

Transforming Together: International Staff Week on Sustainability in Augsburg (Germany), 8.-12. June 2026

The University of Augsburg warmly invites you to its **First International Staff Week on Sustainability**. As one of Germany's leading universities in the field of sustainability, Augsburg combines scientific excellence with a strong commitment to environmental and social responsibility. Recognized internationally as the "Best New Participating University" in the 2024 UI GreenMetric World University Ranking, it stands out for its integrated approach to sustainability in research, teaching, and campus operations. Dive into in-depth professional discussions, connect with colleagues from around the world, and discover Augsburg—one of Germany's oldest cities. Founded by the Romans and awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 2019 for its unique 13th-century water management system, Augsburg offers a rich historical setting that inspires innovation and collaboration.

Theme

The International Staff Week will take place under the overarching theme **"Sustainable Transformation – A Whole Institutional Approach"**.

Transformation is omnipresent – in higher education, institutions, and society at large. Universities face the challenge of implementing sustainability strategies while developing innovative solutions that address environmental, social, and economic aspects equally.

This Staff Week will focus on three key action areas, reflecting a whole institutional approach to sustainability:

Governance and Strategy

Developing and implementing sustainability strategies
Green Offices as drivers of institutional change
International rankings and benchmarks (e.g., UI Green Metric, Times Higher Education Impact Rankings)

Research and Education

Integrating the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into research and teaching
Capacity building and professional development for staff in sustainability-related topics
Measuring and accounting for emissions in research projects

Campus and Infrastructure

Sustainable campus management: biodiversity, resource efficiency, and energy conservation
Greenhouse gas accounting and reduction strategies in campus operations
Innovative construction projects for sustainable universities

Formats and Highlights

In addition to the thematic focus areas, participants can look forward to a diverse program featuring:

- A mix of expert talks, interactive workshops, and participant-led presentations for mutual learning and exchange
- Networking opportunities with international colleagues
- Guided tours of various university facilities
- Field trip to the sustainability showcase village of Wildpoldsried (Upper Bavaria), a community renowned for its pioneering role in sustainability.

Programme Period

June 8 – June 12, 2026

Application Period

October 15 – December 12, 2025

Number of Participants

25

Requirements

The International Staff Week is aimed at university staff actively working in the fields of governance, research, teaching, or campus management. A strong interest in sustainability topics and a willingness to engage in intercultural exchange are essential.

As the working language will be English, we strongly recommend at least a B2 (CEFR) level in English communication.

All applicants are asked to submit a motivation letter (max. one page) providing a brief description of their professional and personal motivation for taking part in the Staff Week 2026. Based on these submissions, selected participants will be invited to present their experiences or examples during the event. We look forward to engaging exchanges and lively discussions.

Fees and Costs

The programme itself is free of charge. The University of Augsburg will cover accommodation costs for participants outside the Erasmus programme (at the university-designated hotel for five nights, from Sunday, June 7 to Friday, June 12), the welcome lunch, farewell dinner, Augsburg city tour, and field trip experience. Participants need to cover their own travel expenses, domestic transportation, overseas travel insurance, meals (except where provided), and other personal costs. If you join us within the Erasmus programme, we expect you to cover the accommodation costs with Erasmus funds.

Registration

To register, please refer to <https://uni-a.de/to/go-staff-week/>, complete the application form, and submit your motivation letter. The application deadline is Friday, December 12, 2025. You will be notified by February 2, 2026, whether your application was successful. Please make no travel arrangements until you receive a confirmation message.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at
greenoffice@uni-augsburg.de