

COMETiN is back!

The well-known women's qualification program COMETiN ,of Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg (OVGU) starts again under the umbrella of the Graduate Academy: **COMETiN@GraduateAcademy**.

It offers intensive support to female scientists in qualification phases (middle/late doctoral candidates, PostDocs) to actively shape and align their professional future. Whether you are aiming for a professorship, a leadership role in academia or research, a career in industry, or considering starting your own business, this program is designed to assist you. Through various modules, you can continuously engage in planning and implementing the next steps on your individual development path, expand your skills, and build a network with other academics in a similar situation in Magdeburg. The program is conducted bilingually (German and English).

All Details and Updates: <http://www.grs.ovgu.de/en/COMETiN.html>

COMETiN@GraduateAcademy consists of four modules:

COACHING, MENTORING, TRAINING UND NETWORKING

Module 1: COACHING

Group coaching offers participants the opportunity to analyse and address career-related topics, challenges, and opportunities in collaboration with an experienced female coach. Participants can become aware of their own resources and strengths, and with new perspectives, individual solutions, and targeted strategies, plan and implement their next career steps.

Module 2: MENTORING

In a one-to-one tandem relationship with an experienced professional from academia, research, or industry, program participants receive support and advice.

Mentoring relationships offer:

- » Individual and strategic advice/support for career and personal development
- » Hierarchy-free exchange of experiences
- » Informal knowledge transfer on the rules of the game in academia, research, and industry
- » Attention, emotional support, and encouragement

Module 3: TRAININGS/Workshops

Specifically tailored qualification offerings boost personal and professional skill development. Professional trainers impart practical and customized methodological knowledge to the participants and provide a protected space for reflection, exclusively for this group of women.

Module 4: NETWORKING

Careers are built through networks! COMETiN@GraduateAcademy supports female scientists in qualification phases in establishing and building their own networks. Intensive and long-term relationships with mentors and among participants can become valuable contacts that often last throughout one's professional career and provide mutual benefits. Information and networking events on career-relevant topics with numerous COMETiN alumni also offer participants the opportunity to expand their own network and exchange with experts on an equal footing.

Participation Requirements

This program is aimed at female scientists in the later doctoral or postdoctoral phase who wish to advance their careers in academia and beyond. Eligible to participate are female scientists from all disciplines who are affiliated with OVGU or the scientific community in Magdeburg, and who:

- » Are willing and able to dedicate the necessary time to all parts of the program (e.g., marking program dates in advance and participating with commitment)
- » Ideally already have initial career goals that can be supported by the mentoring program. This could involve an academic career or career paths outside academia.
- » Show commitment and willingness to actively shape the women's network COMETiN and a mentoring relationship
- » Bring openness and curiosity to better understand themselves and other women, and are willing to engage in critical reflections for personal growth
- » Possess sufficient language skills to effectively communicate in the program (ideally in both English and German).

Interested female scientists should apply in writing to the program by September 15, 2024 (see Application section) and will then receive timely acceptance or rejection notifications.

If there are more applicants than available places in COMETiN@GraduateAcademy 2024/2025, the Graduate Academy team will select participants based on fundamental criteria (fit, motivation) and with a view to diversity and inclusion.

A participation fee of **100 Euros** is charged for the entire program to emphasize commitment. In return, participants gain access to a mentoring program with a significantly higher value.

Duration of the COMETiN@GraduateAcademy Program: October 2024 - October 2025

For any further questions, Dr.ⁱⁿ Katja Mittrenga, the program coordinator, is available to assist you in advance. Please feel free to send a short email to arrange a personal meeting.

Email: Katja.mittrenga@ovgu.de or COMETiN@ovgu.de

Application

This program is aimed at female scientists in the later doctoral or postdoctoral phase living/working in Magdeburg who wish to advance their careers in academia and beyond.

To best evaluate your application, we kindly ask you to answer the following questions in your email application:

1) Brief Description of Your Current Research/Studies/Daily Life:

Provide a brief overview of what drives you.

2) Motivation for Participating in the Mentoring Program

What do you expect from participating in the mentoring program? What specific challenges or goals do you hope to address with the support of a mentor or network?

3) Career Goals

Where do you see yourself in the next five years? How can the mentoring program support you on this path?

4) Special Skills or Experiences

What skills, competencies, or experiences do you bring to the program that make your application particularly unique?

5) Expectations of the Mentoring Relationship

What kind of support or advice do you expect from your mentor? Do you already have ideas about your mentor's desired professional background?

6) Availability

How do you plan to integrate the mentoring program into your work routine? Can you ensure the time commitment for regular meetings and participation in program activities?

7) Other

Anything else you would like us to know about you.

Please also provide optional information, including your name, first name, date of birth, nationality, field of study, and faculty, level of qualification phase. Additionally, we kindly ask you to indicate your proficiency in German (yes/no) and English (yes/no), and you are welcome to provide a mobile phone number.

Submit your application by September 15, 2024, under the subject

"Application COMETiN@GraduateAcademy" via email to: COMETiN@ovgu.de

Schedule

Dates for COMETiN@GraduateAcademy (subject to change)

Kickoff COMETiN@GraduateAcademy (in-person)

Wed, 16.10.2024 (14:00-18:00)

Workshop 1: Career Crafting (in-person)

Tue, 29.10. - Wed, 30.10.2024 (09:00-17:00)

Workshop 2: Kickoff Mentoring (in-person)

Wed, 20.11.2024 (09:30-17:30)

Workshop 3: Time and Project Management for Researchers (tbd)

Thu, 25.03.2025 - Wed, 26.03.2024 (09:00-17:00)

Midway Checkpoint (in-person)

Wed, 07.05.2025 (14:00-18:00)

Handover/Closing (in-person)

Wed, 08.10.2025 (12:00-18:00)

Group Coaching

Joint Kickoff (in person)

06.11.2024 (afternoon)

Starting from 11.11.2024: Monday Group (once a month in the afternoon)

or

Starting from 21.11.2024: Thursday Group (once a month in the afternoon)

Additional voluntary offerings such as lunch talks and alumni workshops will be announced.

Mentoring appointments will be arranged individually.