
Early Career Researchers No.01/2024

Dear readers,

We would like to use the first issue of the Early Career Researchers Newsletter in 2024 to explicitly ask you to pass on the information to interested students or new colleagues. Our ability to reach all groups equally is limited, so we would be pleased if you would forward more of the newsletter.

In the following, we have again compiled information for doctoral candidates, doctoral students and postdocs that will support you in your career planning, help you to expand your portfolio and advance your research.

You will find information on the current personnel development programme (PEP) and other news and event information on the [promotion of young researchers at Bielefeld University](#).

In the "External calls for tenders and events" sections for

- [All career phases](#)
- [Students and doctoral candidates](#)
- [Postdocs](#)

we have compiled a selection of national and international study and research awards, competitions and information and funding programmes. Some of the deadlines for submissions end in the coming weeks. Perhaps there is a suitable topic or format for one or the other of you. In addition, we would of course like to draw your attention once again to the deadlines for applications for scholarships from the organisations for the promotion of gifted students.

The Department of Human Resources and Organisation, Department of Human Resources and Organisation, P/O.6 team hopes you enjoy reading our newsletter!

- For an English version please see [Promovierende - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](#) -

Current news on the promotion of young researchers at Bielefeld University

From March 2024, numerous (online) events will once again be offered as part of the personnel development programme (PEP). You can already view most of the events [here](#).

In the following, we draw particular attention to these events and programmes: [Research](#)

[Skills Week](#)

[Doctorate/Phd studies - and then? Exploring appointments in business and society Good to](#)

[know. Onboarding for researchers at Bielefeld University](#)

[Empathic behaviour in university teaching: relational communication techniques for working with students](#)

[Career counselling for doctoral candidates and doctoral candidates Career](#)

[counselling for postdocs](#)

[Publishing strategies: writing more effective abstracts](#)

[Competently addressing gender diversity at the university in everyday working](#)

[life How to perform confidently and communicate effectively - for women only](#)

Research Skills Week

04 March to 08 March 2024 (online)

The Week of Research Skills (WoFoKo) will be organised for the second time in 2024 by the Competence Centre for Research Data and the Institute for Conflict and Violence Research (IKG).

The WoFoKo is aimed at both young and experienced researchers from all departments at Bielefeld University. The programme serves to expand the skills of (empirical) researchers and includes contributions on:

- Project management and conflict management
- Data protection and information security
- Rights to data
- Ethics of data collection
- Basic questions of data sharing
- Scientific writing and publishing
- Open Educational Resources
- Data Literacy & Open Data
- Research funding
- Research and stay healthy

[Research Skills Week - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](#)

Doctorate/Phd studies - and then? Exploring appointments in business and society

04 March (in presence) + 18 March 2024 (online)

Are you faced with the question of whether you should stay in academia or move towards a career outside academia? This decision often proves to be challenging. Our workshop offers you the opportunity to explore different career options and requirements in more detail, especially in business and society.

Information is provided on various fields of work and methods are presented for setting career goals and making decisions, which are helpful for clarifying the next steps in your career.

Methods:

Keynote speeches by the trainers, alternating between individual, group and plenary work, peer counselling and exchange within the group.

[Doctorate/Phd studies - and then? Exploring appointments in business and society - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](#)

Good to know. Onboarding for researchers at Bielefeld University

13. March, 17 April, 15 May, 19 June or 17 July 2024

Note: Please register for 20 December, 17 January, 14 February or 13 March, as the same event is offered on all dates.

The "Good to know" event helps you to familiarise yourself with cross-faculty committees and contact points that may be important during your first weeks at the university. It provides an overview of departments that are available for operational co-determination and academic self-administration, technical support, work and information security as well as for emergencies. "Good to know" shows you central infrastructures such as the library, the Bielefeld Information System (BIS), the Bielefeld IT Service Centre (BITS), the University Medical Service and University Sports Service Bielefeld.

Secondly, "Good to know" helps you to find out about contact points and programmes offered by the university for medium-term planning of research, teaching and career. "Good to know" also provides an overview of cross-faculty departments that are available to you for evaluating teaching, counselling and further training.

The target group are researchers who are new to Bielefeld University: as doctoral candidates or as academic co-workers (with or without a doctorate/PhD studies)

[Good to know. Onboarding for researchers at Bielefeld University - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](https://uni-bielefeld.de)

Empathic behaviour in university teaching: relational communication techniques for working with students

14. March 2024 (presence)

Our social well-being as learners and researchers has a direct impact on our curiosity, receptivity and creativity: the basic conditions for good science. Students are therefore more motivated and take more responsibility for their own learning when they come into contact with teaching staff, instructors and lectures who treat them as equals and communicate with them on a human level.

In this workshop, Tyll Zybura teaches strategies that help us to adopt an empathetic and mindful attitude despite the highly hierarchical structures at our educational institutions in order to value students as people in their individuality and diversity and to build a relaxed and attentive teaching-learning relationship.

Tyll Zybura brings with him a toolbox full of tips on how we can communicate and give feedback at eye level in order to be able to respond flexibly and in a solution-orientated manner to the needs of students. This makes seminar sessions, student consulting hours and email communication more pleasant for us and our students and enables us to act confidently and attentively even in difficult counselling situations.

[Empathic behaviour in university teaching: Relational communication techniques for working with students- Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](https://uni-bielefeld.de)

Career counselling for doctoral candidates and doctoral candidates

Appointments by appointment

For many, the doctoral process is a phase characterised by many unanswered questions, uncertainties and detours. Counselling requests can be correspondingly diverse:

- Decisions and strategies for organising the individual doctoral process and further career;
- Situations or application procedures for which you would like to prepare;
- the first and next steps as a doctoral candidate;
- Questions about financing living expenses and research;
- What happens after the doctorate/Phd studies? Both in an academic context and in business and society.

[Career counselling for doctoral candidates and female doctoral candidates - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](https://uni-bielefeld.de)

Career counselling for postdocs

Appointments by appointment

Postdocs organise their academic work independently: Postdocs have often already changed universities since completing their doctorate/Phd studies or are about to move to another university. The focus of research and publications are developed independently of supervisory relationships. Third-party funds can also be acquired independently.

Be it concerns in the here and now (decisions to be made; situations or application procedures for which you would like to prepare); be it the next steps as a postdoc; or be it the strategic planning of the entire postdoc phase: Feel free to send us an email at the PhD and Postdoc Office to arrange an appointment for an initial discussion. We offer career counselling for postdocs in German and English.

Publishing strategies: writing more effective abstracts

25 March 2024

In the academic world, well-written abstracts play an important role in convincing journal editors and conference organisers to accept a paper for review, or to invite a researcher to present at a conference. This workshop is geared at PhD candidates / young researchers who want to improve their abstract-writing skills.

By analysing abstracts from your own field of research, you understand better how peer review processes work and what peer reviewers may mean with their comments.

Then, we apply these new insights right away: we work with a writing strategy that is particularly useful for writing shorter texts faster. At the end of the workshop, you have not only produced an abstract but also know which steps to take next to become a more competent and successful writer in your field of research.

Contents:

- Characteristics of effective abstracts
- Surviving peer review processes and understanding peer reviews
- Clear and audience-oriented writing in English
- Writing successful abstracts faster: challenges and strategies

Competently addressing gender diversity in everyday working life at the university

09 April 2024

Gender diversity is also becoming increasingly visible at the university. Students and teaching staff are coming out as trans* or inter* and, at the latest since the introduction of a third positive gender entry, the topic has also increasingly arrived in administrative structures and teaching. However, gender diversity, including the linguistic inclusion of this in everyday teaching and learning, is often experienced as a challenge. How do I deal with new names or neo-pronouns? What pitfalls need to be avoided when dealing with this target group?

In this workshop, the basics of dealing with gender diversity in everyday university life are conveyed in a participatory manner and uncertainties in this regard are clarified. Terms that often appear in connection with gender diversity (e.g. inter*, trans*, non-binary) are defined. The lecturer will provide examples of the realities of life for so-called gender minorities and give an overview of the situation in the context of universities. In addition, there are practical tips for respectful interaction and gender-inclusive measures to ensure that contact in everyday university life is competent, easy and natural.

How to perform confidently and communicate effectively - for women only

18 - 19 April or 19 - 20 September 2024

In the study and doctoral phases, it is very important to make progress, especially in terms of qualifications, diligence and performance. This applies to men and women alike. But at the latest afterwards, when it comes to making a career - whether at university or in a company - this is not enough anymore. Now it's about becoming visible - and most men are more successful in this field than women are. They communicate in a fundamentally different way. This workshop gives the participants the ability to present their own competence in the best possible way. They will recognise power and status games and will be able to shape their own appearance confidently by communication.

Content

The structure of the workshop is based on the two major topics "Recognising the rules of the game in professional communication" and "Using these rules optimally for your own personality and career".

Methods

- Interactive transfer of knowledge and technique
- Moderated exchange of experiences between the participants
- Professionally applied collegial case advice
- Feedback within the group

[How to perform confidently and communicate effectively - for women only - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](https://uni-bielefeld.de)

Make an Impact! Networking and Communication Skills for Academics

16 May 2024

How can I make an impact in professional contexts such as small-talk situations at conferences? What can help me in situations where I face an international crowd and how can I connect to an interdisciplinary audience? The workshop **Make an impact!** offers the opportunity to enhance overall effective communication (verbal and non-verbal) in order to enhance and improve networking and self-promotion opportunities.

Description:

Throughout the workshop, participants will be guided through interactive exercises to improve their body language, as well as focus on the quality of their language content and structure of their ideas. The aim is to develop strategies to make a lasting and positive impact on groups, colleagues, and significant contact persons (networking). Trainer input will provide the opportunity to gain new insights in effective communication and learn how to present themselves more effectively and to make the best impression and strongest impact.

[Make an Impact! Networking and Communication Skills for Academics - Bielefeld University \(uni-bielefeld.de\)](https://uni-bielefeld.de)

[top](#)

External tenders and events

All career phases

Call for applications for doctoral candidates and postdocs:

Procope mobility

In order to strengthen Franco-German cooperation in research and innovation within European university alliances, the Science and Technology Service of the French Embassy in Germany is offering "Procope-Mobility" scholarships for young German researchers to spend up to three months in France. You can pass this information on to your German partners. All fields of research are eligible. Priority will be given to mobility within the framework of a European university alliance.

The beneficiaries of the programme will receive a lump sum of €1,600 per month for doctoral students and €2,100 per month for other students (up to seven years after the completion of their thesis). Applications must be submitted by 10 March 2024.

<https://www.wissenschaft-frankreich.de/procope-mobilitaet/>

Online information event "Becoming a professor at the University of Applied Sciences" on 14.03.24, 19:00-20:45

In the coming years, a whole series of professorships will be advertised at universities of applied sciences (HAW). Many female academics are still unaware of the career path of a university professorship.

Female professors at the HAWK will inform you about the diverse job profile, the general conditions and requirements for an appointment as a professor and invite you to exchange ideas.

Target group: Professional practitioners, postdocs, doctoral candidates, students, other interested parties

The programme and registration details can be found on [this HAWK website](#).

Panel discussion: Green genetic engineering - panacea or hidden danger?

04 April 2024, Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover

In February 2024, the EU Parliament approved a draft law that reorganises the use of genetic engineering in agriculture: Risk assessment is to be waived for all products created by new genomic processes, for example CRISPR/Cas gene scissors. In contrast to products derived from conventional genetic engineering, the EU believes that these are results that could also have arisen naturally. Thanks to new genetic processes, food and animal feed could be bred faster and more precisely in future, for example to be more resistant to water shortages or pests. While the new law has met with approval from the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, representatives of nature conservation and organic farming are up in arms.

What exactly would the new Genetic Engineering Act mean for agriculture, nature conservation and consumers - should the negotiations with the EU member states also be favourable? And what risks do new genomic processes harbour?

[Green genetic engineering - panacea or hidden danger? | Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover](#)

Presentation: The amazing world of sponge cities - innovative urban water management

23 April 2024, Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover

Water is the proverbial elixir of life. But it can also take on very threatening forms. Climatic extremes such as heavy rainfall and flooding affect cities in a particular way. But periods of heat and droughts also pose particular challenges for urban areas. There is therefore reason to think intensively about the topic of "water in the city" and to set the course for sustainable urban water management. In this context, the development of sponge cities is being called for everywhere. In many cases, it is already regarded as the model for the city of the future. But what does a sponge city actually mean? What are the elements of a blue-green city of the future and how can it help us to counter climate change with an urban future worth living in? In his presentation, Prof Dr Stephan Köster, Head of the Institute of Urban Water Management and Waste Technology at Leibniz Universität Hannover, will explain the concept of sponge cities, highlight development paths and present key features of their water management infrastructures.

[The amazing world of sponge cities - innovative urban water management | Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover](#)

Panel discussion: Apocalypse or happy ending? What motivates us to protect the environment and climate

07 May 2024, Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover

Researchers keep publishing studies with shocking research findings that confirm the climate crisis. However, the extent of the threat posed by these developments does not seem to reach the wider society. While this drives some to increased activism, sticking to the streets or occupying forests, others retreat into the private sphere. Overwhelmed and helpless, they shut themselves off from further bad news and suppress the climate crisis and the associated fears for the future.

Which climate communication is most likely to motivate people to deal with the facts of the climate crisis? What would a constructive approach to the climate crisis look like for us as individuals? And how can each individual find an appropriate way of dealing with negative feelings such as fear, despair and powerlessness in view of the bleak facts? What helps and strengthens us in this situation?

[Apocalypse or happy ending? What motivates us to protect the environment and climate | Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hanover](#)

Future Ukraine: Research scholarships for Ukrainian Master's students and researchers - DAAD [German Academic Exchange Service]

Funding for highly qualified Ukrainian graduates, doctoral candidates and postgraduates to spend a short period of time in Germany for research purposes in order to strengthen cooperation between Ukrainian and German universities and to give young Ukrainian researchers approval to use research infrastructures in Germany. The aim of the programme is to support scientific operations at universities in Ukraine and to promote and enable young researchers to contribute to the reconstruction of Ukraine and its science.

[Future Ukraine: Research scholarships for Ukrainian Master's students and researchers - DAAD \[German Academic Exchange Service\] - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst](#)

[top](#)

Students and doctoral candidates

Doctoral scholarships from the Begabtenförderungswerke (all disciplines)

Motivated and socially committed students with an above-average degree have the opportunity to be funded during their [doctorate/Phd](#) studies by one of the thirteen [organisations for the promotion of gifted students](#). Doctoral students receive a basic monthly grant of up to €1,350 plus a €100 lump sum for research costs and other supplements if applicable. The standard funding period is two years and can be extended by a further year.

application deadlines:

Avicenna Studienwerk: 01.04. & 01.10. [Website](#)

Cusanuswerk e. V.: Application deadline for the selection procedure: 01.06., 01.08. and 01.11. [Website](#)

Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk: 31 March, 31 March & 30

September [Website](#) **Evangelisches Studienwerk e. V. Villigst:** 1 June &

1 December [Website](#) **Friedrich Ebert Stiftung:** Application possible at

any time [Website](#) **Friedrich Naumann Stiftung für die Freiheit:** 30 April

& 31 October [Website](#) **Hans Böckler Stiftung:** 31 May & 2 November

[Website](#)

Hanns Seidel Foundation: 15.01. & 15.07. [Website](#)

Heinrich Böll Foundation: 01.03. & 01.09. [Website](#)

Konrad Adenauer Foundation: 15.01. & 15.07.

[Website](#) **Rosa Luxemburg Foundation:** 01.10. [Website](#)

Foundation of German Business: 15 Jan & 15 July [Website](#)

Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes e. V.: Applications can be submitted at any time [Website](#)

Contact: Bielefeld University, Department of Human Resources & Organisation, [Team Career Paths into Academia](#)

MINT scholarships

There are countless foundations, federal programmes and also companies that offer scholarships in the STEM subjects. Some only for one or two of the subjects, others for all four. Some support first-year students, others research projects, stays abroad or doctoral programmes.

The following link will give you an overview of important scholarship providers.

[MINT scholarships](#)

[top](#)

Postdocs

Federal Ecodesign Award

We are looking for durable and recyclable products, processes and systems that contribute to sustainable change. The competition is not limited to specific product groups, industries or design sectors. However, purely process engineering solutions, material developments without application relevance and medical products without recognisable environmental benefits are excluded.

Applications are open to companies, start-ups, design agencies, architecture and engineering firms, research institutes, non-profit organisations and young designers.

The call for applications ends on 15

April. [German Study Award](#)

Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize

Submission deadline: 31 May 2024

The prize is awarded in recognition of outstanding academic achievements at an early career stage. It is intended to support and encourage the prizewinners to pursue their academic careers. The prizes are awarded exclusively on the recommendation of third parties.

The prize is endowed with 200,000 euros. The prize money can be used for further scientific research for up to three years.

[Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize](#)

Circularity in everyday life - ideas competition

Deadline: 15 May 2024

The "**Circularity in Everyday Life**" ideas competition is aimed at science communication and is open to all areas of expertise, in particular communication sciences and didactics. It sponsors transdisciplinary projects involving science and non-scientific practice that make the raw materials transition tangible for a defined target group.

[Circularity in everyday life - ideas competition](#)

BMBF: Funding for junior research groups in the natural sciences, engineering and information technology "BioKreativ - Creative young researchers for the bioeconomy"

The funding is intended to catalyse the transition to a bioeconomy through new achievements in know-how, processes, technology or software; it is open to all topics and technologies. The research work should be in the field of application-orientated basic research with reference to industrial implementation and provide new impetus for solving various challenges of the sustainable bioeconomy.

[BMBF: Funding for junior research groups in the natural sciences, engineering and information technology "BioKreativ - Creative young researchers for the bioeconomy"](#)

BMBF: Transformation Initiative Urban-Rural-Future for the funding of projects ending date "Accelerating planning for climate adaptation with urban digital twins"

Dealing with the effects of climate change is also one of the most important challenges facing society in Germany. Adapting to climate change, i.e. strengthening adaptability and resilience to the current and future effects and consequences of climate change, is therefore a key social objective.

The aim of this measure is to improve and accelerate the consideration of climate adaptation in regional planning and municipal urban land-use and landscape planning. The aim is not to delay planning processes by taking climate adaptation into account, but to make them more informed and faster.

[BMBF: Funding for projects on the topic of "Accelerating planning for climate adaptation with urban digital twins"](#)

[top](#)

Miscellaneous

Educational podcast Explain: Genomics and next-generation sequencing

In 2023, the DFG-funded West German Genome Centre launched the Explain podcast on genomics and next-generation sequencing and has already reached over a thousand listeners. Thanks to the positive response, many more episodes are to be produced in 2024. The podcast breaks down the complexity of genomics episode by episode.

[To the podcast](#)

DFG introduces gender- and diversity-sensitive use of language

The DFG has introduced the abbreviation with asterisk * (gender star) and is thus committed to using gender- and diversity-sensitive language in its own communication, for example on its website and in its publications, press releases and other publications. Applicants or reviewers can continue to follow the practices of their departments and specialist cultures or their own preferences.

[Gender- and diversity-sensitive language use in the DFG](#)

"Science for Democracy and Open-mindedness" - Statement by DFG President Katja Becker

The DFG has emphasised the importance of science for an open society and democracy and has taken a firm stance against the rise of right-wing populist and anti-democratic movements. President Katja Becker made a statement on this in the expert panel for the Excellence Strategy.

[Press release top](#)

The calls for proposals listed represent a selection of current funding opportunities. For your individual and subject-specific search, Bielefeld University [provides](#) approval to the Service Centre for Electronic Research Funding Information in German-speaking Countries ([ELFI](#)), which collects and prepares calls for proposals and information on sponsors.

You can also pass on information about calls for applications or events to your colleagues via the NachwuchsNewsletter. Please send us your information and we will be happy to include it in the next issue of the NachwuchsNewsletter.

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