

Lab Manager Position in the Motivation and Cognition Neuroscience Lab at the University of Chicago

About the position:

The Motivation and Cognition Neuroscience Lab directed by Dr. Yuan Chang Leong will be established in the Department of Psychology at the University of Chicago in July 2021. We are searching for a Lab Manager to join the team. Research in the lab is situated at the intersection of cognitive neuroscience, affective science and social psychology, and focuses on the computational and neural mechanisms by which motivation (e.g., goals, desires and needs) affect various types of cognitive processes (e.g., perception, reasoning and decision-making). We use a broad range of methodological tools, including behavioral experiments, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), computational modeling, and naturalistic task paradigms. For more information about the lab, please visit <https://ycleong.github.io/>.

We seek a Lab Manager to help establish the new lab at UChicago. The Lab Manager will have a mix of administrative and research-related duties. Administratively, this individual will help manage IRB protocols, order and set up lab equipment and supplies, design and maintain the lab website, schedule lab meetings and assist in the general maintenance of the day-to-day operations of the lab. In addition to these administrative responsibilities, the Lab Manager will also conduct independent research under the supervision of Dr. Leong, which will include study design, data collection and analyses, presentation of results at conferences, and writing and authorship on relevant manuscripts. Other research responsibilities include training and assisting lab members with data collection and technical troubleshooting. This is a particularly exciting opportunity for someone who wants to be part of a growing team where they are valued for their scientific as well as their managerial contribution. The position will provide useful training for someone who would like to obtain additional research experience and develop additional computational skills before applying to graduate school.

Applicants who intend to spend a minimum of 2 years in the position will be preferred. The start date will ideally be between 7/1/2021 and 10/1/2021, though the exact date is flexible. Review of applications will start immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Qualifications:

The successful applicant must be eligible to work in the United States and have a Bachelor's degree (or higher) in psychology, neuroscience, cognitive science, or a related field. Candidates must have strong technical qualifications, including proficiency in programming (e.g., MATLAB, Javascript, Python) and working knowledge of statistics (e.g., running basic statistical tests in R, Python, Julia), though we will help to improve the candidate's computational skills through lab training and collaborative research projects.

Candidates must be organized and detail-oriented, able to exercise good judgment and take initiative, able to work independently, as well as collaboratively, and possess excellent communication skills. Prior research experience (especially in a cognitive, affective or social neuroscience lab) is highly desirable. Knowledge of human research protocols (IRBs, consent forms HIPAA) is preferred, but not required.

How to apply:

Please email the following (in a single PDF) to Dr. Leong (uchicagomcnlab@gmail.com):

1. A brief cover letter describing your research interests, long-term career goals, technical skills, past research experience, and why this position is right for you.
2. CV and undergraduate transcript (unofficial version/screenshot is fine)
3. Contact information of 3 professional references (e.g., past research mentors, professors)

Questions about the position can also be directed to the same email address.