Job Title: Research Associate
Full time

The Division of Cognitive Neurology/Neuropsychology of the Department of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions is seeking a researcher for a junior faculty position (Research Associate) for its New York location. The individual in this position will lead research activities, and some educational efforts with a research component, focused on improving the skills and learning abilities of individuals in the moderate to severe range of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and other developmental disabilities.

The position will be physically based in midtown Manhattan at the Division’s New York Educational Program (NYEP). The NYEP provides full-time, educational services to a young adult with autism and development disabilities who has limited communication and social skills, and it offers some educational/social services to other individuals with developmental disabilities.

The top priority for the individual in this position will be to assist the NYEP staff in developing, refining, and supervising current research efforts – which may include the one young adult and other individuals – including the following current research activities:

- using physiologic measures, such as heart rate variability, electrodermal activity (EDA), and possibly salivary cortisol levels, to predict receptivity to learning and to identify markers for behaviors that may interfere with learning
- collecting and analyzing psychological and behavioral data collected in a variety formats (traditional assessments, audio and video technologies)
- improving social interactions and other functions through individual and group activities (art, cooking, and fitness)
- planning and supervising a series of single case studies
- working collaboratively with senior faculty located elsewhere to ensure the scientific integrity of scientific projects conducted at the Manhattan site. Currently, these projects involve coding and analyzing social interactions and learning styles of individuals in group settings.

The position requires excellent managerial and interpersonal skills, clear written and oral communication skills, the ability to write and publish research articles, considerable flexibility and adaptability, and a broad understanding of – and hands-on experience with – individuals in the moderate to severe range of ASD or other developmental disabilities. More specifically, the individual in this position will:

- Work collaboratively on a daily basis with the NYEP Research Program Manager and an interdisciplinary team of educators, speech pathologist(s), and research associates; work at regular intervals with, and ultimately report to, the Director of the Division, who oversees the NYEP; and work with other faculty at Hopkins and academic researchers (both within and outside of Hopkins) engaged as consultants
- Ensure the scientific integrity of scientific projects conducted at the Manhattan site, but supervised by faculty elsewhere. Engage with participants in the NYEP program (research subjects with autism and developmental disabilities and others), and their parents, caregivers, and/or teachers
- Ultimately recruit more research subjects from the area, who will be tested at the Manhattan site
• Conduct reviews of relevant scientific literature, including analyses of best practices and of related research
• Identify potential new research studies
• Prepare research proposals for specific projects
• Design and implement experiments and projects, validating the strength of the experiments and performing data analyses
• Manage all aspects of numerous research projects in collaboration with the interdisciplinary team
• Draft manuscripts in coordination with other team members, and direct manuscripts through all phases of the submission, review, revision, and re-submission process to publication. Present research proposals and/or findings to internal and external audiences. Explore publication venues for manuscript submissions
• Hire and mentor current research assistant(s) throughout the proposal, research, and publication process.

The position is available immediately. The position is fully funded from private source(s). The employment contract is renewable yearly, based on successful annual performance reviews. Note that faculty in a research associate position at Hopkins are not expected to obtain or have their own funding. However, as this position is faculty rank, the research associate is qualified to be a PI on funding proposals. If the individual’s responsibilities to the research program are met and proposed independent research is consistent with the Division’s research mission, approval of any independent research is likely.

Position Requirements: Appropriate candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent in Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Science, Cognitive Neuroscience, or a comparable discipline. The position requires evidence of successfully directing human experimental behavioral research studies, preferably with experience with our target population (individuals in the moderate to severe range of ASD and related developmental disorders), proficiency with experimental statistics (particularly single-case, repeated-measures designs), and at least one first-authored, peer-reviewed publication. Experience collecting and analyzing EEG data preferred, but not required.

For a formal application, please send your CV and a letter of interest to neuro@jhmi.edu. References are not required at the initial application stage but can be included.

The Johns Hopkins University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to recruiting, supporting, and fostering a diverse community of outstanding faculty, staff, and students. All applicants who share this goal are encouraged to apply.