Postdoc Position in Genetic/Metabolic Engineering with Anaerobic Gas-Fermenting Microbes

The research group of Environmental Biotechnology recently moved from Cornell University, NY, USA into the Center for Applied Geosciences at the University of Tübingen (http://angenent.bee.cornell.edu/publications.html). We are looking for an excellent postdoctoral researcher to support our international, interdisciplinary, and dynamic team of environmental/biological engineers, microbiologists, biotechnologists, and molecular biologists.

The research in the Environmental Biotechnology group focuses on the recovery of carbon from diverse waste streams by open, mixed, and pure microbial cultures. Examples of utilized platforms are: 1) syngas fermentation to recover carbon from industrial waste gases; 2) chain elongation of ethanol and acetate or lactate to medium-chain carboxylic acids; 3) storage of electric power with microbial systems; and 4) microbial electrochemistry to study extracellular electron transfer in soils. We apply methods from bioreactor design and operation (lab- and pilot-scale), genetic engineering, and systems biology to next generation sequencing, proteomics, and sequence analysis of reactor microbiomes.

Qualified candidates have a doctoral degree in (micro)biology, biotechnology, biological engineering or related fields. The ideal candidate has in-depth experience and knowledge with genetic modification and/or synthetic biology. A real plus would be when the candidate had already worked genetically with “non-classical” microbes such as methanogenic archaea, acetogenic bacteria, Sulfolobales, halophiles, or (hyper)thermophiles. Therefore, the candidate has the ability to find creative solutions for unusual requirements to genetic tool sets.

The focus of the postdoc project will be on the development of genetic tools and metabolic engineering with anaerobic gas-fermenting microbes. The successful candidate is expected to supervise international PhD students, as well as bachelor and master students. Therefore, very good English language skills are necessary. German language skills are helpful but not a requirement. Other requirements include the ability to do work independently and in a team, excellent management and communication skills, and a high motivation. Candidates will have the opportunity to present their results in international journals and conferences, and are expected to be involved in the application for external funding.
The anticipated **starting date is April 2018**, but this is negotiable. The contract is for 2 years. The employment will be arranged by the administration of the University of Tübingen (salary TVL E13, 100%). Disabled persons will be preferred in case of equal qualification.

Applications (in English) including cover letter, CV, overview of techniques and methods used in the past, transcripts and diplomas, and contact address of two referees should be sent by email to bastian.molitor@uni-tuebingen.de. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

**Prof. Dr. Largus T. Angenent, Dr. Bastian Molitor**

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