BOKU University

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

Microbial Biotechnology

BOKU University seeks to appoint a Full Professor of Microbial Biotechnology with 1st October 2027. The position is offered in accordance with §98 of the 2002 Universities Act in the form of an ongoing contract.

BOKU University, the "Alma Mater Viridis", is the University of Sustainability and Life Sciences. 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 over 3,000 staff members, BOKU is one of Europe's leading life science universities.

The professorship is assigned to the Department of Biotechnology and Food Science, which stands for innovative research and teaching in the fields of biotechnology, plant and cell biology and food science.

The Institute of Microbiology and Microbial Biotechnology (IMMB) investigates microorganisms relevant for circular biotechnology and industrial applications. With the help of systems and synthetic biological methods, their genetics, cell biology and metabolism are investigated and optimized for efficient bioprocesses. The advertised professorship is intended to synergistically complement the existing research groups of the IMMB and promote new interdisciplinary connections within the institute. Cooperations at the department and with other departments at BOKU are definitely desirable.

The research of the advertised Chair of Microbial Biotechnology focuses on the design and development of bacterial, fungal or yeast-based platforms for the production of value-added products, applying concepts of synthetic biology. Examples are cellular metabolites, biomaterials, proteins, or antibiotics. The research activities include design and construction of the microbial host organism taking into account the feasibility in a bioprocess. A holistic view of cells and processes in terms of systems biology, cellular thermodynamics and resource balancing is desirable. In addition to the theoretical foundations, the applicant is expected to have experimental expertise in microbial process engineering, which also includes non-conventional techniques such as anaerobic systems, gas fermentation, surface-adherent cultures, or microbial consortia. Aspects such as sustainable production, circular bioeconomy and biodiversity should be taken into account.

In research-oriented teaching, participation in compulsory and elective courses in German and English at Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral level is expected. This includes lectures, seminars and laboratory practicals, as well as the supervision of theses. Teaching focuses mainly on microbial metabolism, microbial cell factories, cell engineering and industrial production of selected microbial products. In addition to the teaching activities, participation in the future development of study programs is also expected.

Further tasks include involvement in public relations and third mission, participation in relevant focus and cooperation programs as well as active participation in the self-administration of BOKU University.

Job specifications

- Venia docendi or international equivalent or an subject-relevant academic qualification, that is equivalent to a habilitation.
- Relevant experience and competence in teaching, guidance in scientific work, as well as the supervision of junior scientists (PhD students).
- Relevant, established international research experience, national and international reputation and networking skills.

- Excellent publication record in the field.
- Experience in teaching courses in German and English.
- Experience in the acquisition, implementation and management of research projects.
- Co-operation with national and international research institutions as well as with relevant partners from public administration and industry.
- Management and leadership skills, including skills in gender and diversity management, inclusiveness and accessibility in communication; communication and teamwork skills.
- Excellent written and spoken English skills and good German skills or a willingness to learn German during the first two years.

For more information about this position, please contact the Head of the Institut of Bioprocess Science and Engineering, Univ.-Prof. Dr. Gerald Striedner, phone: +43 1 47654 79077, e-mail: gerald.striedner@boku.ac.at.

Please submit your application as **single PDF file** (LastName_FirstName.pdf) containing the information mentioned below in English via e-mail to the Rectorate of BOKU University (berufungen@boku.ac.at) no later than **10th January 2027**.

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 mandatory indication of the ORCID and details of professional, teaching and research activities (incl. a teaching portfolio – see 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 your application, you consent to the involvement of a recruitment consulting firm in the selection process, as well as to the disclosure of your name – including your rank if applicable – to those involved in the selection process.

BOKU University 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: € 93,986; the actual annual gross salary is subject to negotiation.

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