

Press Release

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Tracking the tenure-track

The Project Group Nachwuchspakt, part of the Research Group Science Policy at Die Junge Akademie, has joined forces with the Deutsche Gesellschaft Juniorprofessur to monitor the development of the Tenure-Track Programme. Initial results based on detailed data collection have just been published.

Members of the Project Group *Nachwuchspakt*, part of the Research Group Science Policy at *Die Junge Akademie*, have joined forces with the *Deutsche Gesellschaft Juniorprofessur (DGJ)* to analyse the Joint Federal Government-Länder Programme (The Tenure-Track Programme) over a prolonged period.

In 2017, the *DGJ* and *Die Junge Akademie* launched the website <u>almameta.de</u> for early career scientists. A map visualises all tenure-track listings at German universities and provides information about tenure-track professorships that are taken. The website offers a map that gives easy-to-use, intuitive access to all jobs advertised within the Joint Federal Government-Länder Programme. Users can navigate to the featured locations, carry out a search according to topics or filter for vacancies in particular federal states. The website also shows details on denominations and salary brackets for each vacancy. The data is regularly updated based on the group's research of public sources and on the <u>Tenure-Track Programme portal</u> run by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

"By monitoring the careers of this well-defined cohort – which includes some of the people on the project team – we are hoping to learn about scientific career paths in Germany. *Die Junge Akademie* and the *DGJ* have been running this project and collected data for various persons and years since 2017," explains Doris Segets, member of the Research Group Science Policy at *Die Junge Akademie*, who also holds a full professorship and the Chair for Particle Science and Technology at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Ingo Siegert, chairperson of the DGJ board and Junior Professor for Mobile Dialog Systems at the Institute for Information Technology and Communications at Otto von Guericke University of Magdeburg, adds: "For a robust analysis on how a tenure-track professorship helps improve the academic landscape, we need reliable data. This project is a first step towards a better understanding of careers in academia."

The Joint Federal Government-Länder Programme for the promotion of young scientists offers initial funding to the tune of one billion euros. The federal states guarantee the subsequent funding of the posts. During two selection rounds in 2017 and 2019, 1,000 tenure-track professorships were awarded across 75 universities. The goal is to establish these 1,000 professorships via the Tenure-Track Programme by 2032. The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research wants to initiate cultural and structural change through the Tenure-Track

1/2

Programme. Members of the Project Group *Nachwuchspakt* within the Research Group Science Policy at *Die Junge Akademie* support this goal and are closely observing the implementation of the programme using evidence-based methods.

Die Junge Akademie has been collaborating with the DGJ since 2017. Information for early career scientists is researched, prepared and published on <u>almameta.de</u>, the joint website.

For requests for interviews, please contact <u>presse@diejungeakademie.de</u> and <u>info@dgj</u>-wissenschaft.de.

Die Junge Akademie was founded in 2000 as the world's first academy for outstanding young academics. Its members – who come from all academic disciplines as well as creative fields – explore the potential and limits of interdisciplinary work in new projects, aim to encourage dialogue between academia and society, and provide new impetus in discussions about scientific policy. Die Junge Akademie is supported by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. Its office is located in Berlin.

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The *Deutsche Gesellschaft Juniorprofessur* e.V. (DGJ, German Junior Professors' Association) is a non-profit association for modern career paths in science, and Germany's only national association of early career scientists. Founded in 2003 under the name Förderverein Juniorprofessur, the association has accompanied many positive changes within academia. The DGJ is in close contact with government bodies such as the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and federal state ministries, as well as with science organisations and university administrations.

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