

10 PhD POSITIONS IN FWF-FUNDED DOCTORAL PROGRAM COGNITION AND COMMUNICATION

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In recent years, Vienna has become an important center for comparative behavioral and cognitive research, with a strong and growing research focus on cognitive biology. The Austrian Science Fund (FWF), the University of Vienna and the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna have supported this development, by funding a multi-level, integrative **PhD training program** (Doctoral College or “DK”) on **Cognition and Communication** in humans and non-human animals.

The goal is to train graduate students to conduct interdisciplinary research into cognition and communication from a biological viewpoint, with a focus on how animals including humans solve real-world problems, such as communicating and interacting with conspecifics in daily social life. Communication is studied as an important window into cognition, allowing us to design experiments testing specific hypotheses developed through an innovative combination of field observations and experiments, and laboratory work on humans and other animals. The trainees will learn to study animal and human behavior in a variety of cognitive and ethological frameworks in both the laboratory and in the field and could work with a diversity of species including reptiles (crocodilians), birds (e.g., pigeons, corvids, parrots, Darwin's finches), elephants, pigs, canids (wolves and dogs), humans (including brain imaging), and nonhuman primates (marmosets). **The language of the doctoral program is English.**

The PhD positions will be based at the University of Vienna, (7 positions), and at the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna (3 positions). Supervision is in the hands of 10 internationally respected scientists, supported by a coordinator.

The Faculty:

Tecumseh Fitch (speaker), Ludwig Huber (co-speaker), Thomas Bugnyar, Leonida Fusani, Stefanie Höhl, Sonia Kleindorfer, Claus Lamm, Friederike Range, Angela Stoeger, and Sabine Tebbich.

The aim of the doctoral program is to provide **structured PhD education for junior researchers**, providing high visibility in and contact with the international scientific community. The PhD program is embedded in the Vienna Doctoral School of Cognition, Behavior and Neuroscience (VDS CoBeNe) at the University of Vienna, which provides quality assurance in PhD education and to enhance networking opportunities.

Duration of contract: 3 years with the potential prolongation of another 12 months

Extent of Employment: 30.0 hours/week. Occupation group in accordance with Austrian University collective bargaining agreement: §48 VwGr. B1 Grundstufe (pre-doc).

Research Topics: Candidates should have a good knowledge of the types of research the faculty performs, and specify their research interests and potential supervisor(s). For an overview of the research interests and potential research topics, see our website at cogcom.univie.ac.at.

Duties: Participation in research, teaching and administration, including:

- Participation in scientific research
- Participation in peer-reviewed publications / public presentations
- Successful candidates must sign a doctoral thesis agreement within 6-12 months
- Participation in teaching and supervision of students
- Involvement in the organization of meetings, conferences, symposiums

Profile of qualification:

- Training (conceptual and methodological) in behavioral and/or cognitive biology, neuroscience, psychology or related disciplines
- Excellent command of English (both spoken and written)
- Very good ability to express yourself both orally and in writing
- Strong IT user skills (including statistics)
- Ability to work in a multi-national team

Desirable qualifications are:

- Previous experience in research methods and academic writing
- Knowledge of academic processes and structures
- Experience abroad (research, study, or both)

An application including a letter of motivation, academic curriculum vitae, publication record, evidence of teaching experience (if available), and a **short description of one or more potential research project(s)** including personal insights and/or reflections, should be uploaded at our website cogcom.univie.ac.at no later than March 1st 2021. **Potential supervisors and projects should be specified in ranked order.** For further information please contact our coordinator at cogcom.office@univie.ac.at.

The Universities pursue a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity (<http://diversity.univie.ac.at/>). The Universities put special emphasis on increasing the number of women in senior and in academic positions. Given equal qualifications, preference will be given to female applicants.