

PhD position (3 years) in animal behaviour and welfare

At the Division of Animal Welfare (Prof. Hanno Würbel), University of Bern, Switzerland, we are seeking a PhD student who is eager to study the behaviour of mice and to assess the minimal requirements regarding space and environmental enrichment for the housing of lab and pet mice. The project is funded by the Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO). The successful candidate will be working in a small team together with faculty, postdocs and students. The PhD project will include measurements of space use and preference for enrichments, as well as behavioural and physiological indicators of animal welfare under a variety of housing conditions, ranging from extensive enclosures for pet mice to standard laboratory cages.

Candidates need a University degree in biology, animal sciences, or biomedical sciences. A background in animal behaviour (basic or applied ethology, behavioural ecology, behavioural neuroscience, or behavioural genetics), experience with laboratory rodents, and training in experimental design and statistics will be a plus.

We offer an attractive academic environment, opportunities to develop the own academic career, and a competitive salary based on the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) scheme.

Please send your application letter together with a motivation statement, your CV, copies of relevant study certificates, and contact details of one or two reference persons (reference letters are not required at this stage) merged into **one single pdf-file** to: hanno.wuerbel@vetsuisse.unibe.ch.

The deadline for application is **May 7, 2021**. The position will be available immediately or at your earliest convenience. Please indicate your preferred and earliest possible start date in the application letter. For informal enquiries, please contact Prof. Hanno Würbel: hanno.wuerbel@vetsuisse.unibe.ch.