



FGGA-VISESS Doctoral Fellowship

Objective and General Information

The Faculty of Earth Sciences, Geography and Astronomy (FGGA) and the Vienna International School of Earth and Space Sciences (VISESS) aim to support FGGA scientists employed within the tenure track scheme at any of its levels.

The FGGA-VISESS Doctoral Fellowship awards a doctoral position (University Assistant prae doc, 30h/week) for three years. The doctoral student has access to mobility funding of FGGA and VISESS (FGGA "Nachwuchsförderung" and VISESS "Research Funds"). The members of the supervisory team must commit to providing additional required resources (consumables, lab and office space, mobility etc.). The candidate selected for the position joins VISESS as a doctoral student.

Requirements

1. Doctoral Project

- 1.1. The doctoral project must build on research of high quality and international reputation that should lead to cutting-edge results.
- 1.2. The doctoral project should contribute to visibility within the international scientific community and inspire future third-party funding within FGGA.
- 1.3. The topic of the doctoral project must be embedded in one or more of FGGA's thematic areas. A clear perspective must be shown on how research at FGGA is strengthened. If applicable, the doctoral project is to intensify cooperation between existing groups at FGGA.
- 1.4. The schedule of the doctoral project must be compatible with the intended start and duration of the doctoral position.

2. Supervisory Team

- 2.1. The main supervisor is a FGGA scientist employed within the tenure track scheme at any of its levels with starting date no later than the intended start of the doctoral position.
- 2.2. At least one member of the supervisory team, typically the main supervisor, must have a contract at the University of Vienna that runs until the end of the doctoral project. Also, at least one member of the supervisory team must fulfill the supervision criteria according to §15 of the Study Law of the University of Vienna.
- 2.3. It is recommended to include in the supervisory team one, possibly two early-stage scientists holding a doctoral degree (postdoctoral researchers, senior scientists, and senior lecturers). It is advised, though, to have a maximum of three scientists in the supervisory team.
- 2.4. All members of the supervisory team must commit themselves to actively support the doctoral candidate for the duration of the doctoral project.

Application

Interested supervisory teams can apply using the project proposal form. The form should be completed in English and include the following elements:



- Doctoral project outline (max. 250 words) with description of broader research context, the research questions and objectives, the research methodologies and approaches, as well as the innovative aspects and impact.
- Information on how the project will contribute to visibility within the international scientific community and inspire future third-party funding within FGGA.
- Explanation of how research at FGGA will be strengthened through the doctoral project.
- Information on the supervisory team members and, if applicable, external collaborations.
- Statement of commitment by all supervisory team members to actively support the doctoral candidate for the duration of the doctoral project.
- Information about the intended starting date, tasks and profile of the doctoral candidate.

The project proposal form (one PDF file) should be submitted by email to admin.visess@univie.ac.at by 15 February 2025.

Selection process

A jury consisting of members of the Dean's Team and the VISESS School Board will select the winning proposal. The project proposals will be evaluated against the criteria of research of high quality and international reputation, of expected visibility and inspiration of future third-party-funding, of strengthening our faculty, as well as of a clear and meaningful supervisory structure. If all criteria are equally fulfilled, preference will be given to female main supervisors.

Recruitment process

The winning proposal is expected to be announced during the VISESS 2025 Spring Call, widely advertised to reach highly qualified candidates worldwide. Interested candidates can apply until the deadline of 30 April 2025. Depending on the hiring process, the selected candidate can likely start earliest on 1 July 2025.