Date:
Reg. No.: **GU 2026/2864.**

THE SAHLGRENSKA ACADEMY
INSTITUE OF NEUROSCIENCE AND PHYSIOLOGY

Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry
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Announcement - scholarship at undergraduate/advanced level

The Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry, Institute of Neuroscience and Physiology, hereby announces a vacant scholarship at undergraduate/advanced level in neurophysiology, behavior and animal welfare.

Training plan
Subject:
The student will participate in an ongoing project focused on welfare aspects of zebrafish transport. The project will involve theoretical and practical investigations of animal behavior and welfare and neurophysiology, including measurements of stress hormones.

Background:
Zebrafish and other fish species are routinely shipped all over the world. Despite transport being a common procedure for fish, little is known regarding their welfare during and after the transport. We have shown that packing and transporting fish give rise to elevated levels of secreted cortisol during the transport, as well as several days after transport.

Purpose:
The project aims at understanding how transport affects zebrafish used in research and to develop interventions that can reduce transport stress in fish.

Methods:
The student will be trained in theoretical and practical laboratory animal science. We will set up a new zebrafish recirculating system to house the experimental animals and raise fish for the experiments. Next, the student will compare car travel with simulated transport so the experiments can be set up in the best way, as well as measuring water cortisol. The student will also investigate how long the fish experiences transport stress and which interventions can mitigate it. He/she will also be part of an international collaboration analyzing transport data from other animal facilities.

Time plan:
Aug-Oct: Setting up housing system, raising test animals, evaluating transport methods, coordinating the work with sample and data from international collaboration. *Nov-Feb:* Performing transport experiments including interventions.

Learning outcomes:
The student will take two online courses in laboratory animal science, and get practical training in zebrafish methods, including husbandry of zebrafish, raining zebrafish, behavioral testing, measuring water quality and water cortisol.

Financing
The stipend will be given as 3 payments of 35 000 SEK. A total of 105 000 SEK for the whole period.

If you require any further information, please contact associate professor Petronella Kettunen, petronella.kettunen@neuro.gu.se, supervisor.

Application
To apply please fill out the form “Scholarship application” and send it to associate professor Petronella Kettunen, petronella.kettunen@neuro.gu.se, supervisor.

Please attach a copy of:

- CV
- Letter of motivation

Closing date is 2026-08-05.