Bielefeld University stands for interdisciplinarity, high quality research and teaching, and the further development of a gender-equitable university culture. People from a wide variety of subjects and perspectives work together to promote innovative and interdisciplinary research and teaching at the highest level. A broad range of study opportunities in the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, technical sciences and medicine is open to the approximately 25,000 students. In addition to its international orientation, Bielefeld University is well connected to the medium-sized city and the region.

The **Faculty of Technology** is calling for applications for the position of

Junior Professorship (W1) for Evolutionary Developmental AI

to commence at the earliest opportunity.

Evolution and development are two strongly coupled biological adaptation mechanisms that have played a central role in shaping highly intelligent systems such as the human brain. In artificial intelligence systems, evolutionary developmental systems have been shown to be promising not only in resolving the dilemma between robustness and evolvability, but also in providing a scalable and creative approach to design of highly complex intelligent systems.

The Nature Inspired Computing and Engineering Group (NICE) focuses on computational modeling of evolution, development and learning in nature, and creating nature inspired intelligent methodologies for optimization, learning and self-organization. In addition, the Faculty of Technology has also several groups working on cognitive systems, robotics, neuromorphic computing, and machine learning.

The candidate is expected to collaborate with the NICE Group and other groups at the Faculty of Technology and establish a dynamic research group working preferably towards an evolutionary developmental approach to artificial intelligence.

Research expertise in at least one of the following areas is required: evolutionary and developmental robotics, bio-inspired robotics, developmental neural networks, brain-body co-evolution, morphogenetic robotics, and artificial life.

Prerequisites for the position are a Ph.D. in computer science or equivalent, an internationally visible research record in evolutionary developmental systems, and the ability to teach.

The employment is based on the W1 level and initially limited to three years with the option for three additional years. After an initial period to establish the research group, active participation in curriculum development and teaching at the graduate and undergraduate level in Intelligent Systems and Bioinformatics is expected. Teaching at the undergraduate level takes place in German and may start after three years.

The requirements for employment follow § 36 HG.

Applications from suitable severely disabled persons and persons with disabilities of equal status are expressly encouraged.

Bielefeld University has received several awards for its success in equal opportunities and is certified as a family-friendly university. Among other things, the University pursues a committed equal opportunities policy concerning the appointment of professorships and would expressly like to invite qualified female applicants to apply. Applications are treated in accordance with the State Equality Act. Family times are considered in the context of the selection decision.

The Faculty considers equality between women and men to be an important task, and the future jobholder will be involved in its implementation.

Bielefeld University promotes dual-career couples and supports them with a range of services to help them create a common place of work and life.

The following documents must be submitted for the application:
- Cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- List of publications and identification of the two most important publications
- Two-page research and teaching concept
- List of courses taught and other teaching qualifications (e.g. current evaluations, if available)
- A list of research activities and third-party funds raised to date (if available)
- Copies of academic certificates

Please submit your application in German or English by **April 20, 2022** via the online appointment portal of the Bielefeld University: https://berufungen.uni-bielefeld.de

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