Univ.-Prof. Dr. Grit Walther

Chair of Operations Management

School of Business and Economics

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We are looking for you!

Research Assistant/Associate (f/m/non-binary)
Doctoral Candidate / PostDoc

Sustainable Supply Chains & Circular Economy for Plastics

We are currently expanding our team of research scientists for the project “catalaix – Catalysis for a Circular Economy”.

catalaix – the 100 Mio. Swiss France ten year founded Project of the Century of the Werner Siemens-Foundation – will conduct ground-breaking research on a multidimensional circular economy aimed at addressing the global plastic crisis. The project will be based on a very strong collaboration across various disciplines, including chemists, process engineers, sustainability researchers, and systems evaluators. Join us in our mission to revolutionize industries through sustainable practices!

The mission of the chair of Operations Management in catalaix will be the ex-ante sustainability assessment of new technologies, and the design of sustainable plastics supply chains and circular economy concepts at regional, national, and global level to integrate new plastics recycling technologies into industrial processes and meet market. In our team you can expect exciting activities in the areas of research and teaching.

Position Overview:
We are seeking talented and motivated Research Scientists (Doctoral Candidates / PostDoc) with expertise in sustainable supply chains, sustainability analytics and/or sustainable chemistry & plastics. As an ideal candidate, you will have a strong background in methods such as Life Cycle (Sustainability) Assessment, (Sustainable) Analytics, and Network & Supply Chain Optimization. You are passionate about driving positive environmental impact through research and innovation, and enthusiastic about collaboration with other disciplines. The position shall be filled at the earliest opportunity.

Your Profile:
- You have successfully completed your graduate studies or PhD in Environmental Science, Industrial Ecology, Business Chemistry, Supply Chain Management, Industrial Engineering, Process Engineering, Chemical Engineering, or a related field.
- You possess profound knowledge of sustainability assessment, sustainable analytics, techno-economic assessment, material flow or process modelling and can integrate interdisciplinary knowledge from the fields of economics, environmental science, and engineering in application-oriented research.
- You have or will develop proficiency in programming, data analysis and sustainability tools, such as Python, R, MATLAB, OpenLCA/ecoinvent, or similar.

- You have expertise or you are interested in plastic process paths including all manufacturing and recycling steps, especially related to thermo-chemical recycling of plastics, catalytic conversion processes, and process modularization.
- You work in a structured and reliable manner, demonstrating a high level of motivation, initiative, and commitment, and can work both independently and as part of an interdisciplinary team.
- Proficiency in English and strong communication skills complete your profile.

Your responsibilities:
- Cutting-edge research in the area of multidimensional circular economy and sustainability assessment as part of the catalaix project
- Applying and enhancing various methodologies such as life cycle sustainability assessment, techno-economic assessment, and material flow analysis
- Presentation of results at international conferences
- Active collaboration with interdisciplinary academic and industrial partners
- Preparation of scientific publications for international, peer-reviewed journals
- Supervision of student theses and support in teaching (Doctoral Candidates)
- Teaching, supervision and management responsibilities within a research group and third-party funded research projects (PostDocs)

What we offer:
The salary is based on the German public service salary scale (EG TV-L, 75-100%). The candidates will be given the opportunity to do a PhD or Habilitation.

RWTH is a certified family-friendly University. We support our employees in maintaining a good work-life balance with a wide range of health, advising, and prevention services, for example university sports. Employees who are covered by collective bargaining agreements and civil servants have access to an extensive range of further training courses and the opportunity to purchase a job ticket. RWTH is an equal opportunities employer. We therefore welcome and encourage applications from all suitably qualified candidates, particularly from groups that are underrepresented at the University. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against on the basis of national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability or age. RWTH is strongly committed to encouraging women in their careers. Female applicants are given preference if they are equally suitable, competent, and professionally qualified, unless a fellow candidate is favored for a specific reason. As RWTH is committed to equality of opportunity, we ask you not to include a photo in your application. You can find information on the personal data we collect from applicants in accordance with Articles 13 and 14 of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) at http://www.rwth-aachen.de/dsgvo-information-bewerbung.

Application process:
For further information about the position, please contact Prof. Dr. Grit Walther (bewerbungen@om.rwth-aachen.de) or visit our website: http://www.om.rwth-aachen.de.

Interested candidates should submit their application, including a cover letter, curriculum vitae, transcripts, and references to:

Prof. Dr. Grit Walther,
Lehrstuhl für Operations Management
RWTH Aachen
Kackertstraße 7
52072 Aachen

You are also welcome to send your application by e-mail to bewerbungen@om.rwth-aachen.de. Please note that by sending your application via unencrypted email messages over the internet, your personal information is not secure and might be accessible to third parties.