

Contact

Opportunities for the mentees

- Obtaining formal and informal career-related knowledge of structures, processes and 'rules of the game' involved in professional academic operations
- Reinforcement of self-competencies (empowerment)
- Support in planning specific projects and career steps
- Integration in the international, subject-specific scientific community

Opportunities for the mentors

- New impetus, perspectives and feedback from the mentees and through the exchange with other mentors
- Expansion of the mentor's own professional network of contacts and initiation of new forms of collaboration
- Effective support for young academics
- Demonstrate ability and competence handling issues of equal opportunities and gender equality

The project coordinators at the individual universities are available to answer any queries you may have.

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MENTORING - PROGRAMME for Female Postdocs





The postdoctoral phase serves to equip researchers with the skills required for a career in academia with the objective to be appointed to a professorship. This period represents a particular challenge for female Postdocs and, as successful female researchers remain relatively uncommon, potential career paths for women remain unclear. In comparison to their colleagues, female emerging researchers are in many casses less well integrated into academic networks and less frequently supported by mentors , which in turn increases their insecurity.

As a result, they profit less from the transfer of knowledge and experience from established academics on career-related topics and are less integrated in international networks. However, these factors can play an important role in successfully launching a career in academia, in addition to exceptional specialist skills and qualifications.

The mentoring programme for female Postdocs is an inter-university initiative by the universities of Halle-Wittenberg, Jena and Leipzig. It aims to enable high-achieving female researchers to access guidance and personal support from experienced mentors in this critical time window; the mentors provide the knowledge, key competencies and contacts required for the Postdocs to plan and pursue their professional career in an effective manner.

Target group

The mentoring programme is targeted at highly-qualified female Postdocs, researchers undertaking a 'habilitation', junior research group leaders and junior professors in all disciplines in the universities of Halle-Wittenberg, Jena and Leipzig with at least two years of independent academic work as a postdoctoral researcher following conferral of a doctorate and whose professional objective is to become eligible for a professorship.

The Mentees are given individual guidance by experienced professors from the same or a similar field. The mentors work at one of the other alliance universities to ensure a personal mentoring relationship which, while relevant to the mentee's field, is independent and unrestricted.

Duration of participation

One year – it is possible to extend participation by a further year.

Application

The period for applications to participate in the programme is announced at the three universities and on the programme website at the end of the *calendar year*.

For further information: www.pd-mentoring.uni-jena.de

Structure

The programme is accompanied by official opening, interim and concluding events, and consists of the four following components:

1 One-to-one mentoring

Individual advice and support on career-related issues and integration into the scientific community

2 Topic-related small peer groups

Exchange of information and experience and help building an interdisciplinary network with other Postdocs

3 Training sessions on key careerrelated competences

Introductory workshop as well as a range of application and profile-building strategies, as well as management and leadership duties in the field of science

4 Networking

Meetings are held following the opening, interim and concluding events to forge and intensify interdisciplinary contacts