Master Thesis
Modelling a photobioreactor as part of the life support system of an extraterrestrial habitat

Background:
One of the most important components of a habitat for long-term missions to Mars is the life support system (LSS). Unlike the LSS of the International Space Station (ISS), the LSS for a Martian habitat will not be a pure physico-chemical LSS, but will also contain bioregenerative elements based on microorganisms such as cyanobacteria.

As part of The Living Habitat project, a photobioreactor (PBR) will be integrated and operated as part of the air revitalization system of an LSS in the Moon and Mars Base Analog (MaMBA) module. In this context, a Master thesis is pending to characterize the PBR's system. We expect the project to be completed by Summer 2024.

Tasks:
- Research on cyanobacterial growth parameters
- Research on the simulation tool Virtual Habitat (V-HAB)
- Research on mathematical models to describe cyanobacterial growth
- Implement growth models in V-HAB
- Validate growth models with experimental data

We are looking for a motivated student with:
- Interest in human space exploration and biological systems
- Aerospace engineering, mechanical engineering or systems engineering background
- Good knowledge of MATLAB
• Ability to work independently

Not looking for a Master thesis but interested in the topic? Contact us anyway and we might be able to find a solution.

Contact:
If you are interested, please contact us by e-mail:
Paul Große Maestrup, paul.grosse.maestrup@zarm.uni-bremen.de
Please attach a current CV and Transcript of Records.