Amherst College
Office of Human Resources

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Postdoctoral Research Associate

Department: Psychology   Reports to title: Prof. Cohen

Full Time: X   Part Time: Date Prepared: 11-13-19

Job Group & Level: RI-2   Regular Daily Work Schedule: 8:30   to 5:00

Pay Type: Weekly   Monthly X   Months Per Year: 12   Hours Per Week: 40

(Summer Months) Months Per Year: Hours Per Week:

1. Summary of Position: This is an NSF grant-supported postdoc position in the Psychology department. The scope of the research project is to understand how the human brain processes information from the visual environment using behavioral and neuroimaging methods. Computational needs may require work with collaborators available off campus.

Takes appropriate actions to support a diverse workforce and participates in the College's efforts to create a respectful, inclusive, and welcoming work environment.

2. Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

95% Research and scholarship
- Conduct research procedures and analyses using a variety of neuroimaging and computational techniques and instrumentation such as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), magnetoencephalography (MEG), and event related potentials (ERP)
- Support new and ongoing research programs associated with the NSF grant focused on the neural correlates of perceptual awareness
- Data collection and analysis (i.e., designing and collecting neuroimaging data).
- Participate in the preparation, publication, and dissemination of experimental results in peer reviewed journals and international conferences

5% Perform other duties as required such as management of lab equipment and administrative tasks associated with the research.

All employees are expected to participate in the College's efforts to create a respectful, inclusive, and welcoming work environment.

3. Internal-External Interaction/Communication: Internal interactions will be primarily with the lab. Secondarily there will be interactions with the Psychology department. External interactions will include work with a collaborating lab at Reed College as part of the NSF award.

4. Education: (include certifications and licenses)

   Required: PhD

   Preferred:

5. Experience: (List specific skills necessary to perform this job)

   Required:

   - Communication skills to present research results at national and international research conferences
   - Demonstrated level of independence to perform research responsibilities
   - Strong statistical analysis skills and capacity to learn and apply new analytic techniques
   - Strong attention to detail, time management, and organizational skills
   - Commitment to working with a diverse and inclusive community
   - Experience studying visual cognition and visual cognitive neuroscience. Specifically with both behavioral and neuroimaging methods.

   Preferred:

   - Experience with MATLAB, BrainStorm, FreeSurfer, or AFNI.

6. Environmental and Physical Demands: (Please describe the work environment and unusual physical demands, i.e. lifting requirements.)

   This is primarily computer based work. Repetitive motions including hands, wrists and fingers. Visual – normal concentration. Lift, carry, push and pull up to 10 pounds. There are no environmental hazards not found in any typical office setting.

7. Decision Making:

   Decision making on which analyses to pursue and any new research directions will be in consultation with Prof. Cohen at Amherst College and Prof. Pitts at Reed College.

8. <u>Supervision Exercised/Received:</u> There will be no supervision exercised beyond perhaps mentoring undergraduate assistants. Supervision received will be from Prof. Cohen and Prof. Pitts.

Supervisory Responsibility: Yes _____   No   <u>X_____</u>

Number of Employees Supervised: n.a.<u>_____</u>