

JLU

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JUSTUS-LIEBIG-
UNIVERSITÄT
GIESSEN

pcmo
Postdoc Career and Mentoring Office

POSTDOC CAREER AND MENTORING OFFICE

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS
2024/2025 IN ENGLISH



We are the central point of reference for postdocs at JLU. The PCMO is located within the Department for Human Resource Development and it closely cooperates with the following partners at JLU.

- International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture ([GCSC](#)) and Giessen Graduate Center for Humanities ([GGK](#))
- International Giessen Graduate Centre for the Life Sciences ([GGL](#))
- Giessen Graduate Centre for Social Sciences, Economics and Law ([GGS](#))
- HD – Servicestelle Hochschuldidaktik (Service center Didactics of Higher Education - [HD](#)).

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

- We welcome postdoctoral researchers at JLU
- We offer workshops and individual advice on your career
- We bring together postdocs at JLU – within your own discipline and beyond
- We support your attendance at conferences
- We organize mentoring programs with experts from different occupations

THE COURSE PROGRAMME

The PCMO is offering you a variety of events, courses and network meetings. Would you like to learn a new method, get to know the JLU or reorient yourself professionally in the long term? Here you will find events, which are free of charge for all postdocs at JLU.

You can find the complete JLU-internal training programme for all employees on the website of the [Human Resource Development](#). Further offerings for postdocs can be found on the website of the [PCMO](#), the graduate centres [GCSC/GGK](#), [GGL](#), and [GGS](#) and of the Service center Didactics of Higher Education - [HD](#).

The following overview is a compilation of courses and events, which are offered in English language. The PCMO offers a broader range of courses in German. Please visit our website regularly to find out about new or rescheduled courses.

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OVERVIEW OF ALL SCHEDULED PCMO EVENTS IN ENGLISH

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E-LEARNING: BASICS OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Online, flexible

This introductory course focuses on topics such as the dimensions of science communication, the interaction between stakeholders and target audiences, and media management. The course is modular, with diverse content that incorporates animations and videos. This e-learning course is available online at any time and can be easily integrated into busy professional and academic schedules. Topics: dimensions of good science communication - target group, goal, topic, medium and style; Science and media, actors and their roles, basic rules for comprehensibility, trust in science, guidelines and pitfalls. A handout is available for each module. Those who complete all modules and pass a test will receive a certificate from the National Institute for Science Communication (NaWik).

The workshop will be given by the National Institute for Science Communication (NaWik). Please register via E-Mail to wissenschaftskommunikation@uni-giessen.de

FUTURE NETWORK TALKS

Online, first Friday every month from 12:00 to 13:00

Being a postdoc at university is only the start for a career path that might lead to unexpected or even unknown job opportunities. Therefore, it is always a good idea to learn from other scientists and their experience.

What job do they currently have? What does their everyday work life look like? Where are the differences between academia and industry? These and other topics may be covered in this online career talk series, targeted especially for young researchers from the life sciences.

Invest one hour of your time to get some insight into jobs that you would not get otherwise. You are always welcome to ask your interested questions.

Future Network Talks are co-organized by the PCMO@GGL and the Max Planck Institutes in Marburg and Bad Nauheim, as well as Synmicro Marburg. More details: www.uni-giessen.de/ggl/postdocs. Please register via E-Mail to postdocs@ggl.uni-giessen.de

CO-WORKING FOR POSTDOCS

Online, every thursday during the summer semester, 10:00 – 11:30

Do you want to finish a paper this week? Do you have to deal with unpleasant mails, finally write that long overdue review or just read for once? We meet for a 90-minute Co-Working session. At the beginning, there is a short welcome and everyone reports briefly, what they are working on. Afterwards, everyone works on their own for 80 minutes. At the end, we exchange on how it went.

The joint work on individual tasks intends to create a motivating environment for important, long overdue and perhaps annoying tasks.

Co-Working takes place every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. during the summer semester (except holidays).

The workshop will be given by Dr. Diana Hitzke. Please register via Stud.IP for the [summer](#) and/or [winter](#) sessions.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THIRD PARTY FUNDING FOR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

Erwin-Stein-Gebäude, Goethestr. 58, room 201, April 12, 10:00 - 16:00

The ability to acquire research grants is one of the main competencies required of researchers. Combining informative input and practical elements, this workshop will provide you with an overview of prominent funders and funding programmes in Germany for early career researchers. We will discuss the structure and elements of proposals along the example of the DFG research grant and explore what to consider when putting them into writing. We will also present you with helpful resources on grant writing and discuss the DFG review process with an experienced reviewer who will share practical advice for grant writing in a short Q&A session. Afterwards, you will be able to understand the structure and requirements of grant writing and the meaning of third party funding for the development of your career and for appointment processes.

The workshop will be given by Dr. Livia Kaiser and Verena Graulich.

Please register until 02.04.2024 via e-mail to postdocs@ggs.uni-giessen.de

AGILE PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR POSTDOCS

Online, 7 weeks starting on April 15 and October 21

Fast Forward teaches agile project management to researchers in a new way building on corporate learning approaches whilst taking the uncertainty of a research environment into consideration. You will set a 12-week vision for your own project, implement a project charter, work with the result generator, handle the sprint planner, structure your day for productivity, establish the sprint and improve your outcome. The workshop starts with an online live session on the first day of the program. This is followed by 7 weeks of on demand implementation modules: Work at a time and pace that works best for you: content modules with lectures, FAQ library, templates and workbooks are released each week and available 24/7. Get guidance, answers to questions and interact with the other participants during the weekly online live sessions (Wed/Thu).

The workshop will be given by Dr. Nadine Sinclair. The workshop is offered in spring (15.04.-31.05.2024) and autumn (21.10.-06.12.2024).

Please register via www.unigiessen.de/ggl/postdocs

CAREER PLANNING FOR POSTDOCS I: YOUR STATUS QUO

Online, May 7, 11:00 – 13:00

In order to be able to plan one's own career, it is first necessary to determine one's own position. The workshop will provide insights into central qualifications for researchers. Which areas do you already cover well and where is it possible for you to develop further? You will get an overview of which competences you already have as a postdoc and how you can specifically name your skills and, if necessary, describe them attractively for other career paths. In addition, the question is what you actually want for your professional and private future and what you really enjoy doing.

The workshop will be given by Dr. Diana Hitzke.

Please register via [Stud.IP](#)

CAREER PLANNING FOR POSTDOCS II: HOW TO PREPARE FOR A PROFESSORSHIP

Online, May 21, 11:00 – 13:00

This workshop will give you insights into different career paths to a professorship in Germany. Which qualifications do you need and how can you develop them strategically? It is also important to identify risks and challenges. Should you concentrate completely on the professorship or should you also be searching for other career paths? How do different career paths affect other life decisions? Finally, how to apply for a professorship? Which documents are necessary and where can I get support?

The workshop will be given by Dr. Diana Hitzke.

Please register via [Stud.IP](#)

CAREER PLANNING FOR POSTDOCS III: LEAVING ACADEMIA

Online, May 28, 11:00 – 13:00

Are you just finishing your doctorate or have you already been working as a postdoc for a while and would like to apply to the non-university job market? Postdocs are often in doubt about if, when and how to leave academia. What is the best way to get through the transition process? Doctoral graduates are highly qualified and have very good chances on the job market. However, they face the difficulty of formulating their competences attractively for very specific professions. What are your needs and wishes? Where is your own expertise in demand outside the university? The workshop identifies the competences you already bring with you and gives impulses on how to shape the process towards new career paths proactively.

The workshop will be given by Dr. Diana Hitzke.

Please register via [Stud.IP](#).

TOUGH QUESTIONS - SMART ANSWERS: DEBATING IN ACADEMIA

Online, June 12 and 14, 08:30 - 16:30

The English online workshop "Debating in Academia" takes you into the world of competitive debate. For two days, you will debate a wide range of current issues. You will learn how to form arguments persuasively and strategically. And you will practice to respond fast and confidently – even under pressure.

You will... gain confidence in speaking up; acquire tools for skillful argumentation; become more adept at handling questions, criticism, and challenges; learn to confidently articulate your standpoint in daily life.

Our workshop welcomes participants of all language levels of English who want to break down barriers and improve their talking and persuasion skills.

Ready to enhance your debating skills and broaden your horizons? Join us at "Debating in Academia" to unlock your potential. Your next debate awaits!

The workshop will be given by Marietta Gädecke.

Please register via [Stud.IP](#).

GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE FOR POSTDOCS

Leihgesterner Weg 52, room 24, June 19 and 20, 10:00 – 14:00

For you as a scientist, it is crucial to know about authorship issues, plagiarism, data manipulation and other ethical issues. Take the chance to deepen your understanding with this course.

As a postdoc, you are starting to supervise younger scientist and your responsibility for safeguarding Good Scientific Practice increases substantially. The workshop will help you to understand the scientific system, its norms and values, and your position in it. During the workshop, you will also learn what regulations exist and how to apply them properly. We will focus on how to implement good scientific practice, learn about documentation, data management and the role of leadership. The main focus will be on postdocs from the life sciences; others are welcome.

Infos & Registration: www.unigiessen.de/ggl/postdocs

The workshop will be given by Dr. Marco and Dr. Sabine Otto.

SPOTLIGHT SCIENCE COMMUNICATION: SPIDERS, SNAKES AND DRUG DISCOVERY

Online, July 23, 18:00 – 19:30

Fulfilling a public duty, promoting one's career or simply sharing enthusiasm – there are numerous reasons for scientists to communicate research to the public. Activities to engage with the public can be challenging and time-consuming on top of an academic schedule. Why is it still worth the effort? We will get to the bottom of this and other questions together with our invited guest: Dr. Tim Lüddecke who frequently appears in newspapers, on TV, and on social media (@LüddeckeTim). He was portrayed by the "Stern" magazine, and invited to the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings. Lüddecke studies venomous and poisonous animals such as snakes and spiders to unravel their ecology, evolution, biochemistry, and potential for medicine. Lüddecke is head of a junior research group located at JLU and Fraunhofer IME. In our digital talk, he will share his motivation and experience in science communication and discuss with the audience.

The workshop will be given by Dr. Eva Diehl and Dr. Tim Lüddecke.

Please register via E-Mail to wissenschaftskommunikation@uni-giessen.de

POSTDOC MEETING V: HOW TO PARTICIPATE AS A POSTDOC AT THE GRADUATE CENTER GGN?

Online, January 30, 2025, 12:00 – 13:00

PCMO Postdoc Meetings are an hour well invested for your career. In this series, experts from JLU inform you about changing topics. Here you can ask your questions, take away new ideas for your work and exchange ideas with other postdocs.

The Giessen Graduate Center for Natural Sciences and Psychology is an interdisciplinary institution providing education and support tailored to the needs of all doctoral students and postdocs in the fields of mathematics, computer science, physics, geography, biology, chemistry, psychology, and sports science at Justus Liebig University. The GGN-program is designed by its members and offers maximal flexibility. The GGN will be glad to support your own ideas or to realize your visions. You can find out at this Postdoc Meeting how you can participate at the GGN as a postdoc. Our guest, the Managing Director of GGN, Dr. Katharina Wendlandt, will be happy to answer all your questions.

The workshop will be given by Dr. Diana Hitzke and Dr. Katharina Wendlandt. Please register [via Stud.IP](#)