

# Prof. Volker Heussler, PhD

## *CURRICULUM VITAE*

### PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2010: Professor for Molecular Parasitology and Cell Biology, Institute of Cell Biology, University of Bern, Switzerland

#### **Research activities:**

Parasite-host cell interactions and cell biological aspects of *Plasmodium*-infected hepatocytes

#### *Collaborations:*

- Vesicle transport in *Plasmodium* parasites (Dr. Tim Gilberger, Bernhard Nocht Institute, Hamburg)
- *Plasmodium* Rab GTPases (Prof. G. Langsley, Cochin Institute, Paris)
- Generation of new *Plasmodium berghei* strains. (Prof. Chris Janse, University of Leiden)
- Fatty acid metabolism as a possible intervention strategy against *Plasmodium* infection (Dr. Photini Sinnis, New York University and Dr. David Fiddock, Columbia University, USA)

2002-2010: Group leader of the AG Malaria I at the Bernhard Nocht Institute in Hamburg

#### **Research activities:**

- Parasite-dependent signal transduction in *Plasmodium*-infected hepatocytes
- Immune evasion strategies of *Plasmodium* parasites during the liver phase
- Ordered cell death in *Plasmodium* parasites

1996-2001: Junior Group Leader at the Institute of Animal Pathology, University of Berne

#### **Research activities:**

- Studies on the uncontrolled proliferation of *Theileria*-transformed leukocytes.

1993-1996: Postdoctoral scientist at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI),

Department of Vaccine Development and Immunology, Nairobi

**Research activities:**

- Evaluation of attenuated *Salmonella* and *Listeria* strains as vaccine vehicles for recombinant antigens of *Theileria parva*.
- Molecular biology of *Theileria parva*

1990-1993: PhD student at the Institute of Parasitology, University of Berne.

**Research activities:**

- Regulation of protease gene expression of the trematode *Fasciola hepatica*.
- *Theileria parva*-induced host cell transformation.

1989-1990: Diploma student at the Institute of Genetics, University of Karlsruhe

**Research activities:**

- *Theileria parva*-induced lymphokine gene expression in infected lymphocytes.

### AWARDS/PRICES

2007: GlaxoSmithKline research award for the publication "Manipulation of Host Hepatocytes by the Malaria Parasite for Delivery into Liver Sinusoids", *Science*, Vol 313, 1287-1290. GSK foundation, Munich.

2005: Eduard Adolf Stein-Preis for the Habilitation "*Theileria parva* and *Theileria annulata*: Parasite survival strategies and host cell transformation". Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Berne.