Open PhD student (m,f,d) position “sleep & memory”

Cognitive Neuropsychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Department of Psychology, LMU Munich, http://www.psy.lmu.de/knp

Hiring date: At the next possible date
Pay category: Tvl, E13, 65 %

Apply for a PhD position with us!

Applications are invited for a PhD position in the group of Prof. Dr. Tobias Staudigl (Cognitive Neuropsychology) to investigate the neuronal basis of memory in humans, with a strong focus on memory processes acting during sleep. The successful applicant will work in a multi-disciplinary environment on a project that aims at understanding the electrophysiological basis of memory processes. In particular, we aim to understand the mechanisms of sleep related memory consolidation and the role of subcortical brain areas in this context. The project comprises research with epilepsy patients as well as healthy populations, including invasive as well as non-invasive techniques. The research is funded by the European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant project “How the human thalamus guides navigation and memory: a common coding framework built on direct thalamic recordings” (DirectThalamus).

Your responsibilities:
- conduct research (including data acquisition, analyses and interpretation) in the context of memory consolidation, including sleep recordings at night
- prepare and participate in project-based publications
- participate in and present research at national and international conferences and workshops
- support and help organize project based events and activities
- participate in organizational and administrative tasks

We are seeking a highly motivated candidate with an academic university degree (master or equivalent) in the field of psychology, biology, (cognitive) neuroscience, biomedical engineering or related disciplines to join our team.
Your profile:

- enthusiasm for fundamental research.
- enthusiasm for conducting research with humans, both patients and healthy participants
- motivated to conduct sleep experiments at night
- academic university degree in psychology, biology, (cognitive) neuroscience, biomedical engineering, or related fields.
- motivated to study human electrophysiology; experience with electrophysiology is a plus.
- willingness to learn programming (e.g., Matlab, Python, R) and advanced multivariate analyses (e.g., pattern classifiers, RSA); experience in scripting and analyses is a plus.
- motivated to publish in peer-reviewed journals; experience in preparing publications is a plus.
- fluent in written and spoken English; German language skills are a plus, since you will work with German participants and patients.

The successful candidate is motivated to conduct basic research on the neuronal basis of sleep and memory. This involves running sleep studies both in the local sleep lab and in a clinical setting, as well as analyzing and interpreting electrophysiological data (EEG and intracranial EEG). Experience in conducting experimental studies in humans and/or electrophysiology is a plus. The candidate should be highly motivated and enthusiastic about fundamental memory research and willing to actively participate in scientific exchange in a multidisciplinary work environment as well as the national and international research community. Since the project involves research with patients in a clinical setting, knowledge of German is desirable. You will work in a dedicated young team of international researchers applying innovative techniques to the investigate neuronal basis of human memory.

Applicants with disabilities who possess essentially equal qualifications will be given preference. LMU Munich is an equal opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity, and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply. Your workplace is in a central location in Munich and is very easy to reach by public transport. We offer an interesting and responsible job with good training and development opportunities.

Send your applications to:

Please submit the following application documents electronically to Prof. Dr. Tobias Staudigl (Tobias.Staudigl@lmu.de):

As one pdf file:
(1) Application letter (letter of motivation)
(2) Curriculum vitae
(3) Degree certificates
(4) Names and email-addresses of two referees
(5) List of publications (if applicable)