

## **BOKU University**

is currently inviting applications for the position of a Full Professor of

### **Transformative Sustainability Sciences**

A professorship in Transformative Sustainability Sciences is to be filled at the BOKU University as of 1st March 2026. The position will be filled in accordance with §98 of the University Act 2002 in the form of a permanent contractual employment relationship.

BOKU University, the Alma Mater Viridis, is the university of sustainability and life sciences. BOKU's mission is to contribute to securing the foundations of life for future generations through the diversity of its subject areas. By combining natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and economics, it increases knowledge for the sustainable use of natural resources. With 10,000 students and over 3,000 employees, BOKU is one of the leading sustainability universities in Europe.

The professorship to be filled will be anchored in an organisational unit for transformative sustainability sciences that is currently under development. The primary task of the new organisational unit is to support existing or emerging transformation processes and to initiate and implement transformative activities at BOKU. The following cross-departmental priorities are to be promoted in the new organisational unit:

- Supporting and researching socio-ecological and socio-technological transformation processes at the organisational, regional and societal levels.
- Coordinating and further developing transformative and transdisciplinary BOKU teaching and continuing education.
- Coordinating and further developing corresponding internal BOKU transformation processes and serving as a point of contact for specific national and international transformation sciences.
- Hub, experimentation and innovation space for new dialogue formats: advising BOKU employees on dialogue and co-production events, accompanying research, providing experts to lead transdisciplinary work packages, moderation tasks, etc.
- Networking activities with relevant partners from science, society, politics and business, nationally and internationally.
- Subject-specific services for the six BOKU departments (consulting, conception, moderation, follow-up of transdisciplinary interactions with social actors).
- Establishment of transdisciplinary experimental spaces and teaching of transdisciplinary methods in teaching and continuing education.

The applicants should use their professional expertise to take on the following tasks:

- Further development of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary theories and methods of transformative research.
- (Support for) research activities in central processes of socio-ecological transformation along BOKU's areas of expertise.
- Independent teaching and contributions to teaching development in the context of education for sustainable development and transformative sustainability sciences.
- Knowledge transfer and social engagement: active cooperation with actors of socio-ecological change (scientific and political actors, civil society organisations, practitioners).
- Contribution to the development of the emerging organisational unit for transformative sustainability sciences.

Other tasks include involvement in public relations and third mission activities, as well as active participation in the self-administration of BOKU University.

#### Requirements

- A teaching qualification (venia docendi) obtained at an Austrian university or an equivalent international qualification in the relevant subject, or academic qualifications equivalent to a university teaching qualification.
- Expertise in theory and methodology development in the field of transformative sustainability sciences.
- Experience with transformative research processes and their reflection in different institutional and spatial contexts with reference to visions of a sustainable future.
- Experience with a broad transdisciplinary repertoire of methods.
- Focus on socio-ecological aspects of transformation.
- Ability to cooperate interdisciplinarily with different scientific cultures, in particular to integrate natural scientific, technical and socio-economic perspectives into socio-ecological transformation processes.
- Thematic openness to addressing transformation processes that are being worked on in research and teaching at BOKU departments.
- Reflection on a variety of models for social prosperity.
- Relevant research experience, national and international reputation and ability to network.
- Excellent publication record in the field and sound international research experience.
- Relevant experience and skills in teaching, guiding scientific work and supervising junior scientists.
- Experience in teaching courses in German and English.
- Experience in the successful acquisition, implementation and management of research projects.
- Collaboration with national and international research institutions and relevant partners from public administration and industry.
- Management and personnel management skills, including expertise in gender and diversity management, inclusion and accessibility in communication; communication and teamwork skills.
- Excellent written and spoken German and English skills or willingness to learn German in the first two years.

For further information on this professorship, please contact Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christian Obinger, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation at BOKU University, e-mail: [christian.obinger@boku.ac.at](mailto:christian.obinger@boku.ac.at)

Please send your application as **one PDF file** (surname\_first name.pdf) with the information listed below in English by **15th September 2025** at the latest by e-mail to the Rectorate of BOKU University ([berufungen@boku.ac.at](mailto:berufungen@boku.ac.at)).

Please include the following documents with your application:

- Brief explanation of why you believe you are particularly suited to this position (max. 1 A4 page).
- CV including ORCID and details of professional, teaching and research activities, incl. a teaching portfolio – further information is available at <http://short.boku.ac.at/teachingportfolio>
- Draft concept of your research and teaching plans; description of your planned areas of specialisation (max. 4 A4 pages).
- List of publications (peer-reviewed/non-peer-reviewed), lectures and research projects.
- Copies of 5 recent publications that you consider particularly important.

By submitting your application, you also agree to the involvement of a recruitment agency in the selection process.

BOKU University aims to increase the proportion of women in its workforce and therefore expressly invites female scientists with relevant qualifications to apply. Where qualifications are equal, women will be given priority unless there are compelling reasons to favour a male candidate.

People with disabilities and relevant qualifications are expressly encouraged to apply.

The employment relationship is classified in employment group A1 of the collective agreement for university employees. An overpayment of the minimum monthly salary stipulated in the collective agreement (6,604.30 euros 14 times per year) is provided for.

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