

The University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna is active in teaching and research and provides services in connection with ensuring animal health in Austria. These tasks represent our contribution to maintaining the health of humans and their animal companions as well as to producing healthy food.

The Institute of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare (part of the Department for Farm Animals and Veterinary Public health) is looking for a

University Assistant / Postdoctoral Researcher in Applied Neuroscience and Animal Welfare

Grade:	PostDoc/B1
Level of employment:	40 hours
Length of employment:	4 years
Deadline for applications:	15.03.2018

The Institute of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare is part of Vetmeduni, ranked 8th worldwide (2017 Shanghai Ranking for Universities, Veterinary Sciences) and located in Vienna, consistently ranking as one of the most livable cities in the world.

Responsibilities

This position aims to strengthen the Institute by integrating neuroscience within a dynamic research team comprised of experts in animal behaviour and physiology working on animal welfare. We are looking for someone with a neuroscience background who is keen to work at the whole-animal level. This job is ideally suited for someone interested to combine unique animal models for basic discovery (e.g. pig, cattle/goat/sheep, poultry or companion animals), which offer advantages over traditional neuroscience models, and applied implications for animal welfare.

The applicant will work in two areas: elucidating prosocial behaviours, and validating novel animal welfare measures. In particular, there is a growing need to assess affective states in domestic animals, and this position will bring the much-needed neuroscience contribution to an inter-disciplinary team with the aim to advance our understanding and assessment of affective states.

The applicant should be motivated, independent and with a problem-solving mind to use new approaches and solutions. You will have resources at your disposal to develop innovative ideas, in collaboration and self-contained, and lead research to benefit animal welfare. The work will be conducted in English. The position has longer-term possibilities based on subsequent grant funding. The starting date is negotiable.

Please submit a letter addressing the selection criteria below (necessary knowledge and qualifications, desired skills and abilities) in a few pages, a full CV, a list of three references and a letter of motivation describing your research interests, experience and goals.

Necessary knowledge and qualifications

- A PhD in a relevant area of biology with neuroscience aspects
- An understanding and past experience in animal or human behaviour research
- Expertise in neuroscience or psychology techniques, preferentially neurobehavioural or neurophysiological approaches

- Publication track-record of high quality

Desired skills and abilities

- Expertise in social behaviour
- Experience in the supervision of research students
- Ability to design research projects
- Successful management of research projects and teamwork
- Knowledge of statistical analysis
- Ability to link and communicate with industry partners and society
- Ability to work independently and in a team
- Interest for inter-disciplinary research

Contact /Further Information

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<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/en/institute-of-animal-husbandry-and-animal-welfare/>

Minimum salary

The minimum salary for university staff is regulated by the collective contract and at the level given above amounts to EUR 3.711,10 gross per month (14 times/year, equal to EUR 51.955,40 gross yearly). The minimum salary may be increased when previous employment and other salary components are taken into account.

Applications

Please submit applications quoting the **reference number 2018/0221** via e-mail (preferably) to bewerbungen@vetmeduni.ac.at or by post to the Personnel Department of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna. Please do not forget to include the reference number or we shall be unable to relate your application to the correct vacancy announcement.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is attempting to increase the proportion of female staff, particularly in senior positions, and in accordance with § 41 of the 2002 Universities Act it is striving to attain a balanced representation of men and women, especially on its scientific staff. Applications from qualified women are thus particularly welcomed. If women are underrepresented (below 50%), female applicants who are as well qualified as the best qualified male applicants will be given preference, provided that there are no strong reasons for favouring a particular male candidate.

Applicants have no entitlement to reimbursement of any travel or accommodation costs they may incur as a result of the application procedure.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is proud to have been awarded the certificate "*hochschuleundfamilie*" (career and family). We should thus be especially pleased to receive applications from people with families. Applications from persons with disabilities are similarly welcome.