

UCL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY
Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging
Research Associate/Senior Research Associate in Real-Time fMRI

Applications are invited for a Research Associate / Senior Research Associate in the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging (WTCN), UCL Institute of Neurology, London, UK, under the supervision of Dr Nikolaus Weiskopf. The WTCN conducts cutting-edge research by means of functional and structural brain imaging, and is equipped with three 3 T whole body MRI scanners (Siemens Tim Trio), an MEG system (CTF/VSM), and MR compatible EEG and TMS systems. One of the MRI systems is equipped with an optical tracking system for ultrafast prospective motion correction (Kineticor).

The successful candidate will join the EU FP7 collaborative BRAINTRAIN project which aims to use real-time fMRI to train patients to regulate their own brain activity via neurofeedback training, and thus modulate the brain networks of mental disorder. The project brings together the core groups that have been instrumental in the development of methods for real-time fMRI-based neurofeedback, and have led in the initial clinical applications in neuropsychiatric disorders.

The post holder will work on methods for improving real-time fMRI both in terms of data quality and accessibility by developing ultrafast fMRI pulse sequences, methods for reduction of image artifacts, tailored image reconstruction methods (e.g. advanced parallel imaging) and methods for fast data transfer.

Applicants must have a PhD in physics, biomedical engineering, computer science, or a comparable subject. If not already held, the PhD must be obtained by the agreed start-date (Research Associate applicants). A strong background in MR physics and image reconstruction or data analysis is essential, as is strong expertise in programming high-level languages (e.g. C/C++, Matlab). Applicants must be specialists in at least two of the following areas: Siemens/GE/Philips MR scanner operation and software, advanced MR image reconstruction, pulse sequence programming, real-time fMRI methods, functional MRI, SPM/Brainvoyager. Applicants for the Senior Research Associate position will also need to demonstrate an established publication track record and experience of leading a team of researchers or project management.

The post is available immediately and is funded by the EU for two years in the first instance. Starting salary in the range of £32,375 - £39,132 pa on UCL Grade 7 (Research Associate) or £40,126 - £47,441 pa on UCL Grade 8 (Senior Research Associate) including London Allowance, superannuable.

You should apply for this post through UCL's online recruitment – www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs where you can download a job description and person specification using ref: 1386251.

If you have any queries regarding the application process, please contact Samantha Robinson, Personnel Officer, UCL Institute of Neurology, 23 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG (email: IoN.HRAdmin@ucl.ac.uk).

Informal enquiries to Dr Nikolaus Weiskopf (email: n.weiskopf@ucl.ac.uk).

Further information on the lab: <http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/Research/physics.html>

Further information on the EU BRAINTRAIN project: http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/medical-research/brain-research/projects/braintrain_en.html

Closing date: 21 January 2014

UCL Taking Action for Equality