

PhD position in Isotope Geochemistry / Geochronology

The Institute of Geology at the University of Bern, Switzerland, invites applications for a PhD-project on:

“Rutile as a chronometer for the quantification of orogenic processes”

The position is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. The major objective of the project is to investigate the accessory phases, particularly rutile, in high grade metamorphic rocks as potential tracers of geologic processes.

The study will involve trace element and isotope analyses of metamorphic rutiles from granulite facies rocks thermal ionization and (Laser) multicollector-ICP mass spectrometry, as well as microprobe analyses.

Major and trace element analyses combined with radiogenic isotope systems will be used to characterize the behavior of mostly rutile in rocks of different composition during high temperature metamorphism.

Qualifications:

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with a MSc in Earth Sciences or a related field, with a background in metamorphic petrology and/or isotope geochemistry. Good oral and written skills in English are required.

Terms of employment:

The PhD position is funded for 3 years. The candidate will work in a team that uses different stable and radiogenic isotope systems to address important questions in geochemistry ranging from Earth surface processes to mantle dynamics and the origin of meteorites.

Further details:

For further information on the isotope laboratory and the Institute of Geology at the University of Bern please visit our website.

Application:

Applications should include a cover letter with a statement of research interests, a CV, as well as names and addresses of two referees. Please send application to:

Klaus Mezger / Igor M. Villa
Institute of Geology
University of Bern
Baltzerstrasse 1+3
3012 Bern Switzerland
or submit by e-mail to: klaus.mezger@geo.unibe.ch

Applications are accepted until the position is filled, but we prefer to receive applications **before October 30, 2010.**