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.

To meet our objectives, our University Clinic for Ruminants, Clinical Unit for Herd Health Management (Department for Farm Animals and Veterinary Public Health) is looking for a

PhD student working on „Smart Farming – Digital equivalents of agricultural production processes” project staff

Grade:                           B1
Level of employment:            30 hours
Length of employment:           3 years
Deadline for applications:      30.09.2020

Digitalisation in agriculture is rapidly proceeding. One of the factors contributing to this development is the increasing use of sensor technologies for monitoring agricultural production processes and animal health.

In a joint project of the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna (Vetmeduni), the Vienna University of Technology (TU) and the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU) the foundations for interdisciplinary research and teaching in the field of "Smart Farming" are to be laid.

Within the project, agricultural production processes along the process chain plant production - animal processing - food are to be systematically analyzed and mapped as a "digital twin". Digital twins represent virtual, digital equivalents to physical objects and allow historical, current and future information about the physical properties, origin and sensory context of these objects to be obtained. Among other things, risk analyses, tests, simulations and evaluations can be carried out in product development. Research trials for data generation is mainly planned at the farm of the Veterinary University (VetFarm) at Kremesberg in Pottenstein, Lower Austria. The PhD candidate is the "interface" between Vetmeduni, BOKU and the Vienna University of Technology. The regular professional exchange between the universities requires temporary stays at the locations Groß-Enzersdorf and Vienna in Austria.

Responsibilities
• Conducting practical research activities on farms, e.g. on the use of sensor technologies along the production chain “feed production – animal conversion – food”
• Helping in installation activities (e.g. positioning of cameras and sensors)

Necessary knowledge and qualifications
• Degree in agricultural sciences or alternatively in veterinary medicine, biology, engineering, computer science with additional agricultural expertise (vocational training or comparable)
• Knowledge of agricultural production processes
• Very good German and English language skills in spoken and written (C1-Level)
University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna

- Secure handling of MS Office applications
- Class B driving licence

**Skills and Abilities**
- Interest in the use of sensors, data collection and analysis
- Knowledge in use of farm and herd management software
- Craftsmanship
- Team spirit
- Ability to work under pressure, independent and problem-solving oriented

**Contact /Further Information**
Dr. Michael Iwersen
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E Michael.Iwersen@vetmeduni.ac.at
www.herdhealth.at

**Minimum salary**
The minimum salary for university staff is regulated by the collective contract and at the level given above amounts to EUR 2.196,80 gross per month (14 times/year). 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 2020/0819 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.