

## **Funding Programme for Visiting Scholars with a Focus on Intersectional Gender Research**

Continuing the Maria-Göppert-Mayer Programme for the Promotion of International Women's and Gender Studies of Lower Saxony (2009 - 2019), Leuphana University Lüneburg has launched a programme to promote visiting professorships with a focus on intersectional gender research, which will run until 28 February 2026.

### **Goal**

The aim of Visiting Professorships / Visiting Scholarships (VP/VS) is to provide impulses for interdisciplinary gender research and intersectional perspectives in teaching and research as well as within the disciplines. With the visiting scholarship programme, Leuphana University Lüneburg intends to attract excellent national and, in particular, international scholars for a research and lecturing stay and thus advance the (inter)national profile of the university.

By involving internationally visible researchers in projects, the opportunities for current and future research projects at Leuphana University Lüneburg can be enhanced. The integration of gender dimensions in research is also becoming increasingly important in research funding. Funding institutions such as the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission or the German Research Foundation require applicants to take gender dimensions into account in their research projects.

In addition, visiting professorships / visiting scholarships at Leuphana University Lüneburg strengthen the role model function that excellent scholars working intersectionally have for students and for scholars in the qualification process.

### **Funding**

The Programme for Women Professors III (WPP III) serves as the basis for funding. The aim of WPP III is, among other aspects, to promote intersectional women's and gender research in science. It is intended to continue the programme after the end of the funding period.

A total of 850,000 Euros has been made available in the programme since it was started in 2021. For the next three years until the end of the programme, 630,500 Euros are still available. The plan is to use this budget to finance five visiting professorships (approx. 90,000 Euros each per year). The funds are tied exclusively to the awarding of such a visiting professorship / visiting scholarship. Remuneration is granted according to the profile of the visiting professorship / visiting scholar, in the case of professorships based on W2 at a rate of 100 per cent; other rates may be applied for with sufficient justification.

Separate applications may be made for funding of additional personnel costs for SHK positions or for material and travel costs, event funding and, if applicable, funding for teaching assignments in the area of intersectional gender studies. In the case of teaching assignments, the regulations for the remuneration of teaching assignments apply.

After the end of the programme, funding will be provided by the Schools, e.g. from funds for vacant positions. Participation from central funds is planned and may be applied for in addition to School funds.

### **Target group and requirements**

The target group of the programme are (inter)national scholars from the post-doctoral phase onwards with a focus on intersectional gender research in their academic profile. For visiting professorships, a habilitation or habilitation equivalence is required and a promotion is prerequisite for the title of visiting scholar. There will be no gender equality requirements with regard to the visiting scholars who apply.

The duration of the respective contract is usually two semesters; in justified cases, an exception can be made. The visiting professorship's contribution to teaching consists of teaching in the bachelor's and master's degree programmes. The proportionate teaching in the gender diversity certificates is obligatory so that the teaching activity of the visiting scholars has an impact beyond the specific School. In the case of a visiting professorship of 100 percent, the scope of teaching is at least 4 SWS for scholars in the postdoc phase and at least 6-8 SWS for scholars who are already habilitated. Additional lecturing activities in different areas of the host School / academic institution must be provided.

The visiting professor / scholar is expected to provide sophisticated, theologically and methodologically sound teaching at a high didactic level and to consistently implement "integrative gendering and diversity". The visiting professor / scholar should be able to conduct courses in English. In addition, teaching assignments in the field of intersectional gender studies with 2 SWS may be granted. The positions can last for a maximum of three semesters and begin in winter semester 2023/24 at the earliest and winter semester 2025/26 at the latest.

### **Organisational structure**

The research and teaching activities of the visiting professor / scholar are based in a host School or academic institution (e.g., centre for methods, research centres). This is also where the workplace is located, which is to be equipped by the institute or School. Connections to the research projects of the School or the academic institution are desirable.

## **Procedure**

In each School, the research deans and the equal opportunities office of Leuphana University Lüneburg are responsible for the application procedure and the allocation of funds. The equal opportunities officers of the Schools can be consulted in an advisory capacity.

The presidential board has the final decision on the application.

Each School may apply for funding for at least one visiting scholar. Two recruitment procedures are possible for the visiting researchers:

1. public call for applications
2. nomination procedure

### **1. Public call for applications**

#### **1.1**

In accordance with these procedural principles, the call for applications is prepared by the respective School and published in consultation with the central equal opportunities office.

#### **1.2**

At the same time, a selection committee is formed within the tendering School, which also includes the decentralised equal opportunities officer of the School. The commission reviews and discusses the applications.

#### **1.3.**

Suitable applicants will be invited for an interview. Subsequently, the equal opportunities office will receive the application form (with attachments) for consideration of the applicant selected by the commission. The following information should be included:

1. Description of how the VP/VS and their expertise will be integrated into the respective School / institute and into current research.
2. Explanation regarding the contribution of the VP/VS towards embedding intersectional gender perspectives in teaching. Specification of which programmes and study components are taught and which additional contributions will be made.
  - A curriculum vitae of the desired candidate (incl. list of publications and previous courses).
  - Budget plan (max. 1 page): tabular list according to use of funds / explanation / amount.

The last possible application deadline is March 2025 for winter semester 2025/26.

#### **1.4**

After authorisation by the equal opportunities office, the School council decides on the appointment of the candidate and the School then submits the application form for the appointment of visiting scholars to the Presidential Board.

## **2. Nomination procedure**

### **2.1**

The School administration asks the professors of the School to make proposals for visiting researchers within a certain period of time and to submit their CVs. The dean's office selects suitable proposals and forwards them to the central equal opportunities officer and the equal opportunities office to check their suitability. If necessary, the equal opportunities office advises the School individually on the selection of visiting scholars.

The following information should be included:

1. Description of how the VP/VS and its expertise is integrated into the respective School / institute and into current research.
2. Explanation regarding the contribution of the VP/VS towards embedding intersectional gender perspectives in teaching. Specification in which programmes and study components VP/VS teaching takes places and which additional contributions will be made.
  - A curriculum vitae of the desired candidate (incl. list of publications and previous courses).
  - Budget plan (max. 1 page): tabular list according to use of funds / explanation / amount.

The last possible application deadline is March 2025 for winter semester 2025/26.

### **2.2**

Suitable candidates are invited by the School for an interview and a decision is made by the selection committee for one candidate. The School council decides on the appointment of the candidate.

### **2.3**

With recommendation of the equal opportunities office the School submits the application form for the appointment of visiting scholars to the presidential board.

In both procedures, the focus in the selection of visiting scholars should be on the acquisition of external scholars who have not yet been employed at Leuphana University Lüneburg. In addition, it is also possible to apply for funding for a position of already established visiting scholars. Here, too, the development of a concept is desired, which will be examined by the equal opportunities office.

In case not all possible positions are requested, applied for and filled by the Schools, the equal opportunities office reserves the right to advertise the positions itself in cooperation with the centre for methods or one of Leuphana's research centres.

Equal Opportunities Office

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