DEPARTMENT OF EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	Marie Curie Early Stage Research Fellow
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Experimental Psychology
Location	Tinbergen Building, 9 South Parks Road
Grade and salary	The EC funding for this position starts from £38,615 p.a. (depending on employer deductions, personal circumstances and the exchange rate to be notified by the EC)
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term for 36 Months
Reporting to	See details of available projects.
Application Closing Date	12 noon 20th December 2013
Additional information	Successful applicants must also be registered as DPhil students at the University of Oxford

Committed to equality and advancing women's careers in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM)

The **University of Oxford** is a member of the Athena SWAN Charter and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award.

The **Department of Experimental Psychology** holds a Bronze departmental Athena SWAN award in recognition of its efforts to introduce organisational and cultural practices that promote gender equality in STEMM and create a better working environment for both men and women.

Introduction

The University

The University of Oxford is a complex and stimulating organisation, which enjoys an international reputation as a world-class centre of excellence in research and teaching. It employs over 10,000 staff and has a student population of over 22,000.

Most staff are directly appointed and managed by one of the University's 130 departments or other units within a highly devolved operational structure - this includes over 6,500 'academic-related' staff (postgraduate research, computing, senior library, and administrative staff) and over 2,700 'support' staff (including clerical, library, technical, and manual staff). There are also over 1,600 academic staff (professors, readers, lecturers), whose appointments are in the main overseen by a combination of broader divisional and local faculty board/departmental structures. Academics are generally all also employed by one of the 38 constituent colleges of the University as well as by the central University itself.

Our annual income in 2011/12 was £1,016.1m. Oxford is one of Europe's most innovative and entrepreneurial universities: income from external research contracts exceeds £409m p.a., and more than 80 spin-off companies have been created.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/staff/about_the_university.html

Medical Sciences Division

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching. We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford.

World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: www.medsci.ox.ac.uk

Department of Experimental Psychology

Experimental Psychology at Oxford is widely regarded as the leading psychology department in the UK, and a major international centre for research in psychology and cognitive neuroscience, with over 120 postgraduate and postdoctoral research and academic staff. In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise 80% of the research was classified as internationally excellent or above, with 35% ranked as 'world leading'. Departmental turnover for 2012/13 was over £11.25 million.

Research in the Department is organised into 4 research groupings roughly equal in size: Behavioural Neuroscience, Cognitive Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology and Social Psychology & Psychological Disorders. The Department has consistently received the highest possible ratings in the British Funding Councils' Research Assessment Exercise recognising research of leading, international standing.

The Department has a state-of-the-art Developmental Science research centre, created in 2010 and facilities for EEG, TMS, and tDCS, along with multiple laboratories with eye movement recording equipment. In 2011 and 2012 two new clinical research centres were created – the Oxford Centre for Anxiety Disorders and Trauma (OXCADAT) and the Oxford Cognitive Neuropsychology Centre (CNC) – which provide facilities for the treatment, as well as the assessment, of patients within Experimental Psychology. The new centres form part of a new NIHR Clinical Research Facility in Oxford Cognitive Health.

The Department has close links with Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences and we make heavy use of the FMRIB brain imaging centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital (3 and 7T MRI) and the Oxford Centre for Human Brain Activity (OHBA) at the Warneford Hospital (MEG). A new Biomedical Services Building (BSB) also provides state-of-the-art facilities for animal research.

There are excellent links to a wide variety of special populations including a panel of older participants (ageing research), mothers and babies (BabyLab), schools (developmental research), acquired and developmental neuropsychological patients, patients with psychological problems. There is an exceptionally rich intellectual environment offering many opportunities for interaction within and outside the Department itself.

At the undergraduate level, the Department is the focus for lectures, classes, practicals and project work. It is a centre used by the undergraduates from all colleges for the Experimental Psychology (EP), Psychology and Philosophy (PP), Psychology and Linguistics (PL) and Biomedical Science (BMS) courses. The Department provides lecture rooms, IT facilities and laboratories for experimental and project work.

For more information please visit: http://www.psy.ox.ac.uk/

Job description

Project web site	www.psy.ox.ac.uk/indirea
Funding partner	The funds supporting this research project are provided by the European Commission FP7 Marie Curie 2013 Multi-Partner Initial Training Network

Details of available projects.

Project 1: "**Developing a clinical screen for attentional problems after stroke**" (supervisors Glyn Humphreys and Nele Demeyere). This project aims to develop a new bedside screen to measure attentional abilities after brain lesion using TABLET methods. The skill set will require programming in MATLAB as well as good bedside testing skills.

Project 2: **"Clinical screening after stroke using MEG & MRI"** (supervisor Kia Nobre). This studentship will be involved in developing biomarkers for attentional change after brain lesion using fMRI and/or MEG. Candidates will be expected to develop skills in functional brain imaging and in programming for experimental control.

Project 3: "**Cognitive rehabilitation of attention after stroke"** (supervisor: Glyn Humphreys). This project aims to assess new attempts to rehabilitate attentional problems after stroke using either computer-based training or EEG biofeedback. The ability to develop web-based training procedures would be useful.

Project 4: "**Neuropharmacological rehabilitation of attention after stroke"** (supervisor: Masud Husain). This project aims to develop neuropsychological rehabilitation for attentional disorders after brain damage using (e.g.,) pharmacological or other forms of intervention. Experience in programming for experimental control would be valuable.

Overview of the role

There are 4 Fellowship positions which are available for a period of three years from April 2014, tenable at Oxford University, as part of an EU Framework 7 Marie-Curie Initial Training Network entitled INDIREA (Individualised Diagnostics and Rehabilitation for Attentional Disorders). This overall project aims to develop new diagnostic and rehabilitation procedures for attentional problems in a range of acquired and/or developmental neuropsychological disorders including unilateral neglect, dementia and ADHD. The projects form part of a larger training consortium linked to the Universities of Copenhagen, Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona), Munich, Magdeburg, TC Dublin) and to a commercial partner (Brain Products). The successful candidate will be registered for DPhil training in Oxford while employed by the University on a Marie Curie Initial Training Network. Candidates will receive training and secondments in labs run by our partners and must be prepared to work in these other labs for periods of time. Candidates must possess a good degree in a relevant subject and it would be useful to have experience in computer programming for experimental control.

The EC funding for this position starts from £38,615 p.a. (€50.200), (depending on employer deductions, personal circumstances and the exchange rate to be notified by the EC), which includes an annual living allowance and a mobility allowance (to cover the expenses associated with working in a different country).

Candidate Requirements

Under the terms of the EC funding, which aims to promote mobility within the research community, to be eligible for the post you must not have been resident in the UK for more than 12 months in the past three years.

Additionally, you must be in the first four years (full-time equivalent) of your research career and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree. This is measured from the date when you obtained the degree which would formally entitle you to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate is envisaged.
Exceptions to these criteria cannot be made.

In addition, candidates will be judged according to how well they meet the following criteria:

Essential

A good bachelor's degree in Psychology or a closely related subject.

Excellent record of academic and/or professional achievement.

Ability to communicate with and relate to other members of a research team and other partners through oral presentations, meetings, written reports and papers.

Desirable

A good master's degree in Psychology or a closely related subject.

Proven skills in numerical analysis using Matlab.

Experience of neuropsychology

Further particulars for the post can be obtained from www.psy.ox.ac.uk/indirea/.

Application Procedure

To apply for this position:

Candidates are required to send a covering letter (explaining your suitability for the Marie Curie Early Stage Research Fellow post, what you hope to achieve from the PhD and your research experience to date) a C.V. and 2 academic references to Caroline Waring, Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3UD, UK hod.secretary@psy.ox.ac.uk Candidates should apply for specific projects, indicating their top 3 choices.

AND

Candidates are also expected to:

- meet the Graduate Admissions criteria available at http://www.psy.ox.ac.uk/study/graduate/dphil_EP/entryrequirements

- Submit a full graduate application for the DPhil (PhD) in Experimental Psychology - **please quote Wolfson as your first choice college**. In the section headed "Departmental Studentship Applications" please quote reference **13EXPSY-INDIREA-WEB** Further details about making a graduate application are available at http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply.

Informal enquiries may be addressed to glyn.humphreys@psy.ox.ac.uk. Please note that applications sent directly to this email address will not be accepted.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview in January 2014. We regret that we may not be able to respond to all applications.

Applicants who have not received an offer of a place by February 2014 should consider their application has been unsuccessful on this occasion.

Remuneration and benefits
The EC funding for this position provides a total package based on a Euro amount in the region of €54,799 to €59,050 p.a., (depending on employer deductions which will vary according to exchange rate, pension scheme membership, etc). This includes an annual living allowance and a mobility allowance.

The allowances will be paid monthly in arrears in £ sterling into a UK bank account, including during the overseas secondment period.

Fellows are considered to be both students and employees of the University however, the student status takes precedence. Fellows may be entitled to some of the benefits available to both groups. Due to the EC's requirements fellows are paid at a rate set by the EC rather than according to the University's normal employment terms, and the fellowships therefore carry only statutory employment entitlements, i.e.: 28 days paid holiday (including bank holidays), statutory sick pay and statutory maternity/paternity pay. The fellows are not eligible for the University's own contractual sickness or maternity/paternity schemes.

Fellows will be automatically enrolled into the University Superannuation Scheme (USS) – for further information see. http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/pensions/uss/. Further information on this will be provided.

For further information about benefits including childcare and travel schemes see http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/benefits/

Further information
Information to support researchers moving to the UK to work in higher education research, including information is available at: http://www.internationalstaff.ac.uk/

The University's Equality Policy can be found at:
http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/recruitmentmonitoring/recruitmentcodepractice/