



## MINGZ DOC NEWSLETTER

46. Issue July 2024 — 9 July 2024

### MINGZ Doc Newsletter

Dear doctoral researcher,

a new **Academic Fixed-Term Contract Act** is currently decided upon and will come into force within the next year. This might have important consequences on your future in respect to contracting. We tried to summarize below in a nutshell what might be most important at this stage and you absolutely should know about.

We recommend you to keep an eye on the regulation when planning your career and want to encourage you to use an individual development plan along the path. [Here](#) you can find the **MIN-IDP** and useful hints on how to use it. Our regular webinars can facilitate your start on using it.

Enjoy the start of summer in Hamburg or wherever you are currently living and working.

Your MIN Graduate Center

### NEWS OF MIN GRADUATE CENTER

#### New Academic Fixed-Term Contract Act: What will change for doctoral students and postdocs?

On March 27, 2024, the reform of the Academic Fixed-Term Contract Act was passed by the Federal Cabinet. The reform will bring significant changes for doctoral candidates and their future postdoc phases.

Changes for doctoral candidates:

1. minimum contract duration: the initial contract must then last at least 3 years, which should provide more planning security.
2. maximum contract duration Doctoral candidates can now receive contracts of up to six years

Changes for postdocs:

1. 4+2 model: the maximum fixed-term duration in the postdoc phase is to be limited to 4 years, with a possible extension of 2 years if there are permanent employment prospects.
2. minimum contract duration: contracts after the doctorate must run for at least 2 years in accordance with the reform.
3. qualification priority: third-party funded fixed-term contracts are only possible after the qualification time limits have been exhausted, which should improve the working conditions for postdocs.

- Protection of existing contracts:  
Existing contracts: Current contracts remain unchanged. People in the postdoc phase may use their previous maximum fixed-term contracts for up to four years after the new regulations come into force.

The reform of the Academic Fixed-Term Contract Act aims to improve the predictability and stability of academic staff. Clear regulations on part-time contracts and the compatibility of family and career are to be introduced. You can find more information [here](#) (by the Federal Cabinet in german) or [here](#) (download the English Translation).

#### MINGZ Webinar: Career Planning - Stay on track with an Individual Development Plan (IDP)

24.07.2024, 12:00 p.m. - 01:00 p.m., online

Doing a doctorate is a challenging task. It requires a strong commitment for several years, and the route to success is full of uncertainties. To support you on your path to a doctorate and the first steps afterward, the MIN Graduate Center has developed a personal planning tool: the [Individual Development Plan \(IDP\)](#).

The IDP will help you communicate with your supervisor(s), understand your skills and interests, stay on track, assess your progress, and plan your career. It consists of three parts covering the first three to four years of your doctorate. To make it even easier to get started with your IDP, we offer regular webinars.

This webinar is recommended in particular for 1st and 2nd year doctoral researchers.

You might want to have a look at the IDP in prior to the webinar.

[Register via Geventis](#)

#### Funding for conference participation abroad

International conferences provide great opportunities for networking within the scientific community. They allow young researchers to gain insights into state-of-the-art research and to present their own research findings on the international scientific stage. The MIN Graduate Center provides funding to enable doctoral researchers to attend international conferences.

- Deadline: 15. July - funding starts from August 15 at the earliest.
- Deadline: 15. January - funding starts from February 15 at the earliest.

[Further information and how to apply](#)

#### Funding for research stays abroad

In professional as well as personal terms, time spent abroad and experience in international research environments is always enriching. The MIN Graduate Center promotes international mobility of doctoral researchers and encourages them to write their own story in an international research context. If your research stay takes place shortly before the deadline, you may exceptionally apply to us after the deadline. Normally, grants are announced twice a year:

- Deadline: 15. August - funding starts from August 15 at the earliest.
- Deadline: 15. February - funding starts from March 15 at the earliest.

[Further information and how to apply](#)

#### MINGZ funded research stays abroad - a report

The MIN Graduate Center provides travel grants to support doctoral researchers attending conferences and conducting research stays. The experiences gained during these trips are varied and incredibly captivating. Here is a report from a doctoral researchers stay in Australia:

Izabel Cvetkovic undertook a research stay at the University of Sydney Business School from January 10th to April 15th, 2024, collaborating with renowned researchers from the Information Systems discipline. Their focus was on exploring algorithmic aversion through the lens of terror management theory (TMT). During her stay, they prepared several experiments aimed at testing two hypotheses derived from TMT, with pilot tests set to commence soon. This collaboration is part of a comprehensive project that will continue even after her return to Germany and is set to be submitted to a highly-ranked journal, making University of Hamburg more visible in the domain.

"Beyond the invaluable research experience, my time at the University of Sydney was enriched by various learning opportunities. I had the chance to learn from Uri Gal and Ofir Turel about the intricacies of our research topic and experiment design. Additionally, I participated in PhD workshops where I learned about crafting paper revisions and conducting experiments in the information systems discipline," Izabel says. These workshops provided her with practical insights and tools that will benefit her future research endeavors.

Moreover, her interactions with talented PhD students and postdocs from the University of Sydney's Business Information Systems research group were enriching for her. The welcoming environment and constructive exchanges made her research experience particularly pleasant and fruitful.

[The report of Izabel Cvetkovic on LinkedIn](#)

### WORKSHOPS & NETWORKING EVENTS

#### Erfolgspfade für Frauen - wie definierst und erreichst du berufliche und persönliche Ziele? (in german only)

10. Juli 2024, 09:00-15:00, TransferAgentur, Rothenbaumchaussee 19

Durch die Vermittlung von Techniken im Selbstmanagement und Taktiken zum Selbstmarketing bietet der Workshop konkrete Strategien, um den individuellen Erfolgspfad zu gestalten und erfolgreich zu beschreiben.

[Weitere Informationen und Anmeldung](#)

#### HRA Spotlight – Promovieren? Wissenswertes für die Entscheidung (in german only)

12. Juli 2024, 10:00-13:00, Hamburg Research Academy, Gorch-Fock-Wall 7

Nächster Schritt Promotion? Möchte ich weiter wissenschaftlich arbeiten? Welche Vorstellung habe ich vom Promovieren? Und was bedeutet das alles eigentlich für mich und mein Leben? Die 3-stündige Veranstaltung fokussiert die Entscheidung für oder gegen eine Promotion als wissenschaftliche und berufliche Weiterqualifizierung. Neben Informationen rund um die Promotion (Formalitäten, Finanzierung, Promotionsprozess) werden auch die Prämissen guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis, die Themenfindung und das Betreuungsverhältnis angesprochen. Ziel ist es, neben der objektiven auch eine ganz subjektive Wissensgrundlage für den Entscheidungsprozess aufzubauen.

[Weitere Informationen und Anmeldung](#)

#### Postdoc Talks – How Reliable Are Scientific Articles? A Deep Dive into Image Manipulation and Errors

12. July 2024, 01:00 p.m. - 02:30 p.m.

This talk by Dr. Sholto David will discuss different types of image errors and how to identify them. Literature related to the scale of the problem will be summarized with examples of errors in different journals, subject areas, research groups, and institutions. The speaker will also discuss his personal experience of identifying over 2600 papers with problematic images, share some data related to journals and publishers and discuss his quixotic efforts to resolve these errors. To conclude, some thoughts on why image (and other) errors matter will be shared. This Postdoc Talk has been organized by HRA Postdoc Network member Dr. Rory Hennell-James, who is a postdoctoral researcher at UKE Institut für Struktur- und Systembiologie and CSSB Centre for Structural Systems Biology.

[Further information and registration](#)

#### Exposé-Werkstatt. Von der Idee zum Text (in german only)

29. Juli, 12. August, 9. September 2024, 09:00-12:30, Hamburg Research Academy, Gorch-Fock-Wall 7

Sie stehen vor der Herausforderung, ein Promotionsprojekt zu entwickeln und ein Exposé zu schreiben? Dann haben Sie sich folgende Fragen vermutlich schon gestellt: Was ist eigentlich ein gutes Promotionssthema und wie finde ich es? Wie komme ich von der Idee zum Exposé? Wofür brauche ich ein Exposé und was sind die Besonderheiten dieser Textsorte? Und wie strukturiert und schreibt man eigentlich ein Exposé? All diese Fragen und Gegenstand der Exposé-Werkstatt von Hamburg Research Academy, die Sie auf Ihrem Weg von der Themenidee zum Exposé begleiten wird. Die Exposé-Werkstatttreffen finden statt am 29.07., 12.08. & 09.09.2024. Die Teilnahme lohnt sich auch dann, wenn Sie noch in der Themenfindungs- und Vorbereitungsphase sind, aber bald mit dem Schreiben beginnen wollen.

[Weitere Informationen und Anmeldung](#)

#### Career Development Cycle - Webcasts on career planning

The UHH HR department offers in addition to workshops and individual counseling, different webcasts for applying for professorships and postdoc positions as well as academic and non-academic career planning.

Available content:

- Applying for professorship
- Applying for postdoc positions
- Academic career planning
- Ways out of science

Webcasts are approximately three-hour videos with information on a specific career planning topic, which you can access individually based on your needs and time resource

[Further information and access](#)

#### Save the date: PIER Graduate Week 2024

7. - 11. October 2024

The PIER Graduate Week is an interdisciplinary lecture and workshop week for young scientists. Each year, it offers two stimulating bloc courses with topics that are of interest for many doctoral candidates in the wide range of the PIER research fields of Particle & Astroparticle Physics, Nanoscience, Photon Science and Infection & Structural Biology.

[Further information](#)

### JOB OFFERS & FELLOWSHIPS

#### Stellenausschreibung: Wissenschaftliche:r Angestellte:r (w/m/d) als Referent:in im Bereich der EU-Forschungsförderung und -Antragsbegleitung (in german only)

Im Referat [Forschung und wissenschaftlicher Nachwuchs](#) unterstützen derzeit 20 Mitarbeiter:innen Wissenschaftler:innen aller Karrierestufen in ihren Forschungsaktivitäten. Wir beraten bei der Einreichung von Forschungsanträgen in nationalen und internationalen Ausschreibungen, unterstützen Forschungsaktivitäten beispielsweise im Rahmen der Zentralen Forschungsförderung der Universität Bremen, bieten mit dem Nachwuchscenter BYRD ein breites Qualifizierungs- und Vernetzungsangebot für Wissenschaftler:innen früher Karrierestufen und engagieren uns für die europäische Hochschullianz YUFE. Wir möchten eine zuverlässige, serviceorientierte und teamfähige Persönlichkeit als Referent:in im Bereich der EU-Förderberatung gewinnen.

*Bewerbungsschluss ist der 18.07.2024*

[Zur Stellenausschreibung](#)

#### UHH Career & Qualification Center: Mentoring&programm

The individual mentoring program offers female\* students and graduates (graduation phase up to one year after graduation) the opportunity to prepare for a successful career start with the help of a selected mentor.

The diversity-oriented programme offers you:

- Professional selection process with feedback for invited applicants
- Individual placement of a personally and professionally suitable mentor
- Continuous support and programme offers by the project office
- Events and development of a cross-faculty network, supporting network, e.g. through joint mentee activities mentee activities

Applications are open to female\* students in the final phase of their degree programme and graduates\* (maximum one year after graduation). The mentoring programme is based on the diversity characteristics of the University of Hamburg. We are therefore particularly welcome applications from female\* students and graduates\* from a wide range of disciplines, backgrounds and origins that reflect the diversity.

*Application deadline is 28.07.2024*

[Further information and application](#)

#### Werner und Inge Grüter-Preis für Wissenschaftsvermittlung 2025 (in german only)

[Werner und Inge Grüter-Preis für Wissenschaftsvermittlung 2025](#) bezieht sich auf hervorragende Arbeiten auf naturwissenschaftlichen Gebieten unter Bevorzugung von Evolution, Paläontologie, Meeresbiologie, Botanik und Kosmologie, die das Ziel haben, wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse über die Grenzen ihrer jeweiligen Disziplinen hinaus einer breiten Öffentlichkeit bekannt zu machen. Der Preis für Arbeiten aus dem deutschen Sprachraum ist dotiert mit € 15.000,00.

Es sind Eigenbewerbungen wie Vorschläge durch Dritte möglich. Besonders erwünscht sind Bewerbungen jüngerer Wissenschaftler:innen und Wissenschaftler. Rein wissenschaftliche Publikationen können nicht berücksichtigt werden. Die Bewerbungen sind mit aussagekräftigen Unterlagen und Lebenslauf einzureichen. Entgegengenommen werden Beiträge aller Formen wie Bücher, Artikel in Printmedien, Hörfunk- und Fernsehbeiträge sowie im Internet u.ä.

*Bewerbungsschluss ist der 12.08.2024*

[Weiter zum Bewerbungsportal](#)

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