

Lucas Zinner
Forschungsservice und Nachwuchsförderung
E-Mail: lucas.zinner@univie.ac.at
in: at.linkedin.com/in/lucaszinner/
Telefon: +43-1-4277-18224
Mobil: +43-664-8175347



Lebenslauf

Over the past 20 years, I have contributed to the development of the Research Service and Career Development Department at the University of Vienna and am currently in charge of a team of 45 professional and dedicated employees. In this role as head of the central service unit, I report directly to the Rectorate and support strategy development and implementation.

I hold a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Vienna and have conducted postdoctoral research in complex analysis, statistics, and econometrics at the Vienna University of Technology and the University of Mid Sweden. In 2002, I expanded my expertise by joining the Austrian Science Foundation (FWF) as a programme manager, where I gained in-depth knowledge of research evaluation processes. This experience proved invaluable when I returned to my alma mater in 2004 to serve as deputy director of the Research Services and International Relations Office. In this role, I helped establish a Research Services Office, including Technology Transfer.

Since 2007, in addition to the further development of research services, I have been focussing on the reform of doctoral education and have been involved in the restructuring process in Europe and at my home university. In 2008, I was commissioned by the Rectorate to set up a university-wide centre for doctoral studies in accordance with European standards and recommendations. This centre, which was established in 2013 as part of the newly created Department of Research Services and Career Development, has been under my leadership since its launch. As an expert in doctoral training, I was delegated by the Austrian Ministry to the European Commission's ERA Working Group on Innovative Doctoral Training and have participated in several missions as an expert on higher education reform. Recently, I have been actively involved in setting up doctoral schools at the University of Vienna and am currently working on establishing a dedicated postdoc office.

Outside the University of Vienna, I am engaged in numerous international activities related to higher education policy, research, and doctoral education. Thanks to my diverse experience, I am repeatedly invited to take on evaluation tasks for funding bodies at programme and project level as well as for higher education institutions. I am a regular speaker at international conferences in Europe and beyond, such as the meeting of the Council of Deans and Directors of Graduate Research (DDOGS) of Universities Australia, EUA-CDE events, and the Regional Training Workshop for Quality Supervision in East Africa in Rwanda. Additionally, I have taken on advisory roles, including for the CREST online training course for supervisors of doctoral students at African universities at Stellenbosch University, and for the Horizon Europe projects DocEnhance or Beyond Bad Apples.

I like to combine my theoretical knowledge with practical applications. For example, I'm writing competitive proposals with my team to attract third-party funding, or organising workshops for doctoral supervisors abroad. I currently have a project with universities in East Africa on local capacity building for doctoral supervisor workshops in the region. Within doctoral training, I'm also particularly committed to professionalising staff who contribute significantly to quality assurance and developing doctoral training from an operational perspective. In 2017, I founded the PRIDE network association for professionals in doctoral education, of which I am currently the chairperson. In this role, I represent the network externally, share responsibility for regular training courses for the international community of professionals, and organise conferences on doctoral-related topics.

Berufserfahrung

2013-	Leiter der Dienstleistungseinrichtung Forschungsservice und Nachwuchsförderung
2009-2012	Leiter des DoktorandInnenzentrums der Universität Wien
2004-2012	Stv. Leiter der der Dienstleistungseinrichtung Forschungsservice und Internationale Beziehungen
2002-2004	Wissenschaftlicher Sachbearbeiter im FWF
1999-2002	Postdoc am Institut für Ökonometrie, Systemtheorie und Operation Research der TU Wien
1999	Postdoc an der Mid Sweden University Sundsvall, Sweden
1996-1999	Forschungsassistent am Institut für Mathematik der Universität Wien

Ausbildung

1996-1998	Dr. rer. nat. in Mathematik an der Universität Wien
1989-1995	Magister in Mathematik an der Universität Wien

Ausgewählte Vorträge

More than just skills

Zeitraum 5 Juni 2025

Beschreibung

The current transformation in the AI era requires a strategic (re-)focus of doctoral education that emphasises the fundamental importance of subject matter knowledge. It is well known that the majority of PhD candidates will work in the private sector, and at least 60% of the workforce will be affected by the AI transformation. This development requires not a reduction but a strengthening of domain expertise as a basis for the effective use of AI technologies. The integration of AI into doctoral education must be seen as a tool to support and accelerate creative research. Doctoral education must be empowered to ask the right questions and to critically evaluate AI-generated answers. This can only be achieved through strong expertise in identifying the potential and limitations of AI tools in the specific research context. Moreover, we should strengthen the combination of translational and transferable skills. While transferable skills include general competencies such as project management and communication, translational skills focus on the transfer of research results into practical applications. This combination enables doctoral education to communicate their research effectively and transfer it as experts in different contexts. Over the last 20 years, universities have invested considerably in structures, not least with the aim of boosting efficiency in terms of completion times and rates. We should critically examine the extent to which these structures may have restricted the scope for creative research, which we need to safeguard. By integrating AI tools and fostering translational skills, doctoral education will be empowered to develop innovative solutions to complex problems. This (re-)orientation will hopefully prepare them for a career in which the combination of deep expertise, creative problem solving and technological competence is the key to success.

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

2025 EUA-CDE Annual Meeting: 20 years of progress: Celebrating the achievements and shaping the future of doctoral education in Europe

4/06/25 → 6/06/25

Lausanne, Schweiz

Zusätzliche Informationen

Präsentationsmodus vor Ort

The limits of a top-down approach in university settings. About Low-Hanging Fruits and Hard Nuts

Zeitraum 3 Apr. 2025

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Arqus Annual Conference

2/04/25 → 4/04/25

Leipzig , Deutschland

Schlagwörter Forschungsk Kooperationen, European Alliances, Circle.U

Zusätzliche Informationen

Präsentationsmodus vor Ort

THE IMPACT AWARD- Communicating Impact on a Doctoral Level

Zeitraum 15 Juni 2023

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

EUA CDE Annual Conference: Engaged research - the role of communication in doctoral education

14/06/23 → 16/06/23

Lahti , Finnland

Schlagwörter Doktorat, Impact, Wissenschaftskommunikation

Challenges in doctoral education: Doing the right things, doing things right?

Zeitraum 13 Dez. 2022

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

DocEnhance Conference

13/12/22 → 13/12/22

Lissabon, Portugal

Schlagwörter Doktoratsausbildung, Soft Skills Training

Recent trends and issues in doctoral education in Europe

Zeitraum 23 Nov. 2022

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

CREST ALUMNI NETWORKING Meeting : Research, Capacity Development and Networking in Doctoral Supervision at African Universities

22/11/22 → 25/11/22

Stellenbosch, Südafrika

Schlagwörter Doktoratsausbildung, Professionalisierung

Contributing to a culture of effective doctoral supervision

Zeitraum 11 Nov. 2022

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

KRECon 2022: Doctoral Schools - Enhancing Research Careers

10/11/22 → 11/11/22

Prag, Tschechische Republik

Schlagwörter Doktoratsausbildung, Betreuung, Forschungskultur

Let's talk about Supervision

Zeitraum 10 Nov. 2022

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

KRECon 2022: Doctoral Schools - Enhancing Research Careers

10/11/22 → 11/11/22

Prag, Tschechische Republik

Schlagwörter Betreuung, Doktorat

How can professionals support candidates, supervisors and school leaders in achieving a timely completion.

Zeitraum 24 Juni 2022

Beschreibung

Time to PhD completion is mentioned as a major concern for universities also in the last CDE publication. Likewise is efficient time management important at every stage of a researcher's career. A doctoral candidate is expected to take on several tasks: as conducting experiments, collecting data, publishing articles, presenting at a conference for the first time, writing the dissertation, taking over administrative tasks or preparing for teaching. All this has to happen in a time frame of about 4 years. And that's not all, they should also think about and proactively manage their personal and professional development. This happens amidst numerous frustrations when things don't always go as planned, first rejections come in, progress fails to materialize - which is admittedly the nature of research, but causes stress. On the other hand, the clock is ticking, funding is time-limited, and the doctoral school is pressuring for timely completion. Time is a scarce resource and must therefore be used wisely.

In addition, doctoral candidates are usually faced with the task of carrying out a project of such complexity and duration for the first time in their careers. On the one hand, orientation can be provided by institutional regulations, on the other hand, the supervisors have a key role in the planning of the dissertation project. Both are decisively supported by the offers of the professionals, which are provided over the entire PhD life cycle and ensure that the focus on a high-quality and timely completion is not lost. In our presentation, we look at what we consider to be key phases in the entire PhD life cycle, such as the induction phase or the completion phase and associated milestones, and use examples collected from the PRIDE community to illustrate how professionals support candidates, supervisors and school leaders with their engagement and interventions in achieving a timely completion.

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

EUA CDE Annual Conference 2022

22/06/22 → 24/06/22

Manchester, Großbritannien / Vereinigtes Königreich

Doctoral Education in a changing world

Zeitraum 4 März 2021

Beschreibung

Online Opening Lecture - UFG doctoral academic year 2021

Bekanntheitsgrad National

Verknüpfte externe Organisation

Universidade Federal de Goiás

Goiânia, Go, Brasilien

Schlagwörter Doktorat

Digital Humanities and Doctoral Education

Zeitraum 4 März 2020

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte externe Organisation

Université de la Manouba

La Manouba, Tunesien

Schlagwörter Digital Humanities, Doktoratsausbildung

Careers in the Third Space

Zeitraum 23 Jan. 2020

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

2020 EUA-CDE Thematic Workshop: Academic career development

23/01/20 → 24/01/20

Tbilisi , Georgien

Schlagwörter Karriereentwicklung, Professionalisierung, Hochschulmanagement

Networking and collaboration with professional development support staff in universities

Zeitraum 6 Nov. 2019

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

DIES/CREST Alumni Networking Meeting

5/11/19 → 8/11/19

Stellenbosch, Südafrika

Schlagwörter Doktorat, Professionalisierung

EU Practices in Doctoral Education

Zeitraum 4 Juni 2019

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

MARDS Conference

3/06/19 → 5/06/19

Kotor, Montenegro

Can professionals contribute to career development?

Zeitraum 1 Apr. 2019

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Eurodoc Annual Conference 2019

1/04/19 → 2/04/19

Brussels, Belgien

Schlagwörter Career Development, Doctoral Education, Professionalization

Postgraduate Supervision

Zeitraum 4 Feb. 2019 → 8 Feb. 2019

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Postgraduate Supervision Training Workshop

4/02/19 → 8/02/19

Blantyre, Malawi

Prerequisites for high-quality doctoral programmes

Zeitraum 19 Nov. 2018

Bekanntheitsgrad National

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

HERE seminar „ Status of doctoral candidates EEC/WBC vs EU or wider“

19/11/18 → 19/11/18

Podgorica, Montenegro

Overview on the European Principles and Guidelines on Doctoral Education

Zeitraum 25 Apr. 2018

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Regional Training Workshop: On Quality Supervision of Postgraduate Studies

23/04/18 → 25/04/18

Kigali, Ruanda

Ethics and Integrity in postgraduate research

Zeitraum 24 Apr. 2018

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Regional Training Workshop: On Quality Supervision of Postgraduate Studies

23/04/18 → 25/04/18

Kigali, Ruanda

European Experiences to enhance the Quality of Doctoral Education: Achievements, Contributors and Lessons Learnt

Zeitraum 23 Apr. 2018

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Regional Training Workshop: On Quality Supervision of Postgraduate Studies

23/04/18 → 25/04/18

Kigali, Ruanda

From a leader-centric to a shared leadership perspective

Zeitraum 13 Nov. 2017

Beschreibung

Academic leadership development

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

LEAD EU-China ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP FORUM

13/11/17 → 15/11/17

Shanghai, China

Good Practices in managing and professionalising doctoral education

Zeitraum 24 Apr. 2017

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

The 4th Arab-EURo Conference on Higher Education: Pre-Conference Workshop

24/04/17 → 26/04/17

Rabat, Marokko

Schlagwörter PhD Education, HR Management, Higher Education

Experiences and challenges in PhD education in Central and South-East Europe

Zeitraum 31 März 2017

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

Reforming doctoral studies at University of Montenegro

30/03/17 → 31/03/17

Podgorica, Montenegro

Schlagwörter PhD Education

The PhD as an independent Research project – consequences for the work of PhD supervisors

Zeitraum 27 März 2017

Bekanntheitsgrad International

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

DIES Expert Workshop: Quality doctoral education – a prerequisite for strong universities in Africa

27/03/17 → 28/03/17

Cap Town, Südafrika

Surviving a reorganisation

Zeitraum 17 Juni 2016

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

PraxisUnico Conference 2016: Develop, Promote, Connect

15/06/16 → 17/06/16

Stratford upon Avon, Großbritannien / Vereinigtes Königreich

Schlagwörter Evaluation, Reorganisation

The Role of Professionals in Doctoral Education

Zeitraum 2 Juli 2015

Verknüpfte Veranstaltung

UKCGE Annual Conference 2015

2/07/15 → 3/07/15

Glasgow, Großbritannien / Vereinigtes Königreich

Schlagwörter Doktorat, Personaentwicklung

Ausgewählte Veröffentlichungen

Zinner, L., Lindorfer, B., & O'Reilly, A. (2022). Leadership in changing doctoral education. *European Journal of Education: research, development and policies*, 57(3), 424-437. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejed.12517>

Zinner, L., & Kovačević, M. (2021). Professionalising doctoral education. In A. Lee, & R. Bongaardt (Hrsg.), *The Future of Doctoral Research: Challenges and Opportunities* (S. 133-144). Routledge, Taylor & Francis.

Zinner, L. (2019). Internationale Forschungserfahrungen: Pflichtprogramm für die Karriere: Die internationale Vernetzung in der Doktorand/innenausbildung ist besonders wichtig. *oead news: Bildung, Wissenschaft, Forschung, International*, 108 (März 2019), 4-5.

Zinner, L. (2019). Fostering Academic Citizenship With a Shared Leadership Approach. In C. Zhu, & M. Zayim-Kurtay (Hrsg.), *University Governance and Academic Leadership in the EU and China* (S. 99-117). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-5225-7441-5>

Bitusikova, A., Johnston, L., Lehmann, B., Smith McGloin, R., & Zinner, L. (2017). Editorial: Structuring Doctoral Education. *Zeitschrift für Hochschulentwicklung*, 12(2), 9-18. <https://doi.org/10.3217/zfhe-12-02/01>

Zinner, L. (2017). Die Rolle der "Hochschulprofessionellen" im Promotionswesen. *Zeitschrift für Beratung und Studium*, 1, 8-13.

Zinner, L. (Hrsg.) (2016). *Professionals in Doctoral Education*. Eigenverlag.

O'Reilly, A., Schmidt, L., & Zinner, L. (2016). Professionals in Doctoral Education. In L. Zinner (Hrsg.), *Professionals in Doctoral Education* (S. 17). Eigenverlag.

Fayl, G., Bogle, D., Grga, I., Kovačević, M., Fayl von Hentaller, U., Constantinescu, E., Djurovic, M., Hoedl, E., Kroo, N., Bilik, I., Breskvar, K., Ilchev, I., Janda-Markovic, B., Molnar Judit, M., Moson, P., Palkovics, L., Pejovnik, R. S., Racz, K., Stein, J. A., ... Zinner, L. (2013). *PhD Training in Central- and South-East Europe: Leave to Explore - Return to Lead*. 1-43. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2257704>

Zinner, L. (2010). The role of doctoral education in boosting research and innovation/technology transfer at the University of Vienna. In M. Kovačević, S. Novak, & A. Baric (Hrsg.), *Towards Education Research Innovation Triangle* (S. 11-14). University of Zagreb.

Zinner, L. (2009). Self-Assessment in Doctoral Education. *EUA CDE News*, June 2009(4).

Steinberger, T., & Zinner, L. (2005). Parameter Estimation and Forecasting under Asymmetric Loss. In A. Taudes (Hrsg.), *Adaptive Information Systems and Modelling in Economics and Management Science* (1. Aufl., Band 5, S. 221-231). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/3-211-29901-7_12

Projekte

REWIRE: REinforcing Women In REsearch

Benetton, S. (Projektleiter*in), Schaschl, H. (Co-Projektleiter*in), Zinner, L. (Co-Projektleiter*in), Vidnes, T. (Projektkoordinator*in), Grabner, L. (Projektadministrator*in), Fuchslueger, L. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Richter, A. (Mentor*in), Johnston, R. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Calori, A. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Ther, P. (Mentor*in), Schmidt Cernohorska, M. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Dammermann, A. (Mentor*in), Spisiakova, E. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Kaindl, K. (Mentor*in), Batstone, L. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Jobst, K. S. (Mentor*in), Sposini, V. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Likos, C. (Mentor*in), Kahn, R. J. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Andrews, T. (Mentor*in), Molchanova, A. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Stefanelli, U. (Mentor*in), Axyonova, V.

(Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Lecheler, S. (Mentor*in), Vider, J. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Schweitzer, P. (Mentor*in), Miklaszewska, M. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Weckwerth, W. (Mentor*in), Castejon Caballero, N. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Marko, D. (Mentor*in), Mrovlje, M. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Marchart, O. (Mentor*in), Saak, C.-M. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in), Mezger-Backus, E. H. G. (Mentor*in), Schnorr, S. L. (Wissenschaftliche*r Projektmitarbeiter*in) & Berry, D. (Mentor*in)
1/06/20 → 31/05/25

RAQMYAT: Stratégies numériques pour la formation doctorale en sciences humaines et sociales en Tunisie

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in) & Meyer, A. (Projektmitarbeiter*in)
15/11/19 → 31/10/24

CARLIS: Entwicklung von Kapazitäten und Trainingsprogrammen für Doktoranden im Bereich Lebenswissenschaften zur besseren Etablierung auf dem Arbeitsmarkt

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Lindorfer, B. (Co-Projektleiter*in), Zuser, D. (Co-Projektleiter*in) & Litsauer, B. (Projektkoordinator*in)
1/11/20 → 31/12/22

Enhancing Academic Leadership and Governance of Chinese and European Universities in the Context of Innovation and Internationalization

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Zuser, D. (Projektadministrator*in) & Meyer, A. (Projektmitarbeiter*in)
15/01/19 → 14/01/22

Reforming doctoral studies in Montenegro and Albania - good practice paradigm

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Zuser, D. (Projektmitarbeiter*in), Wimmer, M. (Projektmitarbeiter*in), Schmidt, L. (Projektmitarbeiter*in) & Lindorfer, B. (Projektleiter*in)
15/11/18 → 14/11/21

WTZ Ost: Wissens- und Technologietransferzentrum Ost

Reckling, T. (Projektleiter*in), Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Kober, J. (Projektmitarbeiter*in), Mahdalik, L. M. (Projektmitarbeiter*in), Grabner, L. (Projektmitarbeiter*in) & Puttinger, J. (Projektmitarbeiter*in)
1/08/14 → 31/12/18

EDIPUS: European Digital Portfolio for University Students

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in) & Zuser, D. (Projektkoordinator*in)
1/11/15 → 31/10/17

EUCNDOC: Enhancing the visibility of European Higher education and strengthening the dialogue and cooperation with Chinese stakeholders in the field of doctoral education

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Derntl, M. (Projektadministrator*in) & Zuser, D. (Projektadministrator*in)
1/10/13 → 30/09/16

PRIDE: Professionals in Doctoral Education

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in), Wimmer, M. (Projektkoordinator*in), Lindorfer, B. (Projektmitarbeiter*in), O'Reilly, A. (Projektmitarbeiter*in) & Schmidt, L. (Projektmitarbeiter*in)
1/10/13 → 30/09/16

Modern Doctoral Studies

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in) & O'Reilly, A. (Projektadministrator*in)
1/12/10 → 1/12/13

Innovative doctoral studies

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in) & O'Reilly, A. (Projektkoordinator*in)
1/04/10 → 30/04/13

InEnter: Improving the Placements and Internships from Academia to Enterprises

Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in) & Schmidt, L. (Projektmitarbeiter*in)

1/10/10 → 30/10/12

OPUS: Opening University towards Society: Linking Education-Research-Innovation
Zinner, L. (Projektleiter*in)
1/02/09 → 31/01/12