

Investigating hypoxia tolerance in prematurity and vulnerable populations – Fully funded PhD opportunity

Entry requirements: M.Sc. degree (Sport science/Kinesiology/Medicine or similar)

Full-time: 3 years (fully funded)

Start date: 1 October 2020

Location: [Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia](#)

Project details

A new PhD student opportunity has opened at the Department of Automation, Biocybernetics and Robotics. The research work of the prospective PhD student will be mostly focused on the bilateral research entitled Mechanisms of hypoxia (in)tolerance in prematurely born individuals (PreAlti project), funded by the Slovene Research Agency (www.arrs.si) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (<http://www.snf.ch>). The project aims to comprehensively investigate physiological responses to altitude/hypoxia during rest and exercise in prematurely born, but otherwise healthy adults. Specifically, we aim to elucidate the underlying mechanisms of the altered resting and exercise cardiovascular, respiratory, cerebral and haematological responses to hypoxia in prematurely born individuals. The project will be conducted in combination with laboratory investigations coupled with fieldwork at terrestrial high altitude to investigate both the acute and chronic effects of altitude adaptation.

The student will be employed and conduct the majority of his research work at Jozef Stefan Institute within the Environmental Physiology Laboratory at the Department of Automation, Biocybernetics and Robotics (<http://abr.ijs.si/>). Working in our laboratory will enable the student to take part in other projects related to environmental physiology and interact with leading peers in the area. During the PhD, the student will also have an opportunity to conduct a short-term internship at the Institute of Sport Science, University of Lausanne (www.unil.ch/issul). Some of the prolonged experiments will be conducted in high-altitude laboratories in the Alps.

We hope to attract a highly motivated and curious individual keen to broaden his knowledge and gain expertise in gold-standard research approaches in investigating acute and prolonged adaptation to high altitude/hypoxia in an interdisciplinary team. Proficiency in the English language is obligatory. Previous documented research experience and/or publications are an asset.

Supervisors

Primary supervisor: [Assoc. prof. Tadej Debevec](#)

Secondary supervisor: [Prof. Grégoire P. Millet](#)

Funding information

This 3-year PhD position is funded by the ARRS grant and will be awarded on a competitive basis. The position will provide a PhD student level salary in line with the Slovenian public system (approx. €1000/month (netto)) plus tuition fees, laptop etc.

Important information

- The closing date for applications is midnight on 15th June 2020
- The application must consist of 1) CV (full), 2) Motivation letter (ENG) and 3) Potential references/letters of support from previous supervisors
- Applications should be submitted via email: tadej.debevec@fsp.uni-lj.si
- Interviews will be held online at the beginning of July 2020
- The applicants will be informed regarding the final decision by the end of July 2020