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World's first RIBA accreditation at all programme levels at the University of Liechtenstein

Vaduz – During a process lasting several years, the Institute of Architecture and Planning of the University of Liechtenstein underwent an examination by the renowned British accreditation agency RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects). The Institute of Architecture and Planning is the first and only institution worldwide to receive RIBA accreditation for all programme levels (BSc, MSc and PhD).

The RIBA examines and accredits schools of architecture worldwide, an accreditation is regarded as a seal of approval and quality assurance instrument. It also serves as a tool for reflection and critical scrutiny of ongoing processes.

Specified catalogue of criteria

The British RIBA experts visited the university twice in order to get a first-hand impression. The specially assembled team from teaching, research and practice concentrated on the achievements of the students and the institute. By means of detailed documentation and a detailed exhibition, the work was surveyed and assessed using a defined catalogue of criteria. A completely new process was the examination of the doctoral programme in architecture, which RIBA carried out for the first time at the request of the University of Liechtenstein.

Enthusiastic about the Institute

In its report, RIBA expresses its enthusiasm for the school of architecture and speaks of a uniquely inspiring working environment. The extremely friendly relationship between lecturers and students was outstanding and RIBA also praised the embedding of the work in the building culture and landscape context. Particularly positive mention was also made of the maintenance of the crafts and construction on a scale of 1:1, which makes the school unique and should be communicated more intensively.

Win-win situation for institute and students

The Head of the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Prof. Peter Staub, explains: "For Europe and the Commonwealth, the RIBA seal of quality is the highest award that can be received. The accreditation process took more than two years, and there were various steps that had to be taken. The final point was the closing visit of another RIBA committee, which put us through our paces again. However, it is not only the institute and the university that benefit from this accreditation, but the students also benefit by being able to use the designation RIBA Part 1 for the Bachelor's degree and RIBA Part 2 for the Master's degree in addition to our Bachelor's degree, Master's degree and doctorate. This gives them great advantages when entering the labour market in Europe and even worldwide."

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Universität Liechtenstein

Die Universität Liechtenstein ist jung, regional verankert und international aktiv. In den Bereichen Architektur und Raumentwicklung, Entrepreneurship, Finanzdienstleistungen und Wirtschaftsinformatik wirkt sie als innovativer Denkplatz im Vierländereck Liechtenstein, Ostschweiz, Vorarlberg und süddeutsche Bodenseeregion. In zahlreichen Projekten und Programmen gibt sie Impulse für Wirtschaft, Politik und Gesellschaft. Seit über 50 Jahren werden gefragte Fachkräfte aus- und weitergebildet. Das Studium erfolgt in einem sehr persönlichen Umfeld. www.uni.li

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