

## **BOKU University**

is inviting applicants for the position as

University Professor  
(according to § 99 (4) UG) of

### **Soil Science and Soil Protection**

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) seeks to appoint a University Professor of Soil Science and Soil Protection, starting 01.03.2025.

The position is filled in accordance with § 99(4) Universities Act 2002, as well as the development plan of the University and the agreement with the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research. The appointment will be a six-year (§ 109 UG) employment with the option for an extension after a positive evaluation.

The application for this position requires an employment with the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna as “Universitätsdozent\*in” in accordance with §94(2) 2., Universities Act 2002, or Associated Professor in accordance with §27 (Uni-KV - Collective Contract).

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, the “Alma Mater Viridis”, is the University of Life Sciences and Sustainability. It is BOKU's task to make a key contribution to the conservation and protection of resources for future generations through its wide variety of expertise. Combining natural sciences, engineering plus social and economic sciences, its aim is to increase knowledge of the ecologically and economically sustainable use of natural resources. With 10,000 students and 2,900 staff members, BOKU is one of Europe's leading life science universities.

The central fields of activity of the Department of Forest and Soil Sciences, which will be part of the new Department of Ecosystem Management, Climate and Biodiversity from 1 January 2025, are research and research-led teaching on the analysis, modelling and management of forest ecosystems as well as on soil use and soil protection. The department's research expertise is unique in Austria and covers the entire production chain from soil to ecosystem services.

Teaching and research at the Institute of Soil Science, where the professorship will be based, will focus on various spatial levels, from molecular and microbial processes to ecosystem dynamics and processes at landscape level. The focus is on linking soil processes with ecosystem functions, soil development, soil resilience and resistance as well as nutrient turnover. Another focus is on the effects of climate change and soil management on soils from different land uses (agriculture, forestry).

The professorship in Soil Science and Soil Protection will focus on development of soils and their manifold functions. Especially the soils' production function and buffer-filter-transformer function and their importance for ecosystems will be investigated. Soil quality in response to pedogenic development and soil management will be an important research focus of the professorship. The spatial scale of research can range from the molecular level to the field scale. In teaching, the professorship will take a leading role at the institute in field pedology and contribute significantly to basic soil science teaching. Established methodologies, such as those of theoretical chemistry, micromorphology, and environmental toxicology, will be utilized and further developed depending on the focus of the successful candidate.

Research focus of the successful candidate should be in one or more of the following areas:

- Soil formation, soil development and soil functions
- Soil-plant interactions: behavior of nutrients and pollutants
- Soil organic matter: stabilization mechanisms in soil and management effects

The successful candidate is expected to teach primarily in the Bachelor programs in Agricultural Sciences and in Environmental Sciences and Civil Engineering, as well as in the Master program in Crop Sciences as well as international programs, in particular Natural Resources Management and Ecological Engineering (NARMEE), Environmental Sciences - Soil, Water and Biodiversity (ENVEURO), International Master in Soils and Global Change (IMSOGLO).

Job specification:

- Affiliation to the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna 1) as “Universitätsdozent\*in” i.e. with a definitive employment relationship in accordance with § 170ff BDG or § 55ff VBG (official title: “Außerordentliche\*r Universitätsprofessor\*in”) or 2) Associate Professor in accordance with § 27 (5, 6) Uni-KV.
- Relevant experience and competence in teaching, guidance in scientific work, as well as the supervision of junior scientists (PhD students).
- Subject-specific research experience, national and international reputation, as well as ability to network.
- Excellent publication achievements in the scientific field.
- Sound international research experience.
- Teaching in German and English.
- Experience in the successful acquisition, execution and management of competitive research projects.
- Cooperation with national and international research institutions and with relevant partners from public services and business.
- Management and interpersonal skills including skills in gender and diversity management, inclusion and accessibility in communication; communication and team skills
- Participation in public relations.
- Participation in relevant focus and cooperation programs of the University.
- Participation in the self-governance of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna. e.g. leading the Institute of Soil Research.
- Excellent knowledge of written and spoken German and English or willingness to learn German in the first two years.

For more information about this position, please contact the Head of the current Department, Univ.Prof. DI Dr. Karl Stampfer, phone: +43 1 47654-91001, E-Mail: [karl.stampfer@boku.ac.at](mailto:karl.stampfer@boku.ac.at).

Please submit your application as **single PDF file** (LastName\_FirstName.pdf) containing the information mentioned below **in English** via email to the Rectorate of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna: [berufungen@boku.ac.at](mailto:berufungen@boku.ac.at) no later than **December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

Please include the following documents with your application:

- Brief explanation of why you believe yourself to be particularly suitable for this position (max. 1-page A4)
- CV including ORCID and details of professional, teaching and research activities (incl. presentation of teaching portfolios – further information is available at <http://short.boku.ac.at/teachingportfolio>)
- Draft concept for research and teaching; presentation of planned research priorities (max. 4 pages A4)
- List of publications (referenced / not referenced), presentations and projects
- Copies of 5 recent publications that you consider particularly important

By submitting the application, you also agree to the participation of an external recruitment consultant in the selection process.

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna is seeking to increase the number of its female faculty members and therefore, qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply. Women are given priority when qualifications are equal, except in cases where there are outweighing factors concerning another candidate.

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

The employment contract is classified as group A1 of the collective agreement for university employees. Minimum gross yearly salary: € 89,075; the actual annual gross salary is subject to negotiation.

More information on this position and about BOKU and the department can be found on the website: <https://boku.ac.at/en/>