The Faculty of Psychology and Sports Science, Department of Psychology, Group 14 “Biopsychologie und Kognitive Neurowissenschaft” (Prof. Dr. Tobias Heed), offers a full-time research position (Postdoc) starting on September 1st, 2019 (E13 TV-L, non-permanent position).

Main responsibilities

The Biopsychology and Cognitive Neuroscience group is looking for a postdoc for the DFG-funded project “DYN-T2M: Dynamic coding of tactile-to-motor transformation in human and macaque posterior parietal cortex”.

Group and project

Our group investigates sensorimotor processing with emphasis on tactile processing and motor decisions in adults and children (see https://bit.ly/2SIoFZm). Our lab provides EEG, TMS, EMG, and a two-armed Kinarm. The project is a tandem in the funding program “German-French Projects in the Natural, Life, and Engineering Sciences” of the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Agence nationale de la recherche (ANR). We partner with the group of Suleyman Ben Hamet of the CNRIS in Lyon (see https://bit.ly/2VL7SH5). The project investigates the dynamics of spatial coding of tactile-motor information in parietal cortex. The advertised position focuses on investigating these processes in the human brain with fMRI and motion tracking. The French partner group will use equivalent paradigms in MRI and neuronal recordings in macaques.

Your tasks

You will develop, implement, acquire, analyze, and publish fMRI and behavioral experiments in the tandem project. You coordinate the communication with the project partners. FMRI will be acquired in Lyon in two research stays of several weeks each. The main work place, however, is Bielefeld, Germany.

Your Profile

Necessary qualifications

We are looking for a team member who has obtained a relevant master degree and completed his/her dissertation. Applications can be considered if the PhD thesis has been submitted, even if it has not yet been defended. You must have experience with fMRI acquisition and analysis. You work independently, and your work style is to be thorough and precise. You enjoy to address and solve the many challenges in experimental design and setup as well as in data analysis. You are team-oriented and bring high communication skills. Our team practices open science, and we publish code and data along with our papers; we expect your commitment towards these work principles.

The common project language is English; therefore, excellent proficiency in English is essential, whereas knowledge of German and French are not required. The research stays in Lyon will be covered financially, but you will be happy to spend several weeks abroad.

Additional qualifications

You have excellent programming skills for experiments, analysis and statistics (e.g., Matlab, Python, R). Experience with multivariate and connectivity analysis in fMRI will be helpful.

Remuneration

Salary will be paid according to Remuneration level 13 of the Wage Agreement for Public Service in the Federal States (TV-L). As stipulated in § 2 (1) sentence 2 of the WissZeitVG (fixed-term employment), the contract will end after three years. In accordance with the provisions of the WissZeitVG and the Agreement on Satisfactory Conditions of Employment, the length of contract may differ in individual cases. The employment is designed to encourage further academic qualification, for instance by pursuing habilitation. The position is advertised as a full-time job. In individual cases, this percentage may be reduced on request, as long as this does not conflict with official needs.

Bielefeld University is particularly committed to the career development of its employees. It offers attractive internal and external training and further training programmes. Employees have the opportunity to use a variety of health, counselling, and prevention programmes. Bielefeld University places great importance on a work-family balance for all its employees.

Application Procedure

For full consideration, your application should be received via either mail or email (a single PDF) document sent to tobias.heed@uni-bielefeld.de, at the latest by May 3rd, 2019. The application should consist of 1) motivation letter (max. 2 pages), including a brief description of your current research work, achievements, and research interests; 2) CV; 3) list of publications; 4) contact details of two scientists who can provide references. Please mark your application with the identification code: wiss19053. Please do not use application portfolios and send only photocopies of original documents because all application materials will be destroyed at the end of the selection procedure. Further information on Bielefeld University can be found on our homepage at www.uni-bielefeld.de.

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Bielefeld University has received a number of awards for its achievements as an equal-opportunity employer and has been recognized as a family-friendly university. The university welcomes applications from women. This is particularly true with regard both to academic and technical posts as well as positions in information technology as well as the skilled crafts and trades. Applications are handled according to the provisions of the state statutes on equal opportunity. Applications from suitably qualified handicapped and severely handicapped persons are explicitly encouraged.