Host University: Universität Zurich

Field: Agriculture, Veterinary, Medicine

Specified field, subject: Obesity

Research project title: Treatment of obesity and its comorbidities

Possible starting month(s):

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Possible duration in months:

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Exact starting and end dates will be discussed between the supervisor and the student

Suitable for students in: ☒ Bachelor level ☒ Master level

Prerequisites: NONE

Restrictions: NONE

Description (maximum 2,000 characters):
The worldwide rise in obesity is to a large degree responsible for the increased incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular diseases. Despite these general developments, body weight is kept relatively constant by a match of energy intake and energy expenditure over long periods. Hence, the system generally seems to detect and correct imbalances between these two factors. The current treatment options against obesity are limited. The most effective option is bariatric surgery, like Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RYGB) surgery. Interestingly, the treatment success of this intervention appears to be associated with a change in the hormonal profile, in particular in the release of gut hormones, including amylin, which are secreted in larger amounts after RYGB. Our research focusses in particular on the physiology of amylin and its anorectic effect. We also established a strong research program with the only available rodent model of RYGB in Switzerland. The project is available in the Fall and Spring semester. The project is open for recently graduated undergraduate students and for graduate students. Number of places available: 1 per semester.

Note: Research project may be adapted according to the student profile and the period/timeline.
Department: Veterinary Physiology

Contact person, including position: Katja Durkin, Project Manager, International Relations Office

Contact email: Katja.durkin@int.uzh.ch

Deadline for nomination to reach host university: Ongoing

Notification of admission given by the end of: Given within 4 weeks

Additional information: NA