

# Researchers on the Move.

## Intercultural Dimensions in Sciences and Humanities



Workshop **“Intercultural Competence for Young Researchers on the Move”**  
„Our heads are round so that thoughts can change direction.“ (Francis Picabia)

**Venue:** Bildungshaus Mariatrost, Kirchbergstrasse 18, 8044 Graz

**Direction details (Arrival):** [http://www.mariatrost.at/?mariatrost/ueber\\_uns/anreise\\_anfahrt](http://www.mariatrost.at/?mariatrost/ueber_uns/anreise_anfahrt)

Public transport: tram nr 1 to last station “Mariatrost”, 7 minutes walk up the hill towards the church Mariatrost, training centre is on the right side.

**Time:** Friday, March 19th 2010, 9am – 5pm

Managing cultural diversity while working in international research teams is an essential task for young academics. More and more young researchers seek periods of study and work abroad to improve their scientific career and establish new academic ties. While teaching, learning and research in a new academic environment can be an exciting and enriching experience, an unfamiliar cultural setting can at the same time entail unexpected challenges and obstacles. What are the challenges, the demands, and the basic conditions that occur when working in foreign academic settings?

This interactive workshop is part of the project “Researchers on the Move. Intercultural Dimensions in Sciences and Humanities” which facilitates critical discourse about interculturality in sciences and humanities and at the same times creates an opportunity for students/researchers from different backgrounds to meet and exchange their views.

**Goals:** The workshop aims at raising awareness for the impact of culture on our communication styles, discourse traditions, way of thinking, sense making and problem solving. Participants will reflect on how their cultural background influences their perception and understanding and which impact it has in their interaction with others.

**Target group:** The workshop addresses **young international doctoral students** who are interested in discussions and reflections on

- the notion of culture and intercultural interaction.
- the challenges and obstacles in intercultural communication.
- the impact of culture on our perception and our notion of otherness.
- how different cultural backgrounds shape our expectations and influence our behaviour in learning, teaching and research.

**Facilitators:** Barbara Böttger and Diana Afrashteh

*Diana Afrashteh and Barbara Böttger are international relations advisors at the Office of International Relations at the University of Graz and have a long working experience with exchange programs and international cooperation in Higher Education. They have focused on aspects of intercultural communication in their work in the past recent years and have been offering intercultural workshops for students and staff since 2006.*

**Further Information:** [www.researchers-on-the-move.net](http://www.researchers-on-the-move.net)

Participation: free; lunch is included

Language: English

**Registration:** e-Mail to [Maiada.Gassan.Hadaia@oead.at](mailto:Maiada.Gassan.Hadaia@oead.at)

**Deadline:** March 8, 2010 (participation limited to 25 people)



Austrian

Development Cooperation

The team of the Commission for Development Studies (KEF) at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) and the partner organisation the Office of International Relations at Graz University are looking forward to your participation.

