

Open postdoc and PhD student position

The Department of Aquatic Microbial Ecology, Institute of Hydrobiology, Biology Centre CAS, invites applications from a prospective postdoctoral scientist and a PhD student

Two positions (1 postdoc, 1 PhD student) are open in the Department of Aquatic Microbial Ecology, Institute of Hydrobiology, České Budějovice, Czech Republic to study the evolution of genome streamlining in freshwater microbes using high-throughput isolation, comparative genomics and experimental approaches.

Background: Small microbes with reduced (streamlined) genomes are the most abundant component of freshwater lakes, however, their ecology and evolutionary history remains largely elusive. The major focus of this project lies in eco-genomics of such microbes. High-throughput isolation of abundant freshwater microbes will be combined with cultivation experiments and comparative genomics. Whole genome sequencing of >150 strains and deep sequencing of

metagenomes gained from lakes in CZ, CH, AT, and IT will allow comparative population genomics.

In collaboration with other members of the institute, a polyphasic approach, combining (meta-)genomics, cultivation experiments of environmentally relevant strains and environmental quantification via e.g. specific FISH probes targeting the major players in lakes will be used to disentangle the underlying ecological reasons for the widespread but yet enigmatic phenomenon of genome-streamlining.

Requirements: Applicants for the postdoc position should have a PhD, applicants for the PhD position a M.Sc. in Biological Sciences (e.g. Limnology, Microbiology, Ecology) and must be strongly motivated to work in an eco-genomics laboratory. The majority of the work is expected to be computational (60%) and laboratory based (40%). Prior experience in linux/unix/perl/python programming might be favourably considered but is **not a prerequisite** for selection. Candidates must be proficient in English.

Please submit 1) a detailed CV (including your grades in the case of future PhD students), 2) a brief statement of your research interests and work performed and 3) the name and contact information for at least one referee (preferably all this information combined into a single PDF file). The positions will remain open until suitable candidates are found, applications will be evaluated monthly starting December 31 2018. Target starting date is early spring 2019 (negotiable), both positions are for 3 years.

Contact: Please send your application to michaelasalcher@gmail.com and indicate "Postdoc Application or PhD Application" in the subject. Please don't hesitate to contact me for further information about the positions.

Dr. Michaela M. Salcher (current position)
Limnological Station
University of Zurich
Seestrasse 187
8802 Kilchberg, Switzerland

Dr. Michaela M. Salcher (from 2019 onwards)
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Links

<https://www.botinst.uzh.ch/en/research/limnology/salcher>

<https://www.bc.cas.cz/en>

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Michaela_Salcher

České Budějovice (Budweis) is a medium-sized town ca. 150 km south of Prague with 100,000 inhabitants, a relaxed atmosphere, and a growing expat community at the Biology Centre and the University. Both the town and the surrounding countryside provide numerous opportunities for research and leisure activities. Living costs are low by international standards. Postdocs and PhD students have access to accommodation in dormitories at the campus shared by the Biology Centre and the University. Czech courses are available for foreign staff and students to reach a basic level of proficiency in everyday situations.