

Technische Universität Braunschweig - ISU - Institute for Sustainable Urbanism



TU Braunschweig is the academic center in the middle of one of the most active research regions in Europe and has a renowned Faculty of Architecture. We work successfully with over 20 research institutions in our neighborhood as well as with our international partner universities. Our university's core research areas are Mobility, Engineering for Health, Future City and Metrology. TU Braunschweig is part of TU9 - the association of Germany's leading Institutes of Technology. The cooperating universities and research institutions of the AgiMo stand for relevant research, strategic and results-driven thinking and action, committed teaching and the successful transfer of knowledge and technologies to society and industry. With ISU, we offer a motivating setting for intellectual and professional development at one of Germany's leading Institutes of Technology. ISU with its research unit SpACE Lab at ISU is a research-based think tank, design and planning lab headed by Prof. Dr. Vanessa Miriam Carlow. We are a team of around 30 researchers, lecturers and student assistants from different backgrounds, disciplines and career stages. The diversity of our ISU team enables us to take a multi-perspective, unconventional approach to research questions, teaching and knowledge transfer. We are intensively involved in the international discourse on sustainable urbanism. As part of the TU Braunschweig's core research area FUTURE CITY, we work with scientists from a wide range of disciplines and cooperate with more than fifty cities and NGOs worldwide. As part of our international network, we are also involved in running the research presence of TU Braunschweig in Singapore: TU BS Singapore.

Research Associate in Urban Design at ReSpace! Research Group (d/f/m) at ISU - Institute for Sustainable Urbanism

(EG 13 TV-L, full-time) Full-time doctoral position starting 15.10.2025; TV-L E13, 3 years; fixed-term, with the potential option to extend. The position is intended to promote the qualification of early career researchers and offers the possibility of a doctorate/further scientific qualification.

City: Braunschweig; Starting date (earliest): At the earliest possible; Duration: 3 years; Remuneration: EG 13 TV-L; Closing date: 17/08/25

Working field

SpACE Lab at ISU – Institute for Sustainable Urbanism offers a position as Research Associate at the Research Group “ReSpace! – Connected Response-able Spaces and Infrastructures for Sustainable Living”.

The newly established ReSpace! research group is a cutting-edge initiative at Technische Universität Braunschweig, bringing together a vibrant, interdisciplinary team committed to rethinking space and spatial reconfiguration in response to climate change, resource shortages, societal and environmental transformations. ReSpace! is funded by zukunft.niedersachsen, a funding programme of the Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony (MWK) and VolkswagenStiftung, as part of TU Braunschweig's project “Ecoversity – Collaborative space for change”. Professor Vanessa Miriam Carlow, director of SpACE Lab at ISU – Institute for Sustainable Urbanism is speaker of ReSpace!.

We are looking for a (d/f/m) researcher who is highly team-oriented, cooperative, excited to work in a highly interdisciplinary context, and ambitious with view to own goals, but also the overall research ambition of the ReSpace! -team. As a Research Associate within the subproject “Response-able Spatialities – Sustainable Space Types and Dynamics” you will engage in the design of radically new spatial futures that respond to climate risks, resource scarcity, and systemic transformation. Central to your role is the development of speculative architectural and urban design prototypes that explore “response-able” spatial configurations across scales. You will work at the intersection of visionary design and scientific inquiry, contributing to a long-term spatial foresight framework.

The aim of ReSpace! is to advance an integrated understanding of how spatial infrastructures and typologies can be transformed for climate adaptation – addressing resource constraints and societal demands in the complex interplay of global and local impacts. Building on cross-disciplinary collaboration between architecture and urban design, the humanities, social and natural sciences, and engineering, the group will co-design, narrate, simulate, and evaluate innovative solutions for future sustainable living in the context of climate change and resource scarcity. Partnering with actors – cities, municipalities, NGOs, non-university research institutions and industry – ReSpace! focuses not only on developing spatial role models, but also on transferring knowledge to regional and institutional stakeholders. ReSpace! lies at the intersection of two of the four of the TU Braunschweig’s core research areas Future City and Mobility.

YOUR KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To cooperate with researchers from other fields within the ReSpace! Research Group
- To submit your dissertation within the duration of the contract
- To (co-)author publications and conference contributions
- Regular presentations of interim results of the doctorate and further contributions to academic research through presentations, conference participations, and publications.
- Participation and active involvement in the ReSpace! research, graduate study programme, and joint activities.

Requirements

- We are looking for a first-class graduate of architecture and/or urban design (MA degree or equivalent) with expertise in the ReSpace!-addressed PhD subjects, excellent design skills, high desire to learn and cooperate in a highly interdisciplinary context
- The activities of ReSpace! will be conducted in both German and English. A very good command of English is required; knowledge of German or the willingness to learn it are advantageous.
- High interest in inter- and transdisciplinary exchange and willingness to cooperate, combined with communication skills on a high level.
- Profound methodological knowledge and research experience as well as a passion and ability for academic writing.
- International experience is advantageous.
- Willingness and skills to work independently and in an interdisciplinary team, as well as with partners from outside of academia.

What we offer

- An inspiring institutional and multidisciplinary setting. A vibrant campus life in an international atmosphere with lots of intercultural offers and international cooperations.
- Opportunity for gaining ample experience in inter-and transdisciplinary research contributing to a more resilient future.
- Advancement and support through a project-wide network of early career researchers
- The ReSpace! - a joint work space for the doctoral researchers to foster real cooperation
- Applied research in a young, interdisciplinary team; focusing on current global challenges.
- An inspiring working environment and excellent research infrastructures as part of the TU Braunschweig Ecovercity community of researchers, teachers, students.
- Vivid, interdisciplinary and international Graduate School, offering scientific support for early career researchers, offerings from personnel development department and sports activities.
- An international, interdisciplinary scientific network.
- Participation in Ecovercity activities and networks

Application

We welcome applicants of all nationalities. At the same time, we encourage people with severe disabilities to apply. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preference if they are equally qualified. Please attach a proof of disability to your application. We are also working on the fulfilment of the Central Equality Plan based on the Lower Saxony Equal Rights Act (Niedersächsisches Gleichberechtigungsgesetz—NGG) and strive to reduce under-representation in all areas and positions as defined by the NGG. Therefore, applications from women are particularly welcome in this case.

We look forward to receiving your application. Please include a cover letter, letter of motivation, letter of recommendation or reference (at least one academic reference and one previous employer), resume and comprehensive documents including a portfolio. Please do also share a text example. Please send your application indicating the Job ID “ReSpace-PhD” in a single PDF file by August 17, 2025 to respace@tu-braunschweig.de. The interviews are scheduled for September 2-3, 2025.

The personal data will be stored for the purpose of processing the application. By submitting your application, you agree that your data may be stored and processed electronically for application purposes in compliance with the provisions of data protection law. Further information on data protection can be found in our data protection regulations at www.tu-braunschweig.de/datenschutzerklaerung-bewerbungen. Application costs and expenses incurred in attending interviews cannot be reimbursed.

CONTACT

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www.tu-braunschweig.de/respace
www.spacelab-isu.org

More information at <https://stellenticket.de/196433/LUH/>
Offer visible until 17/08/25

