

The Department of Material Sciences and Process Engineering, Institute of Physics and Materials Science is currently seeking a

## **Postgraduate Research Associate**

### **Project employment**

(Reference code: 213)

Extent of employment: 30 hours per week  
Duration of employment: November 2022, limited for 6 months  
(first contract is issued for 6 months, then upon satisfactory performance the contract is extended on a yearly basis to a total duration of 3.5 years – funding is available)

Workplace: Vienna

Gross monthly salary and pay grade in terms of collective agreement for university staff (payable 14 times per year): B1, € 2.294,00

Background: Increasing concern about pollution in the environment demands tools to determine metal accumulation in plants. Mosses are widely used for metal biomonitoring on a phenomenological level, but there is no fundamental understanding of the metal dynamics and factors governing adsorption and toxicity.

### **Responsibilities**

- Research in the framework of the FWF project “Toxic or just a nuisance – how mosses cope with heavy metal stress”
- Studying metal accumulating mosses with focus on composition and ultrastructure investigations by x-ray fluorescence, x-ray scattering, x-ray absorption spectroscopy and electron microscopy
- Sample preparation, scientific experiments, data evaluation
- Working with complex scientific instruments, handling fragile samples, performing experiments at large scale European synchrotron radiation facilities
- Co-operation with our research partners in the project and outside
- Publication in scientific journals and presentations at conferences
- It is favored that the candidate is willing to perform a PhD study to obtain a doctorate degree

### **Required skills and qualifications**

- Diploma degree in materials science, physics, (bio-)chemistry, biotechnology, (bio-)engineering or other equivalent university degree
- Interest in (bio-)physics related topics and methods
- Laboratory skills (skilled with hands for handling delicate samples and equipment, engineering skills)
- Mathematical skills
- Excellent skills in spoken and written English
- Highly dedicated to scientific work
- Team player
- Ability to work independently
- Willingness to travel abroad for research purposes is required (synchrotron experiments 2-4 times a year, a few days each)

## Desirable skills and qualifications

- Experience with materials characterization, plant tissue and/or x-ray scattering
- Experience with programming for data evaluation
- German language skills are not required, willingness to learn German would be of advantage

Applications can be submitted until: 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2022

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna seeks to increase the number of its female faculty and staff members. Therefore qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply. In case of equal qualification, female candidates will be given preference unless reasons specific to an individual male candidate tilt the balance in his favour.

People with disabilities and appropriate qualifications are specifically encouraged to apply.

Please send your job application incl.

- motivation letter
- CV
- Diploma for highest finished degree (expected date of graduation if not yet finished)
- Full transcript of grades for your university studies (with grade key in English)
- List of min. 2 reference persons with contact information (optional: 2 reference letters)

to Personnel department, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Peter-Jordan-Straße 70, 1190 Vienna; E-Mail: [kerstin.buchmueller@boku.ac.at](mailto:kerstin.buchmueller@boku.ac.at). **(Reference code: 213)**

We regret that we cannot reimburse applicants travel and lodging expenses incurred as part of the selection and hiring process.

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