



## **The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)**

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

### **Organic farming and crop production systems**

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Department of Sustainable Agricultural Sciences, seeks to appoint a Full Professor of Organic farming and crop production systems with 1st October 2023. The position is offered in accordance with § 98 of the 2002 Universities Act in the form of an ongoing contract.

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, 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 11,000 students and over 2,900 staff members, BOKU is one of Europe's leading life science universities.

The Department of Sustainable Agricultural Systems consists of the institutes of (i) Organic Farming, (ii) Livestock Sciences, (iii) Agricultural Engineering and (iv) Development Research. In terms of research, the central tasks of the Department are the investigation as well as the promotion of sustainable land use and provision of basic materials for our society. Strategic goals are the integration of basic research with applied research and natural resource management, resulting in collaborations within and outside the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.

The infrastructure of the Institute of Organic Farming, where the professorship will be located, includes a soil laboratory, organically farmed areas of the Groß-Enzersdorf experimental farm and, depending on the project, areas of the “Landwirtschaftliche Bundesversuchswirtschaft GmbH” in Rutzendorf.

In research and teaching, the applicant should deal with organic crop production as a core competence. On the basis of agro-ecological knowledge, they should address topics such as the optimization of soil fertility and water balance, crop rotation design, weed control, pest control, nutrient supply, yield development, as well as the associated ecosystem services including resource protection and the promotion of biodiversity in organic farming. In order to secure the world's food supply and for the change in the food system that is necessary for ecological reasons (reduction of animal products, promotion of a plant-based diet), the core of the professorship also includes measures to strengthen, for example, the cultivation of protein crops and field vegetables in the design of crop rotations. The task of the professorship is also to work on this subject area with close reference to practice and consulting. Accordingly, the professorship should have a high level of understanding in research and teaching of systemic relationships between organic agriculture and its sub-areas as well as society and transformation processes currently taking place, including with regard to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Research is to be carried out both on-station and on-farm within the framework of organic farm networks. The support of the planned reorientation/reorganization of the experimental farm Groß-Enzersdorf with the focus on climate change adaptation, sustainable agricultural production, promotion of biodiversity, promotion of beneficial insects and digitalization, as well as the strengthening of research on organic agriculture at this location is considered an essential field of activity of the advertised professorship. The spatial focus is intended for the Central European, Pannonian region (Austria and the neighboring Central and Eastern European countries).

The task of the professorship is furthermore to represent the mentioned topics in the sense of a research-guided teaching especially in the Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences and in the Master of Organic Agricultural Systems and Agroecology, as well as to continuously develop them against the background of current scientific knowledge.

Job specifications:

- Venia docendi or foreign equivalent or an equivalent subject-relevant academic qualification.
- Relevant experience and competence in teaching, guidance in scientific work, as well as the supervision of junior scientists (PhD students). The candidate is expected to submit a teaching portfolio.
- Subject-specific research experience of national and international reputation, as well as ability to network. Excellent publication achievements in the scientific field.
- Sound international research experience.
- Teaching in German and English.
- Experience in the successful acquisition, execution and management of research projects.
- Cooperation with national and international research institutions and with relevant partners from public services and business.
- Management and interpersonal skills including gender and diversity management skills, communication and team skills.
- Willingness to participate in public relations.
- Willingness to participate in relevant focus and cooperation programs of the University.
- Willingness to participate in the self-governance of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.
- Excellent knowledge of written and spoken German and English or willingness to learn German in the first two years.

For more information about this position, please contact the Head of Department of Sustainable Agricultural Sciences, PD Dr. Maria Wurzinger: [maria.wurzinger@boku.ac.at](mailto:maria.wurzinger@boku.ac.at).

Please send your application in English by email to [rektorat@boku.ac.at](mailto:rektorat@boku.ac.at) and one hard copy no later than **10th October 2022** (date on postage stamp) to the Rectorate of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Gregor-Mendel-Straße 33, 1180 Vienna, Austria.

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 ORCID and details of professional, teaching and research activities (incl. presentation of teaching portfolios – further information is available in German at [http://www.boku.ac.at/fileadmin/data/H05000/H17100/Qualifizierungsvereinbarung/Lehrportfolio\\_-\\_Leitfaden\\_zur\\_Erstellung.pdf](http://www.boku.ac.at/fileadmin/data/H05000/H17100/Qualifizierungsvereinbarung/Lehrportfolio_-_Leitfaden_zur_Erstellung.pdf))
- 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 the application, you also agree to the participation of an external recruitment consultant in the selection process.

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna 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: € 76.127,80; 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/en/>