The Leibniz Association

Eva Maria Verst-Lizius

Career Day
Kiel University
12 September 2018
Leibniz Mission

Theoria cum praxi: academic excellence and social relevance

• Knowledge- and application-oriented research
• Interdisciplinary collaborative research
• Close collaborations with universities
• Broad range of research infrastructure
An overview of the Leibniz Association

- Founded in 1995
- Association of 93 independent institutes, including 18 infrastructural institutes and 8 research museums
- Total budget of 1.9 billion €/year (2017)
- Around 19,100 staff, including 9,900 academics
- Evaluations every 7 years
- Locally and regionally embedded in all federal states
An overview of the Leibniz Association

Research mode
• Excellent problem-oriented and application-oriented basic research which is of social, economic and ecological relevance
• Interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research within and beyond the institutes

Research organisation
• Financial and legal independence of the institutes
• Joint funding at national and state level (generally 50:50)
Sections of the Leibniz Association

**Section A**
Humanities and Educational Research (22 institutes)

**Section B**
Economics, Social Sciences, Spatial Research (16 institutes)

**Section C**
Life Sciences (23 institutes)

**Section D**
Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Engineering (23 institutes)

**Section E**
Environmental Research (9 institutes)
Postdoctoral Researchers at Leibniz

- 2063 postdoctoral researchers
- 153 independent Junior Research Groups
- 25 jointly appointed Junior Professors
Leibniz Career Guidelines

- ...for
  - Graduates during their PhD
  - Postdoctoral Researchers

- ...providing recommendations on
  - more transparency for careers of junior researchers
  - Improvement of employment conditions
  - Active career development
4-Stage-Model of Leibniz Careers

• 1\textsuperscript{st} Stage: PhD
  • Building expertise

• 2\textsuperscript{nd} Stage: Orientation
  • Profile building: dissemination of results / publications
  • New projects - third party funding
  • Academic administration - committee work - reviewer panel

• 3\textsuperscript{rd} Stage: Consolidation
  • Publishing
  • Taking up further responsibilities (project/ or research groups leader)

• 4\textsuperscript{th} Stage: Permanent position/tenure/professorship
Tools of career development: Postdocs and beyond

- Leibniz Competition „Best Minds“:
  - Leibniz Junior Research Groups
  - Leibniz Programme for Women Professors
- Leibniz-Kolleg for Young Researchers
- Leibniz Mentoring for academics
- Leibniz-DAAD-Research Fellowship for post-docs
- Leibniz Postdoc Network
Leibniz Competition

Leibniz internal competition under the ‘Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation’: € 25 Mio

- Leibniz Collaborative Excellence
- Leibniz Transfer
- Leibniz Best Minds

Leibniz Programme for Women Professors

Leibniz Junior Research Groups
Leibniz Junior Research Groups

• **Scope**
  - Funding to establish a JRG over 5 years
  - Cover personnel costs for group leader and 2-3 researchers
  - Career Guidelines and Gender Equality guidelines apply

• **Eligibility**
  - PhD no longer than 5 years ago
  - Outstanding academic record
Leibniz Junior Research Groups

• How to apply
  o Application deadline: spring
  o Applications are submitted by the respective institute

• Further information:
Leibniz Programme for Women Professors

• **Scope**
  - 5 years tenured professorship for female researchers
  - Joint appointment with the university
  - W2/W3
  - Appropriate overhead

• **Eligibility and requirements**
  - Outstanding research record
  - Career perspective and high potential of excellent contribution to the research area
Leibniz Programme for Women Professors

• Application
  ○ Get in touch with the Leibniz Institutes you are interested in

• Further Information
Leibniz-Kolleg for Young Researchers

• The Leibniz-Kolleg for Young Researchers is a two-day retreat for postdoctoral researchers from all Leibniz Institutes.
• Since 2016
• Overriding topics
  o 2016 Chances and Challenges of Interdisciplinary Research
  o 2017 Digitisation of the Research System: Chances and Challenges
Leibniz Mentoring

• Challenging and intensive one-year programme to promote highly-qualified post doctoral female researchers

• Objectives
  o To enable women in the ‘consolidation phase’ to pursue their academic career
  o To realize their potential to keep the best academics in Leibniz
Leibniz-DAAD Research Fellowships

• 15 fellowships for excellent post-docs from all over the world

• One year of fully-funded research at a Leibniz Institute of their choice

• Soft skills training

• Annual ‘Forum for International Postdoctoral Researchers’ at the Head Office in Berlin
Leibniz-Postdoc Network

• **Aim**
  - network of Postdoc representatives on careers and activities
  - sensitize the political and economic environment to invest in science

• **Scope**
  - encourages cross-disciplinary exchange between postdocs
  - create structures for a central career support, accessible for all Leibniz-Postdocs
  - establishes a corporate identity as „Leibniz Postdocs“ and the formation of a strong network
Further information

https://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/home/
Thank you!

Eva Maria Verst-Lizius
e.verst-lizius@leibniz-gemeinschaft.de

Division Leibniz Competition Procedure
Leibniz Association
Chausseestrasse 111
10115 Berlin