



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

Johann-Friedrich-Blumenbach-Institut für Zoologie und Anthropologie
Abteilung Zelluläre Neurobiologie

On Tuesday, October 20, 2015, 16:15 h
in the seminar room -1.101 (ground floor)
of the Schwann-Schleiden-Research Center

Prof. Jorge Molina

Los Andes University,
Centro de Investigaciones en Microbiología Parasitología Tropical
Bogota, Colombia

will give a talk on:

**Attraction or repellency:
What is the role of our skin microbiota in the transmission
of Chagas disease?**

Some parasitic tropical diseases are transmitted by insect vectors. The interaction between olfaction in insects and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) released by human skin microbiota has been highlighted in the transmission. Evidence of the attraction of *Anopheles* by VOCs released by skin bacteria has been shown. Are VOCs produced by skin microbiota also playing a role in the transmission of other tropical diseases, including insect vectors other than mosquitoes?

Using behavioral and electrophysiological experiments we are getting evidence of this interaction in the transmission of Chagas disease. Both attraction and repellency to VOCs produced by skin microbiota were found in the transmission of Chagas disease by *Rhodnius prolixus*. Results considering the role of bacteria and yeast on the attraction of the bugs will be presented and discussed.



Guests are welcome!

Jorge Molina is currently a guest researcher at the Dept. of Cellular Neurobiology and can be contacted via jmolina@uniandes.edu.co