Postdoctoral position available

"Neural correlates of emotion, empathy and social interactions"

The Functional and Pathological Neurosciences laboratory in Amiens (http://www.u-picardie. fr/labo/lnfp) is looking for a highly motivated individual for a postdoctoral position. Our group is part of the main lab located between Lille and Amiens (http://lnfp.dr18.cnrs.fr). In Amiens, the group is located between the neurology unit at the Amiens Universitary Hospital (www.chu-amiens.fr) and the Health Research Pole of the University of Amiens (www.u-picardie.fr). The lab associates several medical specialities (neurology, psychiatry...) which allows interactions between clinicians and researchers into an enthusiastic and multidisciplinary way. At the moment, our group focus on the theoretical and experimental study of psychological and neural processes involed in attention, emotion, motivation and executive functions. In particular, we focus on early troubles that may occur in neurological diseases for the processing of such informations. Experimental methods used in the lab are neuropsychological investigations, peripheral physiological measures recordings (BIOPAC system) and functional neuroimaging (fMRI 3T; high density EEG 128 channels).

We are seeking a talented and enthusiastic research assistant with a PhD awarded in psychology, neuroscience, biology or computer science. The aim of this project will be to use mainly high density electroencephalography (Biosemie system, 128 active electrodes) to finely explore the temporal processes involved in empathy and social interactions. In particular, the ongoing experiments use the working model of empathy for pain to investigate these neural correlates. In a second time, corresponding fMRI experiments will be developped to focus on the brain areas involved in these different temporal processes and integration of temporal and localization informations into a neurobehavioral model.

Candidates should be highly motivated, manifest a strong interest for cognitive, affective, social neurosciences and neurology. In particular, we are seeking applicants with a strong experience in electrophysiology (paradigm design; data analysis: event related potentials, source analysis), in fMRI. Prior experience of integration of both types of data into models would be highly appreciated. A prior experience in simultaneous EEG/fMRI acquisitions would be a major advantage. A prior experience in dyadid neuroimaging research and related data analyses approaches would be also a plus.

Amiens is the main city of the Picardie region, around 150 km at the North of Paris (1h by direct train). Amiens is a very nice place to live, with its big cathedral, beautiful "hortillonages" (little rivers directly into the city) and the sea at 40 km from the city. For more information on the city and regions, please go to www.amiens.fr.

The project is generously funded by a postdoctoral stipend from the Regional Council of Picardie (www.cr-picardie.fr) for a first year and possibly renewable for a second year. Salary amount is 1818.60 euros/month.

Applications, including CV, list of publications, one or two letters of recommendations and statement of interests should be sent by email to Harold Mouras (harold.mouras@u-picardie.fr). The search begins today and closes when the position is filled.

For any complementary information, please contact Harold Mouras (harold.mouras@u-picardie.fr).