



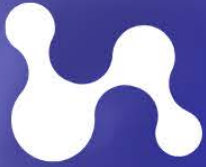
Vienna Postdoc Career Day

12.11.2025
9 AM – 8 PM

Van Swieten Saal
Van-Swieten-Gasse 1a
1090 Vienna

Program

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Program Overview

Careers in Academia

Session 1 – 09:00 AM – 10:00 AM

From challenges to chances: shaping your academic career with mentoring

Session 2 – 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Role Models in Leadership: Insights from LEXA Nominees

Session 3 – 12:30 PM – 02:00 PM

Networking Lunch: Careers inside Academia

Careers beyond Academia

Session 4 – 02:30 PM – 04:00 PM

From Academia to Industry: Identifying Your Transferable Skills

Session 5 – 04:30 PM – 06:00 PM

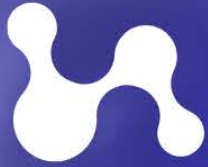
Beyond Academia: Careers at Bain & Company, a global leading management consulting company

Session 6 – 06:30 PM – 08:00 PM

Apero Networking: The expanded scientific community as an employer

Please register for each session individually!

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Program

Careers in Academia

Session 1 – 09:00 AM – 10:00 AM

From challenges to chances: shaping your academic career with mentoring

Speakers: *Stefanie Madsen (Program Coordinator of TU Wien Career Mentoring for Female Postdocs), Dr.in Martina Friedl (Program Facilitator of TU Wien Career Mentoring for Female Postdocs)*

This workshop explores mentoring as a vital resource for Postdocs aiming for a career in academia. After brief introductions, an experienced facilitator will outline different forms of mentoring and clarify distinctions from supervision and coaching. Participants will discuss career challenges in small groups and consider how mentoring can provide targeted support. The session will also address criteria for identifying effective mentors and strategies for developing opportunities where no formal programs exist. Emphasis will be placed on self-initiative and the role of mentoring in actively shaping career trajectories. By the end, participants will be equipped with insights and tools to integrate mentoring into their postdoctoral development.

Session 2 – 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Role Models in Leadership: Insights from LExA Nominees

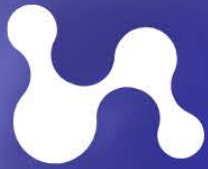
Speakers: *Saskia Lackner (LBG Career Center), Nicole Amberg (MedUni Vienna), Igor Grabovac (MedUni Vienna), Alejandro Ramos (IMBA/OeAW), Katherine Sarikakis (Uni Vienna)*

What does it take to grow into an inclusive, supportive, and resilient leader in academia? In this panel discussion, nominees of the Leadership Excellence Award (LExA) share their experiences of navigating leadership challenges and supporting their teams in times of change and uncertainty. They will reflect on the lessons learned along their career paths, highlighting what they would have needed during their own postdoc journeys. By sharing personal stories and practical advice, the nominees serve as inspiring role models for postdocs considering leadership responsibilities. Join us for an honest and engaging exchange that bridges lived experience with forward-looking perspectives on leadership in research.

Session 3 – 12:30 PM – 02:00 PM

Networking Lunch: Careers inside Academia

This guided networking event invites postdoctoral researchers to dive into the question of how to shape a successful career inside academia. Working on a shared challenge, participants will connect with stakeholders on research funding, leadership, teaching, career development, gender and equality, mentoring, and more. The interactive format sparks interdisciplinary exchange, bringing together researchers from diverse institutions for fresh insights and collaborations. It is a chance not only to build valuable contacts but also to practice networking skills in a supportive setting. A light and delicious lunch adds the perfect backdrop for inspiring conversations.



Program

Careers beyond Academia

Session 4 - 02:30 PM - 04:00 PM

From Academia to Industry: Identifying Your Transferable Skills

Speakers: *Julian Schuller (MedUni Vienna), Ivan Bilic (Senior Director R&D, Takeda), Christian Braida (Managing Partner, Karriereschmiede), Michaela Fritz (Vice-Rector Research & Innovation, MedUni Vienna), Anna-Dorothea Gorki (CSO, YGION Biomedical), Gunpreet Coudert Oberoi (Founder, SVAN Technologies)*

Although transitioning from academia to industry can feel challenging, postdoctoral researchers possess a wealth of transferable skills that are highly valued in industry. This panel brings together industry professionals, start-up founders, and HR advisers to shed light on how postdoctoral researchers can identify, articulate, and leverage their academic experience in non-academic environments. The panelists will share their insights on navigating this transition, aligning scientific expertise with business needs, and finding the right fit in various industry roles. Attendees will gain practical advice and hear real career stories, as well as have the opportunity to ask questions about building a successful career beyond academia.

Session 5 - 04:30 PM - 06:00 PM

Beyond Academia: Careers at Bain & Company, a global leading management consulting company

Speakers: *Boris Cesnik (ISTA), Bain & Company*

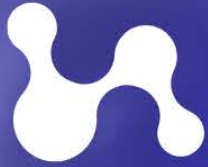
Why a PhD degree matters in Industry.

This session is an ideal opportunity for postdocs who are either curious to explore new career pathways or are actively considering a transition into international consulting, whether they are just beginning to explore their options or are specifically aiming for a role in a global consultancy that values PhD talent, spanning a wide range of industries—including Healthcare & Life Sciences, Technology, Energy & Natural Resources, Financial Services, Private Equity, and Advanced Manufacturing & Services.

Session 6 - 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM

Apero Networking: The expanded scientific community as an employer

This guided networking apero invites postdoctoral researchers to explore career opportunities beyond academia while staying connected to the scientific community. Through a shared challenge, participants will engage with stakeholders to learn what these roles look like, why they matter, and how they can shape diverse career paths. The format encourages open dialogue across disciplines and institutions, helping participants to discover new perspectives and build meaningful connections. With a clear mission to mingle and practice networking skills, attendees will leave with valuable insights and expanded horizons. Light bites served in a standing reception create the perfect atmosphere for lively conversations and fresh inspiration.



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Registration

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All sessions are open and free of charge for all postdocs from Austrian universities & research organisations.

Relevant stakeholders from academia and beyond will join the networking sessions.

Initiative & Goal

The **Vienna Postdoc Career Day** is an initiative by the University of Vienna and a partner network of universities and research organisations whose joint goal is to empower researcher careers in Austria – in and beyond academia.

Partner Network:

University of Vienna, Complexity Science Hub, ISTA – Institute of Science and Technology Austria, Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft LBG Career Center, Medical University of Vienna, TU Wien, Vienna BioCenter