Title:

Opportunity for Master`s Projects: Vocal communication in wild Vervet monkeys

Organizations: 1. Department of Comparative Cognition, University of Neuchatel, Switzerland 2. Inkawu Vervet Project, South Africa

Summary of the position:

We are looking for Master`s students (2 places available) of Biology, Animal Behaviour/ Ethology, Animal Cognition, Psychology etc. who are interested in a master`s project or internship on vocal communication in wild vervet monkeys.

Several research topics are available which revolve around vocal communication in vervet monkeys and are part of PhD a thesis. Field work will include call recording, behavioural observations and field experiments with wild vervet monkeys. Fieldwork will be conducted at the Inkawu vervet Project in Kwazulu Natal, South Africa. The master`s students will be supervised in the field by a PhD student. Main supervisor of the project is Prof. Klaus Zuberbuhler, University of Neuchatel.

Qualification and Experience:

* Pursuing a Master`s degree in biology, ethology, animal cognition, psychology or any other relevant discipline.
* Previous field experience in working with wild primates is desirable but not essential
* Physical fitness and willingness to work in the field (following monkeys) for 8 hrs/day and 6 days/week.

Salary/ Funding: No funding is available for Master`s students. However, students can apply for funding at their own university or other external sources. Students need to pay their return flights from home to South Africa, 200 Euros/ Month for accommodation and their own food (around 25 Euros per week). All equipment needed for the project will be provided.

Terms of appointment: Minimum 6-8 months. Ideally, the students should start their data collection between July-September 2018. However, start dates are flexible and can be negotiated.

Application:

Send your CV and 1-page cover letter outlining your interest, suitability for the role, relevant experience and possible starting dates to adwait.deshpande@unine.ch. Further details of the specific research topics can be discussed once your application gets shortlisted.

Contact information: **Adwait Deshpande** PhD student, Department of Comparative Cognition                                                                  Institute of Biology, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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