

Junior Professor Chair in Economics: Environmental Risks and Mental Health

The University Savoie Mont Blanc (USMB) and the Institute of Research in Management and Economics (IREGE) are opening a Junior Professor Chair in Economics (CNU 5) in September 2024. In collaboration with the Inter-university Laboratory of Psychology (LIPPC2S) of the USMB, the chair is titled "**Environmental Risks and Mental Health**". The junior professorship lasts between 3 and 5 years and comes with a stimulating work environment (€200,000 funding from the National Research Agency and an 18-month postdoctoral position). At the end of the contract, the candidate may be granted tenure as a full professor, subject to the recommendation of the tenure committee.

Scientific project

Imperfect information on public good issues like climate change and the need for preservation of resources and ecosystems challenge individuals, their environmental awareness, and trigger several emotions. Imperfect information or uncertainty on climate change and biodiversity crisis, that can arise from an overload of information, can drive either reactance or, conversely, in pro-environmental changes in preferences, hence in behaviors. In addition, it can lead to a style of emotional regulation affecting mental health. Hence, scientists are beginning to explore eco-anxiety and related constructs, and their consequences on well-being and mental health. The aim will be to evaluate the causal impact of environmental events on changes in preferences as well as mental health and to explore the mediating effects of psychological processes at play. Large-scale repeated data collections will allow the use of econometrics and empirical or experimental psychology tools to highlight the impact of manifestations of climate change on the well-being and mental health issues of the population, while controlling for unobservable individual characteristics.

Teaching

Candidates should have previous experience or a willingness to engage in teaching activities related to health economics and econometrics, environmental economics, and/or experimental methodology. The candidate should be capable of teaching proficiently in both English and French languages. The teaching load is 64 hours per year during the duration of the contract.

Candidate's profile

The ideal candidate for this position should possess the following qualifications and characteristics:

- Empirical Economist with some knowledge in theoretical economics: the candidate should have a strong background in empirical economics, with demonstrated expertise in conducting research on topics related to environmental issues and health, mental health specifically would be a plus, and/or information and preferences,
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Ability to work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary environment, particularly with psychologists, to explore the intersection of economic and psychological factors in environmental risks and mental health,
- Experience in Survey Construction or Experimentation: Prior experience in designing and implementing surveys or experiments would be advantageous, demonstrating proficiency in research methodology and data collection techniques,
- International Profile: An international profile is expected, indicating experience or collaborations beyond national borders, enhancing a global perspective on economic and environmental issues,
- Project Management Skills: Demonstrated ability to manage large-scale projects effectively, indicating organizational skills, leadership qualities, and the ability to coordinate research efforts efficiently,

Position location and hosting institution

The position is based at IREGÉ/IAE, on the Annecy-le-Vieux campus.

In 2023, the University of Savoie Mont Blanc consolidated its position among the 27 French higher education and research institutions that managed to be included in the Shanghai ranking. It also stands out for the very high quality of its research activities, as evidenced by the IPERU ranking (Indicators of Production of University Research Institutions), published last July. In its category of multidisciplinary universities excluding health, USMB also ranks among the top universities, occupying the second place, just behind Paris Sciences et Lettres University (PSL), which brings together 11 institutions.

Contacts

Rachel.bocquet@univ-smb.fr, Director of IREGÉ

berangere.legendre@univ-smb.fr, Professor in Economics

Official publication of the position and upcoming recruitment procedure: https://www.galaxie.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/ensup/cand_CPJ.htm