

Fürspr. Rico Defila – short CV

University of Basel, Department of Environmental Sciences (DUW), Program Man-Society-Environment (MGU)
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Personal Information

Date/place of birth: November 1, 1964 in Biel (Switzerland)
Nationality: Swiss

Education

1991: Legal state exam (Bernischer Fürsprecher); academic degree equal to a Master of Law
1983-1991: University of Bern: Study of Law; parallel studies in Computer Science/Mathematics, General Ecology, Philosophy, and History of Art

Professional Career

since 2014: Senior researcher, Program Man-Society-Environment (MGU), University of Basel
since 1995: Deputy leader of the international and inter-university Research Group Inter-/Transdisciplinarity (Universities Basel, Freiburg i. Br.; until 2014 Bern/Freiburg i. Br.)
1995-2014: Scientific secretary of the Interfaculty Institution for General Ecology of the University of Bern (IEAÖ), consisting of the Forum for General Ecology and the Interdisciplinary Centre for General Ecology (IKAÖ); 1998-2009 also scientific secretary of the Conference of Interdisciplinary Units of the University of Bern (KGE)
1995-2013: Interdisciplinary Centre for General Ecology, University of Bern (IKAÖ): Member of the management board; head of the planning and operation department; since 2011 co-leader of the institute
1991-1995: Scientific secretary of the Forum for General Ecology of the University of Bern
1991-1995: Associate attorney at law, law firm Thönen & Partner, Bern

Occupational Experience

Research and Teaching: Leading a research group; initiating, acquiring and leading research projects (7 projects with more than CHF 200'000 third-party funding; roughly 15 research projects with a smaller amount of third-party funding; list of projects and publications upon request); managing research projects and project groups; designing and organising conferences and workshops; designing and delivering of courses and seminars (higher education and further training) (team teaching; Universities Bern, Lüneburg, Munich, and Bochum and on behalf of DFG, BMBF and other organisations; list upon request)
Science management: Management of an interdisciplinary university institute and its supervisory body (with representatives of the whole university); academic self government (strategic university planning, target/performance agreement, structural report procedures/appointment procedures, committee work); supervising the establishment and awarding of a scientific prize
Consulting: Consulting institutions, organisations and projects on questions about inter- and transdisciplinarity and curriculum development (list upon request)
Leadership: Co-leading of an interdisciplinary university institute; personnel planning and personnel management

Research Interests

Inter- and transdisciplinarity in research: challenges and requirements; process design in projects and project groups; quality and evaluation; organisational development of institutions

Inter- and transdisciplinarity in teaching: imparting competencies for inter- and transdisciplinary work; general propaedeutics of science (human and natural) (allgemeine Wissenschaftspropädeutik); curriculum development (higher education); quality and evaluation; institutionalisation in universities

Sustainability: Sustainable consumption

(complete CV in German upon request)