

Call for Applications

The Wyss Academy for Nature at the University of Bern (www.wyssacademy.unibe.ch) is dedicated to sustainable futures for nature and people by strengthening and harmonizing nature conservation, natural-resource use, and human well-being in different regions around the world. Focusing on interactions between people, land, biodiversity, and climate change, and to foster required transformations, the Wyss Academy will produce path-breaking knowledge and actively build partnerships between science, policy, civil society, and the private sector to catalyze concrete solutions from local to global levels. The Wyss Academy for Nature invites applications for a full-term

Open-rank Professorship in Governance Innovation

Despite global interconnectedness, human decision-making and institution-building is often fragmented, poorly coordinated, and inapt in dealing with pressing social and ecological challenges. This professorship concentrates on the analysis of complex human-environmental systems with focus on the potential for innovative governance solutions in the Wyss Academy's Regional Stewardship Hubs. It studies the role of the state and its interplay with other public and private stakeholders to affect the behavior of key agents of change from global to local levels. Integrated in the Wyss Academy, the professorship will advance the understanding of cross-sectoral and multi-level decision-making, and explore pathways toward coping with power disparities, technical, ecological and social changes. Special attention will be paid to identifying levers for sustainability transformations.

Candidates have a social-scientific background, ideally with a specialization in political science, environmental governance, or development studies. They have worked on governance challenges, have a strong empirical focus in their research, and use an innovative methodological portfolio. They strive to further develop their scientific excellence through inter- and trans-disciplinary research. Experience in conducting research in developing countries and embracing a solution-driven approach are important assets, and so is the commitment to collaborate with the five other new professorships at the Wyss Academy for Nature.

The position is a full time employment (80-100%) at the Wyss Academy for Nature located in Bern, Switzerland and will collaborate closely with the four Regional Stewardship Hubs. It will be affiliated to the Department of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences and expected to collaborate with further research groups and centers at the University of Bern, such as the research competence centers [CDE](#), [WTI](#), and [OCCR](#). Research leaders at the Wyss Academy for Nature are expected to compete for additional third-party funding enlarging their group activity. The start of work is 1 January 2021 or as agreed.

Applications should be submitted **until October 12, 2020** via this [online questionnaire](#). Furthermore, a single pdf file will need to be uploaded including a letter of motivation, a CV, a publication list, a teaching statement, a funding history, and a description of relevant contributions to policy and outreach. Moreover, the candidates should submit a 2-page research statement on how they would design their research team to contribute to the Wyss Academy's [project plan](#) and how they would collaborate with the [other professorships](#) at the Wyss Academy and research groups at the University of Bern. Further inquiries can be addressed to info.wyssacademy@unibe.ch. The Wyss Academy is committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness in Science and we seek to hire faculty with a diversity of backgrounds. Applications by women are strongly encouraged. The University of Bern is an equal opportunity and family-friendly employer and supports flexible hiring solutions, including job-sharing.