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I am a Namibian born, South African citizen based as a postdoctoral researcher at the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa. Here I work as part of the Genetics team to conduct both research and services for the wildlife, veterinary and conservation community. I obtained my MSc (2006) and PhD (2011) degrees from the University of Pretoria, focusing on the systematics and taxonomy of Anostomatidae crickets (MSc) and the dynamics of *Bartonella* infections in rodents from South Africa (PhD). My research interests include systematics, zoonotic and infectious diseases, veterinary microbiology, epidemiology and mathematical modeling as well as conservation genetics. To this end I rely on strongly on molecular phylogenetics and systematics techniques, and am also expanding to include real-time technology. Current projects include the development of molecular diagnostics tests for veterinary pathogens, subspecies identification of wildlife species of conservation concern, molecular identification of rodent species and their associated and potentially zoonotic pathogens.

General information

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Yours sincerely
Helene Brettschneider