Universität für Weiterbildung Krems

Micro-credentials and digital open badges in Higher and Continuing Education: How to facilitate flexible and deep learning behaviours

Institutional strategies, policies and practices – making it work

Christina Hell | Division of Teaching Development and Digital Transformation | www.donau-uni.ac.at

Universität für Weiterbildung Krems

Micro-credential programs

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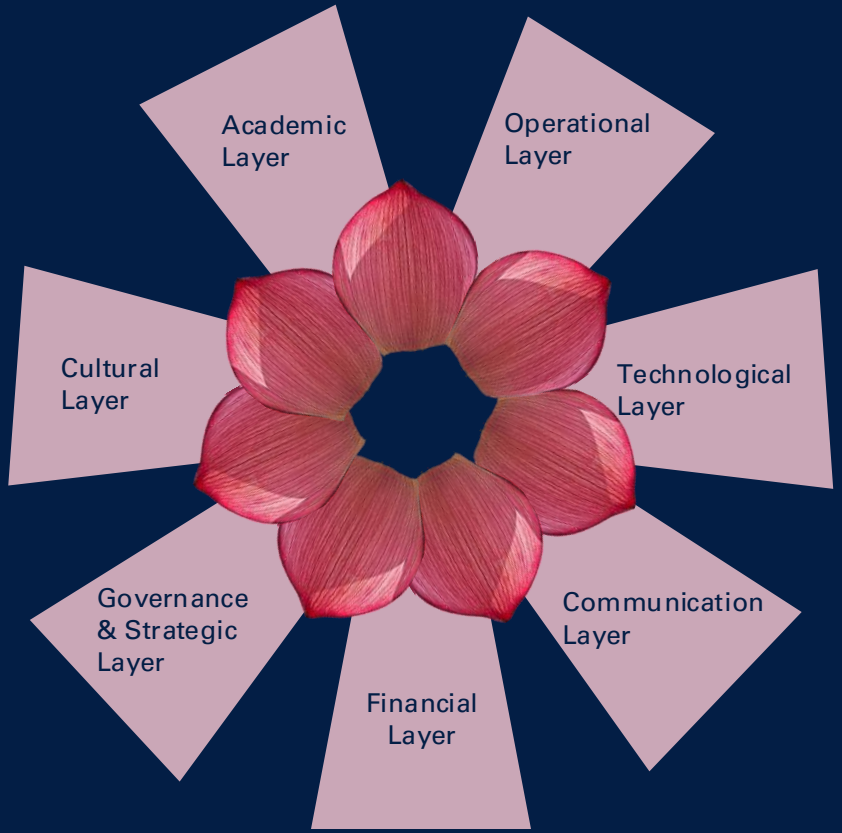
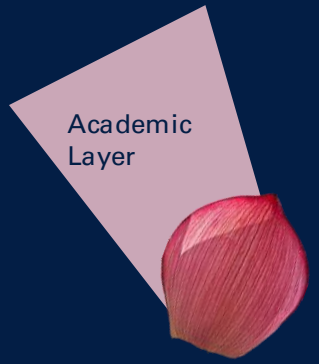
Transformation

7 Layers of Institutional Transformation



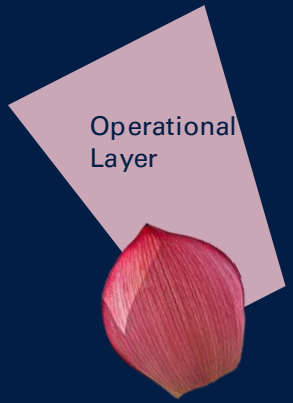


Key Focus Areas

- Curriculum redesign with stackability
- Incorporating standardization to support stackability
- Faculty role transformation

Advice for Institutions

- Integrate stackability into curriculum planning
- Map pathways from micro-credentials to degrees
- Engage faculty in collaborative development
- Balance standardization with flexibility to maintain innovation

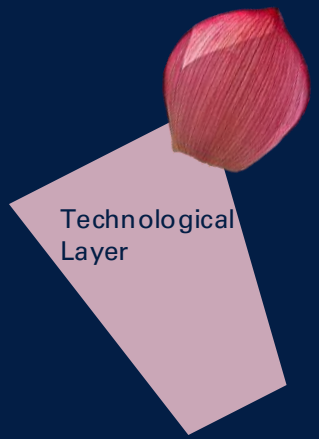


Key Focus Areas

- Adjusting operational processes
- Simplifying enrollment and registration
- Assessment and certification methods

Advice for Institutions

- Simplify enrollment systems for micro-credentials
- Develop competency-based assessments aligned with outcomes
- Implement secure digital credentialing systems



Key Focus Areas

- Investing in robust platforms (LMS, digital badges)
- Enhancing the learning experience with technology

Advice for Institutions

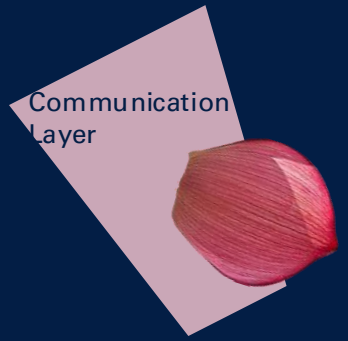
- Choose scalable, integrated technological solutions
- Ensure seamless integration with existing systems
- Provide training for faculty and staff on new technologies

Key Focus Areas

- Developing sustainable pricing models
- Diversifying revenue streams through new demographics and partnerships

Advice for Institutions

- Balance affordability for students with program sustainability
- Explore funding opportunities and industry partnerships
- Monitor financial performance and adjust strategies accordingly



Key Focus Areas

- Enhancing student experience through stackability
- Effective communication with all stakeholders
- Community building and engagement

Advice for Institutions

- Clearly communicate stackable learning paths
- Provide robust support services (advising, online resources)
- Foster a sense of community among learners and alumni

Key Focus Areas

- Strategic planning and market analysis
- Quality assurance and accreditation alignment
- Decision-making processes involving stakeholders

Advice for Institutions

- Engage stakeholders (faculty, industry, students) in decision-making
- Establish clear policies and standards for micro-credentials
- Align offerings with industry needs and accreditation standards

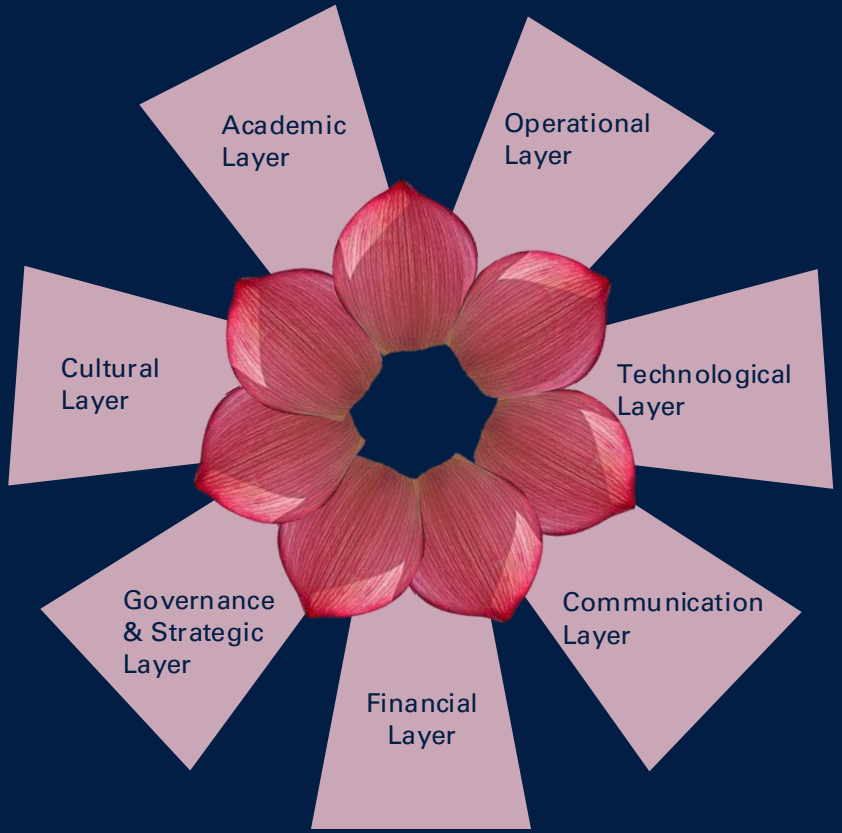
Key Focus Areas

- Embracing change and fostering innovation
- Supporting faculty and staff through professional development

Advice for Institutions

- Lead by example; leadership should champion micro-credentials
- Promote collaboration and sharing of best practices
- Recognize and reward contributions to innovation and program succes

7 Layers of Instituational Transformation



Contact

Mag. Christina Hell
Division of Teaching Development and Digital Transformation

christina.hell@donau-uni.ac.at

Universität für Weiterbildung Krems
Dr.-Karl-Dorrek-Straße 30
3500 Krems, Österreich
Tel.: +43 (0)2732 893-0
www.donau-uni.ac.at

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