Vocal learning in bats: a neuro-molecular approach.

The Chair of Zoology of the Technische Universität München (TUM, Germany) invites applications for a PostDoc position (3 years) in experimental neuroscience. The position is available for an exciting new project exploring the neuro-molecular basis of complex vocal behaviors in a new mammalian model system for vocal learning: the bat. The expected outcome of the project will also have direct relevance to language development and evolution in humans.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate will conduct neurophysiological experiments in bats (i.e. single and multi electrode recordings in anesthetized and awake animals).

Requirements: • PhD in a field related to neurobiology/neurophysiology. • Previous lab experience in electrophysiology, especially in in-vivo recordings • Interest to learn/apply interdisciplinary approaches to complex neuroethological questions • Experience with Matlab

As experiments will involve electrophysiology in FOXP1/FOXP2 knockdown bats, an additional background in molecular biology/genetics would be beneficial for a successful application.

Work environment The project will be undertaken at the Chair of Zoology, TUM, in Freising/Munich, but be part of an international research effort that includes the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen (The Netherlands), the Division of Neurobiology, Dept. Biologie II, LMU, Munich, (Germany), and the University of California, Berkeley (USA). Thus, the position offers the opportunity to work in a stimulating scientific environment within an international collaboration.

The TUM is among the leading universities in Germany. The TUM was one of the first “Universities of Excellence” of the nationwide Excellence Initiative in 2006. Research at the Chair of Zoology focuses on sensory processing in the central nervous system, using different animal model system and a wide range of methodological approaches including in-vivo and in-vitro electrophysiology, imaging and neuroanatomy.

To inquire please contact: Dr. rer. nat. habil. Uwe Firzlaff uwe.firzlaff@wzw.tum.de Lehrstuhl für Zoologie, TU München Liesel-Beckmann-Strasse 4 85354 Freising, Germany Tel: +49 (0)8161 712803
http://zoologie.wzw.tum.de/index.php?id=113&L=1