

DESCRIPTION OF INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND COMMITMENT TO TRAINING

Sponsor's Institution & Lab: Northeastern University

Northeastern is a rapidly growing national research university, with 1,346 full-time faculty and over 550 new tenured and tenure-track hires since 2006. The university is home to over 50 interdisciplinary research centers and institutes, and fosters a collaborative research environment across experts in a variety of disciplines including psychology, computer and information science, public health, basic and applied biological sciences, engineering, and clinical science. The College of Science (COS) has 216 full-time faculty, 586 graduate students across 10 departments and programs.

Situated in Boston, Massachusetts, Northeastern's collaborative environment is reinforced by its proximity to several major institutions including Harvard, MIT, U. Mass Boston, and Boston University. The greater Boston area is also home to several medical campuses and professional schools (e.g., Harvard Medical School, Boston Children's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, New England College of Optometry, Schepens Eye Research Institute). Together, the research faculty, postdocs and students at these institutions form one of the largest and most successful networks of clinical and basic vision scientists in the world. In addition, Northeastern provides its students, faculty, and postdocs with state-of-the-art computing and research facilities, including access to a high-performance computing cluster housed in the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center (MGHPCC).

Faculty:

Members of the sponsor's laboratory frequently interact and collaborate with various faculty and experts in other Northeastern departments, including Drs. Peter Bex (Psychology), Dagmar Sternad (Biology & Engineering), Rhea Eskew (Psychology), Adam Reeves (Psychology), Ennio Mingolla (College of Health Sciences), Sandra Shefelbine (Bioengineering), Taskin Padir (Mechanical), Josh Stefanik (Physical Therapy), and others.

Facilities:

The sponsor's lab includes ample space and equipment for conducting the proposed work, including over 3000 ft² of laboratory testing space, including a wide array of cutting edge equipment for the study of human movement (see Equipment, Facilities & Other Resources for full descriptions).

Meetings, seminars, and courses:

Internal training in the sponsor's laboratory includes a primary lab meeting held once a week. In addition, the application will participate in the Boston Action Club (organized by Dagmar Sternad) and the Northeastern Vision Club (organized by Peter Bex). The applicant will also be encouraged to attend the wide array of talks and seminars that occur within Northeastern and the Greater Boston Area. The sponsor also meets individually with each member at least once a week to review progress in data collection, analysis, and to provide feedback in manuscript preparation.

Courses and Workshops:

At a university level, there are several courses relevant to the proposed research and training under this fellowship, including courses in the Psychology, Biology, and Bio Engineering (e.g., Biol 5601: *Interdisciplinary Approaches in Motor Control*, PSYC 5130: *Proseminar in Perception*). In addition, the Office of Research Development hosts regular workshops on grant and manuscript preparation and Northeastern's Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Through Research (CATLR) organizes regular workshops on issues related to teaching and mentorship, as well as an annual teaching conference.