



The Leibniz Programme for Women Professors enabled the DWI – Leibniz Institute for Interactive Materials to create a new position as professor for me, together with RWTH Aachen University. As Aachen is scientifically a great environment for my research on biomaterials, this opportunity allows me to stay in Aachen and continue building my academic career.



LAURA DE LAPORTE,  
HEAD OF THE HIERARCHICAL  
TISSUE ENGINEERING RESEARCH  
GROUP AT THE DWI – LEIBNIZ  
INSTITUTE FOR INTERACTIVE  
MATERIALS AND A RECIPIENT  
OF A RESEARCH GRANT FROM  
THE LEIBNIZ PROGRAMME  
FOR WOMEN PROFESSORS

## The Leibniz Association

The Leibniz Association connects 95 independent research institutions that range in focus from natural, engineering and environmental sciences to economics, spatial and social sciences and the humanities. Leibniz Institutes address issues of social, economic and ecological relevance.

They conduct basic and applied research, including in the interdisciplinary Leibniz Research Alliances, maintain scientific infrastructure, and provide research-based services. The Leibniz Association identifies focus areas for knowledge transfer, particularly with the Leibniz research museums. It advises and informs policymakers, science, industry and the general public.

Leibniz institutions collaborate intensively with universities – including in the form of Leibniz ScienceCampi – as well as with industry and other partners at home and abroad. They are subject to a transparent, independent evaluation procedure. Because of their importance for the country as a whole, the Leibniz Association Institutes are funded jointly by Germany’s central and regional governments. The Leibniz Institutes employ around 20,000 people, including 10,000 researchers. The total budget for all the institutes is approximately 2.1 billion euros.

COVER PHOTO: GÜLSAH GABRIEL IS HEAD OF THE VIRAL ZOOSES – ONE HEALTH RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AT THE LEIBNIZ INSTITUTE FOR EXPERIMENTAL VIROLOGY (HPI) AND A RECIPIENT OF A RESEARCH GRANT FROM THE LEIBNIZ PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN PROFESSORS.

CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS  
AND APPLICATION ADVICE

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# Leibniz Programme for Women Professors



## Aims of the programme

The Leibniz Programme for Women Professors seeks to significantly increase the number of excellent female researchers in leading positions within the Leibniz Association's member institutes. When academics are planning their careers, firm prospects are a particularly important decision-making criterion, which is why the Leibniz Programme for Women Professors offers either a permanent position or a tenure track position guaranteed by the university and the Leibniz Institute in question.

The Leibniz Programme for Women Professors also aims to consolidate close collaboration between universities and Leibniz Institutes. Successful candidates are appointed to their professorship jointly by the Leibniz Institute and the university.

## Scope of the programme

Successful candidates will receive funding of up to 1.7 million euros to fund their own research group over a period of five years. This may include personnel costs for the group leader, for doctoral candidates and postdoctoral staff, as well as funds for equipment and facilities.

The Leibniz Institute and the collaborating university guarantee either a tenure track or an unlimited position on the W2/W3 pay scale (comparable to an associate or full professorship) for the designated Leibniz professor.

In case of a tenure track professorship, the institute and the university will decide together whether to convert the position into a permanent post at least a year before the end of the funding phase.

## Eligibility and assessment criteria

The Leibniz Programme for Women Professors is open to women in all disciplines who have an outstanding international track record. It supports both the recruitment of already established women professors as well as first time appointments.

Applicants must have a track record of outstanding academic work in their field. They will be assessed on the basis of their academic qualifications and future career prospects. The proposed scientific project will be judged according to its academic and methodological quality, its prospects of success as well as its contribution to strategic scientific collaboration between the institute and the university department in question.

The Leibniz Association explicitly encourages applications from international candidates.



**For the Leibniz Association, establishing gender equality is an important element in securing scientific excellence over the long term. We want to attract the best minds. And that means both women and men.**



**MATTHIAS KLEINER,**  
PRESIDENT OF THE LEIBNIZ ASSOCIATION

## How to apply

Candidates need the support of the Leibniz Institute of their choice in the application process. Applications are submitted to the Leibniz Headquarters by the director of the Leibniz Institute in question.

The applications undergo an external peer-review process and are evaluated by an academic panel. The annual application deadline for the Leibniz Programme for Women Professors is the end of March. Funding can start any time after 1 January of the following year.

Please get in touch with the respective Leibniz Institute early enough to allow sufficient time for application procedures. For a list of all Leibniz Institutes and contact persons, please visit [www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition/leibniz\\_best\\_minds.html](http://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition/leibniz_best_minds.html)

Further information on the call for applications and application procedure can be found at: [www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition.html](http://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition.html)

Please also check our FAQs: [www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition/faq.html](http://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/research/leibniz-competition/faq.html)