



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

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

### **Organic Farming**

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Department of Sustainable Agricultural Sciences, is seeking for a Full Professor of Organic Farming to start 1st October 2024. 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 10,000 students and over 2,900 staff members, BOKU is one of Europe's leading life science universities.

The central tasks of the Department of Sustainable Agricultural Systems in research are the investigation and promotion of sustainable land use and the provision of basic materials for our society. Strategic goals are the integration of basic research with applied research and the management of natural resources. Organic agriculture is a core competence of BOKU. As a cross-cutting topic across several disciplines, organic agriculture provides both an anchor point within the department and an interface to other departments and to other actors in society.

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

The applicant should deal with organic plant production as a core competence in research and teaching. On the basis of agro-ecological knowledge, the professorship should, in cooperation with the staff of the Institute, devote themselves to topics such as the optimisation of soil fertility and water balance, crop rotation, 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 agriculture. Important innovative research areas could include mixed crop systems, agroforestry systems, and eco-functional intensification (synergies, symbioses, etc.). Climate protection and climate change adaptation, also in the context of resilience, must be taken into account. 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), measures are also to be taken in the core area of the professorship, for example to strengthen the cultivation of protein plants 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 extension. The professorship should therefore demonstrate a high level of understanding in research and teaching of the systemic interrelationships between organic agriculture and its subsectors, as well as society and current transformation processes, also with regard to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A focus on the Central European region (Austria and the neighbouring Central and Eastern European countries) is desirable. The support of the planned realignment/restructuring of the experimental farm Groß-Enzersdorf with the focus on adaptation to climate change, sustainable agricultural production, promotion of biodiversity, promotion of beneficial organisms and digitalization as well as the strengthening of research on organic agriculture at this location is considered to be an essential field of activity for the advertised professorship.

It is also the task of the professorship to represent the aforementioned topics in the sense of research-guided teaching, especially in the Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences and the Master of Ecological Agricultural Systems and Agroecology, and to continuously develop them against the background of current scientific findings.

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, 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 competitive research projects at national and European level.
- 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.
- Participation in public relations.
- Participation in relevant focus and cooperation programs of the University.
- Participation 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, phone: +43 1 47654 93220, e-mail: [maria.wurzinger@boku.ac.at](mailto:maria.wurzinger@boku.ac.at).

Please submit your application as **single PDF file** (LastName\_FirstName.pdf) containing the information mentioned below in English via email to the Rectorate of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna ([berufungen@boku.ac.at](mailto:berufungen@boku.ac.at)) no later than **28th March 2024**.

Please include the following documents in 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. a teaching portfolio – further information is available at <http://short.boku.ac.at/teachingportfolio>
- 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: € 89,075; 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/>