Senior Research Fellow Position (RF7 Research Programme Coordinator)

The Centre for Lifelong Learning and Individualised Cognition (CLIC), funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF) in Singapore and coordinated through the Cambridge Centre for Advanced Research and Education in Singapore (CARES), is a collaboration between Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and the University of Cambridge. CLIC is a flagship programme in the Science of Learning to harness advancements in neuroscience to develop cognitive training programmes for the improvement of lifelong flexible learning, focusing initially on adolescents and young adults, but also envisaging work with infants and older adults. This is a strategic global initiative for the Universities of Cambridge and NTU that brings together multidisciplinary expertise from over 30 investigators in the areas of Neuroscience, Psychology, Linguistics and Education across the two universities.

Nanyang Technological University is a research intensive university currently ranked 13th globally and placed 1st amongst the world’s best young universities. The University has Colleges of Engineering, Business, Science, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and an Interdisciplinary Graduate School. Further, the new Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine benefits from a dual campus located at Novena, in close proximity to the Singapore city centre. The Cognitive Neuroimaging Centre (CoNiC) houses state-of-the-art neuroimaging facilities including a newly installed 3T MRI scanner and MEG, as well as new EEG, NIRS, TMS and tDCS equipment.

The first phase of the CLIC program will initially be housed at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. As the programme progresses, other sites will be developed to meet the needs of the experimental programme. The new CLIC research centre will provide a vibrant, fast-paced, international and interdisciplinary environment with excellent opportunities for skills development and knowledge exchange between partner Principal Investigator labs in Singapore and Cambridge.

The Principal Investigators involved in the first phase of the research programme include:

From Cambridge: Director Professor Zoe Kourtzi (Psychology), Senior Scientific Advisor Professor Trevor Robbins (Psychology), Deputy Directors Professor Henriette Hendriks (Linguistics) and Professor Anna Vignoles (Education), and Imaging Lead - Professor John Suckling (Psychiatry); supported by co-Investigators Prof Barbara Sahakian (Psychiatry) and Dr Michelle Ellefson (Education).

From NTU: Director Professor Annabel Chen (Psychology), Deputy Director Asst Prof Victoria Leong (Psychology), Imaging Lead - Professor Balázs Gulyas (LKCMedicine), and Principal Investigators Professor David Hung (NIE), Asst Prof Bobby Cheon (Psychology) and Assoc Prof George Christopoulos (Nanyang Business School); supported by co-Investigator Dr Teo Chew Lee (NIE).

The CLIC program is seeking one full-time (Senior) Research Fellow to manage and coordinate research activities focusing on cognitive flexibility and learning, and training-related brain changes among adults and adolescents. Given the highly inter-disciplinary nature of the project, the research fellow will be expected to assist in overseeing research activities related to human neuroimaging, language, infant cognition/learning and pedagogy. Applicants with at least 3 years of postdoctoral experience may be considered for appointment at a Senior grade. The post-holder will primarily be supervised Asst Prof
Victoria Leong (NTU), and also work closely with Prof Zoe Kourtzi (Cambridge) and Prof Annabel Chen (NTU). You will also interact widely with other members of the academic consortium.

The responsibilities of the position include:

- Coordinate research activities across all workgroups (research project coordinator)
- Develop and update training manuals and protocols, perform version maintenance
- Oversight of compliance with relevant regulations and governance arrangements for the portfolio of studies, including processes for ensuring safety reporting and data quality
- Oversee research ethics requirements, including updating and management of IRB documents
- Develop pipelines for updating and reporting of project progress
- Develop best practices of overall project data management and ensure implementation of agreed quality control and assurance systems to ensure a consistent and standardised approach across studies and teams
- Assist with financial management activities and monitor expenditure to ensure delivery within budgetary constraints
- Provide day to day staff management, on the job-training and assist with performance management of junior staff members
- Conduct analysis of data and summarise research findings
- Conduct literature reviews for publications and research briefings
- Assist with preparing academic publications (e.g., journal, conference, book)
- Contribute to the production of research reports
- Contribute to the dissemination of research findings
- Perform other research-related tasks as required by the Principal Investigators

Essential requirements:

- Doctorate (PhD) degree in experimental psychology, biopsychology, cognitive psychology, neuropsychology, neurology, psychiatry, cognitive neuroscience, or related fields
- At least 3 years of postdoctoral experience (to be considered at a Senior level)
- Experience with conducting behavioral experiments in neuropsychology or cognitive psychology, especially in Singapore
- Knowledge of regulatory and clinical governance environment for research in Singapore, and experience in ensuring trials and studies comply with these standards.
- Experience of developing study trial documentation including standard operating protocols (SOPs), preparation of ethics applications, funder reports, and pre-registration reports
- Good statistical knowledge and skills, and familiarity with statistical packages
- Good IT skills (i.e., Microsoft Office®)
- Strong interpersonal and team building skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Demonstrable managerial and leadership skills, with ability to motivate staff
- Excellent organizational skills and able to work within given deadlines

Preferred requirements:

- Experience with neuroimaging techniques (MRI/EEG/or TMS)
- Familiarity with image data analysis tools such as SPM, FSL, AFNI, DSISTudio, Matlab, Python etc
- Prior experience with academic publication processes and reports
- Experience of clinical trial project management
- Data management experience with REDCap
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- Experience of target setting and performance review
- Self-directed learner who effectively picks up relevant skills as needed

To apply, please send a Curriculum Vitae, letter of application with research interests, and three letters of recommendation to CLIC@ntu.edu.sg. Please indicate the reference number for this position: CLIC_RF7 in all application documents and correspondences. For informal discussion about the post, please contact Asst Prof Victoria Leong (victorialeong@ntu.edu.sg).

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