

Leibniz Mentoring Network

Network rules

Preamble

We are the cross-sectional network representing brilliant, career-oriented women with strong leadership skills within the Leibniz Association. With our proactive stance and our commitment, we form a strong, personal network, based on mutual trust, of alumnae of the Leibniz Mentoring Programme.

The network offers suggestions for personal development, assists with career questions and provides space for joint undertakings and for initiating joint projects. In the network, the Board and committees of the Leibniz Association and external stakeholders can find competent, inspirational discussion partners and assertive opinion leaders on issues relating to career support in the sciences and beyond.

For the Leibniz alumnae, but also for the mentees in the current cohort, the network is an important point of contact for questions and for decisions concerning career development and collaborative projects within the Leibniz Association.

§ 1 Purpose of the network

The purpose of the network is to promote and support the alumnae and mentees of the Leibniz Mentoring Programme and for the alumnae to support the Leibniz Association. This is achieved primarily by providing non-material support for the alumnae and mentees, e.g. by:

1. creating a sustainable, stable network of brilliant, career-oriented women within the Leibniz Association
2. creating medium- and long-term connections between different scientific disciplines and supporting collaborative partnerships between Leibniz institutions across sections by paving the way for joint projects, events, etc.
3. providing contact with a stable, sustainable network at an early point in a woman's career
4. providing access to competent women as contacts for issues relating to career support for brilliant, career-oriented women within the Leibniz Association (including contacts who are not themselves mentees or alumnae) and for issues relating to how to reconcile work and family life
5. providing advice and constructive feedback to the Executive Board and committees of the Leibniz Association on relevant issues
6. establishing multipliers in contexts outside the Leibniz Association

§ 2 Admission to the network

1. Mentees in the current cohort are asked by Leibniz Headquarters at the end of the mentoring year whether they want to join the network.
2. Conditions for being admitted to the network are participation in the Leibniz Mentoring Programme and acceptance of the network's stated values and aims.

§ 3 Network meeting

1. The network meets once a year. Invitations are sent out by the spokesperson along with the agenda, using the mailing list set up and updated by Leibniz Headquarters. Every alumna may request changes or additions to the agenda up to seven days before the network meeting.
2. The main tasks of the network meeting are:
 - a. to elect the spokesperson
 - b. to adopt resolutions on agenda items
3. Minutes must be kept of the resolutions of the network meeting and made available to the alumnae within six weeks. Objections to the minutes must be made in writing to the spokesperson within 30 days of publication.

§ 4 Spokespersons

1. The spokespersons consist of a minimum of one and a maximum of five alumnae: the spokesperson and up to four deputies. Their term of office ends two years after the date of election. Re-election is permitted without restrictions.
2. If a spokesperson or deputy leaves office before the end of her term, e.g. by resigning or as a result of a by-election, the term of office of the newly elected spokesperson ends two years after the by-election.
3. The spokespersons represent the network and the resolutions adopted by the network, both within the Leibniz Association and outside it.

§ 5 Resolutions

1. Resolutions are adopted by a simple majority of alumnae present. A tie counts as rejection; abstentions are not counted.
2. Voting is generally conducted by a show of hands. A secret vote must take place if requested by at least one third of those present.
3. The spokesperson or a deputy counts the votes. The result is then announced to the alumnae and recorded in the minutes.

§ 6 Election of spokespersons

1. The presentation of the candidates takes place as an agenda item at a network meeting.
2. Between one and five alumnae are elected, who then nominate the spokesperson among themselves.