



Job Advertisement

Co-Presidency VAUZ (20 %)

Shape the voice of the academic mid-level faculty at UZH

The VAUZ – Association of Academic Mid-Level Faculty of the University of Zurich – is looking for one or two dedicated individuals for its Co-Presidency, starting immediately.

- **Employment status:** Junior Researcher / Early-career Academic: Doctoral candidate (with or without employment at UZH) or holder of a qualification position (teaching/research assistant, senior researcher / senior assistant, postdoctoral researcher)
- **Workload:** 20 %
- **Compensation:** CHF 12,000 per year, plus SSC contributions
- **Start date:** Immediately or by arrangement
- **Application deadline:** 31.10.2026

Would you like to shape the University of Zurich and represent the interests of doctoral candidates, postdocs, and other members of the academic mid-level faculty? VAUZ is looking for one or two individuals for its Co-Presidency. A responsible leadership role in higher education policy awaits you, offering creative freedom, university networking, and direct insight into the strategic development of UZH.

Your Responsibilities

VAUZ represents the interests of the academic mid-level faculty at UZH and advocates for favorable framework conditions for research, teaching, and (academic) careers.

As a member of the Co-Presidency, you will share the strategic and representative leadership of VAUZ with your co-president.

Your tasks include in particular:

- Strategic further development and positioning of VAUZ
- Representation of the interests of the academic mid-level faculty vis-à-vis the University of Zurich and its bodies
- Coordination and support of the VAUZ Board and its departments
- Preparation and chairing of meetings and joint decision-making processes
- Representation of VAUZ in university committees, commissions, and vis-à-vis external partner organizations
- Development and representation of positions on higher education and science policy issues
- Promotion of networking and participation of doctoral candidates, postdocs, and other mid-level staff members
- Collaboration with the mid-level faculty delegates in institutes, faculties, and university bodies

- Maintenance of contacts with other higher education, mid-level, and science organizations
- Representation of VAUZ at events and public functions
- Close cooperation with the VAUZ office

The Co-Presidency is expected to provide momentum, identify developments at an early stage, and actively contribute the interests of the mid-level faculty into university decision-making processes.

What You Bring

We are looking for one or two people who together form a committed and complementary co-presidency.

You:

- Are a doctoral candidate, postdoc, or member of the academic mid-level faculty at UZH
- Are interested in higher education policy, science policy, and university self-governance
- Enjoy bringing together different perspectives and developing joint positions
- Communicate persuasively and in a target-group-oriented manner
- Can analyze, prioritize, and clearly communicate complex issues
- Work independently, reliably, and strategically
- Bring commitment and personal initiative
- Enjoy teamwork and taking on responsibility
- Have very good German or English language skills; knowledge of other language is an advantage

Experience in higher education policy is welcome, but not a prerequisite.

We are not looking for a fully trained leadership personality, but rather members of the [representative body of junior researchers](#) with an interest in the university, a drive to shape things, and a willingness to take on responsibility. Different professional, academic, and personal backgrounds are explicitly welcome.

What We Offer

The Co-Presidency offers you the extraordinary opportunity to get to know the University of Zurich beyond the boundaries of your own faculty and field of expertise and to actively shape it.

You will receive:

- A strategic and representative leadership function with real creative freedom
- Direct insight into university decision-making and governance processes
- The opportunity to contribute concerns of the academic mid-level faculty at the university level
- A broad network within and outside UZH
- Experience in leadership, negotiation, interest representation, and higher education policy
- The opportunity to introduce your own topics and initiatives
- Collaboration with committed scientists and scholars from various faculties and career stages

The function is compatible with academic research work and is therefore suitable for doctoral candidates, postdocs, and holders of qualification positions who wish to engage in higher education policy alongside their research and gain a close, direct understanding of how the academy functions.

Framework Conditions

- **Role:** Co-Presidency of VAUZ
- **Workload:** 20 %
- **Compensation:** CHF 13,000 per year
- **Start date:** Immediately
- **Location:** University of Zurich, Zurich
- **Application deadline:** Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until 31.10.2026

The function is performed jointly with a second person as a co-presidency. Splitting tasks within the Co-Presidency makes it possible to contribute different competencies and perspectives and to combine the role with academic work.

Apply

We look forward to receiving your application including:

- A short letter of motivation (approx. 1 page)
- A current, concise CV
- Optionally, further documents relevant to your motivation or previous higher education policy experience

Please send your application to: vauz@vauz.uzh.ch

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about the role and the work of the co-presidency.

We look forward to welcoming people who do not just want to talk about the future of academia, but actively shape it.