

## **Characterization of amino acid transporters of *Trypanosoma brucei* and their role as drug targeting systems or drug targets**

At the University of Bern positions at the level of

### **PhD Student and Technician (70-90 %)**

are available to work on the functional genomics of amino acid transporters in *T. brucei*. Like other unicellular parasites, *Trypanosoma brucei* depend on the import of amino acids for their metabolism. Therefore amino acid transporters represent suitable drug targets but also potential drug targeting systems. The project aims at:

- identifying amino acid transport systems
- analyzing their functional properties e.g. by determining the substrate selectivity, and
- evaluating their role for parasite growth, development and pathogenicity

The increased knowledge on biochemical and functional properties will facilitate the identification of amino acid transporters that are promising candidates for drug targeting or represent potential drug targets.

Research is part of the project “**Functional genomics of nutrient transporters in *T. brucei*: From physiology to pharmacology**” that involves different groups at the University of Bern and the Swiss Tropical Institute in Basel (Switzerland). For a more detailed description see [www.izb.unibe.ch/research\\_maeser/trypstransporters](http://www.izb.unibe.ch/research_maeser/trypstransporters).

We are looking for a motivated student and a technician in joining our research team. Salary will be according to the Swiss National Science Foundation and is limited to 36 month. Starting January 2010 or at earliest convenience. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, description of research interests and experience as well as name and address of two references.

Please contact

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