Position Title: Research Assistant

Program: Visual Neurophysiology Centre

Contract Term: 1-year term

Annual Salary: $67,340-72,800 plus benefits

Hours of Work: 35 hours per week, most of which occurs Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. This position requires intermittent flexible hours to deliver care after surgical procedures or other veterinary treatments and to address unexpected emergencies or unusual circumstances.

SCHALL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY:

Schall's research program seeks to understand how the brain guides, controls, and monitors behavior. To address these fundamental mechanisms of decision-making, we must understand how to translate between multiple scales of description. With neurophysiological and electrophysiological data, we seek explanations at neural, biophysical, and computational scales. The laboratory collaborates with clinicians, physicists, and psychologists to translate findings for improved diagnosis and treatment of neurological and psychiatric conditions. Through other scholarship Schall also translates between research and application at the intersection of law and neuroscience. The research team is multigender-multiracial-multicultural-multinational. We practice the method of multiple hypotheses in research and in life. We avoid the blinding influence of personal and petty affections. We debate ideas and respect people. We know that the best science flourishes in a liberal society. We value each other.

The laboratory is part of the ***Visual Neurophysiology Centre***, located in new, state-of-the-art research space in the Health & Neuroscience Building. Major funding is provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research with additional funding from the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canada Research Chair program. The research efforts are embedded in the Centre for Integrative & Applied Neuroscience and the Centre for Vision Research.

JOB PURPOSE:

The purpose of this position is to support visual neurophysiology studies of awake, behaving nonhuman primates. Working closely with the Principal Investigator (PI), the role will prepare, conduct and evaluate experiments; operate, maintains, and troubleshoot specialized laboratory equipment; and ensure that equipment, materials, and resources are prepared and available to support research activities.. In addition, the role contributes to the overall functioning of the research program by maintaining laboratory inventory and replacing disposable supplies, assisting with other laboratory and research activities as assigned, and fostering a collaborative environment through positive interactions with other researchers and team members. Opportunities for authorship on scientific publications are encouraged.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- Behavioral & electrophysiological testing of nonhuman primates in compliance with OMAFA and CCAC policies and regulations as approved by York University Animal Care Committee
- Under moderate to little supervision, conduct & evaluate experiments

- Prepare, operate & troubleshoot equipment & experimental procedures
- Provide appropriate written documentation of experiments
- Maintain inventory of laboratory disposables
- Assist in other laboratory & research functions as assigned
- Collaborate with and support Vivaria animal care staff in aseptic surgical procedures and other related animal care activities
- Interact positively with research associates, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students affiliated with the research team.
- Engage professionally and collaboratively with animal care leadership, veterinary staff, animal care technicians, and Animal Care Committee members .

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Education
  - Bachelor degree in psychology, neuroscience, animal science, or related discipline
  - Registered Veterinary Technician Certification preferred
- Experience
  - Research technician or research assistant experience in biomedical research, preferably neuroscience research.
  - The ideal candidate will have at least one year of experience in a similar role or environment..

- Skills
  - Care and handling of nonhuman primates
  - Familiarity with neurophysiology research environment
  - Intermediate level with Microsoft Windows and MS Office (Excel, PowerPoint) and related software tools
  - Demonstrated understanding of procedures, techniques, and regulations

- Success factors
  - Demonstrated commitment to advancing the organization's mission and supporting the goals of the research program.
  - Highly motivated and engaged, with a strong interest in continuous learning and ongoing personal and professional development.
  - Effective attention to detail, recognizing that precision is essential to research quality and outcomes.
  - Demonstrates ethical conduct, accountability, and transparency, and values trust and collaboration within a team environment.
  - Effective organizational and time-management skills, with the ability to manage time, tasks, and priorities effectively while maintaining a clean, organized, and safe work environment. Self-managing; self-motivated. Manages time, activities and outcomes well so that progress stays on track.

Application Instructions:

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Michelle Schall at mschall@yorku.ca.
This position is open until filled.

We thank all interested applicants, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

All applications from all qualified individuals, including, but not limited to women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities (racialized), aboriginal (Indigenous) persons and persons of any gender identity and sexual orientation are welcomed to apply. Visual Neurophysiology Centre is committed to a positive, supportive and inclusive environment.

We offer accommodation for applicants with disabilities in the recruitment processes. If you are contacted regarding a job opportunity or testing, please advise if you require accommodation.