

Graduate Training of Young Scholars in Germany



Responsibility for the Future

Conference

50th Anniversary of Bielefeld University
10th Anniversary of the BGHS

30 November and 1 December 2018, Bielefeld University

The training of young scientists is facing new challenges in Germany. Due to the increasing third-party funding of universities, the proportion of ‚traditional‘ budget-financed qualification posts, which previously prepared students for a scientific career in research and teaching in a comparatively straightforward manner, is declining. In contrast, scientific qualification within the framework of externally funded projects is almost becoming the rule. On the one hand, this provides a much broader range of funding opportunities, especially for the doctoral phase and the early postdoctoral phase. On the other hand, young scientists are becoming more dependent on their supervisors concerning the topics of their dissertations, and the duration of the projects often does not coincide with the duration of the qualification phases. The question also arises as to which career paths this type of qualification prepares for.

This situation poses great challenges not only for young scientists, but also for those responsible in universities and science policy. It seems that the gaps between interests are widening:

- The interest of leaders of research projects in ‚functioning‘ research associates
- The interest of young researchers in a promising qualification phase
- The interest of society in an internationally competitive science based on the creativity and enthusiasm of committed researchers and teachers at all levels of qualification

At the conference, we would like to discuss with representatives of higher education policy and institutions, with (young) scientists and not least with representatives of graduate institutions how these challenges can be mastered in the sense of shared responsibility for the future.

Please note that the conference is in German!

The BGHS was founded in 2008 and is funded by the Excellence Initiative of the Federal Government and the Länder, Bielefeld University and the two participating faculties. It is a joint institution of the Faculty of Sociology and the Department of History of the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology at Bielefeld University. In an interdisciplinary and international study programme, the BGHS coordinates structured doctoral training in the participating departments, focusing on the theoretical, methodological and interdisciplinary training of its members. The BGHS has thus created excellent conditions for young researchers and makes a central contribution to an important profile area of Bielefeld University, the excellent promotion of young researchers. The BGHS currently has about 120 doctoral members. Since 2008, 150 doctorates have been successfully completed.

Further information: [www.uni-bielefeld.de/\(en\)/bghs/10jahre/](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/(en)/bghs/10jahre/)
Contact: bghs@uni-bielefeld.de

Friday, 30 November

- 02.00 pm Registration, X-E0-201
- 03.00 pm **Welcome Address** by Gerhard Sagerer (Rector of Bielefeld University), Ursula Mense-Petermann (Director of BGHS), in X-E0-001
- 03.30 pm **10 Years of BGHS**
Ursula Mense-Petermann (Director of BGHS)
Thomas Welskopp (Deputy Director of BGHS)
- 04.00 pm **Panel Discussion: The Future of Graduate Training**

Peter Strohschneider (President of DFG)
Tilman Reitz (University of Jena)
Gerhard Sagerer (Rector of Bielefeld University)
Ursula Mense-Petermann (Director of BGHS)
Moderation: Manfred Götzke (Deutschlandfunk)
- 06.00 pm Snack
- 06.30 pm **Lecture: Richard Münch (University of Bamberg):**
Academic Careers. Between Global Competition and National Traditions

Saturday, 1 December

- 09.00 am **Panel 1: Situation of Young Scientists**
Moderation: Oliver Flügel-Martinsen (Bielefeld University)

Jens Ambrasat (German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies Hannover): *Continuance in Academia? About the Structures of Appropriateness of Young Scholars*

Tilman Reitz (University of Jena):
The Plight of Employment of Young Scholars - Causes and Alternatives
- 11.00 am Coffee Break
- 11.30 am **Panel 2: Cooperation and Competition in Academia**
Moderation: Sabine Schäfer (Bielefeld University)

Carola Bauschke-Urban (University of Applied Sciences Fulda):
Doctorate at Universities of Applied Sciences. Perspectives at a new Terrain

Mandy Boehnke (Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Bremen & Jacobs University):
Doctorate in Association - Status Quo and Future Development
- 01.30 pm Snack

Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the BGHS

- 02.30 pm Science Slam by Doctoral Researchers and Alumni of the BGHS
Moderation: Sissy Lorenz (Science Slammer)
- 03.30 pm Get-Together
- 04.00 pm Activities by International Doctoral Researchers and Alumni of the BGHS
- 05.00 pm *From the life of a good-for-nothing humanist*
Science Comedy with Reinhard Nießner
- 06.00 pm **Buffet and Anniversary Party at the BGHS**