Dear VDSEE community,

Welcome to our Newsletter!

We send these to the DocSchool members every 3-4 months to keep everyone updated on upcoming events and any exciting news that members of the School have to share.

If you have anything you would like to have added to our next issue, please get in touch. We'd love to feature your contributions!

Overview

- Upcoming events
- PhD Student Psychological Support & Well being
- VDSEE people
- Funding opportunities

Enjoy reading our newsletter & see you soon!

The VDSEE Team

**Upcoming Events:**

**Next PhD Welcome Session**

10 June 2024, 16:30 - 17:30, UBB Room 3.065

We recommend that all incoming VDSEE PhD-candidates attend the welcome session within the first few months. Here you will learn:
What is the DocSchool and how can it support you during your PhD
Faculty presentation (FÖP), dissertation agreement, University-related paper work
Requirements during your PhD (ECTS, annual reports, etc.)
Funding and grants
Expectations between student and supervisor
What to do if difficulties arise

There will be a Q&A session followed by drinks and snacks provided by VDSEE. This is a great opportunity to get to know your peers and the student representatives and we're looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Register Here

Retreat 2024

The VDSEE Retreat will take place from 26.-27. September 2024 in Graz. All VDSEE-members are invited to join.

Registration is possible from 30 April - 18 August 2024. First come, first served!

Register Here

Save the date: VDSEE Symposium 2025

The next VDSEE Symposium will take place on Friday, 21 February 2025 at UBB.

More Information

PhD Student well-being & Psychological Support:

Doing a PhD is not easy, it comes with a lot of changes in your private and personal life, and we all cope with it differently. Seeking help is therefore not something to be ashamed of, and is something you should consider if you're feeling lost or like you've hit a wall.

We are very pleased that from now on, the VDSEE is able to offer professional psychological support during your PhD studies, free of charge, in both English and German. Psychotherapist Dr. Markus Böckle holds a PhD and is also working as lecturer, therefore he knows how academia works and the kinds of problems that often arise in this context.

What is offered?

We offer group sessions and individual sessions, but can also provide you with support if you need a mediator with e.g. your supervisor(s). The group sessions are going to happen
together with other PhD students - we often struggle with the same issues, and it might already help to see that you’re not alone with it. Look out for Antonia’s emails regarding the registration for the next group session, they are going to happen every semester. For individual sessions, we’re able to provide you with one session free of charge during your PhD studies, possible at any time.

Who is eligible?
The offer is open for all students that are part of the VDSEE, regardless if a working contract with the university exists or not!

How does it work?
Simply reach out to Antonia via email (antonia.vogel@univie.ac.at), outlining your circumstances and specifying the type of support you need. All of this is of course strictly confidential, and you also do not have to go into detail why you need support, just that you are in need. However, the more details you provide (points like "stress managing", "anxiety" are absolutely enough), the better the psychotherapist will be able to prepare and help you.

PhD Student well-being group

Next meeting:
21.05.2024, 16:00-17:40
18.06.2024, 16:00-17:40

Location: Magdalenenstraße 21/7, 1060 Vienna

We would like to invite any PhD students who could benefit to attend the PhD student well being group.

Register Here

VDSEE People:

New Faces

We would like to welcome Rosemarie Benthen, Hannah Grabmayer, Antonia Grausgruber, Matthäus Greilhuber, Kaijie Liang, Pablo Rolle Concha, Gudrun Schwarze and Andrea Stadlmayr who have recently started their PhD in our School. We wish them all the best with their research.

Recent Defences

- Florian Caillon (Supervisors: Peter Peduzzi, Jakob Schelker)
- Carlos Fernando de Gracia (Supervisor: Jürgen Kriwet)
- Jiahang Li (Supervisor: Wolfram Weckwerth)
- Raphael Müller (Supervisor: Stephan Glatzel)
- Zhengnan Cai (Supervisors: Wolfram Weckwerth, Elke Heiß)

Congratulations to all! We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

European Research Council Advanced Grants

We would like to congratulate 3 VDSEE PIs who were recently awarded ERC advanced grants. Gerhard Herndl, Thomas Higham and Uli Technau were each chosen as 3 of the 12 austrian recipients receiving up to up to three million euros for the following projects:

- Gerhard Herndl - Marine snow in the deep sea
Thomas Higham - The path of Homo sapiens through the Levant
Uli Technau - Evolutionary origin of neuro-muscular systems

ERC Advanced Grants support established top researchers who want to explore new, ground-breaking paths in their research. This brings the total ERC Grants awarded to researchers from the Faculty of Life Sciences to 19.

Congratulations to the PIs and their team! We are excited to see where this research takes you!

For more information follow the link below

More Information

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Travel grant
The VDSEE travel grant budget for 2024 is almost fully allocated. If you plan to attend a conference this year and want to apply for a travel grant, please send your application until 7 May 2024.

VDSEE Completion grant
The next call completion grant call will open from 17 May - 14 June 2024. PhD-candidates that are very close to finishing can apply for a 4-month PraeDoc-contract funded by the VDSEE.
Possible starting dates: 1 August, 15 August, 1 September 2024
After 4 months thesis submission is expected.

Mobility & Care Fund
Female academic staff (pre-docs and post-docs) at the University of Vienna can apply for a fund to cover additional childcare costs incurred as a result of a mobility stay. This fund is administered by HR and Gender equality department of University of Vienna. Please find more information on their website.

Trainings and Workshops for Doctoral researchers

Find out trainings and workshops offered to by the University to PhD-students

Legal notice
Publisher: Vienna Doctoral School of Ecology and Evolution
Editors: Antonia Vogel
Vienna Doctoral School of Ecology and Evolution, University of Vienna | Djerassiplatz 1, 1030 Vienna, Austria, docschool vdsee univie ac at | vds ecology evolution univie ac at/
Data protection