



## Research assistant (f/m/x) for the new Cluster of Excellence Our Dynamic Universe – Science Communication

### Institute for Astrophysics

We are one of the largest and oldest universities in Europe and one of the most important employers in our region. Our broad range of subjects, the dynamic development of our main research areas and our central location in Cologne make us attractive for students and researchers from around the world. We offer a wide range of career opportunities in science, technology, and administration.

The Universities of Cologne and Bonn, the MPI for Radio Astronomy, and Forschungszentrum Jülich are establishing the new Cluster of Excellence 'Our Dynamic Universe'. The coordination is based at the Institute of Astrophysics in Cologne.

#### YOUR TASKS

- » Systematic research on communication strategies and empirical studies on the impact of science communication, as well as corresponding publications
- » 2 SWS research-based teaching
- » Science communication for the Cluster of Excellence and all related tasks:
  - Preparation and translation of complex astrophysical (scientific or technical) content into clear and accessible language for both digital and in-person formats
  - Implementation of creative outreach and communication strategies to engage diverse audiences.
  - Manage social media, website content, and press relations to promote the Cluster's activities and achievements.
  - Plan and coordinate public events, workshops, and collaborations with schools and partner organizations.
  - Work closely with researchers and staff to ensure consistent, accurate, and inspiring public communication.

#### YOUR PROFILE

- » You hold a Master's or doctoral degree/PhD in physics, astronomy, or a related field.
- » If you do not have an astrophysical background, you have a strong interest in astronomy and data science.
- » Ideally, you already have experience in communications, journalism, public relations, education, or science communication.
- » You have experience in creating and maintaining websites.
- » You possess excellent communication skills.
- » You are creative and responsible.
- » You are able to work independently as well as in a team.

- » You are fluent in both spoken and written German and English.
- » You have knowledge of LaTeX.

#### WE OFFER

- » A versatile scientific position within the new Cluster of Excellence
- » A diverse working environment with equal opportunities
- » Support in balancing work and family life
- » Extensive advanced training opportunities
- » Occupational health management offers
- » Flexible working time models
- » Opportunity to work remotely

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity. Women will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from all suitable candidates regardless of their gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

The position is available immediately on a full-time basis (39,83 hours per week). The position is to be filled for a fixed term until 31.12.2032. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary will be based on remuneration group 13 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

Please apply online with proof of the required qualifications without a photo under: <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de>. The reference number is Wiss2602-13. The application deadline is 15.05.2026.

For further inquiries, please contact Professor Dr Stefanie Walch-Gassner ([walch@ph1.uni-koeln.de](mailto:walch@ph1.uni-koeln.de)) and take a look at our [FAQs](#).

