

An der Universität Graz arbeiten ForscherInnen und Studierende in einem breiten fachlichen Spektrum an Lösungen für die Welt von morgen. Unsere WissenschaftlerInnen entwickeln Strategien, um den aktuellen Herausforderungen der Gesellschaft zu begegnen. Die Universität Graz bekennt sich zur Leistungsorientierung, fördert Karrierewege und bietet mehrfach ausgezeichnete Rahmenbedingungen für gesellschaftliche Diversität in einer zeitgemäßen Arbeitswelt – unter dem Motto: We work for tomorrow. Werden Sie Teil davon!

Die Universität Graz sucht im Rahmen des Profildbildenden Bereiches Climate Change eine/n

Transacademic Interface Manager

(Aufnahme als UniversitätsassistentIn mit Doktorat)

(40 Stunden/Woche; befristet auf 3 Jahre; zu besetzen ab 01. April 2021)

Der profildbildende Bereich Climate Change an der Universität Graz bietet eine sehr attraktive Forschungs-, Lern- und Lehrumgebung mit international führenden ForscherInnen in den relevanten Disziplinen aus den Fakultäten der Sozial- und Wirtschaftswissenschaften, der Naturwissenschaften, der Umweltwissenschaften und der Geisteswissenschaften und mit unterschiedlichen interdisziplinären Forschungsgruppen. Die Arbeit des profildbildenden Bereichs an nachhaltigen gesellschaftlichen Lösungen erfordert die Einbeziehung von Fachleuten und InteressensvertreterInnen aus allen Bereichen der Gesellschaft in die Forschung. An dieser Nahtstelle haben wir Bedarf an professioneller Gestaltung.

Ihr Aufgabengebiet

- Gestaltung der Nahtstelle zwischen Unternehmen, Verwaltung/Politik, NGOs und Bevölkerung (unsere Stakeholder) einerseits und Forschung/Wissenschaft andererseits
- Eigenständige Begleitforschung zu transdisziplinären Stakeholder-Prozessen
- Initiierung, Aufbau und Pflege von nationalen und internationalen Stakeholder-Netzwerken für die Zusammenarbeit in Projekten unterschiedlicher Forschungsgruppen im Profildbereich
- Aufbau und Koordination transdisziplinärer Kollaboration in Forschungsvorhaben (von der Bedarfserhebung, über die Entwicklung von Forschungsfragen, Co-Design und Co-Produktion in der Forschung bis zur Dissemination von Forschungsergebnissen)
- Lehre zu transdisziplinären Stakeholder-Prozessen
- Gestaltung und Moderation von Stakeholder-Prozessen
- Aktive Unterstützung bei der Vorbereitung und Bearbeitung neuer transdisziplinärer Forschungsk Kooperationen

Ihr Profil

- Doktorat/PhD in Kommunikations-, Sozial-, Wirtschafts-, Geistes- oder Naturwissenschaften oder außeruniversitäre Erfahrung bzw. Qualifikation im gewünschten Aufgabengebiet
- Verständnis von und Erfahrung mit Forschung/Universität und den Stakeholdern
- Erfahrung in trans- und interdisziplinären Arbeits- und Forschungskontexten, vorzugsweise zum Klimawandel (in jedem Subbereich, wie Klimafolgen, Anpassung, und/oder Emissionsminderung)
- Mehrjährige Erfahrung in der Gestaltung von Dialogprozessen
- Kenntnisse von und Praxis in interaktiven Methoden in der Großgruppenmoderation in virtuellen wie analogen Formaten
- Sehr gute Deutsch- und Englischkenntnisse sowie gegebenenfalls Publikationserfahrung (science to public und science to science)
- Hohe persönliche Motivation zu transdisziplinären Arbeitsformen
- Hohe Bereitschaft zu konstruktiven Auseinandersetzungen in interdisziplinären Teams
- Fähigkeit und Freude am selbstständigen Auf- und Ausbau von forschungsrelevanten Netzwerken im In- und Ausland
- Verantwortungsbewusste Arbeitsweise und Problemlösungsfähigkeit
- Erfahrung in oder Beteiligung an der Einwerbung und Bearbeitung von (nationalen und internationalen) Drittmittelprojekten (wünschenswert)

Unser Angebot

Einstufung

Gehaltsschema des Universitäten-KV: B1

Mindestgehalt

Das kollektivvertragliche Mindestentgelt gemäß der angegebenen Einstufung beträgt € 3889.50 brutto/Monat. Durch anrechenbare Vordienstzeiten und sonstige Bezugs- und Entlohnungsbestandteile kann sich dieses Mindestentgelt erhöhen.

Wir bieten Ihnen eine abwechslungsreiche und eigenverantwortliche Tätigkeit. Es erwarten Sie ein angenehmes Arbeitsklima, flexible Arbeitszeiten sowie zahlreiche Weiterbildungs- und Entwicklungsmöglichkeiten. Nutzen Sie die Chance für den Einstieg in ein herausforderndes Arbeitsumfeld, geprägt von Teamgeist und Freude am Job.

Ende der Bewerbungsfrist: **03. Februar 2021**

Kennzahl: **MB/28/99 ex 2020/21**

Die Universität Graz strebt eine Erhöhung des Frauenanteils an, insbesondere in Leitungsfunktionen und beim wissenschaftlichen Personal und lädt deshalb qualifizierte Frauen ausdrücklich zur Bewerbung ein.

Insbesondere im wissenschaftlichen Bereich freuen wir uns über Bewerbungen von Menschen mit Behinderung, die über eine ausschreibungsadäquate Qualifikation verfügen.

Bei Interesse senden Sie Ihre Bewerbungsunterlagen inkl. Motivationsschreiben, Lebenslauf, Übersicht über relevante Erfahrungen und Praxis, Zeugnisse etc. innerhalb der angegebenen Bewerbungsfrist unter Angabe der Kennzahl bitte per E-Mail an:

bewerbung@uni-graz.at

Für weitere Informationen steht Ihnen Prof. Anke Strüver (anke.struever@uni-graz.at; Tel.: +43 316/380-5138) oder Prof. Karl Steininger (karl.steininger@uni-graz.at; Tel.: +43 316/380-8441) gerne zur Verfügung.

Zusatzinfo: Die Interviews finden statt am 1. und 3. März 2021, jeweils vormittags (im Zeitfenster 8-13 Uhr)

Weitere Informationen zur Stelle: <https://climate-change.uni-graz.at/de/tim/>

The University of Graz, within its Field of Excellence "Climate Change Graz", is seeking to fill the position of a

Transacademic Interface Manager

Additional information

(1) Perspective

This is a position with a fully new type of activity to be established at Uni Graz. If successful also intended to be the role model for other fields of research. We start with a three-year contract. Option for permanent employment is intended after evaluation.

(2) Payment scheme

The Austrian salary system has some specifics. Beyond granting a rich service in social security, it foresees 14 monthly payments a year (with the 13th and 14th significantly low-tax preferred), such that the minimum salary as stated in the call and according to the collective agreement of EUR 3889.50 gross/month translates to an annual salary of EUR 54 453.-. This minimum salary may be higher due to previous employment periods eligible for inclusion and other earnings and remunerations.

Profile of the Transacademic Interface Manager (TIM)

The University of Graz Field of Excellence "[Climate Change Graz](#)" offers a highly attractive research environment, with world leading faculty across the relevant disciplines involved from its schools of social sciences and economics, natural sciences, environmental sciences, and the humanities. The field's work on sustainable solutions requires dialogue with and integration of experts and stakeholders from all areas of society as part of the research process. We seek professional development of this interface.

"Working towards sustainable solutions requires involving professionals and stakeholders from all sectors of society into research and teaching. This often presents a challenge to scholars at universities, as they lack capacity and time needed for negotiating different agendas, languages, competencies, and cultures among faculty, students, and stakeholders. [...]" (Brundiers et al., 2013)

The transacademic interface manager (TIM) will support participatory sustainability and climate change research. Below, we outline the task portfolio of a TIM within the specific Uni Graz/Climate Change environment and specify the capabilities we think a TIM needs to possess in order to operate successfully.

The Transacademic Interface Manager at Uni Graz – Field of Excellence "Climate Change Graz"

The research in the Field of Excellence (FoE) Climate Change Graz is not only of internationally recognized outstanding scientific quality, but also has a high societal relevance and is therefore linked to the transformation to a climate-robust and low-carbon society. The FoE engages not only in knowledge transfer by bringing research results to society, but also strives to develop and follow a clear strategy towards stakeholder engagement and improved science-society interactions. This includes the involvement of a so-called 'transacademic interface manager' (TIM).

As a '**boundary manager**' the TIM will strive to establish trustful long-term relationships, extending beyond the duration of single projects, with partners from the economic, political and cultural sector (professional level) in order to build a community of practice. She/he will be expected to actively promote such relationships and networks (initializing and maintaining a functional and continuous **process of collaboration**).

Part of this will also be the work as a '**facilitator**' organizing and moderating meetings and workshops with stakeholders. This will also extend to taking part in the **co-production of knowledge**, by supporting joint research projects, especially with companies, public institutions and social groups. As a '**project manager**' the TIM will support not only the development (preparing the project by identifying and recruiting participants as well as orienting and framing the research by generating an overall stakeholder engagement strategy) and implementation of transdisciplinary research projects (developing the research questions and methodological approaches as a common endeavor between science and society or companies, observe and learn about implementation, plan engagement events, translate research results into an inclusive vocabulary and help to valorize project results). She/he will also consistently follow up with stakeholders to evaluate outcomes and their actual use, and prepare the ground for future collaboration.

As an '**expert on transdisciplinary research**' the TIM could facilitate **discussions on this hot topic** in the Field of Excellence as well as provide lessons learned from the development and implantation of transdisciplinary projects. The engagement in transdisciplinary research is not only a growing demand in all areas of research funding, but also comes with certain challenges on the **methodological** and institutional level. Attention also needs to be drawn to the underlying institutional structures in which participatory sustainability research takes place, as well as in the assessment of research excellence. Based on first-hand experience, the TIM is foreseen to carry out both own research (up to a fifth of her/his time), and to act as an '**educator**' providing basic input for

the development of **teaching modules** on inter- and transdisciplinary research that are gaining more and more importance in the curricula at the University of Graz.

The core functions we desire imply that this position does not focus on 'communication to' (as is the focus of already existing positions at Uni Graz) but rather on '**communication with**'. The focus is on stakeholder network management, and the **tasks are twofold: external** (build up and maintain networks) **and internal** (prepare the FoE for these collaborations).

Skills

The need for a TIM arises from the widely acknowledged challenges of collaborations across different communities of knowledge and values. Such collaborations demand bridging different worldviews, ways of knowing, motivations, interests, and power positions, which often are incommensurable or even conflicting. In addition, practical aspects strain the collaboration, including time constraints, mandates and rewards, as well as individual capacities and skill levels. TIM can be described as an individual with different task portfolios and capacities to cope with these challenges.

In order to engage with stakeholders, the TIM would be expected to be **familiar with both cultures** (within and across) as well as to have a sense of accountability to all parties. She/he will need to be able to navigate the different needs, expectations, and cultures between academic researchers and diverse stakeholders. In the role of the boundary manager, the TIM needs to manage collaborative problem solving across different communities of knowledge and to facilitate flexibility in ways of thinking, to unlock collaboration by shedding light on choices and activities (deconstruction), to support responsiveness among participants and fair voting rules (facilitation), and to ensure transparency and trust (mediation), which has shown to decrease controversies and increase effectiveness of the co-construction of knowledge in a collaborative way (hybridization). Enhanced moderation experience will support achieving these tasks. This should also help to create and maintain **mutual ownership and accountability** among project participants.

Furthermore, the TIM will have a strong focus not only on the research process but also on the research outputs in form of **actionable knowledge** and research **impact** on sustainability and societal transformation. In order to communicate research results the TIM will be expected to have sustainability literacy and a good overview of the **research landscape** and to be able to **integrate knowledge** and reinforce a solution-oriented perspective. The role as an expert and educator will further require experience in transdisciplinary research and a basic methodological knowledge of transdisciplinary processes, as well as basic teaching skills.

References:

Brundiers, K, A. Wiek and B. Kay (2013), The Role of Transacademic Interface Managers in Transformational Sustainability Research and Education, *Sustainability* 2013, 5, 4614-4636; doi:10.3390/su5114614