

Call for Applications

PhD Workshop: “Sustainable Development Research – an Interdisciplinary Chance or Challenge?”, April 4-5, 2019

Organized by Prof. Brigitta Schütt (Freie Universität Berlin), Prof. Pascal Borry (KU Leuven), Prof. Piotr Szewdo (Jagiellonian University)

Abstract:

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN, reflect the global consensus about improving sustainability. The goals have important implications for policy and research in areas ranging from climate protection to gender issues. The SDGs are complex and interwoven; the success of one goal is often closely linked to the success of another. Timely and impactful implementation of the goals therefore requires interdisciplinary research.

The workshop offers the opportunity to discuss the complex topic of sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective with an international group of PhD students and professors. Participants are asked to provide a short abstract outlining their research and a reflection of how their topic interacts with one or more SDGs. Through the workshop participants develop a broader understanding of interdisciplinary research collaborations in the field of sustainable development and explore opportunities for joint interdisciplinary research projects.

Rather than presenting general overviews of sustainable development research, the workshop is interested in topical areas of individual dissertations, which should be reviewed in the light of the 17 SDGs.

Program Design: PhD Workshop

The PhD workshop is part of the Spring Campus Conference of the [University Alliance for Sustainability](#). Participants of the Ph.D. Workshop will have the opportunity to participate actively in the conference. Participants can attend the Opening Day on April 1 and a research workshop of their choice on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 2-3. We encourage you to use this opportunity to present your research.

On Thursday and Friday, April 4-5, we will convene for two Ph.D. Workshops. Those are organized in cooperation with [UNA Europa](#), a European network of universities, of which Freie Universität Berlin is a partner. PhD Candidates from the UAS and UNA partner universities will be thematically grouped in two parallel running workshops – **please indicate the title of the PhD workshop in your application.**

In addition to the conference-style presentation sessions, we will offer different training modules. Topics may range from presentations skills, research ethics, intercultural competence for academic settings, publication strategies etc. Accepted participants can choose one of the trainings offered.

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Guidelines and Deadlines

Call for abstracts: We invite PhD candidates specializing in sustainability-related research to apply. Abstracts (max. 500 words) outlining the aims and methods of individual papers should be sent to katrin.risch@fu.berlin.de by **January 31, 2019**. Please state your name, research topic, affiliation and full contact details.

For UNA Europa participants, please refer to the application guidelines of your local UNA Europa contact.

Funding for PhD Candidates from

- UAS partner universities

The University Alliance for Sustainability provides funding for up to 4 PhD students per UAS partner university. They may receive a lump-sum for their travel and accommodation to attend the Spring Campus Conference from April 1-5, 2019. The amount will be transferred to their personal account after the Spring Campus. UAS participants can request a cash check in case a transfer is not be possible. Please note that this request has to be made **by March 15** at the latest.

Please note that there are country specific lump-sums for each partner university:

	Lump-sum for travel	Lump-sum for accommodation
Peking University	850 €	50 per night for up to 6 nights (300 Euro max.)
Hebrew University of Jerusalem	400 €	
University of British Columbia	1300 €	
St. Petersburg State University	275 €	

- UNA partner universities

Each UNA Europa member university will provide funding for travel and accommodation for up to 5 PhD students. **For further information on the selection process and the funding mechanism, please contact your respective International Office and/or UNA Europa contact at your university.**

- Participants from other universities

PhD students from non-UAS and non-UNA member universities are invited to apply for both the conference program and the PhD Workshops.