

xxPhD proposal - «Motor correlates of motivated social relationships»

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January 30, 2012

Laboratory: Laboratory of Pathological and Functional Neurosciences, Amiens, France

Place: School of Medicine, 3, rue des Louvels, 80 000 Amiens Cedex 1, France

Advisors: Pr. P Krystkowiak MD, PhD (director); H Mouras PhD (codir)

Presumed grant: Doctoral research grant, AXA research fund

Required skills:

skills and/or interest in computing and signal rprocessing (MATLAB; Acknowledge...);

interest for social and affective neurosciences;

interest for the study of the motor correlates of behavior

Keywords: Affective and social neurosciences; Social relationships; Motor correlates; Peripheral physiology.

Summary of the PhD project:

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 University 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 involved 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; MR compatible EEG).

The main objective of this work will be to explore the influence of an emotional and/or a motivational context on motor behavior. For this purpose, two main functional contexts will be used, i.e. empathy and sexual motivation. Exploration techniques will be broad including high-density electroencephalography, posturography, peripheral measures recording (electromyography; galvanic skin conductance...).

For this, we are looking for enthusiastic and talented applicants who will obtain at the end of this academic year a master degree in neuroscience, psychology or sport science.

Amiens is the main city of the Picardy 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.

Application conditions:

Applications, including CV and motivation letter should be sent by email to Harold Mouras (harold.mouras@u-picardie.fr) before **15th February**. The selected candidate will then be informed of the next steps of the procedures including the filling of his application on the AXA Research Grant before **29th of March**.

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