



**University of
Zurich** ^{UZH}

Postdoctoral Position Genetics of Maternal Effects

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My group combines complementary approaches from evolutionary ecology, ecophysiology and genetics/genomics to understand the evolution and evolutionary consequences of prenatal maternal effects in different bird systems. Within this project, I have a postdoc position available to investigate the genetic basis of prenatal maternal investment using established, replicated Japanese quail selection lines for high and low maternal egg investment.

Goal of the project is to identify genomic regions associated with differential maternal investment, and to link DNA sequence variation with the physiological and ecological phenotype of mothers from high and low investment lines. Thereby this project can provide an integrative understanding of the molecular and physiological architecture underlying variation in maternal reproductive strategies.

The ideal candidate for this position has a strong interest in evolutionary biology, a can-do attitude and good writing and organisational skills. Given the large amount of data and the nature of the analyses involved (e.g. handling of SNP data, QTL mapping), expertise in evolutionary genetics, quantitative genetics, and/or bioinformatics is essential.

The postdoc will be based at the Institute of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies of the University of Zurich, providing ample opportunities for collaborations and interactions with researchers working in related and complementary fields (<http://www.ieu.uzh.ch>). The institute is very international and the working language is English.

The position is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation for the duration of 18 months (gross salary CHF / Euro 94'000 per annum). The ideal starting date is May 1st 2015, or as soon as possible afterwards.

Applications should include 1) a cover letter outlining your motivation to work on this project, as well as relevant experience, 2) a detailed curriculum vitae, and 3) the contact details of three academic referees. Send the above as a single .pdf file to barbara.tschirren@ieu.uzh.ch

Review of applications will start on February 26th 2015. For more information, feel free to contact me!