I Nr. 126/2005, 2005c, § 4

⁵⁰⁷ BGBI. Nr. 460/1992, 1992

⁵⁰⁸ BGBI. Nr. 460/1992, 1992

⁵⁰⁹ BGBI. Nr. 460/1992, 1992, § 2

The performance of osteopathy (as mechano therapeutic measure of patient treatment) by physiotherapists if ordered by a doctor is generally possible according to the current legal status. Concerning occupational therapists, the wording of the law on performing osteopathic (mechano therapeutic) measures is not clear.

The “Hebammengesetz” regulates the profession of midwife: comprised are the care, consultation and support of pregnant women, women giving birth and women in childbed, the support during birth as well as the participation in the care of the mother and infant. While practicing the profession of midwife the following tasks are to be carried out autonomously.⁵¹⁰ This is just an exemplary listing of the relevant points:

- diagnosis of the pregnancy, observation of the normal pregnancy
- performance of all necessary measures to observe a normal pregnancy
- performance of all measures ordered by a doctor⁵¹¹

To what extent “patient treatments” are regulated by law for midwives is unclear. On the one hand “patient treatment” could fall in the category “performance of all measures ordered by a doctor”, on the other hand pregnancy and birth are not an illness but process. In this regard the performance of osteopathy by midwives is legally ambiguous. Without a doubt midwives have a well founded medical training, even if it is very specialised.

In a broader sense the professions of remedial masseur and medical masseur can also be counted to the professions with basic medical training that could practice osteopathy as a patient treatment: On the 11th of July 2002 the National Assembly passed the novel “Heilmasseurgesetz- Bundesgesetz über die Berufe und Ausbildungen zum medizinischen Masseur und zum Heilmasseur (Medizinischer Masseur- und Heilmasseurgesetz – MMHmG)”. This federal law is enacted since 2003. The profession medical masseur comprises the practice of: classic massage, compress applications, thermotherapy, ultrasound therapy and special massages for remedial purposes on doctor’s orders under the instruction and supervision of a doctor or a physiotherapist. The practice of the profession of medical masseur is permitted in the framework of a contract with a freelance graduate physiotherapist. The profession of remedial masseur comprises the independent performance of: classic

⁵¹⁰ BGBI. Nr. 310/1994, 1994 b

⁵¹¹ BGBI.Nr. 310/1994, 1994b, § 1 and 2

massage, compress applications, thermotherapy, ultrasound therapy and special massages for remedial purposes on doctor's orders. The practice of the profession remedial masseur is permitted in the framework of a contract with a freelance graduate physiotherapist, but also, free lance. In the future remedial masseurs will have the opportunity to acquire the job permit of a commercial masseur. Commercial masseurs, for a limited period of time, have the opportunity to “upscale” their training to become remedial masseurs.⁵¹²

In particular the remedial masseur is permitted by law to independently perform special massages with the purpose of healing on doctor's orders, while the medical masseur can only do this under the instruction and supervision of a doctor or physiotherapist. The wording “special massages with the purpose of healing” allows numerous interpretations and could also comprise osteopathic (mechano therapeutic) measures (compare chapter 2.2.5).

The “commercial masseur” is a regulated trade, and in the broadest sense commercial masseurs could also be included into the group of people with basic medical training. The commercial masseur can perform “treatments on healthy individuals” as an employee as well as freelance after he has acquired a trade license.⁵¹³ In a broader sense osteopathic (mechano therapeutic) measures could officially be performed this way: to acquire the trade license one has to take a qualifying-exam and an entrepreneur exam.⁵¹⁴ These exams can be taken on separate dates at the chamber of commerce “Wirtschaftskammer”.⁵¹⁵

Ad b) Possible Legal Foundation for practicing Osteopathy as Person without basic medical-scientific Training (“medical laymen”)

For outsiders it is hard to draw the line between medically trained therapists and laymen without legally regulated basic medical-scientific training. Institutions and persons, who are not by law permitted to treat patients with mechano therapeutic measures (in Austria currently only doctors and physiotherapists are clearly allowed to do so; compare chapter 5.3 and 5.4), take a very sensitive stance in regard to the current legal situation (as example compare chapter 2.2.9). This also shows the urgent necessity of a basic legislation for osteopathy in Austria.

⁵¹² BGBI. I Nr. 169/2002, 2002d, § 1,2,5 and 6

⁵¹³ BGBI. Nr. 194/1994, 1994a

⁵¹⁴ BGBI. Nr. 618/1993, 1993a

⁵¹⁵ http://portal.wko.at/wk/startseite_br.wk?BrID=534&DstID=222, Accessed: 2007-03-11

People without basic medical training can among others use the following possibilities to legally practice osteopathy or sectors thereof:

- One possibility to officially practice osteopathy could be a so called “private instruction” (“the body is instructed”): The practice of the commercial field of private instruction and education are excluded from the trade regulations.⁵¹⁶ Teaching and education freedom are constitutional rights in Austria.⁵¹⁷
- A further possibility to practice osteopathy could be the trade “aid to accomplish a physical respectively energetic balance”. This is a free trade and does not require any qualifying certificate or prior knowledge.⁵¹⁸ To acquire this trade licence one must simply fill out an application at the respective District Administration Authorities.⁵¹⁹ The following jobs “in the vicinity of medicine” can be performed as free trades and registered as trade without any requirements in Austria:
 1. *“Aid to achieve a physical respectively energetic balance through the method of Dr. Bach, Biofeedback or Bioresonance, by using a choice of colours, fragrances, lights, aromas, gems, music, under the application of kinesiological methods and via interpretation of the aura without any activity that necessitates a verification of requirements.”*⁵²⁰
 2. *“Aid in achieving a physical respectively energetic balance through Bachblüten, Biofeedback or Bioresonance, selection of colours, fragrances, lights, aromas, gems, music, kinesiological methods, aura interpretation, magnetic field applications with the exception of the magnetic field therapy reserved to doctors, as well as through gentle touch of the body respectively laying on of hands on the body with the exception of jobs reserved to the regulated trades of massage and cosmetics (beauty care) in particular massage techniques that are comparable with acupuncture and shiatsu respectively activities that as a consequence of heat treatment and therewith connected optimisation of the circulation on muscles and the skin achieve a result which is similar or equal to massage or beauty care or such activities*

⁵¹⁶ BGBI. Nr. 194/1994, 1994a, § 2

⁵¹⁷ “Science and its teaching are free. To found educational and instructional facilities and teach at such facilities is every citizen’s right, who has gained his permission here fore legally and can prove so. The private instruction does not have such restrictions.” Staatsgundgesetz 1867, Artikel 17, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵¹⁸ HALLMANN 2/2007

⁵¹⁹ <http://www.wien.gv.at/amthelfer/gewerbe/gewerbeanmeldung.html>, Accessed: 2007-03-05

⁵²⁰ HALLMANN 1/2007

which require the knowledge of hygiene that is reserved to masseurs and cosmetics.”⁵²¹

The “gentle touching of the body” as well as the “laying on of hands on the body” (“Grossflächiges Auflegen der Hände”) could comprise osteopathic (mechano therapeutic) measures, in particular the sector of cranio sacral therapy (compare below).

5.3 Special Case: Cranio Sacral Osteopathy in Austria

On the topic of cranio sacral osteopathy many unanswered questions exist:

- What is the difference between the different possibilities to undergo a training program in cranio sacral osteopathy (e.g. cranio sacral therapy, cranio sacral integration, cranial work a.s.o.. Compare chapter 2.2) and osteopathy?
- Who is authorised to offer these forms of therapy in Austria?

This chapter offers a detailed inspection of this topic in Austria. To start with a survey on the historical development of cranio sacral osteopathy.

William Garner Sutherland (1873-1954) attended the American School of Osteopathy (ASO) and graduated his training in the year 1900. While he was contemplating the sutures of a disarticulated skull, he thought it bared similarities with “the gill of a fish”. He suspected a breathing-like motion in the sutures and in the following decades tried to refute his hypothesis through daring self-experiments.⁵²² Since he did not succeed he applied the concept of traditional osteopathy on the skull bones, developed specialized and fine techniques and thereby founded the concept of cranial osteopathy. One should mention that Charlotte Weaver D.O. and also graduate of the ASO (1912) had published several important articles on cranial motility before Sutherlands publication “The Cranial Bowl” (1939) and could have influenced his work.⁵²³ The roots of cranio sacral osteopathy without a doubt lie in osteopathy!

In particular, in the sector of cranio sacral osteopathy innumerable advanced and continuing training programs exist (compare chapter 2.2). The term “Upledger Cranio Sacral Therapy ®”

⁵²¹ HALLMANN 1/2007; HALLMANN 2/2007

⁵²² HARTMANN 2004, SUTHERLAND 1994

⁵²³ ibidem

was formed by Dr. John Upledger.⁵²⁴ Therefore, and to avoid legal conflicts (compare below), terms such as “Cranial-Fluid Dynamics”, “Cranial Work”, “Cranio sacral Integration” or others are used in connection with continuing training programs dealing with the cranio sacral system. The titles do not bear the word “therapy” to probably avoid legal conflicts. Concerning osteopathy (as holistic manual concept of treatment) the sector is titled “cranio sacral osteopathy”.

In the year 2004 a trend setting ruling concerning cranio sacral osteopathy was issued by the Supreme Court (OGH): In a lawsuit filed by the Federal Association of Graduate Physiotherapists in Austria (PhysioAustria) the OGH made a direction giving decision: Patient treatments such as “cranio sacral osteopathy” can only be offered by physiotherapists and doctors. The legal dispute was triggered by a commercial masseuse, who offered cranio sacral osteopathy in her folders.⁵²⁵ The ruling entails extensive consequences: If this method of treatment is based on medical-scientific knowledge is irrelevant according to the OGH. The decisive point was *“that the accused offered the treatment of pathological states with mechanotherapeutic measures”*.⁵²⁶ And this is reserved to physiotherapists according to the Federal Law “Bundesgesetz über die Regelung der gehobenen medizinisch-technischen Dienste (MTD-Gesetz)”, compare chapter 5.1.⁵²⁷

Extract from the pronounced judgement of the Supreme Court: OGH, 6th of July 2004, 4Ob156/04a: *“.....according to the ascertained facts the accused - who is neither doctor nor registered physiotherapist - offers a treatment in various advertisements, which “mobilizes with gentle touches along the spine” and is supposed to lead “ to a noticeable improvement and more mobility” in “general tensions of the back, pains in the shoulder area, humpbacks, with problems of the cervical spine, scoliosis, malpositions of children, herniated vertebral discs, after accidents and falls, after operations, back pain and ischias problems, ailments of the sacrum”. The accused does not deny that she actually offers and performs these treatments. For the evaluation, if the accused against § 4 „MTD-Gesetz“ practices measures of the higher medical-technical services, to which physiotherapeutic services are counted, is solely relevant, which treatments she actually offers and practices. [...] The therapy offered by the accused thereby is subject to the clear wording of the law under § 2 para 1 „MTD-Gesetz“. [...] The question- what is meant by “cranio sacral osteopathy” and if it is an*

⁵²⁴ <http://www.upledger.at/institut/frameset.html>, Accessed: 2006-11-12

⁵²⁵ AISTLEITHNER 2005

⁵²⁶ OGH, 6..7.2004, 4Ob 156/04a; 2004b, translated by J. Stark

⁵²⁷ AISTLEITHNER 2005

occupation which is based on medical-scientific knowledge-which was extensively answered by the accused I not relevant to the facts of the case. Relevant is that the accused offers the treatment of pathological states (such as pains in the shoulder, herniated vertebral discs) with mechano therapeutic measures.”⁵²⁸

Conclusions on the above cited OGH-ruling: Whether a practice is reserved to doctors and physiotherapists, is oriented on the fact, which practices are actually offered. “*The practice of treatments is to be concluded from the offer.*”⁵²⁹ Practices of patient treatment with mechano therapeutic measures are reserved to doctors and physiotherapists.

“*The application of mechano therapeutic measures alone- without applying them on pathological states- would probably not violate the practices reserved to doctors and physiotherapists.*”⁵³⁰ In this respect the practice of osteopathic (mechano therapeutic) measures by medical laymen “on the healthy” would legally be possible. The question when and if the case of “no pathological state” ever applies, arises:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) solely defines the term “health” in a declaration: “*The Conference strongly reaffirms that health, which is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.*”⁵³¹ A definition of disease is not issued by the WHO.
- The lexicon⁵³² defines disease (synonyms: illness, morbus, Greek: nosos) as a disruption in the “course of life-processes”.
- A particular difficulty arises when one tries to define the transition from “healthy” to “ill”. The state of a grave illness can easily be circumscribed by a definition. The beginning of a disease can not easily be defined. “*The social discussion on the discrimination of disease to health is carried out among experts with terms such as healthism, disease mongering and medicalisation.*”⁵³³

⁵²⁸ OGH, 6.7.2004, 4Ob 156/04a, 2004a; translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵²⁹ AISTLEITHNER 2004, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵³⁰ ibidem

⁵³¹ Declaration of Alma-Ata, 1978, I

⁵³² BROCKHAUS 2005, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵³³ <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krankheit>, Accessed: 2007-03-11, translated by J. Stark 2007

5.4 Results and Discussion

Osteopathy is an independent medical-scientific holistic manual method of treatment, but is not legally recognised as such in Austria. Osteopathy is not subject to legal regulations in Austria. Hence the following drawbacks have developed:

- A legal distinction of the osteopathic profession from related medical-scientific professions or non-medically trained professions is at the moment not possible.
- The outsider encounters great difficulties in drawing the line between fundamentally medically trained osteopaths and laymen without legally regulated basic medical training. Patients encounter conflicts in regard to the selection criteria they should go by when searching for a suitable and qualified osteopath. The non-existent legislation is carried out on the back of the patients.
- A further problem that results is the legal ambiguity, whether osteopathy represents a “specialisation” of medical-scientific professions (e.g. doctor, physiotherapist) or if it is an independent treatment method and profession.

It is a fact that osteopathy represents a scientifically recognised, independent method of treatment in the USA and UK (compare chapter 1.2). The highest aim of professional politics in Austria could be the implementation of recognising osteopathy as independent treatment method and profession, and not as a “specialisation” of medical professions.

Currently no explicit legal norm for treatments (“Heilverfahren”), in particular for osteopathy, exists in Austria. Who and with which methods and concepts is permitted to “heal” respectively perform treatments on patients, is regulated in the respective medical fields. According to the current legal status in Austria only doctors and physiotherapists are authorised to treat patients with mechano therapeutic measures (and consequently also to practice osteopathy, which is a manual method of treatment). Bypassing the legal status is currently possible, but regarding the OGH ruling cited in chapter 5.3 not advisable and should be rather negated. The current legislation proves the sense of the participation requirements for osteopathy training programs (compare chapter 4.2): as of the academic year 2007/2008 all osteopathy training programs, which were compared in chapter 4 only admit doctors and/or physiotherapists.

6 Summary

The aim of this thesis was to present a survey of all currently available professional, advanced and continuing training programs for osteopathy in Austria and subsequently compare them, to describe them and shed light on the differences as well as the commonalities.

The definitions of osteopathy as well the (legal) recognition as independent profession differ worldwide. Even though different approaches to define osteopathy exist, there is a mutual consent that osteopathy represents a manual holistic method of treatment, and that this treatment is viewed as a facilitative influence to encourage the self regulatory process. The codex of conduct issued by the “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO) in 2005 put down in writing that osteopathy distinguishes itself by enhancing and supporting the patients’ self healing mechanisms with individually chosen osteopathic techniques, which comply with osteopathic principles. In the opinion of the OEGO, osteopathy lives up to its holistic claim by including all human apparatuses (structural/functional system, visceral system and cranio sacral system). In Austria osteopathy is currently not officially recognised as an independent, holistic, medical-scientific manual method of treatment.

Contrary to other countries (e.g. USA, UK) Austria does not have a legal regulation of osteopathy. The use of the job title (anybody can call himself “osteopath” in Austria), the practice of osteopathy and the offering of osteopathic training are neither recognised nor prohibited. The main problem (not just for this paper) that results from this situation is the impossibility to define, dissociate or demarcate “osteopathy”. Hence it is impossible to present a comprehensive list or survey of all current professional, advanced and continuing training programs in Austria. Due to the numerous training programs for osteopathy, which were collected during the research for this paper, it was necessary to systematise them into two main groups:

- a) Professional Training Programs for Osteopathy
- b) Osteopathic Advanced and Continuing Training Programs

Subsequently the training programs for osteopathy in Austria were compared.

Ad a) Professional Training Programs for Osteopathy

In this group the training programs of the Viennese School of Osteopathy (WSO) in cooperation with the Danube University Krems (DUK), the International Academy of Osteopathy (I.A.O.) in cooperation with the University of Westminster in London respectively the British College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) and the Osteopathy Courses of the “Österreichische Ärztesgesellschaft für Manuelle Medizin” (ÖÄGMM) in cooperation with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) were compared.

Results:

- The compared professional training programs for osteopathy all cooperate with a federally recognised university, conform an extra occupational part-time training in osteopathy and comprise all sectors of osteopathy (structural/functional system, visceral system, cranio sacral system). Only persons with basic medical-scientific training (e.g. doctors, physiotherapists) are admitted to these training programs.
- All compared professional training programs for osteopathy are conducted in the form of block-seminars. The instructors in all institutions can be compared on the same level.
- In Austria the WSO represents the largest and oldest institution that offers professional training in osteopathy.

On closer inspection the professional training programs for osteopathy show differences:

1. The structure of the complete professional training at the WSO/DUK and the I.A.O./BCOM are similar: five years of part-time training are followed by a university study course. The aims of the complete professional training at the WSO/DUK and the I.A.O./BCOM are also similar. Differences between these two programs can be found in the length of training in hours and in the costs (compare chapters 4.3, 4.5, and 4.8). The strong points of the WSO are the importance that is attached to the practical training as well as the employment of assistants and translators. The strong points of the I.A.O. are in the quality management, the flexible course system, the uniform course language (German) and the scripts (uniform arrangement, plus video/DVD

containing all taught techniques at the end of the year). In both training programs students have to author at least one scientific paper to be able to graduate.

2. The osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM can only be compared with the programs of the I.A.O. and the WSO/DUK with great difficulty: the length of training is much shorter (minimum 1 year), no scientific paper is required, no titles or academic degrees are awarded. No statements concerning training aims and quality management were issued. Furthermore discrepancies concerning the "coextensive and interchangeable" courses at the "Dr. Karl-Sell-Ärztseminar Neutrauburg (MWE)" exist in regard to the length of training, admission requirements and the costs. The osteopathy training at the ÖÄGMM is not sufficient to qualify as a member of the "Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie" (OEGO; who represents the interests of osteopaths in Austria). Retrospectively the question arises, whether this really is a professional training in osteopathy or simply an osteopathic continuing training for medical doctors.
3. The international trend is moving towards "rivalry over students", in this context only credible training programs will be able to survive in the field of osteopathy. The aim of the Bologna-Declaration is the establishment of a common European higher education zone (greater compatibility and comparability) until 2010. A sub-goal is among others the introduction of a credit system, which is based on the ECTS-model (European Credit Transfer System). Hence a comparison of the osteopathy training programs in respect to the awarded academic degrees, titles and diplomas and the accorded ECTS-credits (compare chapter 4.9) seems highly relevant:
 - The recognition of the academic degrees "Master of Science/Osteopathy (MSc Osteopathy)" (WSO/DUK) and "Bachelor of Science with Honours in Osteopathy (B.Sc. (Hons) Osteopathy)" (I.A.O./BCOM) is principally effected throughout Europe, since academic degrees, which are awarded by recognised institutions of higher education, are recognised throughout Europe. The concrete decision is subject to the national law of the respective host country.
 - The title "Diplom-Osteopath (D.O.)" of the WSO (after completion of the university study course WSO/DUK) and the diploma "Diplom in Osteopathie (D.O.)" of the I.A.O. (after completion of the five year part-time training) are legally not recognised in Austria, because osteopathy is no legally regulated profession in Austria. The legal recognition of the "Diplom für Osteopathische Medizin" of the ÖÄGMM respectively of the DAAO (German American

Academy of Osteopathy) in Austria is ambiguous: these osteopathy courses are approbated to the Diploma Further Training Program (DFP) of the Austrian Medical Association (ÖÄK) and only doctors are admitted to these courses.

- The osteopathy courses of the ÖÄGMM are not accorded ECTS-credits. The completion of the university study course (WSO/DUK) is worth 90 ECTS-credits. The rating of the osteopathy training of the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course of the BCOM in ECTS-credits is ambiguous, differing statements from the I.A.O. and the BCOM exist. It is not clear if and how many ECTS-credits the training at the I.A.O. and the Conversion Course at the BCOM is worth.

Ad b) Osteopathic Advanced and Continuing Training Programs

This group comprises all other researched osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs. For the most part the programs listed in this group have the following similarities:

- In every case isolated sectors of osteopathy (e.g. cranio sacral osteopathy, structural osteopathic mobilisation techniques, visceral osteopathic techniques, ect.) are conveyed. The claim of a holistic concept and the conceptual basics of osteopathy are lost.
- In most cases there are no participation requirements, the advanced and continuing training programs are mostly accessible to medical laymen.
- In one case the term “osteopathy” is used without any clear connection in the contents and profession.
- The qualifications of the instructors in some cases seem to be insufficient or sometimes are not mentioned.
- The problem of quality management of training and professionalism of osteopathy in Austria is a result of these various training programs.

The numerous listings in this chapter necessitated a more detailed discussion of the profession-political and legal status of osteopathy. Osteopathy is not subject to legal regulations in Austria. From the mechanical point of view, the measures applied in the framework of an osteopathic treatment are mechano therapeutic. According to the current legal status only doctors and physiotherapists are permitted to perform mechano therapeutic measures of treatment on patients. As a layman without legally regulated basic medical-scientific training it is possible to bypass the legal status and practice osteopathy, but

considering the OGH-ruling cited in chapter 5.3 this is not advisable and should be rather negated.

6.1 Conclusions

It is NOT the same to graduate a professional training in osteopathy (chapter 2.1 respectively 4) or simply attend osteopathic advanced or continuing training programs (chapter 2.2). These two groups differ IMMENSELY in respect to: contents, instructors, admission-requirements and the holistic conveyance of the medical-scientific concept of osteopathy.

In Austria, the non-existence of legislation for osteopathy entails the following problems and drawbacks:

- It is currently impossible to list all training programs for osteopathy in Austria.
- A legal distinction between “professional training programs in osteopathy” and “osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs” can not be made.
- A legal differentiation of the profession of “osteopaths” is neither possible concerning related medical professions nor concerning non-medically trained laymen.
- The outsider encounters great difficulties in drawing the line between fundamentally medically-scientifically trained osteopaths and laymen without legally regulated basic medical training. Conflicts in regard to the criteria that should be applied when searching for a qualified and suitable osteopath arises for the patient. The problem of the non-existent legislation for osteopathy is carried out on the back of the patients.
- This results in problems regarding the quality management of training and professionalism in osteopathy.

The described drawbacks, the existence of osteopathy on the academic level and the growing number of osteopathy training graduates⁵³⁴ (chapter 4) necessitate a legal regulation of the profession of osteopath.

⁵³⁴ See chapter 4.1.4

One aim could be the legal differentiation of “professional training in osteopathy” from “osteopathic advanced and continuing training programs” as well as other medical and non-medical training programs in Austria. This legal differentiation would require the legal recognition of osteopathy as an independent medical-scientific manual method of treatment and as profession. As a consequence an opportunity for a full-time (academic) training in osteopathy would have to be established in Austria.

The aim of implementing a recognition of osteopathy as an independent treatment in the sense of a medical-scientific manual method of treatment reserved to an independent profession and not as a “specialisation” of different medical professions, not only is desirable but indispensable for the future in Austria.

6.2 Critical Contemplation of the Thesis

The administrative effort of this thesis was immense. Not only do the definitions of osteopathy but also the legal foundations for the practice of osteopathy also differ internationally. World wide enquiries on the legal foundations would have gone beyond the scope of this thesis.

One has to note that the cooperativeness of the contacted training institutions in some cases was very limited or even non existent. For the stated reasons a complete and consistent enquiry was not possible, not all particulars could be attained. Research concerning the relevant criteria of comparison (exams, certificate, titles, diplomas, academic degrees, recognition, ECTS-credits) was conducted very detailed. For the same reasons it became necessary to interview participants of the various training programs in person. In these cases neither the interviewee nor the author accepts legal liability concerning the statements.

Because this thesis, in respect to its methodology, represents a qualitative survey, only a limited amount of primary literature was available. With regard to the special topic of this thesis no previous papers exist. Currently no comparable paper exists in Austria.

After intense analysis of the topic, the present structural arrangement of this thesis was chosen. In principle a different structural arrangement would be possible. The thesis at hand is very extensive, which reflects the complexity of the treated subject.

To shed light on the topic of training programs for osteopathy comprehensively, one would also have to compare the quality of training and the curricula. A comparison of the curricula would have gone beyond the scope of this thesis and apart from that the only curriculum that could be obtained was the curriculum of the WSO/DUK. Consequently this paper DOES NOT represent an analysis of the quality and contents of the compared programs. A more detailed comparison would be possible.

In the framework of this thesis, the concept of osteopathy was described very mechanically, matter-of-factly and scientifically. The concept of osteopathy comprises far more than just treatment techniques in all its sectors: “*osteopathy is a science, art and philosophy.*”⁵³⁵ The “philosophy” of the holistic concept of osteopathy was not discussed in detail in the framework of this thesis. A philosophical approach would have gone beyond the scope of this thesis, but would present a challenge.

The word-for-word citations in the text are partly extensive. This was done deliberately to avoid a distortion of the developing picture and partly to avoid legal conflicts.

The author is a participant of the university study course in osteopathy at the Danube-University in Krems DUK/WSO. This fact has to be considered while reading the thesis. This thesis was originally authored in German, and then translated into English.

⁵³⁵ ARLOT 2001; LIGNER 2000; LIGNER 2007; LUNATTI 2007

7 Personal Statement

In conclusion, some personal statements:

The concept of osteopathy comprises far more than treatment techniques in all its sectors: osteopathy is a science, an art and a philosophy. In regard to the holistic conceptual basics of osteopathy it can never be comparable to graduate a complete professional training in osteopathy, or to simply graduate sectors, even if all sectors are comprised.

If one regards osteopathic treatment techniques from the “mechanical” point of view, one realizes how complex and comprehensive they are and that they require a long time of practising and a high level of medical-scientific basic knowledge, particularly in the fields of anatomy, physiology and pathology, if one wants to perform them correctly and on indication. Insufficient medical background knowledge and/or superficially trained practice could present a danger for treated persons, even if they are “healthy”.

The “Österreichische Gesellschaft für Osteopathie” (OEGO) issued a codex of conduct for its members in Mai 2005 (“The Osteopathic Standard”).⁵³⁶ For the purpose of a “strong” representation of interests of this profession with the highest possible level of scientific argumentation, this codex must be re-issued and expanded:

- How could a medical-scientifically based definition of osteopathy look like?
- In which ways does osteopathy concretely distinguish itself from other manual-therapeutic concepts?
- What precisely does the concept of osteopathy comprise?
- What precisely does an osteopathic treatment comprise, and what are the explicit (scientific) aims of an osteopathic treatment?
- To what extent can the terms “art” and “philosophy” be incorporated in a scientifically based definition of osteopathy?

⁵³⁶ OEGO 2005b

Particularly the definition of osteopathy in Austria would have to be revised: the distinction from other manual therapeutic concepts is only possible in the case of a medical-scientific argumentation.

The Supreme Sanitary Council (OSR) could among others play an important role in the basic legislation for osteopathy: In Austria the OSR acts as evaluating organ for the respective health minister. It is an organ, which consists of outstanding personalities from all medical fields. It consults the federal ministry of health in all basic medical concerns and performs evaluations. The recommendations of the OSR are not binding and have proposal character for decisions in health care policy.⁵³⁷ To date the OSR has only once issued a statement on “osteopathy”. In a meeting of the OSR on June 17th 2000 it was put into writing that: *“The OSR declares: To be able to say that osteopathy is a recognised method, scientific basics are missing. The method must principally be practiced under the supervision of a doctor; the responsibility applies directly and indirectly.”*⁵³⁸ A re-evaluation of the topic with a constructive statement could possibly accelerate a legislation or in the worst case delay and impede it.

Possible measures for the implementation of basic legislation for osteopathy in Austria:

1. The WSO/DUK, the I.A.O. and the ÖÄGMM as training institutions but foremost the OEGO and ÖÄGO as representatives of the interests of osteopaths in Austria have to endeavour and to implement a basic legislation for osteopathy. Such legislation would protect the job title moreover it would regulate and secure the quality management of training and the professional practice. Furthermore it would bring clarity to the selection criteria for patients who are searching for a qualified and suitable osteopath. Comment: At the general meeting of the OEGO in April 2007 suggestions for altering the bylaws and the written documentation of OEGO criteria for training were important points. The training criteria of the OEGO orient themselves along the development of academic criteria of the EFO and of the OSEAN.⁵³⁹
2. All osteopaths with respective training are urged to join the Austrian representatives of osteopathic interests (OEGO and ÖÄGO). The bigger and stronger the representatives

⁵³⁷ HUFNAGL 1/2007

⁵³⁸ HRABCIK 2007, translated by J. Stark 2007

⁵³⁹ MÜCKLER 1/2007 and MÜCKLER 2/2007

can appear before the legislator the better an opportunity to implement a basic legislation will be.

3. From the profession political point of view, all participants of the WSO can only be advised to enrol in the university study course in osteopathy at the DUK. The academic degree at the BCOM (for graduates of the I.A.O.) should also be aimed at. The existence of osteopaths at universities (especially in Austria) plays a relevant role for the future recognition and legislation of osteopathy in Austria.
4. Great changes are based on big amount of preliminary work on the details: every practicing osteopath carries profession political responsibilities. This should be demonstrated in the contact with patients, but also in the contact with persons in medical professions, in particular medical doctors.
5. Generally, a greater willingness to do voluntary work for the representatives of osteopathic interests would be desirable.

In Austria the WSO represents the largest and oldest institution to offer professional training in osteopathy. If the WSO wants to keep this position in the future, it will be necessary to improve the quality management of training considerably. In particular an external quality management should be considered. A relevant and first step in this direction could be revision of the curriculum as well as the re-definition of the training aims of the basic training at the WSO. The aim could be lifting the training to the “higher education level”. Furthermore, the WSO should update its website.

The research and effort for this thesis were extensive. No comparable publication currently exists in Austria. All the more I consider this thesis as my personal contribution to the profession political development of osteopathy in Austria.

8 Bibliography

To facilitate the inspection, the bibliography is systematically sectioned.

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<http://www.vhs.at>, Accessed: 2006-12-06
<http://www.who.int>, Accessed 2006-12-30
<http://www.wien.gv.at>, Accessed: 2007-03-05
<http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at>, Accessed: 2006-11-10
<http://www.wmin.ac.uk>, Accessed: 2006-12-30
<http://www.woho.org>, Accessed from 2006-11-05 to 2007-03-12
<http://www.wso.at>, Accessed from 2006-07-02 to 2007-04-24

9 Appendix

The appendix consists of four parts:

9.1 Appendix Part 1: Index of Adresses and Contact Persons

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E-mail: office@wittlinger-therapiezentrum.com
www.vodderschule.com
<http://www.wittlinger-therapiezentrum.at/>

9.2 Appendix Part 2: Index of Tables

Figure 1: Diagram of the Professional Training in Osteopathy at the WSO/DUK
(erstellt durch Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien; Quelle: <http://www.wso.at/neu/index.html>,
Accessed: 2006-12-23)

Figure 2: Survey of the five year Standard Studies (I.A.O.)
(erstellt durch Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien; Quellen: <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>,
Accessed: 2006-11-23; oder: INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 6)

Figure 3: Survey of the 12 Modules of the Complementary Studies (I.A.O.)
(erstellt durch Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien; Quellen: <http://www.iao.be/deu/allgemeines.htm>,
Accessed: 2006-11-23; oder: INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE I.A.O. 2006, p 7)

Table 1: Survey: Framework and Organisation
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 2: Duration of Training: Survey
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 3: Survey of Costs WSO/DUK
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 4: Survey of Costs I.A.O./BCOM
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 5: Fees of the Osteopathy Courses ÖÄGMM
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 6: Survey: Comparison of the Complete Costs
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

Table 7: Survey of Exams of the WSO Basic Training
(Wilfling, E., (2007): Wien)

9.3 Appendix Part 3

This part contains the folders, information booklets and an internship guideline of the WSO (originals) provided by the organizations that offer the training programs:

- a) FOLDER EINFÜHRUNGSSEMINAR IAO 2006: Beinhaltet Folder und eine CD-ROM. Er wurde beim Einführungsseminar der IAO zur Verfügung gestellt und wird auf Wunsch zugesandt. Die Adresse ist dem Anhang Teil 1 zu entnehmen.
- b) INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE IAO 2006: Die Informationsbroschüre der I.A.O. wurde beim Einführungsseminar zur Verfügung gestellt und wird auf Wunsch zugesandt. Die Adresse ist dem Anhang Teil 1 zu entnehmen.
- c) INFORMATIONSBROCHÜRE WSO 2006: Die Informationsbroschüre der WSO wird auf Wunsch zugesandt. Die Adresse ist dem Anhang Teil 1 zu entnehmen.
- d) RICHTLINIEN FÜR DAS PRAKTIKUM DUK-WSO 2005/2006: Die Richtlinien für das Praktikum wurden den Teilnehmern des Universitätslehrganges für Osteopathie 2005/2006 (so auch der Autorin) zur Verfügung gestellt.

This part of the appendix can be found separately attached to the Original Version of this thesis (at the WSO) and is unique.

9.4 Appendix Part 4

This part contains a CD-ROM, which is added to this thesis separately.

Table of contents:

1. Adobe Acrobat Dokumente:

- Belgium
- Bewerberinformation DUK-WSO 2006-2007
- BODY FLOW AUSBILDUNGSÜBERSICHT 2006 2007
- Bologna-Erklärung 1999
- Das österreichische Hochschulsystem 2004
- ECTS Kernpunkte 2004

- ECTS Users' Guide 2005
- FBZ Kursprogramm 2006 und 2007 ET
- FBZ Kursprogramm 2006 und 2007 PT
- Führung akademischer Grade 2007
- Germany
- Informationsbroschüre WSO 2007
- Mitteilungsblatt 18-2005 DUK
- Österreichisches Hochschulrecht, Heft 1, 2006
- Richtlinien DFP 2006
- Richtlinien Masterthesis DUK WSO 2005 und 2006
- Switzerland
- Upledger Kursprogramm 2006-2007

2. HTML-Dokumente:

- BECK 2007
- EDLINGER 2007
- ENGEL 1 2007
- HACKL 2007
- HALLMAN 1 2007
- KOWALSKA 2007
- LEHNER 3 2006
- NEUMEISTER 2007
- PEETERS 2007
- SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 2 2007
- UTHE 2007
- WITTY 4 2006

3. Microsoft Word-Dokumente:

- DE MARE 1-3 2006
- ENGEL 2 2007
- HALLMANN 2 2007
- HUFNAGL 1 2007
- JANDA 2006
- KIEREIN 2007
- Kursprogramm ÖÄGMM 2006 und 2007
- LANG 2006
- LEHNER 1-2 2006
- PICHLER 2006

- SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1 2007
- SEKRETARIAT I.A.O. 1-2 2006
- SEKRETARIAT VÖSM UND ÖGS 2006
- STROBL 2006
- VAN ASSCHE 2006
- WITTY 1-3 2006

4. Textdokumente:

- CARSTENSEN 2 2007
- HRABCIK 2007
- KASPAROVSKY 1 2007
- KRÖNKE 2006
- LEHNER 1 2007
- MÜCKLER 1 2007
- MÜCKLER 2 2007
- NICHOLAS 2006
- SCHAUER 2 2007