JUMP2 Newsletter

JUMP2 is gaining momentum!

With JUMP2 – On the Path to a Permanent Professorship, we support research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors at a decisive stage in their careers as they work towards a permanent professorship.

The cross-university programme offers peer consultation, Future Leader Mentoring, interdisciplinary skills workshops and networking opportunities designed exclusively for research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors. Most activities take place online, making it easy to connect and exchange ideas across university boundaries. JUMP2 currently involves 13 universities across Germany. Research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors at these universities can participate in the programme free of charge.

And JUMP2 continues to gather momentum: Over the coming months, you can look forward to new workshops, networking opportunities and other activities. This JUMP2 newsletter provides an overview of all upcoming dates and participation opportunities.

Take a look!

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JUMP2
Peer Consultation
24.11.26

The R3 career stage is characterized by challenging decisions and requires researchers to take on a wide range of roles. These include assuming leadership responsibilities and supervising early-career researchers, developing their own research profile and securing third-party funding, making strategic career decisions, and finding ways to balance professional and private life. These are just a few examples. There are no one-size-fits-all solutions to these challenges, which makes exchanging experiences with peers facing similar situations all the more valuable. Peer consultation provides a structured opportunity for exchange in a confidential setting. In a facilitated process, participants discuss a range of questions and challenges within the group, opening up new perspectives, ideas and potential solutions. Peer consultation offers an opportunity to reflect on current challenges within a peer group and to expand one's professional network.

Facilitator:
Svenja Burmann,
Saarland University

Kick-off session:
24 November 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
The subsequent dates will be agreed upon with the group.

Registration please email
svenja.burmann@uni-saarland.de

JUMP2 Future Leader Mentoring

As part of the JUMP2 programme, we offer Future Leader Mentoring. Participants are matched with established professors at one of our partner universities. The aim of JUMP2 Future Leader Mentoring is to support you in developing your academic profile, provide targeted guidance as you prepare for appointment to a permanent professorship, and help you build lasting professional networks.

Further information on how the Future Leader Mentoring programme works and how to participate can be found in the attachment to this newsletter. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, you can also contact the JUMP2 representatives at your university.

JUMP2
Leaders Talk
18.11.26

Host university:
Paderborn University

Speakers:
Prof. Dr. Stefanie Reese,
Prof. Oliver Günther, Ph.D. and
Prof. Dr. Moritz Weber

Date:
18 November 2026,
6:00–7:00 p.m., online

Registration deadline:
16 November 2026

With the JUMP2 Leaders Talks, we are introducing a new format for exchange. Covering a range of topics, these events provide opportunities to engage with leading figures from UA11+ universities and discuss questions relevant to your own role and career in academia.

The inaugural session will address a topic that is still rarely discussed in academia: setbacks in academic careers. How do you deal with rejected grant applications, unsuccessful job applications or other setbacks? When is it worth persevering, and when can a change of direction open up new opportunities? We look forward to exchanging ideas and experiences on these questions.

Registration: Please email
postdocsupport@uni-paderborn.de

JUMP2 Professional Development Programme

The JUMP2 Professional Development Programme offers interdisciplinary skills workshops specifically and exclusively for research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors at participating universities. The workshops, most of which take place online, are organised into three areas: Pathways to a permanent professorship, Navigating everyday academic life, Developing effective leadership skills.
Registration is now open for the following workshops.

Pathways to a Permanent Professorship

Strategic Positioning for Junior Professors and Research Group Leaders

Host university: University of Wuppertal
Trainer: Prof. Dr. Anja Frohnen (impulsplus)
Date: 12 November 2027, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., online
Language: German
Registration deadline: 21 October 2027

Leading a research group or embarking on a tenure-track professorship brings not only greater academic independence but also increased responsibility for one's own area of work. What do I want to be known for academically? Where should I focus my efforts? And how can I shape my area of responsibility so that it aligns with my goals and available resources?

This workshop supports research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors in reflecting on their academic positioning and their roles as leaders. Participants will explore different role expectations, identify effective ways to shape their areas of responsibility, and develop concrete measures for their strategic development while making efficient use of available resources.

Register for the workshop using this registration form.

Sharpening Your Research Profile – Making Strategic Use of Research Funding

Host university: University of Kassel
Trainer: Dr. Beate Scholz
Date: 24 November 2026, 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., online, followed by individual coaching sessions (on the afternoon of 24 November and throughout 25 November)
Language: German
Registration deadline: 30 October 2026

In this workshop, you will explore how to make targeted use of national and international funding opportunities to develop your research profile and actively shape your path towards a permanent professorship. The trainer will provide practical guidance on identifying the funding programmes best suited to your goals and offer individual coaching based on your CV.This will help you showcase your research strengths, develop them strategically and take a targeted approach to planning your career.

Registration: Please email Sekretariat-EPEO@uni-kassel.de

Career Planning for Established Researchers: Pathways, Options and Decisions

Host university: Chemnitz University of Technology
Trainer: Dr. Annika Bartsch
Date: 24 and 25 February 2027, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. each day
Registration deadline: 10 February 2027

You have achieved academic independence – but this brings new strategic questions. How can you sharpen your research profile? How can you position yourself for a professorship? And what decisions should you make now to set the right course for your future career? This workshop helps participants reflect on their current position and plan their next career steps strategically. The focus is on their individual research profiles and research core, career paths and framework conditions within the German higher education system, and upcoming career decisions.
By the end of the workshop, you will have developed a concrete and realistic roadmap for the next 12 to 24 months.

Register for the workshop using this registration form.

Navigating Everyday Academic Life

Learning from Setbacks: Resilience and a Culture of Learning in Academia

Host university: University of Wuppertal
Trainer: Robert Kötter (Zweirat)
Date: 5 March 2027,
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., online
Language: German
Registration deadline: 11 February 2027

Setbacks, criticism and uncertainty are part of everyday academic life – both in one's own career and in leading a research team. But how can we respond constructively to these experiences while also creating an environment in which mistakes can be openly discussed and used as opportunities to learn?

This workshop is aimed at research group leaders, junior professors and tenure-track professors and brings together both perspectives. Participants will reflect on their own approach to failure and develop practical strategies for dealing with setbacks and difficult situations. At the same time, they will explore how, as leaders, they can foster psychological safety and an open culture of learning from mistakes within their teams.

Register for the workshop using this registration form.

Small Talk for Researchers

Host university: Leuphana University Lüneburg
Trainer: Torsten Rother (Sprechwege)
Date: 29 January 2027,
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., online
Language: German
Registration deadline: 22 January 2027

"Sometimes the most important part of a conference is the break" – at least when it comes to networking and career development for researchers. Being good at small talk makes it easier to strike up conversations with people you have never met before, in a relaxed and informal way. Small talk is the first step towards making new contacts and also helps strengthen existing connections. In this way, lasting professional relationships and productive networks can develop. For anyone who does not consider themselves a natural conversationalist, there is good news: small talk is a skill you can learn – and it can even be fun!

Registration: Please email karin.becker@leuphana.de

Making Strategic Use of Research Funding

Host university: University of Wuppertal
Trainer: Dr. Beate Scholz
Date: 4 May 2027,
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., online
Language: German
Registration deadline: 12 April 2027

Research funding is about more than financing individual projects. It is equally important to consider which funding instruments best fit your academic profile, which applications will support your next career goals, and how to develop a long-term funding strategy. This workshop helps participants use research funding strategically to advance their careers and develop their academic profiles. You will gain insights into the perspectives of funding organisations and reviewers and use these insights to develop an individual funding strategy for your next career steps.

Register for the workshop using this registration form.

Developing Effective Leadership Skills

Good Supervision of Doctoral Researchers

Host university: University of Potsdam
Trainers: Various
Dates: mondays, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
2 November 2026, 9 November 2026, 16 November 2026, 23 November 2026, 30 November 2026
Language: German
Registration deadline: 19 October 2026

Supervising doctoral researchers is a demanding responsibility. It requires not only subject-specific expertise but also clarity about one's role, strong communication skills and the ability to think in a structured way. This series consists of five short sessions designed to help participants develop a sound supervision concept, reflect on and further improve their supervisory practice, and acquire practical tools for providing professional, structured and learning-oriented support throughout the doctoral process.

Register for the workshop using this registration form.

Effective Leadership

Host university: Bielefeld University
Date: 26 November 2026
Language: German

New to the position of Professor or Research Group Leader, you are faced with the task of further developing and advance your scientific profile in a focussed manner and at the same time take on leadership and management responsibility – in your own management area, with staff and within the university. This phase is both a departure and a setting of the course: you need to clearly define your own role, build visibility and prioritise between research, teaching and leadership.

In order to fulfil these diverse requirements and at the same time preserve space for your own research projects, it is crucial to manage yourself and your team appropriately. The seminar imparts fundamental knowledge and proven methods for effective and efficient management in a scientific context.

Registration: Please email
advanced-researchers@uni-bielefeld.de

Questions, Suggestions or Feedback on the JUMP2 Programme? We would love to hear from you!

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