

## **Offer: Master thesis project in Microbiology**

We are seeking a Masters student for our project on the role of hypoxia on bacterial defense against *Staphylococcus aureus*. Our laboratory focuses on understanding the metabolic and microbiological involvement in Atopic Eczema. For this project, our focus is on the Staphylococci's ability to hinder *Staphylococcus aureus*, a known associated bacterium suggested to play a role in Atopic Eczema pathogenesis, through the production of short chain fatty acids (SCFAs). Because the abiotic factor oxygen has been suggested to influence the stability of the skin's microbial barrier through promoting SCFAs production, the role of oxygen on the growth and SCFA production within Staphylococci will be explored. The ideal candidate should be motivated and committed to carrying out research activity in our laboratory, located in Augsburg, for a period of at least 5 months. The student may have an opportunity to contribute and present work at local seminars/meetings, and will learn a variety of techniques including but not limited to: bacterial culturing, anaerobic techniques, RNA extraction, and qPCR. The student will also have the opportunity to develop a gene panel for our targets of interest. Interested candidates should apply by sending your CV and cover letter to [jamie.afghani@tum.de](mailto:jamie.afghani@tum.de). Thank you!