



PhD student position available: Studies on Trypanosomatid Virulence

City, State, Country:

Florianópolis, SC, Brazil

Laboratory and Institution information:

The Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) is ranked 10th within Brazil and 25th in Latin America according to *The World University Rankings* 2016. The Laboratory of Protozoology (<http://www.proto.ufsc.br>) of the UFSC's Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology (MIP) is focused on the cellular and molecular biology of distinct protozoan parasites of mammals, including humans, using as experimental models *Trypanosoma cruzi*, *T. rangeli* and *Leishmania* spp. The main research topics are i) Cellular and molecular biology of pathogenic protozoan parasites and ii) Antiparasitic activity of natural and synthetic products.

Requirements:

1. Experience in tissue/cell culture and in basic molecular biology techniques*;
2. Proficiency in English language.

*Previous experience in working with pathogenic protozoan parasites is a plus. Knowledge on computational analysis of genomic/transcriptomic/proteomic data, on phylogenetic and statistical analysis is desirable.

Project description:

Successful candidate is expected to study mechanisms of Trypanosomatid virulence *by focusing on their metabolic pathways*. Gene cloning/silencing/overexpression to address phenotypic changes will be employed, as well as characterization of these features across genetic lineages. Comparative genomic/transcriptomic/proteomic analyses to trace evolution of infectivity/virulence/pathogenesis is also a main target.

Recent/relevant publications on the topic:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27036062>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21390155>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24761813>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26033728>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27840574>

How to apply

Candidates must apply to a PhD position through the UFSC's PhD Program in Biotechnology and Biosciences (Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biotecnologia e Biociências – PPGBTC - www.biotecnologia.ufsc.br). The application process is usually open by September-October of each year and a letter from the proposed supervisor is required to apply. Scholarships are available depending on the classification obtained by the candidate in the selective process (as described on the formal application call). Only students approved with scholarships are accepted. Candidates must contact Prof. Edmundo Grisard by e-mail (edmundo.grisard@ufsc.br) in advance, presenting their CV and a self-introduction letter containing their motivation, their current position, previous experiences and fulfillment of the above-mentioned requirements. A reference letter from a former supervisor should be directly sent to edmundo.grisard@ufsc.br

For more information please visit

- The Laboratory of Protozoology: <http://www.proto.ufsc.br>
- Prof. Grisard CV: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/1067410443144841>