The Science, Technology and Society Unit at Graz University of Technology (TU Graz) seeks to fill the position of a

Postdoc Researcher (25 hours/week)

thematic focus: technology assessment and responsible development of genome editing

from 1 Oct 2018 to 30 June 2022
(earlier starting date possible)

Extended application deadline: 24 August 2018

Payment is in accordance with the Austrian Collective Bargaining Agreement for university staff §49(3)b B1 (postdoc). For an employment of 25 hours/week (=65%) the annual net salary corresponds to ca. € 23,500. Upgrading of employment to more than 25 hours /week is intended but depends on funding and cannot yet be promised.

The Science, Technology and Society Unit

Research at the Science, Technology and Society Unit has two interconnected aims: to better understand the various societal and environmental implications of technology development and – based on this knowledge – to strengthen research and innovation in line with broader societal needs.

This type of research is conducted at early stages of technology innovation and in an inter- and transdisciplinary way by bringing together scientists and engineers from all disciplines and by involving technology users and stakeholder groups.

Our research is frequently contributing to or organized as technology assessment, ELSA (ethical, legal and social aspects) studies, feminist studies, science, technology and society studies (STS), sustainability studies, and policy analysis.


Job Description

- The successful candidate will work together with Unit researchers on several interrelated research projects (including EU-funded projects) on technology assessment aspects, ELSA (ethical, legal, and social) aspects, as well as responsible development of genome editing in plants and animals (principal investigator at TU Graz: Armin Spök)
- Publication of research results in international journals
- Application for additional research funding in a competitive environment
- Project related administration and management tasks
Profile (must have)

- Completed PhD (at the time the position begins)
- Academic background in a life science or social sciences
- Research experience in one or more of the following fields: technology assessment, ELSA studies, policy analysis, Science and Technology Studies, Open Science
- Excellent proficiency in English
- Ability to work in a team, organising ability, reliability and high work motivation
- Willingness to travel in the EU

Profile (advantage if one or more items apply)

- Proficiency to read and communicate in German and/or French
- Experience in biotechnology related topics
- Experience in international collaboration
- Experience in organising meetings or workshops
- Experience in liaising with and communicating to stakeholders

Required Documents

- Letter of motivation indicating earliest possible starting date
- Curriculum Vitae
- List of publications
- Two selected papers, chapters, or monographs as “proof” of writing skills
- Two letters of reference

Applications should be written in English and submitted by e-mail to office.sts@tugraz.at, Science, Technology, and Society Unit, Graz University of Technology no later than 24 August 2018.

Short-listed candidates will be invited for interviews. Applications for travel grants for interviews can be made at: https://www.ffg.at/career-grants/tender, https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/page/en_tenderguidelines_v1_1.pdf

For further information, please, contact Dr. Armin Spök by e-mail armin.spoek@tugraz.at or phone +43 (0) 316 873 - 30660.