

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Name: **Magdaléna Hadová**

Home university: **University of South Bohemia**

Host university: **University of Vienna**

Host institute/department: **Faculty of Life Sciences/ Department of Cognitive Biology**

Period of stay: **summer term 2019 (1 month)**

During this stay my focus was put upon conducting the research on marmosets in the controlled laboratory environment, where the possibility of saliva collection and observing the monkeys in close vicinity was rather easily managed. The main aim of this project was to observe and determine the hand preference of all individuals currently housed at the Marmoset Lab in order to linking it to already acquired personality data from previous research conducted in this lab. Another goal was to take photos of every individual's face for later analysis through a specific face morphometry software. The third goal was to take saliva samples from all marmosets for future sex hormones levels analyses.

During my stay I have applied several methods to approach the goals set in this project. First, I have observed and noted down all individuals' hand preference during feeding in their home cage (specified as natural feeding behavior). Second, I have successfully performed 2 repetitions of task tests with all individuals. The aim of these tests was to evaluate each individual's hand preference in a situation where in order to retreat a reward a single hand had to be used. Furthermore, taking photos of the marmosets' faces was an overall success (the photos are stored, backed up and ready to be analysed when the occasion rises). Last but not least, the saliva sampling of marmosets eventually presented a substantial conundrum that needed (and still needs) to be tackled. During the course of this month's stay I managed to take saliva samples from almost all individuals and stored them safely. However, the saliva collection and analysis protocols need to be augmented and modified so that further contingency plan is ensured. This part of the project is highly attractive and interesting to pursue, with the benefits of reinforcing the professional relationships of a number of departments, with high scientific importance. Overall I think this research period presents a substantial progress, with successfully acquiring a considerable amount of new data and exploring new possibilities of the future personality and hormonal research, along with advancing an international scientific collaboration.