

Career planning for Climate Scientists

How to make good decisions, market yourself, and find a decent job

What comes after the PhD degree? The YRM 2022 addresses the topic of career planning. You will get concrete help on the application dossier and marketing yourself at the job interview. You will assess your options in the job market and discuss opportunities, requirements and limitations of careers in academia versus industry or administration.

PROGRAM

Thursday, 16 June 2022

09:45 – 10:25	Check-in at Hotel Aeschi Park, Coffee
10:30 – 10:55	Welcome and introduction
10:45 – 12:30	Input and Workshop 1 (Monika Clausen) Efficient strategies for job hunting
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Input and Workshop 2 (Monika Clausen) Putting theory to life
15:00 – 17:45	Input and Workshop 3 (Monika Clausen) Self-marketing in job interviews <i>Coffee break included</i>
17:45 – 18:00	Round-up: Open questions and feedback

Friday, 17 June 2022

07:15 – 08:35	<i>Breakfast and check-out</i>
08:35 – 08:45	Announcements / Introduction
08:45 – 10:00	Input and Discussion 4 (Julia Cahenzli) SNSF career funding - from early PostDoc to Professorial Fellowships
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 12:00	Input and Discussion 5 (Stefan Brönnimann) Evaluation of (fellowship) applications - From the perspective of the review panel
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 15:30	Short inputs and Panel discussion 6 (Christoph Schwörer, Regine Röthlisberger, Carlo Casty) How to find a decent job - From the perspective of advanced professionals
15:30 – 16:00	Wrap-Up and Closure

MORE DETAILS ON THE MEETING PROGRAM

Please bring your own laptop. You will be informed about assignments and preparatory tasks.

Input and Workshop 1: Efficient strategies for job hunting

The input and group activity touch on considerations for an efficient job search and on recognizing differences between job descriptions, career paths and personal competencies and skills.

Input and Workshop 2: Putting theory to life

The input is on convincing application documents, and the workshop then challenges your self-presentation and its effectiveness.

Input and Workshop 3: Self-marketing in job interviews

Preparing for an interview requires anticipating the interview situation - what will happen and when - and developing appropriate strategies to answer difficult questions. The workshop consists of short mock interviews where you may practice your power of persuasion.

Monika Clausen has a PhD degree in Biology, and a Bachelor in Business Administration, and she worked as a scientist in biotechnology. Her further education includes trainings in business analysis, management curriculae, team coaching and competence and resource building. She has her own consulting business and has more than ten years of experience in teaching work organization, self-marketing, and general career planning for the private and public (research) sector.

Input and Discussion 4: SNSF career funding - from early PostDoc to Professorial Fellowships

The Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF is the leading funding agency for research projects. The input presentation will provide an overview of (SNSF) funding opportunities for early-career researchers, and give an outlook to options for academic and scientific careers in the long term, including aspects like mobility, gender equality or the DORA declaration. An extended Q&A session will provide ample time for questions and discussions about funding and required qualifications, skills and motivations for an academic career.

Julia Cahenzli is the Leader of the Unit independent careers at the SNSF. She has a master degree in Biochemistry and Immunology (from ETH Zürich) and a PhD in Immunology. Among others, she was a PostDoc at University of Bern and a scientific officer with the H+ hospitals before joining the SNSF in 2016.

Input and Workshop 5: Evaluation of fellowship applications - from the perspective of the review panel

The input and workshop highlights a few hard and soft factors for a successful fellowship application. It is shown how a review panel works and what skills, attitudes and strategies are key for an interview.

Stefan Brönnimann leads the Climatology unit at the Institute of Geography, Univ. Bern, has written many grant proposals and has been a member of review panels for assessing funding application.

Short presentations and Panel discussion: How to find a decent job

In the final session, senior researchers and professionals give their views on (their own) careers in academia, the public and the private sectors, and will report about their experiences while hunting for a decent job. As they sit now on the other side in job interviews, they can also tell about the do's and don'ts during a job application procedure.

Christoph Schwörer holds a PhD in Climate Sciences and is now a group leader with a SNSF project grant at the Institute of Plant Sciences, Univ. Bern. He is still writing grant proposals and job applications while navigating the complexities of academia and family life.

Regine Röthlisberger is co-leading the Climate Reporting and Adaptation section at the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment. She holds a PhD in Physics and had started off her career in academia.

Carlo Casty holds a PhD in Climatology. He has made his way in the private sector to become a team leader with PartnerRe Zurich. He is engaged in Catastrophe Risk Modeling and recruits young professionals.

REGISTRATION

Please register online at

www.oeschger.unibe.ch/ym

Deadline for registration: Sunday, 24 April 2022

The number of available places is limited. By registering, you acknowledge that there will be assignments to complete in preparation for the workshops.

Please note cancellation costs of 100 CHF after Sunday, 24 May 2022 if no replacement is presented. Cancellation costs do not apply in cases of health or family emergency. Deadlines to submit a thesis or a paper and other workshops / conferences, however, are not considered as a case of emergency.

VENUE

Hotel Aeschi Park www.aeschipark.ch

Accommodation: double room, full board.

Meals: We aim to provide lunches and coffee breaks if the situation allows. Please note that we will opt for vegetarian food, if possible, but not necessarily vegan, depending on the available caterers and their offers.

Costs: The costs of the meeting (full board accommodation and teaching material) are covered by the Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research. Reimbursement of travel expenses must be organized through the individual projects / research groups.

For any further question and requirements please contact Cornelia Kehl (cornelia.kehl@unibe.ch).

TRAVEL

These are the ideal train and bus connections from Bern to Aeschi b. Spiez. Participants coming from other locations may check www.sbb.ch for connecting trains.

09:04	dep.	Bern (IC to Interlaken Ost)
09:33	arr.	Spiez
09:37	dep.	Spiez, train station (Bus 62, direction to: Aeschiried, Schulhaus) The bus leaves from the front left of the arrival platform.
09:46	arr.	Aeschi b. Spiez, Post

To get to Hotel Aeschi Park, just walk back for about 100 m. Return connections on 9 June 2017:

16:05	dep.	Aeschi b. Spiez, Post
16:18	arr.	Spiez, train station
16:22	dep.	Spiez (IC to Basel SBB)
16:52	arr.	Bern

DISCLAIMER

The program is subject to change due to the transient pandemic situation and the regulations by the University of Bern. Please be ready for adaptations of the program.