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DEPARTMENT



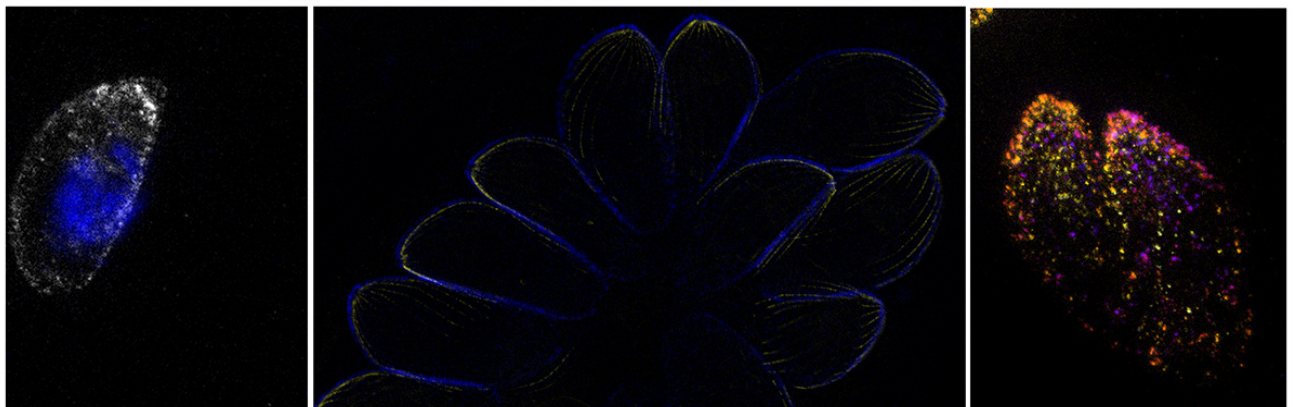
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What makes a universal parasite? Engineering of parasites restricted in their host-specificity

The research group of Markus Meissner invites applications for a doctoral student position to work on fundamental biological aspects of the apicomplexan parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* and its host cell.

Toxoplasma has the potential to invade all nucleated cells of warm-blooded animals, but how it accomplishes this impressive feat is unclear. The goal of this research project is to understand the molecular mechanisms involved in this process and to translate this knowledge into engineering of host-cell-type specific parasites. For relevant background look at the following publications (Kessler H et al., J Cell Sci. 2008; Manzoni G et al., Elife. 2017, Sidik SM et al., Cell. 2016; Andenmatten N, et al., Nat Methods. 2013). In the long term, we aim to assess if cell specific invasion of *Toxoplasma* can be utilized for intracellular antigen delivery in cross species immunisations. The project is funded by the research grant "Experiment!" of the VolkswagenStiftung.



The Meissner lab is based in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. Numerous core facilities ensure state of the art equipment and expertise.

Applicants are required to hold or to obtain a first-class or upper second class Master degree in veterinary medicine, biology, biochemistry, microbiology, or a related relevant subject. They should have excellent theoretical knowledge of molecular biology and good laboratory skills. Experience or a strong interest in molecular biology and/or imaging is favorable. The PhD-student-position (TV-L E13, 65%) is available for three years, starting on June 1st, 2019. Salary will be based on the pay scale for the public sector in Germany (TV-L) and comply with qualification.

How to apply:

Please send your application (motivation letter, CV, names of two referees and transcripts in one PDF) by email to Mirko.Singer@lmu.de. The call will remain open until the position is filled.

The Ludwig-Maximilians-University is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In case of equal qualification, disabled persons will be preferentially considered.